

SENDERa

SENDERA HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

NORMAN TRAIL PLAYGROUND WOES CONTINUE

by Alison Carpenter



The residents and kids from Sendera Place have enjoyed their playground on Norman Trail for many years. The neighbor volunteers who built it meant well, but unfortunately didn't have official city approval and didn't know the land is considered environmentally sensitive. The city originally classified that lot as a Critical Environmental Feature and no structures should have been built on it. Consequently, the City of Austin and our HOA Board are hashing out what to do.

After a long process, approval was given for the relocation of the playground to 60 feet north of where it now sits. The playground is currently in the large field where Tello Path dead-ends into Norman Trail. Fronted by a landscaper path and bordered by several large rocks, it contains one swing set and a toddler-size playscape with

plastic slides. Dotted on the outskirts are shade trees, a bench, picnic table, and a standing BBQ grill. Many residents in Sendera Place were thrilled with the news that the playground would still be available on their side of the neighborhood in the same general location.

Then in September came the bad news. Todd Moore, HOA President, was in the midst of soliciting bids from companies to handle the relocation when he was notified by the City of Austin that the lot of the future site has a Water Quality and Drainage easement, effectively scrapping the relocation plans. Todd explains, "There is a possibility that we can apply for a partial vacation of the existing easement but it will take some time and work by the Board of Directors before we know for sure." One other location at the far end of the field was also checked for suitability, but it too fell under the easement. In the worst-case scenario, the playground equipment will be removed completely and added to the other playground located at the end of Sendera Mesa Drive. That would leave Sendera Place without a playground.

Todd assures the community that the cost burden of all this is minimal and was included in this year's budget. "The good news is that proceeding cautiously saved the Association at least \$26K," he says. "Once the playground is moved, the City of Austin will restore that area back to its original undisturbed habitat, which was basically just a rock area with minimal vegetation."

One way or another the playground must be dismantled and moved somewhere. The playground relocation project is considered a priority to our neighborhood in order to avoid fines from the City of Austin. What remains is plenty of decision-making on where it will go, who will do it, and when the project will commence.

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Pond Repair Work Finished

Submitted by Tom Franke

The Corran Ferry water quality pond repair project is now completed. Sheppard Construction crews worked on rebuilding the rock gabion wall and in September they followed up with the final cleanup and re-vegetation of the disturbed areas. All the appropriate

areas damaged by heavy equipment have been hydromulched with Bermuda grass. The process of re-vegetation may take a few months depending on the weather. The following photos show the scope of the project.



A look at the entire rock gabion wall that had to be replaced.



A close up of the final section of the rock gabion wall construction.

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Sendera Recreation Committee News

by Suzann Vera

All are welcome to attend Recreation Committee meetings and events. Any help is most appreciated- whatever your schedule allows. For the latest information and event updates, check the Sendera website at www.senderahoa.org, or join Sendera on Nextdoor.com.

This Thanksgiving I am ever grateful to all who help out with neighborhood events which promotes a sense of community, helps to establish a safe neighborhood, and makes Sendera a great place to live. In addition to great support from our BoD, there are several neighbors who really go above and beyond planning and implementing events for the residents. Sharon, Misty, Peggy, Angie, Magda, and all of you that help with and/or attend the events... THANK YOU! The past year's events were enjoyed by many: Easter Egg Hunt, Spring & Fall Garage Sales, Movie Nights at the pool, Summer Pool Party, & Fall Festival Food Truck and entertainment night out! There is one more event planned for 2015:

The annual Christmas Decorating Contest will take place on Friday December 18th and Saturday 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! Judges needed! Contact Suzann suzannchili@sbcglobal.net if you would like to be a judge.

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.

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SENDERA STUDENT OF THE MONTH

MAYA MURPHY, 7



What grade are you in?

First grade.

What's your favorite thing about school?

Art class because we get to draw things, and right now we are making monsters because there was an artist that makes monsters that are scary and the littler kids make the cute monsters.

What are your hobbies?

I love to paint because it is fun! I also love to swim because I get to splash, and splashing is fun!

If you could be any animal what would it be and why?

I would be a kitty because they are adorable and fuzzy and super soft too.

Last and most important: Tell me something about yourself you are proud of!

I'm proud that I'm a good helper because it makes me feel good!

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



It's November and the weather is relatively cooler. We may already have had our first freeze (average date is Nov. 15). As I am writing this, the El Nino rains have not materialized but we continue to hope for the best. In the meanwhile, fall gardens continue to flourish

with lettuces, chard, broccoli and other cool weather veggies. Dill and cilantro can still go in, too. It's time to clean up your bulbs and share divisions. You can plant bulbs now, but stick to the naturalized varieties since we don't have the right climate to make regular bulbs happy. If you enjoy annuals: pansies, snapdragons, alyssum and mums generally make good shows. Many of the perennials are finished for the year but now is a great time to plant. Just remember any new

plants will need protection from freezing temperatures.

While there is less growing activity, it's a good time to spruce up your hardscape. One fun aspect is garden art. Sometimes found objects make interesting accents to your plantings (photo). Fairy gardens are just one of the ways to fill the garden with unexpected and delightful surprises. In September, we took a look at one member's take on how fairies should be housed (photo).



Sendera Garden Club meets on the third Thursday of each month. 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.

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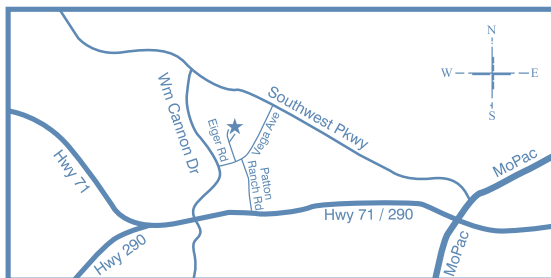
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