

Old Spring Branch Bugler

December 2024 * *diciembre 2024*

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Friday, December 27: JUNK WASTE

Thursday, January 23: TREE WASTE

Recolección de Basura Pesada

Cuarto jueves del mes (menos en días feriados)

viernes, 27 de diciembre: Basura Chatarra

jueves, 23 de enero: Desechos Verdes

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

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

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

RECUERDE: OLD SPRING BRANCH ES UNA COMUNIDAD BAJO RESTRICCIONES.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

I do hope that everyone enjoyed their Thanksgiving holiday. Holiday and end of year activities are in sight for everyone! My how time flies when we are having fun! Of course, this phrase depends on what kind of situation each of us is in, and how well we face our challenges in life. For me, now older, I find that time seems to move faster than when I was in my younger years.

We, as a community, will move forward into 2025 very soon. How will you, as a resident, do your part to improve the quality of life and land value in our OSB neighborhood?

We ARE having a residential struggle lately. As you well know, we are still having a HEAVY TRASH COLLECTION problem. Still no pickup for two months. All explanations are that "we are running two weeks behind". Please hang in there... Maybe, more **Houston's residents, including OSB, should contact ABC Channel 13, 713-669-1313**, and tell them about **OSB's Heavy Trash Problem**. (Saw it on TV 😊)

Continued page 2...

Old Spring Branch Civic Association (OSBCA)

Quarterly Membership Meeting

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

6:30 – 8 p.m.

Trini Mendenhall Community Center, 1414 Wirt Rd.



Follow us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch



Check out our website!

OldSpringBranch.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED...

Old Spring Branch Civic Association has set up its 2025 meeting dates at the Trini Mendenhall Civic Center. In the January 2025 Bugler, dates will be printed, and you will be able to plan your schedule to attend the meetings. I sure hope you will set aside these five (5) dates to physically support your Civic Association. Meetings are to inform you and, along with our Board of Directors, listen to your complaints, suggestions, and even compliments. The Board of Directors wants to hear **WHAT** you want from your Civic Association.

I am looking forward to all the holiday decorations that show the neighborhood's imagination and creativity. Refer to the holiday decoration contest article inside this Bugler as to how and when we will judge and pick the top six (6) from the many participants. Truly, **ALL** are always very interesting. See you December 15 through 20. **LIGHTS ON!**

Have a very happy holiday season. Be safe! I wish for all of you a happy and successful 2025 new year!

ATTENTION: OSBCA ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY CANCELED

We hope to be able to reschedule the party in 2025. We, as a Board of Directors, need to feel that you, as residents and OSBCA members want the Holiday Party to happen next year. For now, we hope you will join us on Tuesday, December 10, for our OSBCA Quarterly Membership Meeting.

CITIZENS ON PATROL – NOVEMBER 2024

Virginia Lehman

Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays! **We will be reporting a total of 29.75 patrol hours for the month of November.** I love patrolling in December and will be making some nighttime patrols and checking out all the Christmas decorations and our neighborhood.

Let's try our best to keep 'crimes of opportunity' to a minimal. Keep your cars locked and if you cannot remove your valuable items; please keep them out of sight. Same goes for porch thieves, let's not give them the opportunity to steal our packages! Plan your deliveries by using pick-up locations, arrangements with neighbors or having items delivered to your work location.

Updates: I was really hoping the gated community on Jacquelyn had gotten their act together and were finally going to keep their trash cans behind their gates but unfortunately that only lasted one week. However, there are not quite so many, last count was 7 black cans and 2 of the green recycling cans. Our group of individuals hanging out at Long Point and Woodvine seems to be growing and setting up camp again. They even have a couple of recliners to lounge in! I will be reporting this again to HPD. If you get a chance to drive by, please do and try to call the HPD non-emergency number to report them.

Unfortunately, it usually takes more than one phone call to get some action taken on low priority events. Thanks to all our Citizens on Patrol volunteers, I do believe we make a difference. **We are always looking for volunteers, if you are interested, please contact me at 832-748-8088 and leave a message.** We would love to hear from you!

