SENDERA

SENDERA HOMEOWNER'S ASSOCIATION

OFFICIAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Hello, Violet Crown Trail, Meet Sendera

First there were strange markings in the street all over Sendera Mesa Drive. Then a city work crew arrived and within two days had installed a small concrete median in the middle of the lane near the mailboxes. In short order, that same crew blocked off a section of the street at the red light at Slaughter Lane and commenced drilling into the crosswalk. You might have wondered, what's going on?

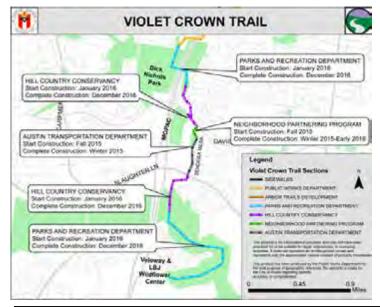
That commotion would be the Violet Crown Trail (VCT) extension that will run through our neighborhood. The VCT is an ambitious hike and bike trail spearheaded by the Hill Country Conservancy. It will be a 30-mile regional trail that, once completed, will run from central Austin all the way into Hays County.

The project started over 15 years ago with strategic planning and land acquisition. Over 23,000 acres were purchased by conservationists with the goal of protecting water-quality lands in central Texas. Austin voters approved the master plan in 2010 to create what would eventually be called the Violet Crown Trail. The first phase of the project, from Zilker Park to Sunset Valley, was completed and opened in August 2015.

Our Sendera neighborhood happens to falls squarely in the middle of the second phase of the project. This phase will start at Dick Nichols Park and end at the Veloway (see the graphic timeline.) The HOA Board held a special meeting in March of 2013 so residents could vote on allowing the VCT to use a section of our neighborhood. By a wide margin the vote was approved, and the city was granted a recreational easement to Sendera property.

Since then, work has progressed slowly. Butch Smith, the Violet Crown Project Manager, says the plan's second-phase calls for a 7-mile long, 10-foot wide multi-use trail. This section will have surface improvements as required, with either granite, asphalt, or concrete depending on the location. In order to coordinate this plan with our neighborhood, the City of Austin solicited feedback from Sendera residents in August of this year. A meeting at the Hampton branch of the public library generated the final decisions on what the trail should look like as it connects to Sendera Mesa Drive. The few attendees collaborated with city planners and discussed using

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NEWSLETTER PUBLISHER

Peel, Inc.	512-263-9181
Article Submissions	www.peelinc.com
Advertising	advertising@PEELinc.com



(Continued from Cover)

existing sidewalks and structures to facilitate ease of use. Questions and concerns were addressed about construction and safety once the trail is open.

What does all that mean for Sendera? Todd Moore, HOA President, explains the details: the trail will begin through the woods adjacent the pool. From there it will connect to the sidewalk along Sendera Mesa Drive. Trail walkers/bikers can then use the new median at Ramies Run to cross over onto the east side of Sendera Mesa Drive and follow it all the way down to Slaughter Lane. At Slaughter, a new enhanced crosswalk and pedestrian island will connect to another part of the trail behind Walgreens. Final plans include a trail underpass of MoPac that will run past the Alamo shopping center. In addition, for safety reasons, residents and the City of Austin decided to add a bicycle lane starting on Sendera Mesa Drive near the mailbox kiosk. The bike lane should not impact parking nor traffic flow, but it will make the road narrower and drivers will have to adjust to the change.

Butch Smith says the final phase of the trail will run for 17 miles from the Veloway into Hays County and will cross Austin's Water Quality Protection lands, mostly old ranches. He notes that this part of the trail has been planned and vetted for environmental concerns, but is not yet permitted or funded.

For more information about the VCT, go to http://hillcountryconservancy.org/land-projects/violetcrowntrail/. You can also find a step-by-step guide for the section of trail currently open at http://hillcountryconservancy.org/austinots-vct-guide/.

Reminder on Holiday Decoration Policy

Earlier this year (due to many requests) the HOA adopted a new light and decoration policy. Christmas/Holiday lighting and lawn decorations are permitted from November 15th through January 31. All lighting and decorations must be in good working condition and appearance while on display. Any lighting or displays that are installed before or after these dates are in violation and subject to fines etc. Merry Christmas! This doc can also be found at Senderahoa.org.



Sendera Recreation Committee News-Mark your Calendars

Submitted by Suzann Vera

The Sendera Recreation Committee has up-to-date information through social media:

Sendera website http://www.senderahoa.org/

Nextdoor Sendera https://senderaaustin.nextdoor.com

Sendera HOA Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/ SenderaHOA/

A Monstrous Thank You to Angie, Sharon & Peggy for judging the annual Halloween decorating contest this year. The winners are.....

