

# Old Spring Branch Bugler

FEBRUARY 2025

Para leer este boletín en español, haga clic aquí.

# **Heavy Trash Pick-Up**

**Fourth** Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, February 27: JUNK WASTE

Thursday, March 27: TREE WASTE

\*For most accurate date, visit the Solid Waste Management Dept.'s website at <u>HoustonTX.gov/solidwaste/holiday</u>.

REMEMBER: OLD SPRING BRANCH IS A DEED-RESTRICTED COMMUNITY.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

Well, winter did not pass OSB by. That one day of snow was a fun and fantastic experience for the kids—and even for the adults—who had never seen OSB covered in gray and white. I was truly amazed at the empty roads, free of traffic. We all did well following the instructions to "stay home and off the roads." Hopefully, all was well in your homes during the days when temperatures dropped below freezing.

Now, that brings me to the wilted and ice-damaged vegetation in our yards. It's going to take some time for our landscapes to recover, so let's be patient. Before trimming away what looks dead, give your plants a little time to see if they'll bounce back.

And what can I say... OSBCA is working on some challenges in the neighborhood. Inoperative vehicles, trailers in driveways, junk on porches, commercial vehicles parked overnight on residential streets, cars parked in yards—these issues affect the way our community looks and feels.

Continued page 2...

# Old Spring Branch Civic Association (OSBCA) Quarterly Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 11, 2025 6:30 – 8 p.m. Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Rd.





## From the President, continued...

A thriving neighborhood depends on all of us doing our part to maintain a clean, safe, and welcoming environment. We are grateful to the many residents who take pride in their homes, follow community guidelines, and contribute to making OSB a great place to live. Your efforts do not go unnoticed!

Let's continue working together to uphold the standards that make OSB a place we are all proud to call home. Your support is appreciated—thank you for being part of the solution!

# CITIZENS ON PATROL: KEEPING OSB SAFE AND INFORMED

Virginia Lehman

Happy Valentine's Day! Due to *The Bugler's* deadline, we will report January's CP patrol hours in next month's newsletter.

January is a gloomy month for patrolling—most of the Christmas decorations are down (though a handful of houses still have their lights up), the trees have lost their leaves, and most lawns are in their dormant stage. Cloudy days make everything look a bit dull. Unfortunately, this also makes certain issues stand out more—like the piles of junk and tree waste in empty lots and vacant houses every month, or whether that big dump truck parked on Harland ever actually moves. I'm looking forward to spring!

We're also still hearing random fireworks going off, usually on weekends.

## **Neighborhood Updates**

- The ongoing eyesore on **Jacquelyn/Jacquelyn Oaks** is still a concern, though some improvement has been made.
- There's an average of five black trash cans and one green recycle can remaining on Jacquelyn throughout the week.
- Streetlights on Woodvine have been repaired. I'll try to do a nighttime patrol this month to check for other streetlight outages. Remember, you can report streetlight outages directly to CenterPoint Energy at 713-207-2222 or through their Electric Outage Center on their website. You'll need the six-digit number on the light pole or the address where the light is located.
- The group of individuals **hanging out on Woodvine/Long Point** appears to be dwindling. They are absent more often than present, which is a great improvement!

#### Join the Citizens Patrol!

Thanks to all our CP volunteers—I truly believe we make a difference! We are always looking for more volunteers. If you're interested, please call **832-748-8088** and leave a message. We'd love to hear from you!

#### PREVENTING CRIMES OF OPPORTUNITY

Help keep our community safe by taking simple precautions:

- ✓ Lock your car doors and keep valuables out of sight.
- ✓ Close your gates and garage doors when not in use.
- ✓ Turn on your porch lights at night to deter suspicious activity.

A few small steps can make a big difference in keeping OSB a secure and welcoming place to live!

#### BE AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS

Your safety starts with awareness! Stay alert and report any suspicious activity to law enforcement. If the police aren't aware of what's happening in our neighborhood, they won't know to patrol the area.

Non-Emergency Police Number: 713-884-3131

Emergency? Call 911!

Together, we can keep OSB safe!

