

Old Spring Branch Bugler

September/October 2023 * *septiembre/octubre 2023*

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, September 28: **TREE WASTE**

Thursday, October 26: **JUNK WASTE**

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

jueves, 28 de septiembre: **Desechos Verdes**

jueves, 26 de octubre: **Basura Chatarra**

PLEASE REMEMBER:

OLD SPRING BRANCH IS A DEED-RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.

****RECUERDE QUE OLD SPRING BRANCH ES UNA COMUNIDAD BAJO RESTRICCIONES.****

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

National Night Out

It's a Free Event!

Go out and have a true sense of unity in our community



Tuesday, 6-9 PM
October 3 2227 Counter Point
(North of Hammerly)

Bring a lawn chair and a neighbor!
Guess number of candies in a jar to win \$50.
New members receive a t-shirt per family.

Enjoy Subway, drinks & cookies!

Asociación Cívica de Old Spring Branch

Noche Nacional Afuera

¡Es un evento gratuito!

Salga y tenga un verdadero sentido de unidad en nuestra comunidad



martes, 6-9 PM
3 de octubre 2227 Counter Point
(Norte de Hammerly)

¡Traega una silla de jardín y un vecino!
Adivine el número de dulces en un frasco para ganar \$50.
Los nuevos miembros reciben una camiseta por familia.

¡Disfruta de Subway, bebidas y galletas!

OSBCA Quarterly Meeting

Tuesday, October 10, 2023

7 – 8 p.m.

Mendenhall Civic Center

1414 Wirt Rd.



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Check out our website!

[OldSpringBranch.org](https://www.OldSpringBranch.org)

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

The September Bugler is full of news. Please do take the time to read it.

National Night Out

Virginia Lehman, OSBCA treasurer and Citizens on Patrol chairperson, has volunteered to be the committee chair that will prepare and do the work for the National Night Out (NNO) event on October 3, 2023. Thank you so much. This is the first NNO since 2019 that OSBCA has hosted. Mark your calendar! I am excited and hope that OSB residents will join us.

New school zone sign on Hammerly

OSB got its solar powered (blinking) school zone sign reinstalled on the 7600 block of Hammerly on August 31, after being taken down by a reckless driver two years ago. Thanks to Liz, chief of staff, in Council member Amy Peck's District A office.

Yards of the Month postponed

As the "Yard Hawk" I have decided to postpone Yards of the Month until we get rain. Not all have irrigation systems and I want all yards to be on equal ground. Be sure to keep your home foundations watered to prevent the slab from cracking.

There WILL NOT be an October 2023 Bugler. However, the October calendar is appearing in this September Bugler.

Refrain from parking on yard

I am still seeing some city code violations in the neighbor. Residents, parking in the yard is against city code. Addresses that have their cars parked on the yard are being reported to HPD and 3-1-1. You'll receive a warning first and then citations could be issued. PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN THE YARD! You're doing so trashes out the neighborhood! Please realize that your OSBCA Board of Directors is working hard for you.

Next quarterly meeting

Our next and last Quarterly Meeting of 2023 is Tuesday, October 10, 7 – 8 p.m. at Mendenhall Civic Center, 1414 Wirt Rd. Hope to see you there. We need your input!

LANDSCAPING

Jo Lightsey

Our Esplanades are in a STRESSFUL situation because of the drought. It seems that the batteries went dead in the watering drip system. Several of the plants in the Wirt Rd/ Hammerly esplanade have died. However, Nino Roman, our OSB landscaper, has come to the rescue. He has replaced the batteries and serviced the drip system as of last week. Hopefully, the Crape Myrtle tree will be saved and maybe a couple scrubs. No plants will be replaced by LMC until later in year.

The Antoine/Long Point esplanade is in better shape, but ALL batteries are being replaced and repairs are being made to both esplanades.

OSB thanks LMC and Nino for taking the responsibility of maintaining the OSB esplanades.

