



Old Spring Branch Bugler

APRIL 2026

To view this and past newsletters visit oldspringbranch.org/newsletter

Heavy Trash Pick-Up

Fourth Thursday of the month (unless falls on holiday)

Thursday, April 23: **JUNK WASTE**

Thursday, May 28: **TREE 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

Heavy Trash Update

I think the biggest news and action seen in OSB during March was the collection of Heavy Trash on Monday, March 16, 2026. It was three weeks late, but it finally got done! There is still no official news about the future of Heavy Trash collection, so folks, please continue to follow the schedule in *The Bugler*. TREE Heavy Trash was Thursday, March 26. Did the truck come? Not to my knowledge. April 23 is JUNK month, and Junk Month means that TREE trash can also be collected. I will leave it up to you what to do.

Neighborhood Safety

The non-break-in car ransackers are still stealing from unlocked cars in the neighborhood. There has not been much news of this kind of activity in a while, but unless you are a victim of forgetting to lock your car, you may not be aware of it. You may be lucky the first time you forget, but do not gamble—always double check that you locked your car.

Crime Report Update

Readers of *The Bugler* may notice that there is not a COP Crime Report article this month. The author will return with a report in May. Until then: keep your porch lights on and cameras running (if you have them), stay aware of any unusual activity in the neighborhood, and report all “gunshots heard,” even if you are not sure where they are coming from. Call 713-884-3131.

Meeting Attendance

I was really disappointed that only six people attended the March 10 OSBCA meeting. There was no quorum to make decisions. With only four Board members present, the meeting was dismissed. All business and reports will be voted on at the June 9 meeting.

Take care, love yourself, and be kind to each other.



Follow us on Facebook!
Facebook.com/OldSpringBranch



Check out our website!
OldSpringBranch.org

MEMBERSHIP MATTERS: HELP US FINISH STRONG!

As we wrap up the 2025–2026 membership year at the end of April, **we are currently at 47 members**. Last year, 52 households supported the Old Spring Branch Civic Association, and we would love your help reaching that goal again.

Your membership supports the work that keeps our neighborhood strong. Every household that joins adds to Old Spring Branch's collective voice. If you have been thinking about joining or renewing, now is the time.

Let's work together to close the gap and finish the year strong. Thank you to everyone who continues to support OSBCA and invest in our neighborhood.

Visit **OldSpringBranch.org** or contact any OSBCA board member listed in this issue to join or renew today.

2025-2026 Membership (47 total) +6													
Amelia	Antoine	Cedel	Counter Point	Hammerly	Harland	Jacquelyn	Johanna	Silverbonnet	Thonig	Todd	Turquoise	Woodvine	Other
0	3	3	10	2	5 (+3)	2	0	2 (+1)	3	0	2	13 (+2)	2
2024-2025 Membership (52 total)													
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!

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.

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!

KNOW YOUR DEED RESTRICTIONS: SIMPLE GUIDELINES FOR EVERYDAY LIVING

Deed restrictions have been part of Old Spring Branch since the 1950s, helping maintain the residential character and quality of life in our neighborhood. Several sections—including Thonig Track, Long Point Oaks, Hilldale/Silverbonnet, and Silverbonnet Place—updated and recorded their restrictions in 1994, and those guidelines are still in effect today.

This overview highlights a few of the most common rules that also align with City of Houston ordinances.

Driveways & Property Improvements

All vehicle driveways must be hard surfaced (such as concrete or asphalt). If a driveway existed before the current restrictions were recorded, it is considered compliant.

Vehicle Parking & Storage

To keep our neighborhood looking neat and safe:

- Large vehicles (boats, trailers, RVs, equipment, etc.) must be:
 - Stored out of public view in a garage or building, **or**
 - Placed at the back of the lot, away from easements and not visible or unsightly
- Everyday vehicles (cars, vans, motorcycles, pickup trucks) must:
 - Be in working condition
 - Have current registration and inspection
 - Be used regularly
- Vehicles should be parked in driveways and **must not block sidewalks**
- Vehicle repairs:
 - Limited to **3 consecutive days** unless done inside a garage and out of view
- Construction-related vehicles and equipment are allowed **temporarily** while work is being completed

Pets & Animals

Pets are welcome, with a few important guidelines:

- Maximum allowed:
 - 3 dogs
 - 3 cats
 - 3 other household pets
(No limit on fish in aquariums)
- Pets must:
 - Not be kept for commercial purposes
 - Not create excessive noise, odor, or nuisance
- Dogs must be:
 - Inside the home,
 - In an enclosed yard, **or**
 - On a leash and under control when outside

Do You Have Your Deed Restrictions?

