SENDERA

Volume 7, Number 12

December 2012 Sendera Homeowner's Association

Official Community Newsletter

Sendera Website Makeover

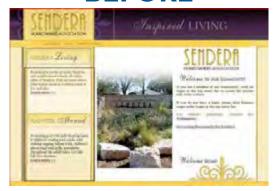
The new Sendera Website made its debut last month and is ready for all residents to use and enjoy. You will find a site that is more user friendly with a clean and fresh new look and improved interactivity. Once you register, you can set up your own account and profile and will be able to post in many more places than the old site. This is your website. If you are interested in starting a forum for particular subjects or want to be a part of Sendera committees like Neighborhood Watch, the new website makes it easy. Just contact the webmaster or a board member. We also need neighborhood photographers to help populate the site with pictures of Sendera life.

The Sendera Board of Directors would like to thank Michael Wilson of Small World Labs for offering to build us a website that would be created just for us. Michael lives in Sendera and wanted to give back to his community. He met Ron Urias (Director-at-Large) at the Easter Egg Gathering in the spring of 2013 and Ron introduced Michael to Sally Iwanski, Sendera's web master. The wheels began clicking. Sally enlisted the help of another resident, Alex Street, who just happens to live next door to Michael. They have been working hard as a team to create a new look and improved function.

Very special thanks are due to Sally, Alex and Michael for volunteering many late-night hours to build our new website after working at their full-time jobs.

Here's how to register. To the right of the main block is the LOGIN section. Click on the Sign Up Now button and the webmaster will receive your request for approval. Then fill out your profile and start exploring! Have fun! Feedback is always welcomed! (Note: the website is still being edited)

BEFORE



AFTER



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HOAWEB SITE

Sendera HOA Web Site: www.senderahoa.com

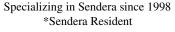
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Acts of the Board

The Sendera HOA Board of Directors met on November 2, 2012 at Bethany Lutheran Church. Complete minutes from the meeting will be posted on the Sendera web site as soon as they are approved.

The Board was advised by the HOA manager that the drainage pond behind Corran Ferry Loop has been cited by the City of Austin for maintenance issues. The Board has requested bids for the repairs and will select a contractor promptly to ensure these problems are addressed immediately. The work will be extensive and will probably require several weeks to complete. Since this area is accessible to residents, please avoid the area during the time the work is being done.

The Board approved the installation of holiday decorations at all entrances with monuments. The decorations are scheduled to go up 11/27-11/28.

Improvements to the Sendera Mesa playscape have been tabled until next year.

A rule that coordinates the Deed Restriction Violation (DRV) and Architectural Control Committee (ACC) approval processes was approved and will be sent to the HOA's attorney for filing with

the County Clerk. This rule provides for suspension of DRV notices for issues that are being addressed through an ACC application. The new rule can be found on the web site under Resources in the Documents Library.

After careful deliberation, the Board has determined not to renew the management contract with Goodwin Management Inc. after December 31, 2012. Effective January 1, 2013, Sendera will be managed by Pioneer Real Estate Services. See the January newsletter for contact information. Every effort will be made to ensure the transition is seamless.

SWIM CENTER

Swim Center closed on December 1, 2012 and will reopen April 1, 2013



Sendera Recreation Committee News

Mark your Calendars

Submitted by Suzann Vera

All are welcome to attend Recreation Committee meetings. Any help is most appreciated- whatever your schedule allows. If you are unable to attend meetings, but would like to be placed on the Recreation Committee e-mail list for updates about neighborhood events, please e-mail suzannchili@sbcglobal.net.

Next Meeting: February 2012 Date TBD

Thank you to Sharon, The Bolen Family, and Angie for judging the annual Halloween decorating contest this year on Saturday October 27, 2012. The winners are.....

8720 Barrow Glen

4301 Companeros Way - Lee

4316 Companeros Way – Rememy

9415 Collazo

4605 Wasall – Mook

8916 Lanna Bluff - Andersson

8829 Whiteworth Loop - Gomez

9001 Whiteworth Loop - Valdez

4704 Hoffman Drive – Watson

4608 Norman Trail – Falcon

4415 Tello Path - Prewitt

4809 Norman Trail - Herring & Zitterich

4729 Tello – Beatty

4501 Chesney Ridge - De Kruyff

4609 Norman Trail - Flores

The annual Christmas Decorating Contest and 4th Annual Bike Ride will take place on Thursday December 20th at dusk. Special awards will be given to the best decorated homes and the winners will be featured in an upcoming newsletter and on the website. To enter the contest, please have your lights on! Fourth annual Bike Ride through Sendera to see the Holiday Lights- all levels of cyclists are welcome and we finish the event with Hot Chocolate and cookies!