MEMBERSHIP – AUGUST 2023

We are currently sitting at 40 members! Last year we had a total of 45 membership. Can you help us reach last year's numbers in the month of September?

Antoine? Harland? Jacquelyn? Silverbonnet? Thonig? Todd? Woodvine? Can you bring your membership numbers to last year's total membership for your street?

For those who have never joined OSBCA, if you become a member at our upcoming National Night Out event you will get one free t-shirt per family!

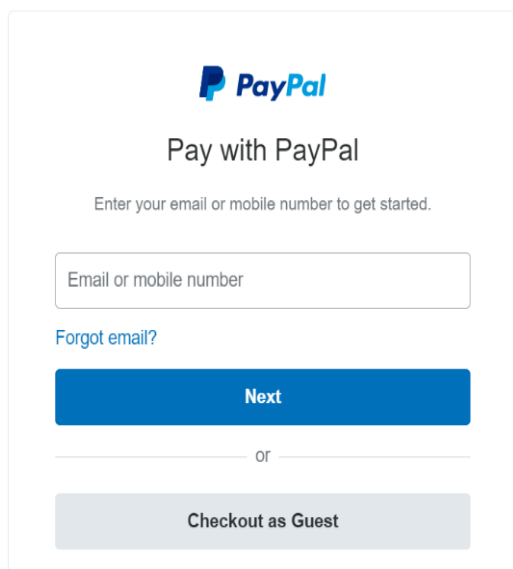
Your membership helps fund activities that OSBCA hosts during the year, pays for the printed copies of The Bugler newsletter you get twice a year, gets your copy of the monthly newsletter to your email inbox and helps support the work we do year round to help increase our home values and beautify our neighborhood.

2023-2024 Membership (40 total)											
Antoine	Cedel	Counter Point	Hammerly	Harland	Jacquelyn	Johanna	Silverbonnet	Thonig	Todd	Turquoise	Woodvine
1	3	10	2	2	0	1	0	3	1	3	12
2022-2023 Membership (45 total)											
3	2	7	2	4	1	1	1	5	2	2	15

Reminder: Regular and business membership is \$25 a year and membership for seniors and those living on a fixed income is \$12.50.

You can pay through PayPal (and make sure to include your address) or drop off your membership at one of our meetings or mail it in.

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.

BEAUTIFICATION: CARS ON THE YARD, HEAVY TRASH + MORE

Jo Lightsey

As I drove through the OSB neighborhood this past week, I saw that some of the violations that had been submitted to 3-1-1, HPD/DRT, and HPD non-emergency number, 713-884-3131, had been solved. The neighborhood looked better cleaned up and more in order. Thank you for responding to the warnings, strong suggestions and possible citations by officials.

It is important that OSB residents continue to follow City Codes and Deed Restrictions. If you still have violations, PLEASE, get into compliance before an official shows up or you receive a letter

from the OSBCA (Old Spring Branch Civic Association).

The newly built housing complex, at 1923-1927 Jacquelyn Dr. are in violation of the City of Houston Ordinance concerning garbage bins and recycle bins being left on the street all the time, before and after collection. The housing complex even has named its own street, "Jacquelyn Oaks," with street addressed being in the 7300's. I do not know if this complex is made up of townhomes, duplexes or apts? WHO IS IN CHARGE AT THIS ADDRESS? I have been working with District A to eliminate the

problem.

Junk Heavy Trash was collected a day late on Friday, same day as Garbage Pick-Up. If your address was missed for Heavy Trash, call 3-1-1. Otherwise, you will be reported for early **wrong** Heavy Trash. Yards are sad. Some of us do have watering systems. Those yards were greener which only applied to about 10-12 yards. Others are dealing with dying yards. Therefore, "Yards of the Month" will not be printed in the Bugler this month. Let's hope for RAIN and a chance to save our yards and landscaping.