If you live in a deed-restricted section of Old Spring Branch, you should have a copy of your neighborhood's deed restrictions. To request a copy, contact the Old Spring Branch Civic Association at **713-681-0560** and leave your name and phone number. You can also find them on our website: oldspringbranch.org/deed-restrictions/

By following these simple guidelines, we all help keep Old Spring Branch clean, safe, and a great place to live. Thank you for doing your part!

KEEPING OLD SPRING BRANCH BEAUTIFUL: IT STARTS WITH ALL OF US

Jo Lightsey

Old Spring Branch has always been a neighborhood people are proud to call home. Keeping it attractive and welcoming takes all of us working together and paying attention to a few key things.

What Keeps Our Neighborhood Looking Its Best

There are several simple but important ways we can all help maintain the beauty of our community:

- **Follow Deed Restrictions:** These help protect the residential character of our neighborhood. For example, they prevent things like running a business out of a front yard, keeping farm animals, or parking heavy equipment such as bulldozers in driveways.
- **Follow City of Houston Ordinances:** City codes help prevent issues like storing junk vehicles or debris in plain view from the street.
- **Follow the Heavy Trash Schedule:** Putting items out only during the correct collection times helps keep our streets clean and free of clutter.
- **Keep Your Property Clear:** Avoid storing appliances, indoor furniture, or other junk on porches or in yards. Keeping things tidy makes a big difference.
- **Maintain Your Lawn:** Regular mowing, edging, and weed control keep yards looking cared for and prevent them from becoming overgrown.

Why It Matters

When these basic standards aren't followed, it affects more than just one home—it impacts the entire neighborhood. Property values can decline, and the overall look and feel of Old Spring Branch suffers.

A Simple Question to Consider

If you were shopping for a home, what would you want to see? And if you were preparing to sell your home, what would you do to make it appealing? Taking pride in our properties helps ensure Old Spring Branch remains a place we're all proud of—today and for years to come.

SPRING INTO ACTION: GETTING YOUR YARD READY FOR THE SEASON

Nino Roman

With spring here, it's a great time to get outside and refresh your yard for the months ahead.

Quick Spring Tips

- Fertilize lawns and beds
- Trim back freeze-damaged plants
- Remove weeds and add fresh mulch (1½–2 inches)
- Check your sprinkler system
- Plant seasonal flowers for color
- Trim trees and shrubs

Everyone has their favorite place to shop, so pick up what works best for your yard—and enjoy the process.

As you get your yard in shape, remember it may be featured in our **Yards of the Month** in *The Bugler*. A clean, well-maintained yard helps keep Old Spring Branch looking its best.

OSB thanks **LMC** for their continued maintenance of the Hammerly medians and neighborhood esplanades.

SPRING IN FULL BLOOM: YARD OF THE MONTH RETURNS

Jo Lightsey

The “Road Hawk” is ready to ride again at the end of April, and you can already see the signs of spring all around Old Spring Branch. This is the perfect time of year to refresh your yard, plant something new, and bring a little extra color and care to your outdoor space. It’s always a joy to see how neighbors transform their yards this season, creating welcoming and beautiful spaces throughout our community.

Each month, we recognize those efforts through our “Yards of the Month,” highlighting homes that stand out for their care, creativity, and pride. If you’re working on your yard this spring, keep going—you might just find your home featured in an upcoming issue of *The Bugler*!

How Yards Are Selected for Yards of the Month

If you would like your yard to be considered for Yards of the Month, here are some of the things we look for when selecting homes to feature.