- 9000 Lanna Bluff The Ashfords
- 8916 Lanna Bluff Andersson Family
- 4456 Campo Verde Ct The Buchtas
- 9113 Contessa Ct The Veyseys
- 4515 Ramesa Run The Chapmans
- 8801 Whiteworth Loop The Acunas
- 4506 Corran Ferry The Kendalls
- 8720 Barrow Glenn Loop The Leos

- 8713 Plucket Drive The Bass Family
- 8938 Whiteworth Loop Giesler Family
- 4615 Tello Path Peggy Prewitt
- 4708 Norman Trail Trey & Tiffany Anderson
- 4729 Tello Path Sally Walter and Heather Beatty
- 4608 Norman Trail John and Whitney Falcon
- 4517 Chesney Ridge Reynold and Olivia Toepfer

The annual Christmas Decorating Contest will take place on Friday December 19th 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

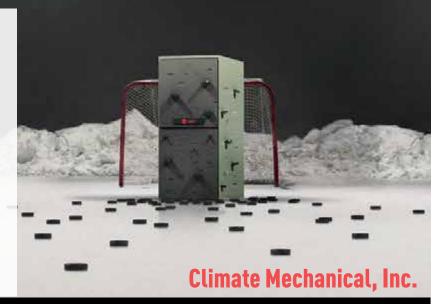
Join us for Christmas Caroling and/or bicycling to see the lights on Friday December 19th. Practice starts at 6pm with caroling beginning at 6:30pm. Meet at 8817 Whiteworth Loop. All levels of cyclists and singers are welcome. Cookies and hot chocolate to follow.

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IN THE GARDEN

Submitted by Pamela Kurburski

You know the old saying, "Be careful what you wish for." Well, in last month's article, I hoped for the El Niño rains to appear and boy, did they ever. In between the showers, I hope everyone has managed to dig and divide blubs, plant trees and perennials, and get winter annuals in. Now, as what passes for winter in Texas settles in and darkness comes early, it is time to hunker down and start planning for next spring. While most plants are dormant, it's a good time to assess the bone structure of your garden and make some decisions about new beds, soil amendments, and hardscapes. There are lots of good books on garden design using native plants. Most of the local nurseries offer free classes on a variety of topics. You might even consider starting the process of becoming a Master Gardener. Or if that is way too much commitment, just join a garden club that specializes in the type of gardening that interests you. Check with the Zilker Botanical Garden Center (http://www.zilkergarden.org) for a list of clubs.

In November, the Sendera Garden Club met at the new home of a member who recently moved out of Sendera and into a home that backs up to a wonderful greenbelt. Right now, the backyard is waiting a makeover but the front beds were a riot of color with Esperanza, yuccas and a variety of annuals. Once the new deck is in, I know the backyard will be transformed, too.

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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News from the HOA Board:

We have renewed contracts for 2016 with Pioneer, Cruizin Aquatics, and Landscape USA. We will be reconsidering our relationship with Dyezz Surveillance and Aquatic Features. Dyezz provides security monitoring for the pool. Aquatic Features maintains our environmental features behind Corran Ferry, including the new, 130 ft. filtration wall and both the sedimentation and filtration fields on either sides of the wall.

Unfortunately, this newly erected wall was toppled over by the historic rain event of Oct. 30. Eyewitness accounts describe seeing water rushing over the over 5ft tall structure. Correcting this situation will take significant time, planning, and resources. We are exploring filing an insurance claim to help with the cost but we've been informed our deductible for flood insurance is \$50,000; not much relief there. As of Nov 6, the contractor is assembling a team to help determine how to proceed. We are analyzing our reserve fund and 2016 budget in hopes this expense can be absorbed without the need for a special assessment but ALL options will be considered. Our bylaws allow for the levy of a special assessment to help fund these types of circumstances. For example if the wall repairs cost \$50k, each of the 813 lot owners could be assessed \$62 (50,000÷813).

In light of this new issue, board member Tom Franke has requested an extension from the City of Austin to get the wall repaired.

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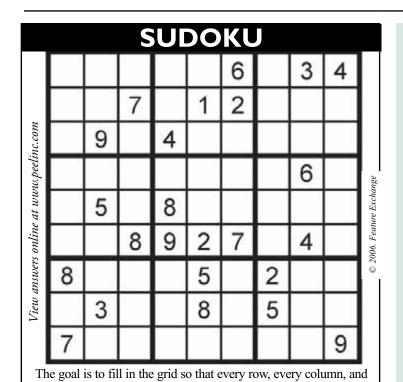


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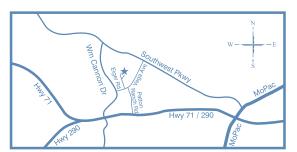


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