CRIME REPORTS – AUGUST 2023

Virginia Lehman

Listed below are the incidents reported in our area for August 1 - 31, 2023.

- Three (3) reports of Aggravated Assault: August 2, 11PM, 1900 Block of Woodvine; August 11, 6PM, 7700 Block of Long Point and August 26, 7PM, 7600 Block of Hammerly.
- One (1) report of Simple Assault: August 9, 7PM, 2000 Block of Johanna.
- One (1) report of Intimidation: August 9, 10PM, 7700 Block of Johanna Park Drive.
- Two (2) reports of Breaking & Entering (Commercial): August 11, 6PM, 7700 Block of Long Point and August 28, 6PM, 7800 Block of Long Point.
- Six (6) reports of Robbery: August 15, 9PM, 7500 Block of Long Point; August 26, 10PM, 7500 Block of Long Point; August 28, 5AM, 2000 Block of Johanna; August 28, 6AM, 7800 Block of Amelia Rd.; August 29, 9PM, 7600 Block of Inch Rd and August 30, 11PM, 7500 Block of Long Point.
- One (1) report of Motor Vehicle Theft: August 14, 5PM, 7800 Block of Long Point.
- One (1) report of Animal Cruelty: August 20, 4PM, 1900 Block of Harland.
- Two (2) reports of Vandalism: August 14, 10PM, 7600 Block of Hammerly and August 29, 11PM, 7600 Block of Hammerly.
- Two (2) reports of Theft: August 10, 6PM, 1900 Block of Jacquelyn (Credit card, ATM fraud) and August 13, 5AM, 7700 Block of Long Point.
- One (1) report of Arrest: August 25, 12AM, 1900 Block of Antoine.
- Two (2) reports of Theft from Vehicle: August 10, 2PM, 7800 Block of Long Point and August 30, 11PM, 7500 Block of Long Point
- One (1) report of All Other Crimes: August 20, 3AM, 7800 Block of Long Point.

Please note that the above information was gathered from the [LexisNexis Community Crime on the Houston Police Department website](#).

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 – AUGUST 2023

Virginia Lehman

We will report 29.5 patrol hours for August. As always, I want to thank our Citizens on Patrol (CP) volunteers for patrolling our area whenever possible. I do believe we make a difference. **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.**

Dry weather's impact on our yards

September is here and I sure hope that we get some much-needed rain and somewhat cooler temperatures. It has gotten quite depressing patrolling our community seeing all the dry grass and dying bushes and plants. Glad to see that our 'junk' waste was picked up in a timely manner but sad to see that some residents setting out tree limbs for 'tree' waste pick-up the following day.

Status of vacant homes on Hammerly

Another vacant house on Hammerly was torn down and there is one more on Hammerly that will be demolished soon, we hope. It is unfortunate that vacant homes seem to invite homeless population to settle in and it is a shame how much damage can incur in just a few days.

Working on removal of homeless camp on Woodvine

HPD continues to work on removing the 'little' homeless gathering/camp on Woodvine. Once again, if you get a chance, please drive by and, if you can, please call the non-emergency number at 713-884-3131 to report it (it is going to take more than one call to get something done). We have also made Amy Peck, our District A representative and Tom Ramsey, our Precinct 3 commissioner aware of this situation.

Importance of participating in National Night Out

I have often stressed the importance of knowing your neighbors and I hope if you can't join us for our 'National Night Out' event you will at least get out and met your neighbors. I really believe that we all want the same things... a nice safe neighborhood and it starts by each of us looking out for each other.

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!

Hope everyone is staying somewhat cool and hydrated during our extended heat wave. Please check on your neighbors, especially the elderly ones to make sure they are okay during the hot, hot days of summer.

GENERAL ELECTIONS 2023

Early Voting

October 23 – November 3, 7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

October 29, 12 noon – 7 p.m.

Trini Mendenhall, 1414 Wirt Rd.