What We Look For

- A healthy, well-maintained lawn that is regularly mowed and edged
- Landscaping that shows care and upkeep, including trimmed shrubs and trees
- A yard that appears clean and orderly, free of clutter or debris
- Walkways, driveways, and curbs that are tidy and swept when needed
- A pleasant and balanced landscape design, using plants, shrubs, or flowers
- Good use of color and seasonal plantings to enhance curb appeal
- Overall maintenance that reflects pride in the property

Additional Considerations

When selecting Yards of the Month, we also take note of the following:

- Plants and landscaping are healthy and in season
- No outdated seasonal decorations or lights remain displayed
- Fences, porches, patios, and other exterior features are well maintained
- Outdoor spaces are arranged appropriately for outdoor use
- The yard contributes to a pleasant and attractive streetscape

As always, City of Houston codes and Old Spring Branch deed restrictions should be observed.

NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS

Deadline: Friday, May 1, 2026

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



Join Fit Houston at Pitner Park for
FREE Bike Days!

**¡Únete a Fit Houston en el parque Pitner
para los Días en bicicleta GRATIS!**

Pitner Park
8500 Pitner Road
Houston, TX 77080



4 p.m.	4 p.m.
Wednesday, March 11	Miércoles 11 de marzo
Wednesday, April 22	Miércoles 22 de abril
Wednesday, May 13	Miércoles 13 de mayo
Wednesday, May 20	Miércoles 20 de mayo
Wednesday, June 10	Miércoles 10 de junio
Wednesday, July 15	Miércoles 15 de julio
Wednesday, August 5	Miércoles 5 de agosto
Wednesday, September 16	Miércoles 16 de septiembre
Wednesday, October 14	Miércoles 14 de octubre



KEEP KIDS LEARNING THIS SUMMER: SBISD'S NEW "MINDS IN MOTION" SUMMER CAMP

SBISD Community Engagement & Outreach Dept.

Looking for a great way to keep your kids engaged this summer? Spring Branch ISD has launched a brand-new summer enrichment series, *Minds in Motion*, offering a range of fun, hands-on programs for elementary-age students. Camps run June 8–18 at two convenient locations: Westchester Academy for International Studies (WAIS) and Shadow Oaks Elementary.

2026 Minds in Motion Summer Camp Offerings:

CookLearnGrow America's Delicious Bounty

Exploring Our Nation's Foods (Grades K–5)

Young chefs will “travel” across the United States, exploring regional foods, cooking dishes, and learning about agriculture and food production.

June 8–11 | WAIS | 8:30–11:30 a.m. | \$395

Note: Camp is nut-free and pork-free; additional dietary accommodations are not available.

MoveNation Dance Academy

This unique camp blends dance and science, introducing students to movement through physics, musicality, and artistic expression across multiple dance styles.

June 8–11 | WAIS | 12:00–3:00 p.m. | \$250

Chess Wizards

Students of all skill levels can build strategy and critical thinking through lessons, tournaments, and interactive games.

June 15–18 | WAIS | 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | \$225

Amazing Athletes

A high-energy, multi-sport camp where students rotate through activities including basketball, soccer, football, and more, with skill-building and team competitions.

June 15–18 | WAIS | 1:00–4:00 p.m. | \$295

Camp Invention

In partnership with the National Inventors Hall of Fame, this nationally recognized program offers hands-on STEM learning and creative problem-solving.

June 8–11 and June 15–18 | WAIS | 8:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. | \$325

American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO)

Skill-based soccer camps focused on player development, teamwork, and sportsmanship in a fun, supportive environment.

June 8–11 and June 15–18 | Shadow Oaks Elementary | 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. | \$150

Minds in Motion Summer Camps is a great opportunity for students to stay active, curious, and connected all summer long, reflecting SBISD's ongoing commitment to learning beyond the classroom.

Registration is open through May 29. Families can complete the registration form to secure a spot. Tuition for SBISD-managed camps will be paid through MySchoolBucks, with invoices issued after registration.

Register at: <https://www.springbranchisd.com/studentsfamilies/summer-camp-programs>

