

SENDERa

SENDERA HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Swim Lessons Continue Through Fall

The lifeguards from Cruzin Aquatics will continue swim lessons at the Sendera pool during the fall semester. Available time slots are 5-8 pm on weekdays and 10-12 on weekends. All lessons are 30 minutes long, once per week.

Private lessons are offered at \$10 per class. "If the child is 5 or younger, parents can choose a group class for 8 sessions at \$20 total," says Kimberly Ortiz of Cruzin Aquatics, "but group classes require parent participation." She adds, "For the younger kids we focus on being comfortable in the water, things like kicking and floating, plus water safety. Older kids are able to focus on stroke skills and technique."

For more information or to schedule a lesson, contact Joshua Cruz at 512-535-8082 or Kimberly Ortiz at 512-535-8067, or email Cruzin.Aquatics@ymail.com.



Sendera swimmers with their teachers

NEW POOL RULES FOR RESIDENTS

Submitted by Todd Moore

The Board of Directors made a few minor amendments to the pool rules that went into effect late this swim season. Below is a description of each along with a reason for the change:

Fitness Lane

Added: Defined term and usage of the lap lane as "Fitness" lane.

The Fitness Lane is intended and reserved strictly for lap swimming or fitness training at all times on a first come basis. Lounging and floating in the lap lane is prohibited and may be enforced.

Exception: During special events, such as movie nights etc. the Fitness Lane will be open for casual non-fitness usage. This will keep a dedicated lane open at all times for fitness and rehab training.

Reason: Several residents were unable to use the fitness lane, as it was frequently occupied by casual swimmers and/or floatation devices.

Swim Lessons

Added: Private swim lessons are prohibited at the Sendera Community Pool.

Exception: Swim lessons may be held by the HOA contracted lifeguard provider only. These lessons are for Sendera residents only and not guests.

Reason: To reduce the liability and exposure to the Association.

Teenagers

Added: Teenage residents age 13-17 may bring a guest to the pool without an adult.

Exception: Swimmers must demonstrate to the lifeguard the ability to swim the length of the pool and conduct themselves in accordance to these rules.

Reason: To enable our teenage residents use the pool more often by bringing a guest to the pool without requiring adult supervision.

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Sendera Recreation Committee News

Submitted by Suzann Vera

Next Meeting:

The Sendera Recreation Committee will meet Wednesday September 9th at 6:30 pm at Backspin Sports Bar and Grill, 5000 W Slaughter Lane, to plan fall and winter events. If you are interested in meeting new neighbors and have ideas for fun events, we would love for you to join us!

38th Annual Bethany Marketplace

Saturday, Nov. 14
9am to 4 pm

This craft show, featuring handcrafted items from over a hundred craftsmen is the major mission fundraiser for the Bethany Women in Mission LWML. Lunch and baked items will be available for purchase. Admission & parking is FREE.

This event will be held at

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SENDERA STUDENT OF THE MONTH

EVELYN INOVEJAS, 13



Tell a little about yourself?

I'm going into the 8th grade at Gorzycki Middle School. I love to read and I love music too.

What's going on in this picture?

In the summer I'm on the Dick Nichols swim team for the City of Austin. This is a picture of me after I qualified for state.

Wow, in which event(s)?

In the 50 freestyle and in two relays. The state meet was in July at Texas A&M University. I didn't qualify for nationals but I beat my best times in all my events.

What do you like most about swimming?

It's a good workout and a good sport to play when it's super hot outside! I also like the feeling you get when you break your own records.

Proud parents, does your child deserve recognition for school or athletic achievement, community involvement, or just for being a great, all-around kid? Please consider him/her to be the next Sendera Student of the Month! Submit a photo and information to Alison at senderanews@gmail.com.

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In the Garden

Submitted by Pamela Kurburski

Sendera Garden Club members gathered to view the garden of one of our most artistic members. Although it was a warm August evening, there was so much to see that several members lingered to ooh and aah over the many-colored larkspurs that filled the border beds. We also marveled that she had vigorous poinsettia plants growing in a heavily shaded part of her garden. The whimsical garden art interspersed with violets and succulent ground cover made for interesting discoveries at every turn.

We were happy to welcome two new Sendera residents, Dhwanil and Nisha (please forgive me if I mangled your names), who were interested in getting information about what grows well in the thin soils in our neighborhood. They were particularly interested in vegetable gardening and had already started a number of veggies in pots. Several members offered transplants of various species they had successfully grown. It was lovely to be able to share our triumphs and disasters with them. Gardening is, after all, a process not a goal, and learning by failure is a time-honored educational technique.

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.

BOWIE VARSITY FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

It's Friday Night Lights again! Come support Bowie High School at their home games (plus 1 away game vs. Austin High) played at Burger Stadium. Kick-off at 7:30 pm.