Election Day

Tuesday,

November 7

7 a.m. – 7 p.m.

More Information:

- [Election Information with Harris County Clerk's Office](#)
- [Voter's Guide with League of Women Voter's of Houston](#)

IN TOUCH

Gerry Thielmann

It is with great sadness that we announce that one of OSB's longest residents, Coye Emmons, passed away August 22, 2023, of natural causes. Coye Emmons was just shy of 103 years old. Both, Coye and husband, "Red" Emmons, were educators in Spring Branch I.S.D. for many years, and they were always members of OSBCA. Services were held on August 25 at the Klein Funeral Home.

DROUGHT RESTRICTIONS

Source: City of Houston

STAGE TWO, Contingency Plan... Started August 27, 2023. Water usage schedule between 7 p.m. and 5 a.m.

- **Sundays and Thursdays** for single-family residential customers with even-numbered street addresses
- **Saturdays and Wednesdays** for single-family residential customers with odd-numbered street addresses
- **Tuesdays and Fridays** for all other customers

Any water customer who violates these watering times will be issued a written warning for first time violation. Any subsequent (other) violations are subject to a fine of up to \$2,000 for each offense (Section 54.001 of the Texas Local Government Code).

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Thursday, October 26, 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



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Old Spring Branch Civic Association

2023 – 2024 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"/> New Application | <input type="checkbox"/> 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 5-1-23 through 4-30-24.

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 2023 – 2024

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 |

- ☐ *Nuevo Miembro* ☐ *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 1-5-23 hasta 30-4-24.

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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For more information call 713-328-1963

WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG

BUILDING PERMITS: CITY OF HOUSTON & DEED RESTRICTIONS

IMPORTANT!!! Building permits must be in compliance with Deed Restrictions!!!

In order to protect the neighborhood character and property values, the City of Houston is cooperating with citizens to ensure building permits are not in conflict with deed restrictions. You as a responsible homeowner are required by law to abide by your Deed Restrictions.

Please be informed before you begin any construction:

Before you begin any construction or home improvement project, please consult your civic association regarding possible deed restrictions within your area. You may not purchase a building permit without signing a sworn deed restriction affidavit stating that you are aware of and agree to abide by deed restrictions pertaining to your project. That is the law.

Building Permits:

The building permit application needs to have the correct legal description, including the subdivision name and the Deed Restrictions Affidavit on the back of the Permit, must be filled out; (a legal description can be found on the title to your property). Customer Service Representatives will check the subdivision listed on your permit application against a database index of restrictions.

ALL construction projects MUST comply with the community's deed restrictions. If you knowingly, or unknowingly, sign the deed restriction affidavit under false pretenses, you could be subject to municipal court citations, fines, and the removal of the structure or violating portion thereof at any time in the future.

To research restrictions, you can:

1. Check to see if a Notice of Restrictions was provided at your closing (required by title insurance in some areas). If not ask your agent to research and provide you a copy.
2. Obtain a copy of restrictions from either Harris County Clerk's office or through your Civic Association. Attend our monthly meetings and request a copy if necessary.
3. Contact a title abstract company to obtain a copy of the restrictions or a letter stating that there are no restrictions.

Projects that require a permit include:

- New construction of building or structures
- Alterations, repairs or additions to existing buildings or structures. Changes in the use or occupancy of an existing building or structure. Interior tenant lease build-outs, remodeling and repairs.
- Exterior remodels, alterations or repairs. Moving/relocation existing buildings.
- Demolition (interior and complete buildings).
- Fences over 8' high.
- Driveways and sidewalks (in city right of way)
- Parking lot paving

If you need clarification concerning fees or have questions concerning building permits, please call 832-394-8852, before beginning any project to be informed.

