

# SENDERa

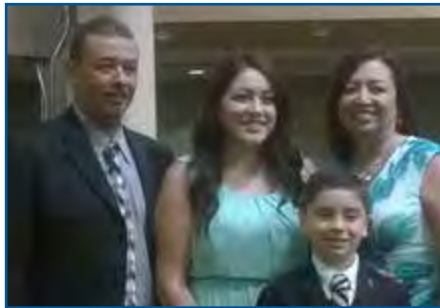
SENDERA HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

## MEET THE BOARD

In the last issue our HOA President Todd Moore and Vice President Patrick Pulido shared a little about themselves and their goals for our neighborhood. This month the rest of the HOA Board members get a chance to introduce themselves.

### Angie Flores, Treasurer



I've lived in Austin since 1987 when I came here to attend The University of Texas. I graduated from UT in 1991 and never left. I currently work at HDR Engineering as a Financial

Consultant. My husband, Jesse, and I have been married for 13 years and have two children. Jessica, our daughter, just graduated from Austin High School and is 17 years old. She will be attending Austin Community College in the fall and is hoping to become a nurse. Justin, our son, is 8 years old and will be in the 3rd grade.

We have lived in Sendera since July 2008. We love living in Sendera and have made many lifetime friends. Our neighbors have been wonderful and have truly become part of our family. I have been on the Board since 2011 and have been the Treasurer for my entire tenure. I enjoy serving my community and being able to be a voice for my neighbors.

Our neighborhood has unique challenges in that our common areas are starting to show their age and are in need of repair. In light of recent unexpected costs being incurred for our retention ponds, we will need to financially plan for the future and the improvements that will need to occur. Prioritizing our needs will be especially important. Furthermore, in order to keep

increasing the values of our homes (one of our most important investments), we need to ensure that everyone continues to maintain their homes in the best possible condition.

One improvement I'd like to see is an increase in volunteers in our neighborhood. Since I've been here, it seems that we have the same folks volunteering to help around the neighborhood. I'd like to challenge our newer residents to come forward and participate in our neighborhood events or to attend a board meeting. If you have an idea for making our neighborhood better, we want to hear it. If you would like to volunteer to help with an event, find the right person to contact on our website or on Nextdoor.

### Ron Urias, Secretary

Hello Sendera members, my name is Ron Urias and my wife is Sandy. We moved to this neighborhood in 1998 so that our sons could attend Bowie H.S. and also to seek protection afforded by a Home Owners' Association. I'm a small business owner and that enables me to help with association matters throughout the day.

I'm a 2nd generation native Austinite and have served as the president of your HOA in the past. I'd venture to say I've been on the board off and on for about 13 years in different positions.

My passion is to help educate property owners about the HOA process and your rights as property owners. Helping to increase the value of your property is one of the goals of the Board of

*(Continued on Page 3)*



## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## BE GOAL ORIENTED

It's not whether you win or lose, it's how you learn the game. At the Southwest Family YMCA, kids develop all of their skills, from catching and dribbling to teamwork and sportsmanship. Just as important, they learn firsthand the benefits of being healthy & active and that virtual games just can't compare to the real thing.



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**SOUTHWEST FAMILY YMCA**  
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*(Continued from Cover)*

Directors and, in my opinion, this is one of the best boards I've ever worked with.

I'm also the director that looks over and keeps up with our swimming pool amenity. If there is something you'd like to see or a matter that needs our attention please don't hesitate to contact me. If you haven't been to the pool in years you need to come over and look over the great changes we've made on your behalf.

Sandy and I are proud to belong to a neighborhood that really cares about our neighbors and we take comfort in knowing this is our "forever" home.

Now, go out and jump in the pool!

**Tom Franke, Director at Large**



My name is Tom Franke. I moved to Sendera Oaks with my family in the spring of 1999. I'm originally from Madison, Wisconsin. I graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1988 with a degree in Civil and Environmental Engineering. I recently completed my 15th year of employment with the City of Austin, Watershed Protection Department. I have two children both grown and out of the house.

I have really enjoyed living in Sendera all these years. The changes that I have seen in and around our neighborhood have been exciting. As I'm sure many of you who have been

around awhile remember, we use to be the quiet subdivision on the edge of town. Those days may be gone but the neighborhood still has the feel of that quiet subdivision of old, only now we are a few minutes away from a grocery store, numerous restaurants, and other conveniences that were many miles away back then. Sometimes change is good.

I have been on the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) since 2009 and on the Sendera Board as the Director-at-Large since 2013. One of the many challenges that the board continues to encounter is the need to adapt to the many changes taking place in and around our neighborhood. As volunteers, we take on the job of interpreting, enforcing, and re-evaluating the covenants, conditions, and restrictions that were created 20 years ago to make sure we keep Sendera current, and that those decisions have a positive effect on property values. Staying current means we have to adapt to issues that most of us wouldn't have considered 20 years ago. Long gone are the days of dealing with the installation of huge satellite dishes in backyards. Now we deal with solar panels, xeriscaping, and rainwater harvesting cisterns, to name a few.