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 a life-threatening situation, please call 911!

2024 HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST

OSBCA members will be judging the decorated homes in the neighborhood during the week of December 15-20. This year, the top six (6) homes, overall, will be listed. It is important that you have your lights on every night of the judging week. **Your HOUSE ADDRESS NUMBER MUST BE VISIBLE FROM THE STREET.** If your address number cannot be read, your home cannot be listed in the judging.

There is no right or wrong. However, there must be a house number visible from the street. Other than that, there are no set guidelines.

Judging is done on personal preference. Anyone can be a judge. Contact Secretary, Linda Whatley, 713-681-0560, if you intend to judge. When you have made your six top selections, turn your vote in to Linda via phone, paper, e-mail. Linda's email is whatleylm@gmail.com

The deadline for turning in your judging list is Saturday, December 21, 2024.

CRIME REPORTS - NOVEMBER 2024

Listed below are the incidents reported in our area for October 30 – November 29:

- One (1) report of Aggravated Assault: November 24th, 7pm, 1900 Block of Woodvine.
- Nine (9) reports of Simple Assault: October 30th, 4am, 7600 Block of Hammerly; November 8th, 7pm, 7600 Block of Hammerly, November 9th, 7pm, 7600 Block of Hammerly, November 14th 10pm, 2000 Block of Antoine; November 15th, 10am, 7600 Block of Long Point; November 15th, 10pm, 2000 Block of Antoine; November 16th, 10am, 7600 Block of Long Point; November 22nd, 4pm, 1900 Block of Woodvine and November 23rd, 4pm, 1900 Block of Woodvine.
- Two (2) reports of Intimidation: November 13th, 8am, 1900 Block of Thonig and November 14th, 8am, 1900 Block of Thonig,
- One (1) report of Theft from Motor Vehicle: November 16th, 7pm, 2000 Block of Antoine.
- One (1) report of Motor vehicle Theft: November 8th, 2pm, 2000 Block of Johanna.
- One (1) report of Burglary (Breaking & Entering): November 2nd, 1pm, 7600 Block of Hammerly.
- Five (5) reports of Theft (All other larceny): November 6th, 2pm, 2000 Block of Thonig; November 7th, 2pm, 2000 Block of Thonig; November 11th, 5pm, 7600 Block of Amelia; November 12th, 5pm, 7600 Block of Amelia and November 26th, 4pm, 2000 Block of Antoine.
- Two (2) report of Vandalism: November 1st, 10pm and November 2nd, 10pm at 2100 Block of Counter Point.
- Two (2) reports of All Other Offenses: October 30th, 4am, 7600 Block of Hammerly (all other offenses) and November 21st, 10pm, 7700 Block of Long Point (Trespass of Real Property). November 23rd, 11pm, 2100 Block of Antoine and November 30th, 1am, 7600 Block of Hammerly.

Please note the above information was gathered from SpotCrime website.

GIVE THE GIFT OF COMMUNITY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

As the holiday season approaches, consider a unique and meaningful gift that gives back all year long: a membership with OSBCA.

Whether for yourself or a neighbor, becoming a member supports the efforts that make our neighborhood stronger and more connected.

Currently, OSBCA has only 49 members—a small fraction of our community. By joining or renewing your membership, you help fund year-round initiatives like Citizens on Patrol, quarterly meetings, Deed Restriction reinforcement, advocacy with local representatives, and our monthly newsletter.

Membership is affordable:

- **\$25 per household**
- **\$12.50 for seniors or those on a fixed income**

This holiday season, we invite you to give your household the gift of community support. You can also extend this generosity by gifting a membership to a neighbor—it's the gift that keeps on giving all year long.

Let's make 2025 the year we grow together as a community. Join today and encourage your neighbors to do the same!