Old Spring Branch Civic Association

SEPTEMBER 2023							SEPTIEMBRE 2023
Sunday domingo	Monday lunes	Tuesday martes	Wednesday miércoles	Thursday jueves	Friday viernes	Saturday sábado	
3	4 <i>Labor Day</i>	5	6	7	8  	9	
10	11 <i>Patriot Day</i>	12	13	14	15 	16	
17	18	19 PIP, 7p	20	21	22  	23 <i>Fall begins</i> <i>May put out</i> <i>Heavy Trash *</i> <i>Puede sacar</i> <i>basura pesada</i>	
24	25	26	27	28 HEAVY TRASH: TREE	29 	30	

OCTOBER 2023							OCTUBRE 2023
Sunday domingo	Monday lunes	Tuesday martes	Wednesday miércoles	Thursday jueves	Friday viernes	Saturday sábado	
1	2	3 National Night Out, 6p	4	5	6  	7	
8	9 <i>Columbus Day/Indigenous People Day</i>	10 Quarterly Meeting, 7p	11	12	13 	14	
15	16	17 PIP, 7p	18	19	20  	21 <i>May put out</i> <i>Heavy Trash *</i> <i>Puede sacar</i> <i>basura pesada</i>	
22	23	24	25	26 HEAVY TRASH: JUNK Bugler deadline	27 	28	
29	30	31 <i>Halloween</i>	1	2	3  	4	

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

2023 HEAVY TRASH & RECYCLING SCHEDULE

MONTH	RECYCLING (Every other Friday)		HEAVY TRASH (Fourth Thursday of the Month)
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

OLD SPRING BRANCH CIVIC ASSOCIATION (OSBCA)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS

President:	Jo Lightsey	713-681-0560
Vice President:	Loretta Nalley	832-868-8751
Secretary:	Linda Whatley	713-681-0560
Treasurer:	Virginia Lehman	832-748-8088

STREET REPRESENTATIVES

Antoine:	---Vacant---	
Counter Point & Turquoise:	Anonymous	
Harland & Todd:		
Jacquelyn/ E. Hammerly:	Mike McGeehon	713-922-0116
Johanna:	Roman Nunez	
Silverbonnet, Cedel & W. Hammerly:	Eric Schmidt	281-840-1521
Thonig:	Sybil Sanchez	832-722-2331
Woodvine:	Rosario Machorro	713-391-6355

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Advertising:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Beautification:

Jo Lightsey, 713-681-0560

Citizens on Patrol (COP):

Virginia Lehman, 832-748-8088

Communications:

Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331

Lorna Gast, Newsletter mail out

Deed Restrictions:

Committee of Five

Contact: 713-681-0560

In Touch:

Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634

Landscaping:

Nino Roman, 832-877-4701

Membership:

Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751

Social: ---Vacant---

STUDY FINDS TEXANS AMONG THE MOST SCAMMED IN U.S.

Source: Chevall Pryce, Houston Chronicle, 8/28/2023 <[For full article, click here.](#)>

Seniors may still be the most preyed upon demographic for online scams, but a new age group is seeing an up-tick in online victimization: teenagers.

According to a nationwide study from online investigation service Social Catfish, **Texas was the fourth most scammed state in the country in 2022, with \$763,140,903 lost to scams from 38,661 victims.** Victims of online scams lost an average of \$19,739 per person. Seniors lost a total of \$3.1 billion to scams.

What are the red flags for these scams? 1) When the links are fake, the scammer attempts to get access to your computer or bank account; 2) Pop-up ads claiming that a computer or phone is vulnerable or currently under attack by a virus; 3) Romance scams using people or celebrities to establish a relationship. These scams took more than \$60.3 million from Texans last year; 4) Check your bank statements for transaction out of the ordinary

Teens, or those younger than 20, according to the study, lost a total of \$210 million in 2022.

Who does one call if believed you have been scammed? Local constable's office, Harris County Precinct 4. Law enforcement agencies like FBI, FTC, IC3 and [identitytheft.gov](https://www.fbi.gov/identitytheft).