One of the biggest challenges we faced was the drought of 2011 and the watering restrictions that came with it. It forced us to reduce the amount of water we use to keep our lawns alive and instead

consider low water or xeric options that integrate native, drought tolerant plants and landscaping into our yards. Working with the board and ACC members at the time, guidelines were created and adopted that assisted homeowners with the xeric transformation of their front yards while allowing them to still meet the intent of Sendera landscaping restrictions. The ACC has processed and approved over 100 xeriscape application since then.

Aging infrastructure continues to create new challenges. The Board learned a few years ago that the HOA is responsible for the maintenance of the water quality pond located behind the homes at the east end of Corran Ferry. Since then, steps have been taken to not only make sure the pond is repaired but also that routine inspections take place to identify maintenance needs earlier and minimize major repair costs in the future. We are investigating the possibility of turning the maintenance responsibility of this pond over to the City of Austin. It will be a long slow process. Keep your fingers crossed.

Finally, the Violet Crown trail brings new infrastructure to our neighborhood that will allow us to hike or bike into Hays County or to the Barton Springs pool. The board continues to coordinate with City of Austin staff to ensure that the upcoming installation of this trail through our neighborhood goes well.

Exciting times all around, I look forward to working with the homeowners and board members to continue to improve Sendera and keep our neighborhood safe, clean, and an enjoyable place to live.

## NOW HIRING Advertising Sales Representative

**Description:** The position includes marketing our community newsletters to local and area businesses. It is a flexible position that allows you to work from home and set your own hours.

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## HOW TO SPOT OAK WILT

by Alison Carpenter

Before my husband and I bought our Sendera home, I fell in love with the beautiful live oak that shades the entire backyard. The realtor told us that several years ago the owner had to use “extreme measures” to save the tree after an oak wilt infestation destroyed many other trees on the block. Until that moment I had never heard of oak wilt and what a serious problem it is for central Texas. While there is no way to eradicate the disease, you must identify oak wilt immediately in order minimize the damage. Being diligent is very important because one infestation can destroy everyone’s trees.



Illustration: Robert O'Brien  
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### What causes oak wilt and how is it spread?

Oak wilt is a fungal disease that is transmitted by beetles. The beetles are attracted to open wounds on the tree, the result of pruning or weather damage. Once transmitted, the water system of the healthy tree is compromised, and oak wilt can be spread to other healthy trees via an interconnected root system.

### What are the symptoms?

In this area, the trees primarily affected are live oaks and red oaks. On live oaks, leaves will turn yellow to brown starting at the veins. On red oaks, leaves will wilt and develop brown or bronze edges. Most live oaks will defoliate and die within 1-6 months of initial symptoms. Red oaks never survive and die within 3-4 weeks.

### How to prevent the disease?

Use the following checklist when pruning your oaks:

- Paint fresh wounds immediately with wound dressing or latex paint.
- Clean all pruning tools with 10% bleach solution or Lysol™ between sites or trees.

- Avoid pruning oaks unless outdoor temperatures are less than 50 degrees or more than 90 Fahrenheit, as the beetles that spread the disease are not active during extreme temperatures. An alternate rule of thumb is do not prune oaks during the spring (currently defined as February 1 through June 30).
- Immediately chip, burn or bury cuttings from diseased oaks.
- Do not store firewood near healthy oaks unless that wood is dried out or cured, or you are sure it is not diseased.

### What do I do if my tree has oak wilt?

If you suspect your tree is infected, call a certified arborist immediately to take a look at it. If you suspect a neighbor’s tree has oak wilt, the best practice would be to tell your neighbor your suspicions and then call an arborist to find out ways to protect your own trees.

In addition, the City of Austin participates in the Oak Wilt Suppression Project, a partnership of state agencies that aims to educate the public about oak wilt and provide cost-sharing and technical assistance to homeowners and neighborhoods. Visit <https://austintexas.gov/page/oak-wilt-suppression> or contact Chris Dolan at 512-974-1881 to find out more about the program.

Resources: <http://texasoakwilt.org/> and <http://hotonaustin.com/2015/01/26/saving-trees-oak-wilt/>

## Sendera Recreation Committee News

Submitted by Suzann Vera

Next Meeting:

Wednesday, September 9th at 6:30pm at Backspin Sports Bar & Grill (5000 W Slaughter Ln) we will meet to plan Fall/Winter events. All are welcomed to attend!

A Big “Thank You” goes out to Ron Urias Insurance for the goodies/snacks during the June movie night, and to Austin Diagnostic Clinic for their sponsorship of the July movie night!

Join your neighbors for a Sendera Pool Party on Sunday August 16 from 1-4pm. There will be music, sausage wraps, chips & fun! Please bring your own drinks.

# Tips To Prevent Burglaries

The Austin Police Department Burglary Unit has recently seen a rise in burglaries due to garage doors being left open. Since March 2015 there have been a total of 44 burglaries from open garage doors.