RECYCLING AND HEAVY TRASH PICK UP

-2026 SCHEDULE-

MONTH	RECYCLING <i>(Every other Friday)</i>	HEAVY TRASH <i>(Fourth Thursday of the month)</i>
April 2026	☐ 4/3 ☐ 4/17	☐ JUNK Thurs., 4/23
May 2026	☐ 5/1 ☐ 5/15 ☐ 5/29	☐ TREE Thurs., 5/28
June 2026	☐ 6/12 ☐ 6/26	☐ JUNK Thurs., 6/25
July 2026	☐ 7/10 ☐ 7/24	☐ TREE Thurs., 7/23
August 2026	☐ 8/7 ☐ 8/21	☐ JUNK Thurs., 8/27
September 2026	☐ 9/4 ☐ 9/18	☐ TREE Thurs., 9/24
October 2026	☐ 10/2 ☐ 10/16 ☐ 10/30	☐ JUNK Thurs., 10/22
November 2026	☐ 11/13 ☐ 11/27	☐ TREE Fri., 11/27
December 2026	☐ 12/11 ☐ 12/25	☐ JUNK Thurs., 12/24
January 2027	☐ 1/8 ☐ 1/22	☐ TREE Thurs., 1/28
February 2027	☐ 2/5 ☐ 2/19	☐ JUNK Thurs., 2/25
March 2027	☐ 3/5 ☐ 3/19	☐ TREE Thurs., 3/25

KNOW WHAT TO RECYCLE: WHAT GOES IN THE GREEN BIN

YES! You Can Recycle These:

- **Metal & Cans:** Aluminum and tin cans such as soup, vegetable, fruit, and coffee cans. *(Be sure to empty and rinse.)*
- **Cartons:** Both gable-top and shelf-stable food and beverage cartons like milk, juice, soup, and soy milk cartons. *(Empty and rinse.)*
- **Glass:** Bottles, jugs, and jars only. *(Empty and rinse.)*
- **Paper:** Newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, and office paper.
- **Cardboard:** Flattened cardboard boxes and cereal boxes. *(Remove all packing materials.)*
- **Plastic:** Bottles, tubs, and jugs numbered **#1–5 and #7**. Examples include water and soda bottles, milk jugs, yogurt cups, margarine tubs, detergent, and shampoo bottles. *(Empty and rinse.)*

NO! Keep These Out of the Green Bin:

- Batteries or electronics
- Shredded paper
- “Tanglers” such as cords, hoses, wires, and clothing
- Food, liquids, trash, or *bagged* recycling
- Furniture or household goods
- Scrap wood or scrap metal *(no helium tanks)*
- Yard waste

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

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brubakerandassociates.com




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

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

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WWW.THEWOMENSHOME.ORG








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

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

APRIL 2026						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 <i>April Fools</i>	2	3 	4
5 <i>Easter</i>	6	7 <i>World Health Day</i>	8	9	10 <i>National Siblings Day</i> 	11 <i>National Pet Day</i>
12	13	14	15 <i>Tax Day</i>	16	17 	18 <i>May put out Heavy Trash</i>
19	20	21 PIP, 7p	22 <i>Earth Day</i>	23 <i>National Picnic Day</i> HEAVY TRASH: JUNK	24 <i>Arbor Day</i> 	25
26	27	28	29	30	1 	2
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	
President: Jo Lightsey 713-681-0560	Advertising: Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634
Vice President: Loretta Nalley 832-868-8751	Beautification: Jo Lightsey, 713-681-0560
Secretary: Linda Whatley 713-681-0560	Citizens on Patrol (COP): Virginia Lehman, 832-748-8088
Treasurer: Virginia Lehman 832-748-8088	Communications: Sybil Sánchez, 832-722-2331
STREET REPRESENTATIVES	Deed Restrictions: <i>Committee of Five</i> Contact: 713-681-0560
Antoine: --- <i>Vacant</i> ---	In Touch: Gerry Thielemann, 713-682-9634
Counter Point & Turquoise: <i>Anonymous</i>	Landscaping: Nino Roman, 832-877-4701
Harland & Todd: --- <i>Vacant</i> ---	Membership: Loretta Nalley, 832-868-8751
Jacquelyn/ E. Hammerly: Mike McGeehon 713-922-0116	Social: --- <i>Vacant</i> ---
Johanna: --- <i>Vacant</i> ---	
Silverbonnet, Cedel & W. Hammerly: Eric Schmidt 281-840-1521	
Thonig: Sybil Sanchez 832-722-2331	
Woodvine: Rosario Machorro 713-391-6355	



OLD SPRING BRANCH
CIVIC ASSOCIATION

2025-2026 Membership Form

2025-2026 Formulario de Membresía

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, 2025 through April 30, 2026. | Membresía es para 1 de mayo 2025 a 30 de abril 2026.

\$ _____ . _____ 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