Date	Opponent
9/18	vs. Anderson
9/25	vs. Austin @ House Park Stadium
10/2	vs. Westlake
10/16	vs. Akins (Home Team)
10/23	vs. Hays
11/5 (Thurs.)	vs. Del Valle

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Contact a representative today!
512.263.9181

Call the SWAT team!

Submitted by Tom Franke

Mosquitos are in your face again. Every year around this time a few citizens reach out to the Surface Water Team of the Watershed Protection Department because they think that droves of mosquitoes are emerging from the neighborhood creek or pond. City environmental scientists have found that this has not yet been true and that the real story is much more insidious.

Let's start with the lowly mosquito, a little fly (Mosquito is Spanish for "little fly").

At best, they seem to be a quick snack for dragonflies and at worst they are a vector for disease. Mosquitos have changed the course of human history and remain an important part of the ecosystem but most of us know very little about them. True, mosquito larvae are delicious food for a lot of fish, frogs and predatory aquatic insects like dragonflies, damselflies and beetles. But due to these predators, mosquitos have generally evolved to avoid laying eggs in locations where their predators live (like streams and ponds). For over 19 years the environmental scientists of the City of Austin have monitored water quality in creeks by collecting aquatic bugs. Their records show that out of the 763,126 invertebrates collected to date, there were only 1,440 mosquitos, which is less than two-tenths of one percent (0.0019)!

So if the creeks and ponds aren't chock full of larvae, where are all the mosquitoes coming from?

In our area, mosquitoes that typically bite us fall in a group referred to as "container breeding mosquitoes." These species select small, temporary, stagnant habitats as their egg-laying sites. These pools need to be just as big as a tablespoon of water, last for about a week, and are usually nutrient-poor. Residential areas provide an explosion of these new habitat options ranging from clogged gutters, French drains, pet dishes, bird baths, buckets, potted plants, old tires, tarps, forgotten cups and lots and lots of trash. The trade-off for developing in these nutrient-poor habitats is that female mosquitoes must supplement their normal diet of plant nectar to produce eggs, and they do this by stealing a blood meal from a host animal. When environmental scientists respond to citizen requests to investigate a creek near the source of a mosquito complaint, the sampling reveals that mosquitoes are rare or absent from the creek, but are numerous in nearby containers.

What should I do?

The historic strategy of scorched-earth, broad-spectrum mosquito management has led to environmental disasters both on large and small scale. Attempts to treat ponds and creeks with pesticides kill a lot of

(Continued on Page 7)

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(Continued from Page 6)

other invertebrates and are not particularly effective at controlling the species that bite most frequently (the container breeding species). To control a mosquito outbreak, homeowners should conduct a careful inspection of areas around the home and reduce or eliminate containers of standing water adjacent to the home. Bird baths and pet dishes are okay, as long as the water is not allowed to stand for more than 4 days. When treatment is absolutely necessary, fungal and/or bacterial treatments are better than broad spectrum pesticides because they are better at targeting mosquitoes without harming other beneficial organisms. These types of treatment are most effective when used in proper places like gutters, rain barrels, yard drains, air conditioner condensate collectors, etc.

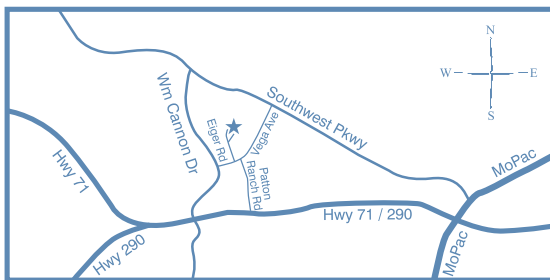
Useful Links:

- Request a site assessment to look for mosquito breeding habitat: www.austintexas.gov/department/vector-control or call 512-978-0370
- For the diversity and ramifications of the mosquito life cycle - Xerces Society www.Xerces.org
- Go on a virtual safari to hunt for mosquitos - <http://mosquitosafari.tamu.edu/index.swf>
- Download a fact sheet to share with neighbors - www.austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/Watershed/growgreen/mosquitos.pdf

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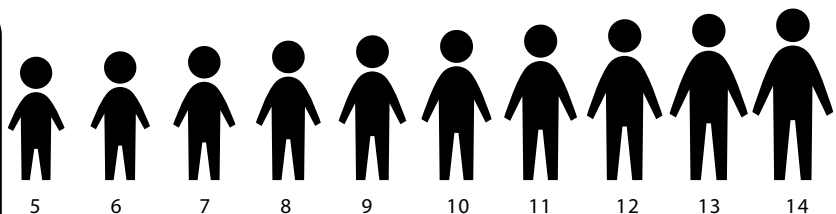
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