Become a member today by visiting oldspringbranch.org/membership

2024-2025 Membership (49 total)												
Amelia	Antoine	Cedel	Counter Point	Hammerly	Harland	Jacquelyn	Johanna	Silverbonnet	Thonig	Todd	Turquoise	Woodvine
1	2	2	10	3	7	2	1	0	3	5	2	11
2022-2023 Membership (55 total)												
2	3	3	12	2	4	2	3	1	3	1	3	15

PAY YOUR OSBCA MEMBERSHIP ONLINE!

The screenshot shows the PayPal payment page. At the top is the PayPal logo and the text "Pay with PayPal". Below this is a prompt: "Enter your email or mobile number to get started." There is a text input field labeled "Email or mobile number". To the left of the input field is a link "Forgot email?". Below the input field is a blue button labeled "Next". At the bottom, there is a horizontal line with the word "or" in the center, and below that is a grey button labeled "Checkout as Guest".

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.

DEED RESTRICTIONS

Committee of Five

The Committee of Five tours the OSB neighborhood looking for violations of deed restrictions. Violation notice letters are sent to each resident that are not in compliance with the deed restrictions of their subdivision. If the address has not been given a copy of deed restrictions, a copy may be requested.

Most violations cease with a warning letter. However, OSB has residents in our Civic Association area that refuse to comply. The Committee may collect evidence such as photos and activity logs. This information may be filed after sufficient evidence is obtained for investigation. Not every investigation will result in litigation. The City Attorney's Office assists in Enforcement. The Neighborhood Services Section investigates complaints from residents and enforces written deed restrictions on the behalf of the City at no charge.

The Committee of Five has tried to work with residents over a long period of time. It is frustrating to try to understand why residents will not comply to the deed restrictions. We, as a committee want to encourage folks to respect the rules of the land. Your subdivision voted to accept these regulations in 1994. When you moved into your subdivision, you were automatically under these restrictions. These restrictions are in place to keep our neighborhood from looking trashy.

For what it is worth, most all OSB residents abide by their deed restrictions. However, we know of businesses being run out of homes. We hope to have the mayor's office inspection officer investigate those residents soon.

We appreciate those of you who are concerned with upholding the deed restrictions in one's respective subdivision. Thank you.

BEAUTIFICATION

Jo Lightsey

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 Old Spring Branch Civic Association (OSBCA).

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 apartments? WHO IS IN CHARGE AT THIS ADDRESS? I have been working with District A to eliminate the problem.

Reminder to residents, PLEASE place your recycling bins and garbage containers three to four (3' – 4') feet apart on collection day. Solid Waste JAWS need the space for successfully picking up and emptying the containers and to AVOID spillage. **Sack all garbage. Do not sack recycling. Remove containers from the street the same day as collection. Store bins out of sight from the street per the City of Houston Ordinance.** Please take the time to keep your yard, street, and ditches clear of litter.

TIPS FOR A YARD OF THE MONTH-WORTHY LAWN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON



December is a festive time for our neighborhood, and it's the perfect opportunity to showcase a yard that's both holiday-ready and Yard of the Month-worthy. Here's how to ensure your lawn stands out this season:

Festive and Well-Groomed

1. **Keep it Neat:** Even in winter, a well-groomed yard makes a statement. Mow the lawn if needed, edge sidewalks, prune shrubs, and remove any dead plants or weeds from flower beds.
2. **Tidy Decorations:** Holiday décor should complement your yard, not clutter it. Avoid overloading your lawn and ensure lights and displays are secure and in good condition.

Eye-Catching Appeal

3. **Blend Décor with Landscaping:** Use holiday lighting to highlight your landscaping, such as wrapping tree trunks or illuminating walkways. Ensure driveways, curbs, and walkways remain clean and accessible.
4. **Seasonal Charm:** While holiday decorations are encouraged, avoid leaving out-of-season items in your yard. A cohesive and tidy seasonal theme goes a long way.

Maintain Structures and Cleanliness

5. **Check for Repairs:** Fences, porches, and patios should be in good condition, free of distractions like peeling paint or ongoing construction.
6. **Declutter:** Keep your yard free of litter, debris, or any items like indoor furniture on porches. Ensure vehicles are operable and parked properly.

