

Old Spring Branch Bugler

MARCH 2025

[Para leer este boletín en español, haga clic aquí.](#)

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, March 27: TREE WASTE

Thursday, April 24: JUNK WASTE

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

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

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Jo Lightsey

I hope we have seen the last of the winter weather and that the freezing temperatures are behind us.

Rodeo season is here!

Rodeo season is here! I'm not sure how families manage the cost of attending the carnival and livestock shows, but I have volunteered for the Rodeo for 28 years and hope your family has a chance to enjoy the exhibits and entertainment on the Rodeo grounds. There is so much more to experience beyond the Rodeo performances in the stadium. I hope you find the time and resources to take your family out and enjoy everything the Rodeo has to offer.

Community standards matter

I am saddened to see so many City of Houston violations, HPD/DRT issues, and Deed Restriction infractions in our OSB neighborhood. I intend to start reporting more of these violations in hopes that residents will comply and do what is right as responsible citizens. No one wants to diminish the value of our properties.

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.



Follow us on Facebook!

Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch



Check out our website!

OldSpringBranch.org

FROM THE PRESIDENT, CONTINUED...

We Need Your Support

The OSBCA Board of Directors will continue working for our community, but we truly need your support—both financially and physically. Consider joining us at our next meeting on **Tues., March 11, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.** We need fresh input and suggestions to keep us motivated.

Stay Informed

Please take a moment to read your [Subdivision Deed Restrictions](#) on our OSB website, [OldSpringBranch.org](#). Stay informed with updates from our Editor, **Sybil Sanchez**, who regularly posts on Facebook: [Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch](#).

Take care and remember—we are here to support you!

CITIZENS ON PATROL UPDATE

Virginia Lehman

Happy St. Patrick's Day! We reported **28.5 patrol hours for January** and **32 patrol hours for February**. There seems to be quite a bit of new construction in our area, including a few new gated communities—one on Antoine, two on Hammerly, and one on Jacquelyn—along with an apartment complex at Thonig and Long Point and urban houses on Thonig.

City of Houston crews began **cleaning and clearing the ditch between Woodvine and Thonig** around February 24. Hopefully, they will be finished by the time this newsletter reaches you. Thank you, Jo, for your persistence in getting this done!

HPD held a **certification and recertification** class at the storefront on February 24 for Citizen Patrol (CP) groups in our area. We were joined by patrol groups from Monarch Oaks, Ridgcrest, and Shadow Oaks. Three members of our OSBCA group attended and successfully recertified. It was a great opportunity to review the rules and procedures HPD requires us to follow. HPD will hold another class in the coming weeks, allowing the rest of our group to get recertified.

If you've ever considered **joining our CP group, now is a great time!** We always welcome new volunteers. Please note that you do not have to be a member of the Civic Association to join Citizen Patrol. The **Citizen Patrol group operates independently** from the Civic Association, meaning it is not governed by the association, though members of the association may also participate in Citizen Patrol.

The **certification and recertification class takes less than two hours** and includes an overview of the manual provided in class. **If you are interested in joining, please contact Virginia Lehman at 832-748-8088.** Be sure to leave a message, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

Thank you to all our Citizen Patrol volunteers—you truly make a difference!

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 - FEBRUARY 2025

Listed below are the incidents reported in our area for January 30 – February 26, 2025:

- Four (4) reports of Aggravated Assault: February 5th @ 11pm; February 6th @ 11pm; February 8th @ 8am and February 9th @ 8am, all at 7500 Block of Long Point.
- Two (2) reports of Intimidation: February 12th and February 13th @ 6pm, both at 2000 Block of Johanna.
- One (1) report of Pornography, Obscene Material: January 31st, 5pm, 7500 Block of Long Point.
- Five (5) reports of Theft (All other larceny): January 31st and February 1st @ 12am, 2000 Block of Antoine; February 14th and 15th @ 5pm, 2000 Block of Thonig and February 21st, 10pm, 7500 Block of Long Point.
- Four (4) reports of Vandalism: February 10th @ 1am and 5am, and February 11th @ 1am and 5am, all at 7600 Block of Hammerly.
- Three (3) reports of Arrest (Drug, narcotic violations): February 12th, 11pm, 2000 Block of Johanna, February 17th and 18th @ 12am, both at 2000 Block of Jacquelyn. .
- One (1) report of Arrest (Driving Under the Influence): February 16th, 1am, 7500 Block of Hammerly.
- One (1) report of Arrest (Weapon law violations): February 17th, 1am, 7500 Block of Hammerly.
- Two (2) reports on Theft from Motor Vehicle: February 10th and 11th @ 12am, 2000 Block of Thonig.
- Four (4) reports of Breaking and Entering: January 31st and February 1st @ 3am and February 2nd and 3rd @ 12am, all at 2000 Block of Antoine.

