

Old Spring Branch Bugler

April 2023 * abril 2023

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, April 27: <u>JUNK WASTE</u>

Thursday, May 25: TREE WASTE

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

jueves, 27 de abril: <u>Basura Chatarra</u>

jueves, 25 de mayo: <u>Desechos Verdes</u>

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

Spring will soon turn into summer. Gosh, time flies when one is having fun!

OSBCA Elections

OSBCA is approaching another Board of Director's election in May. I cannot emphasize enough how important it is that more of our residents get involved in our Civic Association.

The current OSB Board of Directors and Committee Chairpersons has faithfully served for several years. I appreciate all the time and effort spent by these individuals who have helped hold and move our community forward. These folks work for you.

Quarterly meeting on April 11

OSBCA has its 2nd Quarterly meeting, Tuesday, April 11. At this meeting, a candidate for Mayor, former Council Woman, Amanda Edwards, will be our guest speaker. This is an opportune time to listen to one of several candidates for mayor and to meet the leaders of the Civic Association.

Deed Restriction violations

As I drove through our OSB during March, I spotted several residences with "trailers parked in the drive", junk and trash stacked on porches, rubbish lying in front of garage doors and cars parked on the sidewalks. Please be aware that these situations are in violation of Deed Restrictions and/or City of Houston Codes. Expect a letter or a city 3-1-1 inspector.

Continued, page 2...

Old Spring Branch Civic Association – Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, April 11, 2023 – 7 p.m. Mendenhall Civic Center, 1414 Wirt Rd.

Special Guest: Former council member Amanda Edwards, candidate for Houston Mayor





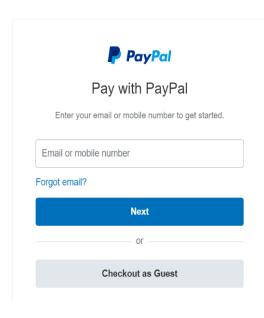
3-1-1 Houston Service Center

The March Bugler included an article about the 3-1-1 Houston Service Center, and it merits a REPEAT in this month's Bugler. Voice your concerns and ask questions about services you should be getting from the City of Houston. Use this resource for EVERY concern you may have.

- Have you called the City of Houston Service Center at 3-1-1 or 713.837.0311 to report your concerns?
- You can also report your request online at houston311.org or download the Houston 3-1-1 app to smartphone/tablet.
- Did you know that reporting your concerns via 3-1-1 is the fastest way to address your issue and track the resolution? The City of Houston tracks those calls which provide vital information needed to properly address an issue.
- Always get a SR (service report) number for each report.

Folks, get involved! Open your minds to engaging in the OSB Civic Association. Become an active resident in your neighborhood and give back to your community. You are needed!

HAVE YOU PAID YOUR OSBCA MEMBERSHIP? IF YOU HAVEN'T, PAY ONLINE!



Step one:

Visit OldSpringBranch.org and click on "Membership" on the main menu.

Step two:

Select the type of membership you fall under and then click the button under it that says "Pay with PayPal".

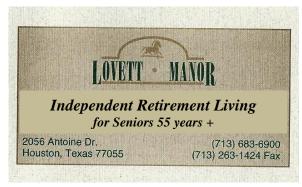
Step three:

If you don't currently have a PayPal account, you can log on using "Checkout as Guest"

Step four:

Fill out the information so you can make the payment.





CRIME REPORTS – FEBRUARY & MARCH 2023

Virginia Lehman

Listed below are the incidents reported in our area for February 1 – March 30, 2023.

- Six (6) reports of Aggravated Assault: February 21, 10PM, 7500 Block of Long Point; March 2, 10PM, 1800 Block of Johanna; March 7, 3PM, 1900 Block of Woodvine; March 11, 1AM, 2100 Block of Antoine; March 13, 6PM, 1800 Block of Johanna; March 18, 2AM, 1800 Block of Johanna.
- Three (3) reports of Breaking & Entering (Commercial): February 13, 8PM, 1800 Block of Johanna; March 1, 5PM, 1800 Block of Thonig; March 18, 4AM, 7500 Block of Long Point.
- Three (3) reports of Motor Vehicle Theft: March 17, 7PM, 7600 Block of Long Point; March 18, 3PM, 7800 Block of Amelia; March 19, 2AM, 7400 Block of Long Point.
- Four (4) reports of Robbery: March 5, 12AM, 7500 Block of Highcrest; March 13, 1AM, 7400 Block of Long Point; March 24, 1AM, 7400 Block of Long Point and 6PM, 2000 Block of Antoine.
- One report of Sexual Assault (Forcible Fondling): February 26, 10AM, 7900 Block of Amelia.
- One report of Homicide/Manslaghter: March 28, 6PM, 7500 Block of Long Point.