## **CRIME REPORTS - JANUARY 2025**

Listed below are the incidents reported in our area for January 1-29:

- One (1) report of Aggravated Assault: January 11, 7pm, 1800 Block of Jacquelyn.
- Nine (9) reports of Simple Assault: January 1, 1am, 7600 Block of Hammerly and 1pm, 2000 Block of Antoine; January 2nd, 1am, 7600 Block of Hammerly and 1pm, 2000 Block of Antoine; January 14, 11am, 7800 Block of Long Point; January 18, 8am, 2000 Block of Thonig; January 19, November 28, 8am, 2000 Block of Thonig; January 26, 8am, 2000 Block of Jacquelyn and January 27, 8am, 2000 Block of Jacquelyn.
- Five (5) reports of Intimidation: January 1, 7pm, 7600 Block of Hammerly; January 4, 5pm, 7600 Block of Long Point; January 5, 5pm, 7600 Block of Long Point; January 17, 5pm, 2000 Block of Jacquelyn and January 18, 5pm, 2000 Block of Jacquelyn.
- One (1)) report of Theft (All other larceny): January 2, 1am, 7600 Block of Hammerly.
- Two (2) reports of Purse Snatching: January 4, 8am and January 5, 8am, 7700 Block of Long Point.
- Three (3) reports of Vandalism: January 1, 8pm, 1900 Block of Johanna; January 16, 9pm, and January 17, 9pm, 7600 Block of Hammerly.
- Four (4) reports of Arrest (Drug, narcotic violations): January 2 and 3, 6pm, 7500 Block of Hammerly; January 9 and 10, 4pm, 2000 Block of Antoine.
- One (1) report of Arrest (Driving Under the Influence): January 10, 11pm, 2200 Block of Counter Point.
- One (1) report of Other (All Other Offenses): January 2, 1am, 7600 Block of Hammerly,
- One (1) report of Other (Perp Search/Chase): January 23, 9pm, 1800 Block of Johanna.

Please note the above information was gathered from SpotCrime website.

# WINTER LANDSCAPING: PROTECTING YOUR PLANTS AND PIPES

Nino Roman

Winter isn't over yet! The January snow and freeze were a jolt to Houston. After experiencing summer-like temperatures in December, we were quickly reminded that cold weather can still hit. I wouldn't be surprised if we have at least one more hard freeze—Houston has been known to experience freezing temperatures in both January and February. **Be prepared!** 

When it comes to your plants, don't rush to trim them too soon. Here are a few things you can do during freezing weather to help protect your landscape:

- 1. **Don't trim or throw away plants that appear dead.** Just because the foliage has withered doesn't mean the plant is gone. Wait until spring to check for new growth.
- 2. **Water your plants before a freeze.** A good soak will insulate the root ball and help keep them alive. Cover tropical plants, fruit trees, and annuals.
- 3. **Use tree leaves to create protective mounds.** Piling leaves around the base of plants provides insulation.
- 4. Cover plants with fabric or a weed barrier. This helps trap warmth and protects them from frost.

For those who experienced the headache of **burst pipes**, I'm truly sorry. I don't know what your situation was—or what it may be in the future—but I say this: **insulate your pipes**, **turn off your water**, **and drain the pipes**. If you choose not to turn off the water, **drip your faucets!** Do what you know to do. Freezing weather is unpredictable, and let's face it—we're warm-weather folks. ③

Before wrapping up, I want to take a moment to **thank Bill Cox and LMC** for their continued care of the OSB esplanades at the Wirt Road and Antoine entrances. Your many years of support and dedication are truly appreciated!

# **JOIN OSBCA: STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITY IN 2025!**

Loretta Nalley

## Membership Update: Thank You for Your Support!

Hello, OSBCA neighbors! As of today, we have **52 members**—thank you all so much for your support! Every membership strengthens our efforts to keep our neighborhood safe, informed, and connected.

If you see your neighbors out and about, let them know they can read **all past newsletters** on the **OSBCA website** at oldspringbranch.org/newsletters/ or follow us on **Facebook** at Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch.

## **Our Next Membership Drive: Get Involved!**

We're gearing up for our **next membership drive**, and we need your help to grow! If you haven't joined or renewed yet, we invite you to **attend our next in-person meeting**. All are welcome—whether you're renewing or becoming a new member!

With the **2024-2025 membership year ending in April**, now is the time to **join or renew** to ensure your continued support for our community.

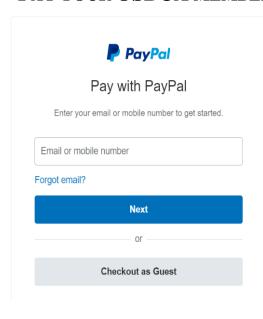
Let's make 2025 a year of growth and collaboration for OSB! Encourage your neighbors to get involved, and help us build a stronger, safer, and more connected community.