Follow Neighborhood Guidelines

7. **Observe Rules:** Ensure your yard complies with City of Houston Codes and OSB deed restrictions for a worry-free display.

By combining holiday cheer with year-round maintenance, your yard can spread seasonal joy and beautify our neighborhood. Happy holidays!

RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH PICK UP

YES! Put these in your GREEN 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)

NO! Do NOT put these 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

EXPLORE YOUR CITY OF HOUSTON UTILITY BILL

Jo Lightsey

Did you know your City of Houston utility bill is a gateway to a wealth of information? Recently, I needed to contact the Water Department about my bill and discovered how much you can learn online.

To explore your utility account and resources visit www.houstonwaterbills.org. Once there, you'll find a treasure trove of over 30 topics covering regulations, account management, and more.

If you're curious about your utility services or need assistance, visit the site or call **713-371-1400** for support. It's worth checking out—you might be surprised at what you discover!

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Thursday, January 2, 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.

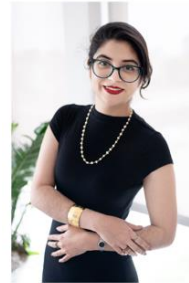


Brubaker and Associates
real estate appraisers and consultants

Mike Brubaker, SRA
President

7626 Hammerly
Houston, Texas 77055

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



Happy to assist you when:



- Selling / Venta
- Buying / Compra
- Leasing /Renta
- Home Value

Rosario Machorro.
Realtor (R) MCNE, VA Certified

Ros@RosMachorro.com
@RosMachorro
www.RosMachorro.com

Mobile: (713) 391-6355

Real Estate, Tailored to your Needs.
Se habla español!

Independent Retirement Living
for Seniors 55 years +

2056 Antoine Dr. (713) 683-6900
Houston, Texas 77055 (713) 263-1424 Fax

SAM TECH.EDU
EDUCATION AT FULL SPEED™

Address: 1911 Antoine Dr
Houston, Texas 77055
Tel: (713) 683-3817
Fax: (713) 683-7077
E-mail: admissions@samtech.edu



Proud to be your neighbor since 2011.

Mabee WholeLife® Service Center

1905 Jacquelyn Dr. Houston, TX 77055

Offering community based care to Spring Branch East residents that includes:

- CASE MANAGEMENT
- YOUTH PROGRAMS
- COUNSELING SERVICES
- FEDERALLY-QUALIFIED HEALTH CLINIC
- RECOVERY SERVICES
- SE HABLA ESPAÑOL
- FOOD ASSISTANCE

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

DECEMBER 2024				DICIEMBRE 2024		
Sunday domingo	Monday lunes	Tuesday martes	Wednesday miércoles	Thursday jueves	Friday viernes	Saturday sábado
1	2	3	4	5	6 	7
8	9	10	11	12	13  	14
15	16	17 PIP, 7p	18	19	20 	21 <i>May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada</i>
22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas</i>	26	27   HEAVY TRASH: WASTE	28
29	30	31	1 <i>New Year's Day</i>	2	3 	4

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

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



OLD SPRING BRANCH
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

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

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification Embellecimiento | <input type="checkbox"/> Citizens on Patrol Vigilancia de la Comunidad |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Communications Comunicaciones | <input type="checkbox"/> Deed Restrictions Restricciones de Propiedades |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Landscaping Jardinería | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Membresía |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social events Eventos sociales | <input type="checkbox"/> Street representative Representante de su calle |

Membership Type (Annual Dues) | Tipo de membresía (cuotas anuales)

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25 - Residential Residencial | <input type="checkbox"/> New Member Nuevo miembro
<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal Renovando |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$12.50 - Senior Citizen/Fixed Income Tercera Edad/Bajos Ingresos | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$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 membresía nueva o al renovar, está de acuerdo a pagar su cuota y apoyar a su asociación cívica a obtener una vecindad mejor.

Stay in touch!



OldSpringBranch.org



Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch