

# SENDERA

SENDERA HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## MEET THE BOARD

Since not everyone can attend the monthly meetings and we have many new residents, the HOA board members will each get some newsletter space to introduce themselves over the next couple of months.

### **Todd Moore, President**

My name is Todd Moore and I am the current president of the Sendera HOA. My family and I moved into Sendera in February of 1999, and I have served several terms either as a board member or as a committee member for the landscaping, security, and pool committees. I am currently in the final year of my 3-year-term which will expire in 2016.

The top concerns Sendera faces right now are safety and traffic. With the Davis Lane Autobahn now completed, we need to address traffic volume and speed. There are currently no traffic lights or signs on Davis between Brodie and Mopac, and drivers can't resist putting the pedal to the metal. The most recent traffic study performed in March of this year showed a 20% increase in vehicular volume (11,000 to over 13,000) with an average speed exceeding the posted 40 mph. To assist with this challenge, fellow Sendera resident and volunteer, Aruna Ghatak-Royand, has been tirelessly serving as a liaison between our neighborhood, the City of Austin Transportation Department, and the office of our newly elected City Councilwoman, Ellen Troxclair. We will continue to work with these offices until our traffic issues are resolved.

Combined with the traffic increase on Davis Lane and the expansion of our nearby business parks, Ramies Run and Copano have also seen an increase in vehicular volume and speed. Those

of you who live on these streets might be glad to know that we have qualified for traffic calming devices (i.e. speed humps), but we still await funding.

Please watch your speed and have a great summer!

### **Patrick Pulido, Vice President**



My name is Patrick Pulido and I've lived in Sendera for a little over 14 years. I just graduated from Texas State University with a degree in Elementary Education. I'm married and have two children (boys).

I served on the board several years ago as the Director at Large. This time around I didn't know I was given the title of Vice

President. It's news to me!

An important current issue for Sendera is the moving of the park on Norman Trail. The playground was built without permits over a protected sink, so during the summer it will be moved about 50 yards towards Slaughter. The board will make sure all is taken care of during this process.

I think the people in Sendera are great people. We have a wonderful community in the best part of Austin.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## HOA WEB SITE

Sendera HOA Web Site: [www.senderahoa.org](http://www.senderahoa.org)

## NEWSLETTER INFO

### NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc. .... 512-263-9181  
Article Submissions ..... [www.peelinc.com](http://www.peelinc.com)  
Advertising ..... [advertising@PEELinc.com](mailto:advertising@PEELinc.com)

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RECREATION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

*Submitted by Suzann Vera*



**SUMMER  
MOVIE  
NIGHTS**  
*at the Pool!*

Movies will begin at dusk. Mark your calendars:

June 13th Surf's Up - snacks and goodies will be sponsored by Ron Urias' Insurance Agency.

July 11th Jurassic Park - popcorn, giveaways, and movie showing sponsored by The Austin Diagnostic Clinic- Circle C.

Thank you to our sponsors! Movies can be watched from inside the pool or surrounding deck area. Bring your floats and maybe extra chairs! You are welcomed to bring your own snacks (no glass containers) and/or some money as snacks will also be sold for a community fundraiser.



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## In the Garden

*Submitted by Pamela Kurburski*

Are you new to Sendera? Did you move here from some place that actually had soil and didn't have watering restrictions? Wondering how in the world you are going to have a decent landscape under these conditions? The Sendera Garden Club might have some answers for you.

Although we call it a club, there really isn't a structure like a lot of clubs have. We don't have officers and there are no minutes. We are just a group of local gardeners who enjoy getting together, sharing information, passing along plants from our gardens and taking the occasional road trip. We meet on the third Thursday of the month (usually) at individual homes so we can see how other gardens are doing and get inspiration from each other.

If you would like to join us, please call me at 512-940-8430 to find out when and where our next meeting will be held.

## HOA BOARD MEETINGS

WHEN:

2nd Tuesday of every month  
6:30 pm

WHERE:

Room 112  
Bethany Lutheran Church  
3701 W. Slaughter Lane  
Austin, TX 78749

NEXT MEETING JULY 14, 2014

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# The Beauty of Grasses

by Chris Winslow



*"I believe a leaf of grass is no less than the journey-work of the stars"*  
- Walt Whitman

For some reason gardeners often overlook our ornamental grasses. Grass is for mowing, people say... and when visiting a nursery you normally want to buy a tree, vegetables, a perennial, or something that will yield flowers. Not just a clump of grass.

But as you drive around Travis and Hays counties, keep your eyes open and observe how creative landscape designers – and home gardeners – are using grasses as soft boundaries, or planting them in big groups, or using them as a screen.

The good news about these grasses is that they are versatile, easy to grow, and provide beautiful fall and winter color for the garden.

