



Old Spring Branch Bugler

March 2021 * marzo 2021

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, March 25: TREE WASTE

Thursday, April 22: JUNK WASTE

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

jueves, 25 de marzo: Desechos Verdes

jueves, 22 de abril: Basura Chatarra

PLEASE REMEMBER:

OLD SPRING BRANCH IS A DEED-RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.

RECUERDE QUE OLD SPRING BRANCH ES UNA COMUNIDAD BAJO RESTRICCIONES.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

Winter storm

Geez! What happened to February 2021? Well, one week was frozen! Can you believe February 14 through 21 was such a B_____? Excuse the language.

Such a SAD situation! Some of us were lucky to endure the challenge, while others suffered beyond our imagination. I hope you and your families have been fortunate enough to get through the crisis of the freeze and are being COVID-19 safe.

Treasure Forest Elementary

I visited Treasure Forest Elementary School about three weeks ago. It was good to see that the new Principal, Karina Avila, and Counselor, Felicitas Ponce, had the school running smoothly. The school interior was remodeled last spring-summer, thanks to you who voted for School Bonds some time ago.

Pandemic effects

Education has been rough and a challenge for teachers and students since April 2020. Parents have been challenged also. All have had to endure more than ever before. I don't know how many of our residents are essential workers. I don't know how many residents have lost jobs. I am hoping that our OSB families are staying well and safe.

It is so important that folks keep following the **rules of COVID-19. Mask Up, wash your hands, keep your six to eight feet distance and stay out of crowds. Get tested! And, when it's your turn, GET VACCINATED!**

I am hoping that neighbors are taking care of each other. Be Kind! Beware of Scams!



Follow us for OSBCA updates and news!
[Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch](https://www.facebook.com/OldSpringBranch)



Check out our website!
[OldSpringBranch.org](https://www.OldSpringBranch.org)

BEAUTIFICATION: LITTER ON OSB STREETS

Jo Lightsey

Folks! Driving through the neighborhood revealed much litter lining the streets of the OSB streets. We need to take responsibly to keep the neighborhood streets and ditches cleared of litter.

If you have litter stopping up the drains, coverts and ditches in your area, PLEASE do your part to clean these areas. Clean your drains. Clean your ditches. Your help is needed!

We do not have OSB Street Clean Up any more. It is up to residents to keep their property clean to the center of the roadway on their street. Help!

LANDSCAPING: PLANTS AFFECTED BY THE WINTER STORM

Nino Roman

With having a week of frozen activity, what do you do now?

Caution! **Do not** pull plants, shrubs, etc. out of the ground. **Cut back** and **wait** until the weather starts to warm. This would be like the middle to late March. **Watch** for possible sight of “green” from any part of plant. Give it time.

If no luck, then pull out the dead plants in order to replace with new. Then, follow the steps listed in the January Bugler for getting your yards/gardens ready for spring/summer. This information can be found on our OSB website: OldSpringBranch.org

YARDS OF THE MONTH

What can I say? I will send the Criteria for Yards of the Month in the April issue of the Bugler. It will take the month of March for all of us to get back on our feet from the freeze. So, follow the recommendations in this March issue for getting your yard and landscaping up and running.



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CRIME REPORTS: FEBRUARY 2021

Listed below are the reported incidents filed with the Houston Police Department for January 28 – February 23, 2021.

- One report of Simple Assault: February 7, 7 PM, 7400 Block of Long Point.
- Two report of Breaking & Entering: February 3, 9 PM, 7800 Block of Hammerly and February 7, 4 PM, 7800 Block of Long Point.
- One report of Property Crime: February 14, 1 AM, 2000 Block of Jacquelyn Dr., Destruction, Damage, Vandalism.
- Two reports of Theft from Vehicle: February 5, 5 AM, 7400 Block of Long Point and February 7, 4 PM, 7600 Block of Amelia.

Please note that the above information was gathered from the cityprotect.com.

You can file a police report online if you access to a valid, functioning e-mail address and you are the actual victim of the theft, loss or criminal mischief (not a witness, relative, friend, etc.) Website is https://www.houstontx.gov/police/online_report.htm.

CITIZENS ON PATROL UPDATE

Virginia Lehman

We reported 35.25 patrol hours for the month of January to HPD. Due to the Bugler deadline, I will report our patrol hours for February in the April newsletter. We had small decrease in reported incidents in the month of February (maybe everyone was staying home and out of trouble for at least one week in February).

The ZOOM training class that Officer Segarra was going to hold was canceled due to weather related issues. He is going to try to set one up sometime in March. If you are interested in joining our CP group, please let me know. I can be reached at 832-748-8088, please leave a message.

If we have any HPD questions or concerns, we have been asked to visit the NW station at 6000 Teague. Their phone number is 832-394-5500.

Once again, we all need to stay alert and report any incidents that seem suspicious. If you see something, please call the Police at 713-884-3131 (their non-emergency phone number). If it is a life-threatening situation, please call 911.

MEMBERSHIP

Loretta Nalley

As of today we have had no new members or renewals. We have 42 members at this time. I pray everyone made it through the winter storm. If you can just check on your neighbors.