Please note the above information was gathered from SpotCrime website.

LANDSCAPING & LAWN CARE TIPS

Jo Lightsey & Nino Roman

I'm pretty sure our freezes are over for the season! However, it's best to wait a couple of weeks before trimming dead or damaged foliage from your lawn.

With 50 years of lawn care experience, my seasonal routine includes:

- Cutting back damaged foliage
- Pruning crape myrtles
- Weeding flower beds
- Mowing the lawn at 2 ½ inches to remove weeds and dead grass
- Treating for lawn pests
- Killing weeds
- Replanting where needed
- Fertilizing for healthy growth

Now, I'm ready to welcome spring and follow the "Yard of the Month" criteria—see the enclosed details!

A special thank you to LMC for maintaining our two OSB esplanades at Hammerly & Wirt and Antoine & Long Point.

And a big thank you to Murphy for fertilizing all the crape myrtles along Hammerly!

Happy gardening!

OSBCA MEMBERSHIP: WE NEED YOU!

Loretta Nalley

Membership Update: Let's Grow Together

As of February 2025, **our membership count remains at 52**—the same as last month. While we're grateful for our current members, we know our community is bigger than this! If you haven't joined yet, now is the time. Membership isn't expensive, but it makes a big impact. Your support helps fund community efforts, maintain neighborhood standards, and keep OSB safe and connected.

Mark Your Calendar: March Meeting

Join us for our next **OSBCA meeting on March 11, 2025**, at the Trini Mendenhall Community Center. We'll be discussing upcoming initiatives, including the 2025-2026 membership drive in May. This is a great time to learn more about how OSBCA works for you and why your membership matters.

Please note: There will be no in-person meeting in April.

Help Us Reach More Neighbors


We need your help to grow our membership! If you're already a member, spread the word to your neighbors. If you haven't joined yet, consider signing up today. It's affordable, easy, and directly benefits our community.

Join or renew today at oldspringbranch.org/membership

Let's work together to make OSB stronger in 2025—we can't do it without you!

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

PAY YOUR OSBCA MEMBERSHIP ONLINE!


Pay with PayPal
Enter your email or mobile number to get started.

[Forgot email?](#)

or

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.

YARDS OF THE MONTH: TOP 5 THINGS TO DO

Want to be recognized for **Yard of the Month**? Meet the criteria by getting your yard in top shape by following these **five steps**!

1	Keep Your Lawn Green & Groomed	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mow and edge regularly• Water as needed to maintain a healthy green lawn• Remove weeds and treat for lawn pests
2	Maintain a Neat & Tidy Appearance	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Keep your yard free of clutter and visible garbage• Trim trees and shrubs for a polished look• Sweep driveways, sidewalks, and curbs
3	Add Color & Curb Appeal	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Incorporate flowers, shrubs, or decorative plants for contrast• Plan a well-balanced landscaping design• Keep plants healthy—remove dead or overgrown ones
4	Stay Up to Code	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Follow City of Houston Codes and OSB Deed Restrictions• Ensure fences, porches, and patios are in good repair• Store garbage and recycle bins out of sight when not in use
5	Remove Seasonal & Outdated Items	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Take down out-of-season holiday decorations• Keep porches and patios clear of indoor furniture• Maintain an overall clean and inviting outdoor space

Additional Things to Consider

- Does your yard look **visually pleasing** from the street?
- Are your plants and flowers **well-maintained and thriving**?
- Is everything **in good condition and free of damage**?

By following these steps, you'll help **beautify OSB** and increase your chances of being listed in **Yards of the Month**!

KEEPING OSB BEAUTIFUL

Jo Lightsey

Thursday, February 27, was **Junk and Heavy Trash Day**, but to my knowledge, no collection was made. Hopefully, pickup will happen soon, but the neighborhood had a tremendous amount of tree waste along with junk.

During my Citizens on Patrol (COP) duty, I saw one residence where the front of the house was completely hidden by a **tree waste pile** stacked 8 to 10 feet high and 60 feet wide. This is too large for the Solid Waste Department to pick up. The **acceptable load size for collection is 8 feet by 8 feet**. Any larger pile is considered a heavy trash violation, and the resident is responsible for hauling it away. If not removed, it will be reported to 3-1-1.

While patrolling OSB, I recorded **13 Code Violations, 15 Deed Restriction Violations, and 5 DRT/HPD Violations**. I take responsibility for not reporting these sooner, but residents must do their part in following the City of Houston rules and OSB's neighborhood guidelines. These standards prevent our community from becoming run-down and help keep OSB beautiful.

If you are in violation, please take action to correct it immediately. Thank you to those who continue to respect the rules and practice good citizenship—your efforts make a difference!