They are also remarkably adaptable to different sun conditions and once established they can survive a drought. Gardeners really don't have to do much to make them flourish.

Outside of a few spring flowering grasses, most produce their showy seed heads in the fall and add foliage color throughout the winter.

Our only garden chores are to water infrequently during extended drought and to cut back the winter foliage when new growth begins to show in the spring. Here are some of my favorite choices for central Texas landscapes:

## The Mulenbergias

This native genus has many grasses that are showy, easy to grow, and easy to find in local nurseries:

Coastal muhley grass (*Mulenbergia capillaries*), also known as "Gulf" muhley, grows to a height and width of 3 feet. Its gray-green foliage produces pink, mist-like, seed heads in the fall, that are striking, especially when backlit by the sun.

Big muhley (*Mulenbergia lendheimeri*) produces feathery tan colored seed heads in the fall on top of foliage that is bluish green.

*(Continued on Page 6)*

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# Sendera

(Continued from Page 5)

Big muhley grows to a height and width of four feet. It grows throughout the Hill Country and is extremely hardy. Deer, cows, horses, goats, and sheep won't eat it.

Bamboo muhley (*Mulenbergia dumosa*) is the largest of the muhley grasses, growing over four feet with bamboo-like feathery foliage which turns the color of straw in the winter months. It should be cut back in the spring when new growth appears. Unlike spreading bamboo, it isn't invasive. It stands alone as a beautiful specimen.

### The Maidengrasses

In the genus *Miscanthus*, there are 15 varieties of hardy ornamental grasses that can be used for accent, borders, and screens. All have pretty seed heads in the fall and winter, and should be cut back in the spring. A few varieties to look for are standard and dwarf maidengrass, adagio, cabaret, morning light, and porcupine or zebra grass.

### The Fountain Grasses

In the genus *Pennisetum*, these also show many forms and colors.

They range in size from the dwarf fountain grass that grows under two feet to the standard fountain grasses that get to five feet or taller. One of the most outstanding of the fountain grasses is rubrum or purple fountain grass. It can grow to five feet and has reddish-purple foliage with purple seed heads. Rubrum needs to be cut back after the first freeze and mulched well.

Its winter hardiness is not as good as the other grasses. In contrast to purple fountain grass is a variety called 'moudry' which has black seed heads and grows under two feet.

The ornamental grasses can give color throughout the year, are easy to grow, adaptable to varying light conditions, deer resistant, and very drought tolerant. They are a great choice for our water stressed conditions. Happy Gardening everyone!

*Permission to reprint this article was given to the Sendera Newsletter by the author and It's About Thyme Garden Center, 11726 Manchaca Road*



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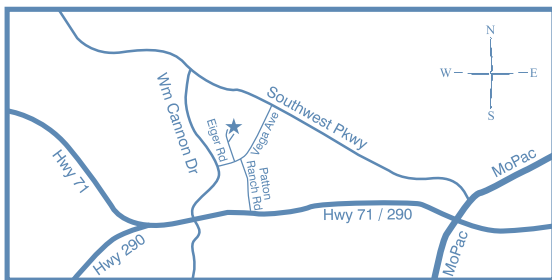
Did you know there is a free website service to keep you in touch with the news and people in the Sendera neighborhood? It's called Nextdoor.

Nextdoor is a forum for residents to share neighborhood news in real-time. To sign up, go to <http://www.nextdoor.com> and fill in your home address and email address. After you are verified as a resident, you can customize your settings to receive email updates as often as you like. Currently, the Sendera neighborhood has over 400 members actively participating.

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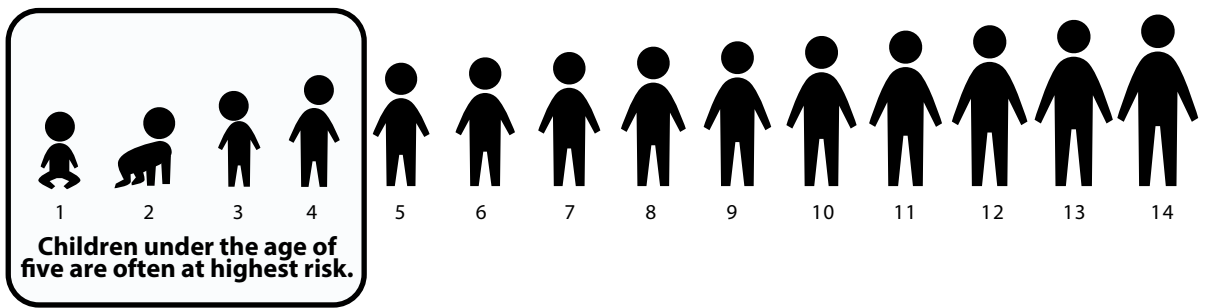
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