J. DAMIEN GARZA
President

1906 Johanna - Bldg. A
Houston, Texas 77055
(713) 683-0601
Fax: (713) 683-0603
damien@esuinc.com

DEED RESTRICTION VIOLATIONS

Committee of Five

Just in case you are wondering, Yes, some subdivisions in Old Spring Branch have Deed Restrictions. In these areas, that are deed restricted, they ARE enforceable.

Deed Restrictions are a written set of agreements/laws between you and your neighborhood. As such, it is usually up to you and your Civic Association to remind you and enforce them. However, the City of Houston Legal Department does enforce certain restrictions such as:

- 1) Affect the use to which a commercial or residential property may be used
- 2) Fix the distance that structures must be set back from property lot lines and street lines.
- 3) Affect the lot size, re-plating & number of structures that may be built on the lot
- 4) Regulate orientation of a structure, OR
- 5) Regulate certain fences types, heights and/or restricting fences on some lot areas

To File a complaint, call the City of Houston Deed Restriction Hotline at **(832) 393-6333**

Note: City of Houston cannot offer legal advice about your deed restrictions. For legal advice, you must contact a private attorney.

How to find out if you really do have deed restrictions within your area:

Contact the Harris County Clerk's Office at (713)755-6405 to request a copy. If you wish, a copy may be obtained in person at the Harris County Clerk's Office located downtown in the Harris County Civil Courthouse, 201 Caroline, 3rd Floor, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Also, one can call OSBCA at (713) 681-0560. Please leave name, address and phone number. You can also find Deed Restrictions on our website: <https://oldspringbranch.org/deed-restrictions/>



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For more information call 713-328-1963
WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG

GARAGE & YARD SALES: ONLY TWO (2) A YEAR

Below is useful information to provide those abusing yard and garage sales in our neighborhood.

Ordinance Highlight Regarding Texas Tax Code

As we begin the spring/summer months, garage/yard sales will become a focus. We would like to remind residents of the rules and regulations behind these kind of sales.

Garage/yard sales are not regulated by the City of Houston. The Office of the State Comptroller regulates these types of sales. **RESIDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO HAVE ONLY TWO (2) SUCH SALES WITHIN A TWELVE (12) MONTH PERIOD.**

Any more than two, the resident is recognized as having a business and must obtain a **tax permit from the State**. Since many subdivisions prohibit solicitation and commercial businesses within residential areas of a neighborhood, such activity is restricted.

For residents who try to operate a business in their homes, there are other city requirements that must be met. Specifically, at a minimum, the resident must obtain a Certificate of Occupancy. **There is NO PERMIT known as a “Garage sale permit”.**

The Texas tax code, Title 2, Chapter 151, Section 304 underlines the use of sales tax in occasional sales (too much information for most folks that have only two garage/yard sales a year).

For more information on the regulation of garage/yard sales or on the state taxation, please visit the Office of the State Comptroller at 1-800-252-5555 or 713-462-8200.

HOW TO SET OUT YOUR TREE AND JUNK WASTE

Solid Waste Management Dept.

- The City collects Tree Waste during ODD months of the collection year. EVEN months Junk Waste is collected.
- “Tree waste” is defined as “clean wood waste”, which consists of tree limbs, branches or stumps. Lumber, furniture and treated wood will not be accepted.
- “Junk waste” is used to describe items such as furniture, appliances and other bulky materials.
- Items must be placed adjacent to the front curb in a location easily accessible to the collection vehicle between the hours of 6 p.m. the Friday before, and 7 a.m. on the scheduled collection day.
- No more than eight (8) cubic yards of material per residence will be collected on the schedule tree waste/junk waste collection day this is about 2 pickup trucks of material. Of this amount only a maximum of four (4) cubic yards of building material (not to include roofing shingles, bricks, plaster or concrete) generated by the resident in collection with maintenance of the residential property may be placed for collection.
- Sheet rock must be bagged.
- A maximum of four (4) tires per month, per household may be placed for collection.
- Appliances containing refrigerant must have a tag attached to them certifying that a qualified technician has removed the refrigerant.
- Materials must not be stacked under low overhead wires, signs, or mailboxes; next to fences or posts; or on top of water meters, gas meters, fire hydrants, or other exposed utility components.
- Materials in medians are NOT TO be placed in the street, on the sidewalk or interfere in any manner with pedestrian or vehicular traffic.

LITTLE FOLKS CHILD CARE

Martha McDonald Owner
Beverly Ginther Director
Brenda Zepeda Assistant Director

1921 Johanna
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Old Spring Branch Civic Association

2020 – 2021 Membership Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____

Cell: _____

Mailing
Address: _____

I am interested in the following committee(s):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens on Patrol |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications | <input type="checkbox"/> Deed Restrictions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Events |

Annual Dues/Membership Types:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Property Represented |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.50 | Senior Citizens (62+) /Fixed Income |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Business/Non-resident |
| <input type="checkbox"/> <i>New Application</i> | <input type="checkbox"/> <i>Renewal</i> |

Membership Due Amount: _____

_____ Committee

Donation Amount: _____

Total Payment: _____

In applying for renewal or new membership, I agree to pay dues and to support my civic association to achieve a better neighborhood.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Membership dues are good for 5-1-20 through 4-30-21.