Please note that the above information was gathered from the <u>LexisNexis Community Crime on the Houston</u> <u>Police Department website</u>.

You can file a police report online if you have 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: houstontx.gov/police/online_report.htm

CITIZENS ON PATROL – FEBRUARY 2023

Virginia Lehman

Happy Spring! Our Citizens on Patrol (CP) group reported 33.25 hours for February. Due to the Bugler deadline, I will have to report our patrol hours for March in May's newsletter. I can't believe that we have had another homicide.so.close.to.our.neighborhood! I don't know if we will ever hear the whole story about what actually happened or if anyone will be held responsible for the homicide.

We have had a couple of men on bikes firing a gun while riding down Woodvine on March 7 around 4 p.m. HPD was called and they did patrol the area.

As always, don't become a victim to a crime of opportunity. It only takes a couple of minutes to check your doors, windows and gates to make sure they are closed and locked. We have heard about a couple of vacant homes being broken into and vandalized. We have a lot of things going on in our neighborhood, new construction, gated housing developments and a large apartment complex under construction.

As always, I want to thank our CP volunteers for patrolling our area whenever possible. I do believe we make a difference.

As always, be aware of your surroundings! Stay alert, be diligent and report any incidents that you see or hear. If the police department is not aware of anything going on in our neighborhood, they will not patrol our area. You can call the non-emergency number at 713-884-3131. If it is life-threatening situation, please call 911!

We are always looking for volunteers to join our CP group. If you are interested, feel free to contact Virginia at 832-748-8088, please leave a message. We would love to have you.

YARDS OF THE MONTH BEGIN IN BUGLER'S MAY EDITION

Jo Lightsey

Yards of the month will begin appearing in the May issue of the Bugler, featuring the yards from April. The *Yard Hawk* will be driving through the neighborhood the last week of April to list all eligible yards for Yards of the Month. Following all the criteria really means a lot of work for the homeowner. Not every yard will have ALL the criteria; however, the obvious points can be met.

Below is Old Spring Branch's guide for getting your yard placed in the "Yards of the Month" list. Save this for your future use.

Criteria:	In addition:
 Green, mowed and edged General neatness (no visible garbage or clutter) Shrubs and trees neatly pruned Walks, driveways and curbs swept and clean Nice overall landscaping design Color contrast (flowers, shrubs, etc.) City of Houston codes and OSB Deed Restrictions must be observed 	 No dead plants No out of season Christmas lights Buildings, fences, porches and patios in good repair Have no indoor furniture on porches or patios Must be attractive and pleasing to the eye

Thanks to Campbell Woods for use of its yard criteria.

3-1-1 HOUSTON SERVICE CENTER

Have you called the City of Houston's 3-1-1 Houston Service Center at 3-1-1 or 713.837.0311 to report your concerns?

You can also report your request online at <u>houston311.org</u> or download the Houston 3-1-1 app to your smartphone or tablet.

Did you know that reporting your concerns via 3-1-1 is the fastest way to address your issue and track the resolution? The City of Houston tracks those calls which provide vital information needed to properly address an issue.

MEMBERSHIP - MARCH 2023

Loretta Nalley

I hope everyone had a wonderful Easter. OSBCA has no new members in March, here is a list of what we have so far.

Antoine	Cedel	Counter Point	Hammerly	Harland	Jacquelyn	Johanna	Silver- bonnet	Thonig	Todd	Turquoise	Woodvine
3	2	7	2	4	1	1	1	5	2	2	15

In May we get to start all over again with memberships. Reminder, any donations help! Yearly membership is \$25 for the property you own or rent, businesses, and non-residents. Senior citizens (62+) and those on fixed income pay \$12.50. One way we have saved money is to email the newsletters and print three or four times a year only. To print one newsletter, the cost is around \$240. For four issues that is \$960.



Mike Brubaker, SRA President

7626 Hammerly Houston, Texas 77055

713-464-4666 | 713-464-4669 fax brubakerandassociates.com



Now is the best time to get your AC system checked for efficiency to ensure maximum performance!



Call New Balance AC to schedule your annual Safety & Efficiency check.