Join us for Christmas Caroling on Thursday December 20th. Practice starts at 6pm with caroling beginning at 6:30pm. Meet at the corner of Whiteworth Loop and Raimes Run. All welcome. This is the last day of school for AISD students and starts Winter Break.







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Water & Texans, an Uneasy Truce

Sheri Hicks

It is no secret that water is perhaps the greatest issue facing Texas today. While northern parts of the state have had relief with significant rain fall, the rest remains locked in the drought that began in 2011. This year, Central Texas was fortunate to receive unusual summer and early fall rain which receded drought conditions from severe to moderate. But the rain has stopped, the lakes that provide our water supply remain up to 30 feet low and the drought lingers as we approach another year.

I recently attended a Water Symposium where the Texas Tribune brought policy makers and shapers together to discuss high-level water policy and drought issues facing the state. While most of the issues cannot be solved by us homeowners directly, it is vital we are informed on the broader policy issues as well as the "small" things we can do to impact water availability.

Water isn't just a fuzzy feel good issue; it has both health and economic impacts. With Texas' booming population (expected to reach 46 million by 2060), we will need 8.3 million new acre feet of water, even though our average rainfall is decreasing. Because the population growth is urban/suburban, it is expected municipalities

will meet or outpace agriculture water demands by this time – agriculture being, traditionally, the highest water consumer in the state. At current water levels, estimated economic losses of another record drought as experienced in 2011 could reach \$11 billion annually.

I know all of this seems scary and hopeless. But the reality is we have the power to reduce the strain municipalities are placing on the water system. First, however, we have to change our habits. It is estimated that up to 60% of urban water usage is used to water lawns. Up to 40% of that runs off due to inefficient watering. This means that we, as homeowners, may have the most powerful tool to combat water shortages; conservation.

It's time to say it. We have to rethink the green lawn. Sendera has done a great job getting the conversation started by implementing easy xeriscaping guidelines and allowing significant reduction in turf grass on our lawns. Since 2011, lawns in the neighborhood have slowly transformed from traditional turf grass to interesting mixes of soft/hard and native landscapes. Some homeowners have included

(Continued on Page 8)

NOT AVAILABLE ONLINE

Sendera Chili Cook-Off

The weather was cool but the chili was hot, hot, hot, at the 8th Annual Sendera Chili Cook-Off. The well-attended event offered a smorgasbord of chilies – white, green, red and con frijoles – along with a variety of condiments. Eight teams participated along with 6 vendors and there was a jump house for the kids. A good time was had by all. If you haven't joined your neighbors yet for an event, really consider doing so as we know how to have fun! Special thank yous go out to Kori and Misty for totaling scores with dueling I-phone calculators, and to Celebration Church for the generous use of the jump house! Thank you to all of the teams and vendors who made this event possible!

And the winners are:

Bad to the Bone, Greg Johnson: Grand Champion Bad to the Bone, Greg Johnson: 1st place green Acunabego, The Acunas: 2nd place green Bone Head Chili, C. Cowey/Lewis: 3rd place green 5 Boroughs Chili, JR Vera: 1st place red Quatro Chili, Moore/Hooker: 2nd place red Flaming Stool Chili, Glenn Whipple/Adams: 3rd place red

Honorable Mentions for Team Boenl and South Side Chili!!

Yard of the Month

Even with the drought, most of the yards in Sendera are still being well maintained. To recognize the efforts of residents whose yards contribute to putting our best foot forward to future homeowners, the HOA Board of Directors has authorized small monetary awards along with a sign to be displayed in the chosen yards.

Congratulations to the following recipients of the Sendera Yard

of the Month Award: 8801 Lanna Bluff 4728 Walsall Loop 4612 Tello Path



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HOLIDAYWISHES2012

Each year, neglected and abused children in the Austin area must be removed from their homes by Child Protective Services caseworkers.

Separations occur all year, but it is especially difficult during the holidays. Partnerships for Children is making a difference in the lives of these children and we invite you to join us by participating in our Holiday Wishes program.