# **Become a member today by visiting** oldspringbranch.org/membership

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to making OSB a great place to live!

	<b>2024-2025 Membership</b> (52 total)												
Am	elia	Antoine	Cedel	Counter Point	Hammerly	Harland	Jacquelyn	Johanna	Silverbonnet	Thonig	Todd	Turquoise	Woodvine
1	1	2	2	12 (+2)	3	7	2	1	0	3	5	2	12 (+1)
2022-2023 Membership (55 total)													
2	2	3	3	12	2	4	2	3	1	3	1	3	15

## PAY YOUR OSBCA MEMBERSHIP 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: KEEPING OSB CLEAN AND ON SCHEDULE

Jo Lightsey

### **Solid Waste Collection Update**

Solid Waste collection had finally gotten back on schedule—until the **recent snowstorm** threw things off again. Just before our usual **Friday garbage and recycling pickup**, I received a notice that **Solid Waste would collect garbage only on Sunday**, with all other collections (recycling, yard waste, and heavy trash) to be rescheduled later.

An **email blast** was sent to members with this update, and the information was also posted on our website and Facebook page.

#### **OSB** is Back to Normal Collection Schedule!

The good news? **Everything is now back on track!** Below is the updated **February collection schedule**:

# **☆** Garbage (Black Bin) Collection:

- Friday, February 7 Includes yard waste, garbage, and recycling
- Friday, February 14 Garbage only
- Friday, February 21 Includes yard waste, garbage, and recycling
- Friday, February 28 Garbage only

## Heavy Trash Collection:

• Thursday, February 27 - Includes junk and tree waste

Starting in March, you should be able to follow the Heavy Trash and Recycling schedule from the January 2025 *Bugler* for future collections.

Let's do our part to keep OSB looking great by staying informed and following the collection schedule. Thank you for helping maintain a clean and beautiful neighborhood!





# **ATTENTION: YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEEDS YOU!**

## Join the Old Spring Branch Civic Association

The **Old Spring Branch Civic Association (OSBCA)** needs your help! This is **your** neighborhood too, and we're not asking for much—just your **support, involvement, and attendance at our community meetings**. A stronger civic association means a stronger, safer, and more connected community.

## Our Mission: Building a Better OSB

Founded in 1991, the OSBCA was created by residents passionate about welcoming all to our community, preserving neighborhood safety, maintaining property values, and protecting the quality of life for individuals and families. That mission continues today!

Using a traditional **hands-on**, **grassroots approach**, we invite all residents—**both English and Spanish-speaking**—to join the civic association and **ensure every voice is heard**.

#### Who We Are

OSBCA is an **all-volunteer organization** led by a **Board of Directors**, including elected officers, committee chairs, street representatives, and residents just like you. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to participate!

## **How We Fund Community Initiatives**

The OSBCA funds a variety of community activities and events through:

- ✓ **Annual Membership Dues** (\$25 per year / \$12.50 for senior citizens or those on a fixed income)
- **✓ Local Business Advertisers**
- **✓** Social Fundraising Events
- **✓** Donations

#### 2025 OSBCA Meeting Dates – Save the Date!

Meetings are typically scheduled for the **second Tuesday of the month**, with exceptions when the meeting room is unavailable.

# **2025** Meeting Schedule:

- Wednesday, January 15
- Tuesday, March 11
- Wednesday, June 11
- Wednesday, September 10
- Tuesday, December 9
- **1 Time:** 6:30 − 8 p.m.
- Location: Trini Mendenhall Community Center (1414 Wirt Rd., across from Kroger)

We look forward to **serving the needs of our community** and value your input at these meetings. **Join us and make a difference in OSB!** 

# RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH PICK UP -2025 SCHEDULE-

MONTH		C <b>LING</b> er Friday)	<b>HEAVY TRASH</b> (Fourth Thursday of the month)		
February	□ 2/7	□ 2/21		Thurs., 2/27	
March	□ 3/7	□ 3/21	□ TREE	Thurs., 3/27	
April	□ 4/4	□ 4/18	□ JUNK	Thurs., 4/24	
May	□ 5/2 □ 5/	16 □ 5/30	□ TREE	Thurs., 5/22	
June	□ 6/13	□ 6/27	□ JUNK	Thurs., 6/26	
July	□ 7/11	□ 7/25	□ TREE	Thurs., 7/24	
August	□ 8/8	□ 8/22	□ JUNK	Thurs., 8/28	
September	□ 9/5	□ 9/19	□ TREE	Thurs., 9/25	
October	□10/3 □10/	/17 □10/31	□ JUNK	Thurs., 10/23	
November	□ 11/7	□ 11/21	□ TREE	Thurs., 11/27	
December	□ 12/5	□ 12/29	□ JUNK	Thurs., 12/27	
January 2026		16 □ 1/30	□ TREE	Thurs., 1/22	

<sup>\*</sup>For most accurate date, visit the Solid Waste Management Dept.'s website at <u>HoustonTX.gov/solidwaste/holiday</u>.