Out of these 44 cases, 14 have occurred in Southeast Austin, 13 have occurred in Southwest Austin and the remaining 27 in other areas of Austin.

## Burglary Prevention Tips:

1. Don't leave your garage remote in the car.

Thieves know right where to look for your garage door opener remote—clipped to the visor in your car. To avoid giving them easy access to your garage, take the remote with you when you leave the car.

2. Install deadbolt locks and solid doors.

Install a solid door and a good-quality dead bolt and reinforce the doorjamb and hinges to resist a brute-force attack.

3. Install motion detector lights.

Install light fixtures that have a built-in motion detector to discourage burglars from forcing entry.

4. Cover windows to stop prying eyes.

To prevent burglars from “casing the joint,” cover glass so they can't “window shop.” Use curtains, shades or blinds. Or apply a translucent film to the glass that obscures vision but still lets in light.

5. Disable the overhead door when away.

When you go away on vacation, unplug the garage door opener. If you don't have an opener, padlock the latch or disable the door by putting a bolt through one of the holes in the garage door track. This will prevent someone from coming in through the overhead door while you're away.

6. Keep your garage door closed.

Leaving the garage door open is practically an invitation to burglars, not to mention that you're really presenting a storefront window display of your possessions to anyone driving by.

For more information, contact the Burglary Unit at 512-974-6941 or visit <http://austintexas.gov/departments/burglary-unit>.

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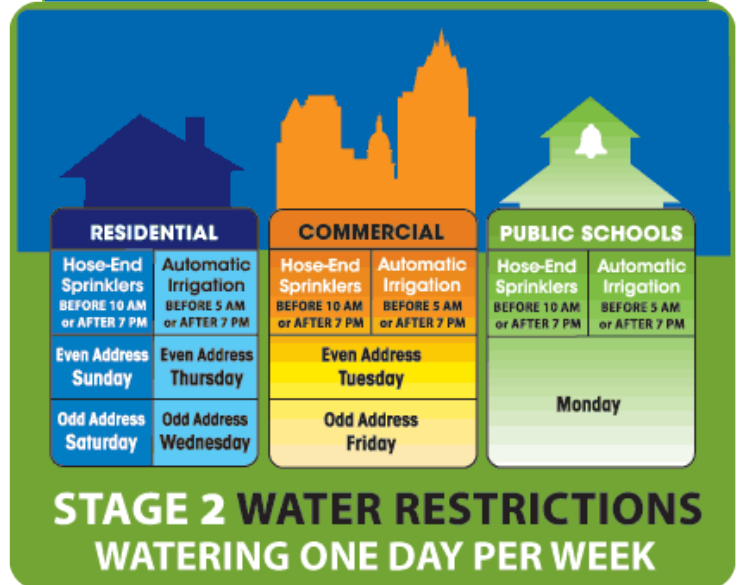
*Submitted by Pamela Kurburski*

The Sendera Garden Club met June 18 to look at the lovely and compact garden of one of our members. Despite being smaller than some, this garden packed in lots of color, texture and species variety. Because there was significant shade, caladium was interspersed with bat-faced cuphea and impatiens for a bigger color impact.

Conversation centered on the joys and sorrows of the incredible rainfall we have been experiencing. Fungal problems on roses and crape myrtles as well as in lawns were discussed along with potential remedies. We were all happy that we hadn't had to irrigate much but worried that our landscapes might suffer serious shock when water was not so plentiful. Belated thought was given to installing rain barrels.

We meet on the third Thursday of each month in Sendera. 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.

Despite the plentiful rainfall, Austin will remain in Stage 2 water restrictions for the near future, according to a memo sent out in late June by City Manager Marc Ott. Use the graphic below to determine your once-a-week watering schedule.



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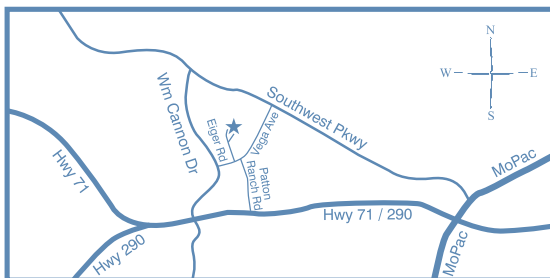
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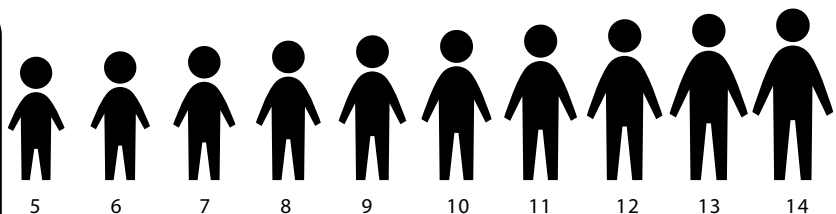
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