Deed restrictions for **Long Point Oaks, Thonig Tract, Hildale, and Silverbonnet Place (Cedel)** can be found on our website at OldSpringBranch.org/deed-restrictions.

Let's work together to keep OSB clean and well-maintained!

COMMUNITY VIOLATIONS: KEEPING OSB SAFE AND CLEAN

Below is a list of violations observed in OSB this month. Are you aware of the differences between these violations? You may be a resident unknowingly in violation. Let's work together to keep our community safe, clean, and in compliance with Deed Restrictions, City of Houston Ordinances, and HPD regulations.

Common Violations Noted This Month:

- **Parking Violations:**
 - Parking in the yard
 - Parking on the sidewalk
 - Parking the wrong way on the street
 - Commercial trucks parked on the right-of-way (ROW) overnight
 - Trailers parked or stored in driveways
 - Commercial box trucks stored in driveways
- **Vehicle & Property Maintenance Violations:**
 - Inoperable vehicles stored in sight from the street
 - Junk stored on private property in view from the street
 - Boats stored in driveways in view from the street
 - Wrecked cars left on the ROW
 - Vehicle repairs (long-term) taking place in front yards
- **Trash & Waste Violations:**
 - Garbage bins stored in sight from the street
 - Recycle bins stored in sight from the street
 - Garbage and recycle bins left curbside too early or not removed after collection
 - Heavy trash loads exceeding the 8' x 8' limit for Solid Waste pickup
- **Property Upkeep Violations:**
 - Junk stacked under carports, on front porches, or in yards
- **Animal Control Violations:**
 - Dogs running loose

Why Compliance Matters

Following these guidelines isn't just about avoiding violations—it's about protecting our **neighborhood's beauty, safety, and property values**. A well-maintained community **enhances curb appeal, prevents decline, and fosters pride among residents**.

Compliance also helps prevent costly fines from the **City of Houston** and ensures that OSB remains a desirable place to live. When we all do our part, we create a cleaner, safer, and more attractive environment for everyone.

Let's all do our part in maintaining the quality and safety of our neighborhood. If you have questions about deed restrictions or ordinances, visit **OldSpringBranch.org** for more information.

REALTORS MARKET UPDATE: JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2025

Rosario Machorro

Home Sales in OSB | Jan. – Feb. 2025

- **Number of Homes Sold:** 5
- **Average Sales Price:** \$414,948
- **Average Price Per Square Foot:** \$252.50
- **Days on the Market:** 124

Howdy! It's rodeo season! I hope everyone is dusting off their cowboy boots and getting ready for spring.

The real estate market has had a slow start this year. Currently, seven properties are expected to close within the next 2 to 65 days—five of which are new construction. Additionally, there are **16 properties for sale**, with **11 being new construction** and offering buyer incentives, such as assistance with closing costs or agent commissions.

The **average time on the market** for correctly priced homes was **1.2 months**, while overpriced homes sat for up to **13.1 months**. If you'd like to check your home's market value, get information on the home-buying process, or have any real estate-related questions, feel free to give me a call at **713-391-6533**—I'm here to help!

Leases in OSB | Jan. – Feb. 2025

- **Number of Homes Leased:** 7
- **Average Lease Price:** \$2,257
- **Average Price Per Square Foot:** \$1.41
- **Days on the Market:** 50

The rental market started the year with **high demand** in our neighborhood, which led to an increase in prices. With many buyers turning to rentals due to rising interest rates, inflation, and job uncertainties, this trend is likely to continue.

If you have an investment property sitting vacant, **now is a great time to list it for lease**, as rental properties remain in high demand.

Welcome to all our new neighbors—stay safe!



RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH PICK UP

-2025 SCHEDULE-

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

*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.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Friday, March 28, 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.



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- FEDERALLY-QUALIFIED HEALTH CLINIC
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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

MARCH 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
domingo	lunes	martes	miércoles	jueves	viernes	sábado
2	3	4 <i>Mardi Gras</i>	5	6	7  	8 <i>Int'l Women's Day</i>
9 <i>Daylight Savings begins</i>	10	11	12	13	14 	15
Spring Break (no school)						
16	17 <i>St. Patrick's Day</i>	18 PIP, 7p	19	20 <i>Start of Spring</i>	21  	22 <i>May put out Heavy Trash * Puede sacar basura pesada</i>
23	24	25	26	27 HEAVY TRASH: TREE	28 	29
30	31 <i>Cesar Chavez Day</i>	1 <i>April Fool's Day</i>	2	3	4  	5
Positive Interaction Program (PIP) meetings – Third Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at the Faith Center Chapel, 8009 Long Point.						

BOARD OF DIRECTORS			COMMITTEE CHAIRS	
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