\* Para la fecha exacta, visite el sitio web del Departamento de Manejo de Residuos Sólidos.

# **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

Deadline: Monday, March 3, 2025

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

# A special thank you to the following businesses/organizations for their advertisement in our monthly newsletter, The Bugler.



Mike Brubaker, SRA President

7626 Hammerly Houston, Texas 77055

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





Address: 1911 Antoine Dr Houston, Texas 77055 Tel: (713) 683-3817 Fax: (713) 683-7077

E-mail: admissions@samtech.edu



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- CASE MANAGEMENT
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- RECOVERY SERVICES
- HEALTH CLINIC
- FOOD ASSISTANCE
- SE HABLA ESPAÑOL

For more information call 713-328-1963

WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG

# We appreciate your support of our Old Spring Branch Civic Association!

If you would like to advertise, please contact Gerry Thielemann at 713-682-9634. You may also reach out via email at sybilsanchez@yahoo.com.

# Old Spring Branch Civic Association

FEBRUARY 2025 FEBRERO 2025 Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday **Saturday** Sunday domingo lunes martes miércoles jueves viernes sábado 3 2 Groundhog 4 5 6 7 8 Day 14 Valentine's 9 Super Bowl 10 11 12 13 15 Day 18 19 20 21 16 17 Presidents 22 May put out Heavy Day PIP, 7p Trash \* Puede sacar basura pesada 23 24 25 26 27 28 **HEAVY TRASH: JUNK** 3 4 Mardi Gras 5 2 Read Across 6 8 International America Day Women's Day **Employee** Appreciation

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

<u> </u>	BOARD OF DIRECTOR	<u>COMMITTEE CHAIRS</u>			
President: Vice President: Secretary: Treasurer:	OFFICERS Jo Lightsey Loretta Nalley Linda Whatley Virginia Lehman REET REPRESENTATIV	713-681-0560 832-868-8751 713-681-0560 832-748-8088	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			
Antoine:  Counter Point & Turquoise:	Vacant Anonymous		Deed Restrictions:  Committee of Five Contact: 713-681-0560		
Harland & Todd: Jacquelyn/ E. Hammerly:	Vacant Mike McGeehon	713-922-0116	In Touch: Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634  Landscaping:		
Johanna: Silverbonnet, Cedel & W. Hammerly	Roman Nunez Eric Schmidt	281-840-1521	Nino Roman, 832-877-4701  Membership: Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751		
Thonig:	Sybil Sanchez	832-722-2331	Social:Vacant		
Woodvine:	Rosario Machorro	713-391-6355			



# 2024-2025 Membership Form

2024-2025 Formulario de Membresia

# Member Information | Información de miembro Full name | Nombre completo: If business membership, add name of main contact. | Si es membresía de negocio, nombre del contacto principal. Business name | Nombre de negocio: For business membership only. | Sólo para membresía de negocio. Address | Dirección: E-mail | Correo electrónico: Phone | Teléfono: Interested in these committees | Interesado en estos comités Beautification | Embellecimiento Citizens on Patrol | Vigilancia de la Comunidad Deed Restrictions | Restricciones de Propiedades Communications | Comunicaciones Landscaping | Jardinería Membership | Membresía Social events | Eventos sociales Street representative | Representante de su calle Membership Type (Annual Dues) | Tipo de membresía (cuotas anuales) \$25 - Residential | Residencial New Member | Nuevo miembro \$12.50 - Senior Citizen/Fixed Income | Tercera Edad/Bajos Ingresos Renewal | Renovando \$25 - Business | Negocio Membership is for May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025. | Membresía es para 1 de mayo 2024 a 30 de abril 2025. Membership Amount | Cantidad de la Cuota Anual Donation | Donación Total Payment | Pago Total

Checks payable to | Cheque a nombre de: Old Spring Branch Civic Association or/u OSBCA

If sending by mail | Si mandando por correo:

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

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