Old Spring Branch Civic Association 2022 – 2023 Membership Form
Name:
Address:
Address.
E-mail
Phone:
Cell:
Mailing
Address:
I am interested in the following committee(s):
☐ Beautification ☐ Citizens on Patrol
□ Communications □ Deed Restrictions
☐ Landscaping ☐ Membership
□ Social □ Special Events
Annual Dues/Membership Types:
□ \$25.00 Property Represented
□ \$12.50 Senior Citizens (62+) /Fixed Income
□ \$25.00 Business/Non-resident
□ New Application □ Renewal
□ New Application □ Renewal
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 5-1-22 through 4-30-23.
Bring form and payment to the next meeting or mail to:

P. O. Box 55172 Houston, TX 77255-5172

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

Checks payable to Old Spring Branch Civic Association or OSBCA.

Asociación Cívica de Old Spring Branch Formulario de Membrecía 2022 – 2023 Nombre: Dirección: Correo Electrónico: Dirección de correspondencia: Estoy interesado en los siguientes comités: □ Embellecimiento □ Vigilancia de la Vecindad □ Comunicaciones ☐ Restricciones de las Propiedades □ Jardinería □ Membrecía □ Social □ Eventos Especiales Cuota Anual/Tipo de Membrecía: □ \$25.00 Propiedad Representada □ \$12.50 Tercera Edad (62+) /Bajos Ingresos □ \$25.00 Negocio/No resident □ Nuevo Miembro □ Renovando Cantidad de la Cuota Anual: Comité Cantidad de la Donación: Pago Total: Al solicitar membrecía 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 membrecía válida del 1-5-22 hasta 30-4-23. 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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- CASE MANAGEMENT
- YOUTH PROGRAMS
- COUNSELING SERVICES FEDERALLY-QUALIFIED
- RECOVERY SERVICES
- HEALTH CLINIC
- FOOD ASSISTANCE
- SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

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

HOMEOWNERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAINTAINING DITCHES FREE OF DEBRIS

Jo Lightsey

As a support for my always requesting that those who have ditches on their streets, be responsible for keeping them free of litter and debris, I am quoting the following City of Houston Code Ordinances [Article XI, Section 10-451 B(10)]:

"It is the abutting property owner's responsibility to maintain ditches free of debris so water can flow with minimal obstructions (clear of weeds, brush, rubbish, of any debris that may prevent the flow of water). This means that it is your responsibility to maintain the ditch in front of your home."

This applies to businesses also.

Amy Peck, our District A Council woman, is working on a new pilot "Ditch Maintenance Program" that will come in to help in a situation that it is not feasible for an owner to be responsible for the ditch in front of their home. However, this new pilot program has limited funds and the homeowner must apply. For information on the criteria to apply and how to apply, you can contact Amy Peck's office at 832-393-3010

OSBCA is so appreciative to <u>Lawn Management Company (LMC)</u> for continuing to maintain our esplanades at Wirt Rd/Hammerly and Long Point/Hammerly.

As always, thank you!

4 WAYS TO PREPARE YOUR BACKYARD FOR HOUSTON SUMMER

Houston Family Magazine

The following information was pulled from Houston Family Magazine, published on April 20, 2021. To read the full article, <u>click here</u>.

Winter weather can leave your backyard wanting. In most parts of the U.S., the ground is often covered in snow until April. However, snow doesn't fall so often in Houston, Texas and whenever it does, it doesn't last long on the ground. Summer weather in Houston can be unforgiving to your backyard without proper preparation. Here are four ways you can prepare and maintain your backyard landscape to stay alluring and resilient throughout the Houston summer. Let's get started:

- 1. Rake your backyard
- 2. Mow the grass
- 3. Aerate your soil
- 4. Add an outdoor living space
- 5. Apply fertilizer and a pre-emergent weed killer

Preparing your backyard for Houston summer may seem overwhelming to many folks. With a few tips and tricks, however, it becomes a walk in the park. All the same, the tips offered above can help you prep your backyard so it looks appealing, comfortable, and refreshing during Houston summer.

OSB BOARD OF DIRECTORS - ELECTION SLATE FOR 2023-2024

Jo Lightsey

These are the nominations to lead our neighborhood/civic organization for 2023-2024. If anyone would like to fill the vacant positions on the board, please call 713-681-0560 and leave your name and phone number. I will return your call as soon as possible. This slate will be voted on at the 2023 quarterly meeting on July 11.

- OSB needs someone to step up and be our nominee for Vice President.
- Street Representatives are needed for Antoine, Harland/Todd, Silverbonnet/Cedel, Johanna and Thonig. You do not have to live on the street that needs the Street Rep. Street Reps are voting board members.

Officers serve one term (2022-2023) and board members serve two terms (2021-2023).

Officers		Street Representatives			
President	Jo Lightsey	Antoine	*vacant*		
Vice President	*vacant*	Counter Point/Turquoise	Anonymous		
Secretary Linda Whatley		Harland/Todd	*vacant*		
Treasurer	Virginia Lehman	Jacquelyn/East Hammerly	Mike McGeehon		
		Johanna	*vacant*		
		Silverbonnet/Cedel	*vacant*		
		Thonig	*vacant*		
		Woodvine	Rosario Machorro		

2023 SPRING BRANCH ISD ELECTIONS ARE MAY 6

Early Voting Begins April 24 and ends May 2

Two seats on the Spring Branch ISD Board of Trustees will be contested in the upcoming May 6 election. Candidate registration for this election has closed.

Candidates running for Trustee Position 1 are David Lopez and Courtney Anderson. Lopez lists his occupation as school administrator and Anderson lists her occupation as stay-at-home mom.

Candidates running for Trustee Position 2 are Shannon Mahan and Becky Ardell Downs. Mahan lists her occupation as speech pathologist and Downs lists her occupation as clergy.

For more information including early voting locations, click here.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS Deadline: Thursday, April 27, 2023

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

APRIL 2023

ABRIL 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sábado
2	3	4 Nat'l School Librarian Day	5 Passover	6 National Student-Athlete Day	7	8
9 Easter	10 Nat'l Siblings Day	11 Nat'l Pet Day	12	13	14	15 Nat'l Laundry Day
16	17 Patriots' Day	PIP meeting, 7p	19 Administrative Professionals' Day	20 Last Day of Ramadan	21 San Jacinto Day	22 Earth Day May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada
23	24	25	26	27 HEAVY TRASH: JUNK	28 Arbor Day Bugler deadline	29
30	1	2	3	4	5	6

Positive Interaction Program (PIP) meetings – Third Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Faith Center Chapel, 8009 Long Point

OLD SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President: Jo Lightsey 713-681-0560

Vice President: *Gerry Thielemann*

Secretary: Linda Whatley 713-681-0560

Treasurer: Virginia Lehman 832-748-8088

STREET REPRESENTATIVES

Antoine: ---Vacant ---

Counter Point

& Turquoise: Anonymous

Harland & Todd:

Jacquelyn/ Mike McGeehon 713-956-8446

E. Hammerly:

Johanna: Florence Armbruster 713-688-7546

Silverbonnet, Cedel ---Vacant ---

& W. Hammerly:

Thonig: ---Vacant---

Woodvine: Rosario Machorro 713-391-6355

OSBCA COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

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: ---Vacant---

Facebook & Website:

Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331

HEAVY TRASH & RECYCLING

2023 Schedule

MONTH		RECYCLIN very other Fria	HEAVY TRASH (Fourth Thursday of the Month)		
JANUARY	Jan 13	Jan 27		Tree	Thurs. Jan 26
FEBRUARY	Feb 10	Feb 24		Junk	Thurs. Feb 23
MARCH	March 10	March 24		Tree	Thurs. Mar 23
APRIL	April 7	April 21		Junk	Thurs. April 27
MAY	May 5	May 19		Tree	Thurs. May 25
JUNE	June 2	June 16	June 30	Junk	Thurs. June 22
JULY	July 14	July 28		Tree	Thurs. July 27
AUGUST	Aug 11	Aug 25		Junk	Thurs. Aug 24
SEPTEMBER	Sept 8	Sept 22		Tree	Thurs. Sept 28
OCTOBER	Oct 6	Oct 20		Junk	Thurs. Oct 26
NOVEMBER	Nov 3	Nov 17		Tree	Nov 23
DECEMBER	Dec 1	Dec 15	Dec 29	Junk	Thurs. Dec 28

YES! Put these in your recycling bin:

- Metal and Cans: Aluminum and Tin Cans. Examples include soup cans, vegetable cans, fruit cans, coffee cans (emptied and rinsed)
- Cartons: Both gable top and shelf-stable food and beverage cartons. Examples include milk cartons, juice cartons, soup cartons, soy milk/alternative milk cartons (emptied and rinsed)
- Glass: Bottles, jugs and jars only (emptied and rinsed)
- Paper: Newspaper, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, office paper
- Cardboard: Cardboard and cereal boxes (emptied of packing materials and flattened)
- **Plastic:** Bottles, tubs and jugs #1 5 and 7. Examples include water and soda bottles, milk jugs, yogurt cups, margarine tubs, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles. (emptied and rinsed)

Do **NOT** put the following in your GREEN RECYCLING bin:

- Batteries/Electronics
- Shredded Paper
- Tanglers (cords, hoses, wires, clothing)
- Food/Liquids
- Trash and Bagged Recycling
- Furniture and Household Goods
- Scrap Wood and Scrap Metal (NO Helium Tanks)
- Yard Waste