With your help, how many children can we impact this year? **Please contact us at:**

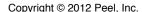
512.834.4756

holidaywishes@partnershipsforchildren.org

GET INVOLVED:

- ✓ SPONSOR a child by purchasing items from their wish list
- ✓ MAKE a donation and we will shop for you
- ✓ DONATE general gifts for children that are not matched with community donors
- ✓ ORGANIZE a drive to collect gifts commonly requested on children's wish lists

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Sendera

Water and Texans (Continued from Page 6)

large sections of hardscapes combined with native plants resulting in little to no watering - which equals big savings in water rates as the water restrictions and conservation pricing continues. But if that isn't your thing, it's okay. You can still make big strides by following the xeric guidelines which incorporated hardscapes and natives in smaller ratios, reducing overall lawn size and replacing St. Augustine with a low water grass like Zoyzia, Bermuda, or Buffalo.

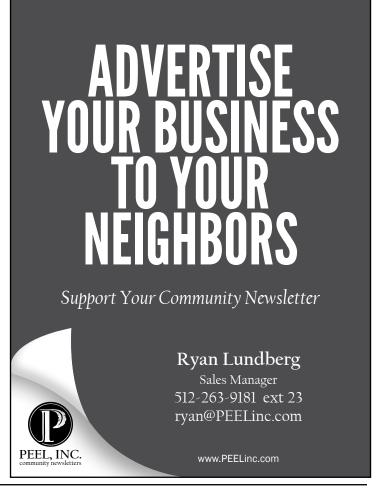
Be sure to keep sprinkler systems repaired, efficient and zoned properly so you aren't watering those hardscapes and natives on a weekly basis. Embrace technology by installing rain monitors to keep sprinklers from running during or just after a rain event. Make sure movable sprinklers do not water driveways or roads where water goes right into the storm drains.

Inside the house, capture some of that grey water in buckets to water household plants and outdoor plants and shrubs. I implemented this during that brutal "summer of 2011" and reduced my own household water bill back down to the first price bracket – wow! Even I was surprised by how much water (and money) goes down the drain waiting for the shower or faucet water to heat. Repurposed, this water kept my favorite plants and perennial beds alive during the hottest and driest months.

Most of all don't let the rain events of the past breed complacency. Water conservation is as crucial today as it was last summer. Drought conditions continue through most of Texas where municipalities and rural agriculture depend on the same water sources to exist. While we can't fix the entire water problem by ourselves, suburbanites have a good tool to make strides toward reducing overall water consumption to ensure Texas continues to prosper.



The goal is to fill in the grid so that every row, every column, and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1 through 9. Each digit may appear only once in each row, each column, and each 3x3 box.



Tennis Tips

By USPTA/PTR Master Professional Fernando Velasco

HOW TO HIT A ONE-HANDED BACKHAND

In previous newsletters, I offered tips on how to hit a Forehand and a Two-Handed Backhand. In this issue, I will give you instructions on how to execute a one-handed backhand for a right hander. This stroke is still used by many league and tournament players since it gives players a wider range of reach and flexibility to hit slices and drop shots.

Step 1: Ready position: The body is facing the net. The right hand is holding the end of the racket in a forehand grip position and the left hand is on the throat of the racket. The left hand is holding the racket slightly tighter than the right hand. Feet are shoulder width apart and the body in is good balance.

Step 2: Back swing: When the opponent's ball is headed to the backhand side, the left hand takes the racket back and the right hand changes the grip with one quarter turn placing the index knuckle at the upper ridge of the handle. The body should start taking the racket back before the ball bounces. Notice the turn of the upper body and the right foot leading the left foot. Eyes are still focused on the incoming ball.

Step 3: Point of Contact: The eyes now shift toward the point of contact which should be about 12-18 inches in front of the right foot.



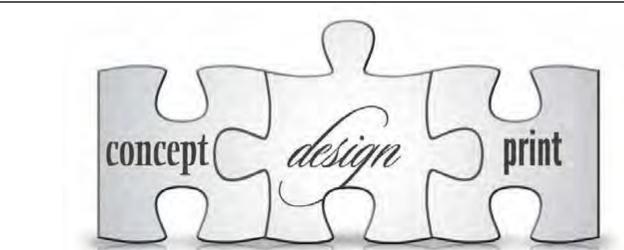






The right hand is holding the racket tight. The racket has made contact with the ball and weight of the player has shifted toward the point of contact. It is important to keep the right shoulder closed and not open the left hip too early. Flexing the right knee will allow more flexibility and power on the ball.

Step 4: Follow Through: Once the racket has made contact with the ball, both of the arms need to be extended for better balance. The right arm should be straight and the follow through upwards above the head. *Look for next Issue: The Forehand Volley*



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