Bring form and payment to the next meeting or mail to:

Old Spring Branch Civic Association
P. O. Box 55172
Houston, TX 77255-5172

Checks payable to Old Spring Branch Civic Association or OSBCA.

Asociación Cívica de Old Spring Branch

Formulario de Membrecía 2020 – 2021

Nombre: _____

Dirección: _____

Correo
Electrónico: _____

Dirección de
correspondencia: _____

Estoy interesado en los siguientes comités:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Embellecimiento | <input type="checkbox"/> Vigilancia de la Vecindad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Comunicaciones | <input type="checkbox"/> Restricciones de las Propiedades |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jardinería | <input type="checkbox"/> Membrecía |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social | <input type="checkbox"/> Eventos Especiales |

Cuota Anual/Tipo de Membrecía:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Propiedad Representada |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.50 | Tercera Edad (62+) /Bajos Ingresos |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25.00 | Negocio/No resident |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Nuevo Miembro | <input type="checkbox"/> Renovando |

Cantidad de la Cuota Anual: _____

_____ Comité
Cantidad de la Donación: _____

Pago Total: _____

Al solicitar membresía nueva o al renovar, está de acuerdo a pagar su cuota y apoyar a su asociación cívica a obtener una vecindad mejor.

Firma: _____

Fecha: _____

Cuota de membresía válida del 1-5-20 hasta 30-4-21.

Traiga el formulario y pago a la siguiente reunión o puede mandarlo por correo a:

Old Spring Branch Civic Association
P. O. Box 55172
Houston, TX 77255-5172

Cheque a nombre de Old Spring Branch Civic Association o OSBCA.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

For: East Spring Branch 6913-19
By: City of Houston, Houston Public Works
Transportation and Drainage Operations
Neighborhood Traffic Management Program

MY OPINION AND COMMENT

Jo Lightsey

I, like you, received the letter from City of Houston Public Works pertaining to the proposal for the installation of speed cushions (Speed Bumps) on Johanna and Amelia.

I do not object to this proposal, but would like to know the representatives from our neighborhood who submitted the application to the City of Houston Neighborhood Traffic Management Program.

Old Spring Branch Civic Association needs your guidance to help us solve the "SPEEDING/RACING" problem on the .05 mile strip of Hammerly Blvd. between Wirt Rd and Antoine.

If you are the person who worked on the above proposal, please contact me at 713-681-0560. Please leave your name, reason and phone number and I will return you call.

I know the solution will not be Speed Cushions (Bumps) because it is a throughway. I have worked on this problem several years ago. Of course, I was laughed at for the suggestion of Speed Cushions on Hammerly Blvd to the Traffic Management Program.

There are other interested individuals in our community who would like to help solve speeding in our neighborhood and/or on Hammerly Blvd..

— Let me hear from you. —

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Thursday, March 25, 2021

Got ideas or suggestions? Send them to sybilsanchez@yahoo.com, Subject line: OSBCA

The Old Spring Branch Civic Association publishes the Old Spring Branch Bugler monthly. OSB serves the area between Wirt & Antoine, north of Long Point and southwest of Todd. Material in this publication may not be reproduced without permission from the OSBCA communications committee. Due to time and space not all letters or articles may appear. Any correspondence must include your name and address (which may be withheld upon request). Please print or type any submissions. For advertising information or to submit articles, mail to: OSBCA Bugler; P. O. Box 55172, Houston Texas 77255-5172

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

MARCH 2021				MARZO 2021		
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sábado
28	1	2 <i>Read Across America Day</i>	3	4	5 	6
7	8	9	10	11	12  	13
14 <i>Daylight savings</i>	15	16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18	19 	20 <i>May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada</i>
	SBISD Spring Break					
21	22	23	24	25 Heavy Trash – TREE	26  	27
28	29	30	31 <i>Cesar Chavez Day</i>	1	2 	3

OLD SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President:	Jo Lightsey	713-681-0560
Vice President:		
Secretary:	Linda Whatley	713-681-0560
Treasurer:	Virginia Lehman	832-748-8088

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Antoine:	---Vacant---	
Counter Point & Turquoise:	Anonymous	----
Harland & Todd:		
Jacquelyn/ E. Hammerly:	Mike McGeehon	713-956-8446
Johanna:	Florence Armbruster	713-688-7546
Silverbonnet, Cedel & W. Hammerly:	---Vacant---	
Thonig:	---Vacant---	
Woodvine:	Rosario Machorro	713-391-6355

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Advertising:

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Beautification:

Jo Lightsey, 713-681-0560

Citizens on Patrol (COP):

Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751

Virginia Lehman, 832-748-8088

Communications:

Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331

Lorna Gast, Bugler Mail Out

Deed Restrictions:

Committee of Five

In-Touch:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Landscaping:

Nino Roman, 832-877-4701

Membership:

Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751

Social:

Website:

Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331