

SENDERA

Volume 3, Number 9

September 2008
Sendera Homeowner's Association

Official Community Newsletter

Message from the Board

by Steve Hope

Sendera Owners Association, Director and Secretary

Greetings from the board! Happy September! I hope everyone is having an easy time getting back into the swing of the school year! Best of luck to the Bowie Bulldogs! Have a great season. Also, Hook 'em Horns! I do love football season.

Back in March, I wrote my introduction letter to you. In it, I spoke about my desire to see Davis lane landscaped. I want to use this message to inform you about the slow but steady work that is being done to beautify the median and sidewalk areas along Davis. One only has to travel on Davis Lane from the Escarpment HEB through the inviting and opulent Village of Legend Oaks to appreciate the benefits of having a beautified median and sidewalk landscape in our community. On our Sendera website, www.senderahoa.com, you can go to the Message Board and read the topics about our community's desires for Davis. It is our most discussed topic and was started back in September of 2006. The short story is that this is a project long overdue, but it was mired in exorbitant irrigation costs with no economically feasible or sustainable solution in sight. No water, no plants.

However, the Board has been presented a possible solution. There are communities in Portland, OR and Tucson, AZ that have developed and use rainwater irrigation and permaculture techniques to solve this exact problem. The basic idea is to direct rainwater runoff from the roadway into vegetated areas. This is accomplished by lowering the soil level in the median and "curb-cutting" the gutter,

allowing the rainwater to flow from the street into the median and irrigate our trees and plants (see illustration).

On July 29th, HOA President, Eric Steen; Keeshi Ingram, a student from the University of Texas' School of Landscape Architecture; Gayle Borst, the executive Director of a local non-profit, Design-Build-Live, which is involved in local sustainable building projects and I had a meeting with City Councilman, Lee Leffingwell, to discuss our plans. At the end of our presentation, he assigned his staff to make the necessary contacts which included former city councilman, Daryl Slusher. We will be following up and working with Councilman Leffingwell's staff to ensure that this project comes to fruition. This isn't just about planting pretty trees in our neighborhood. It could affect and address a number of city-wide issues: water conservation, watershed protection, urban forestry, wildlife habitat protection, urban heat island effect, and air quality. Sendera's median will be a test case for sustainable storm-water management in Austin.

In other news, the Board has funded the construction and installation of two new Community Bulletin Boards, one each for the residents north of Davis Lane and south of Slaughter Lane. Now you don't have to drive down Sendera Mesa Drive to find out what events are happening in our community! Remember, you can log onto Senderahoa.com anytime to find out as well.

(Continued on Page 3)

Welcome Fall!



Look What's Inside This Issue

<i>Register for Chili Cook Off</i>	10
<i>Information on Austin Green Choice</i>	6
<i>Review of ACC Guidelines</i>	8

and much more!!

Sendera

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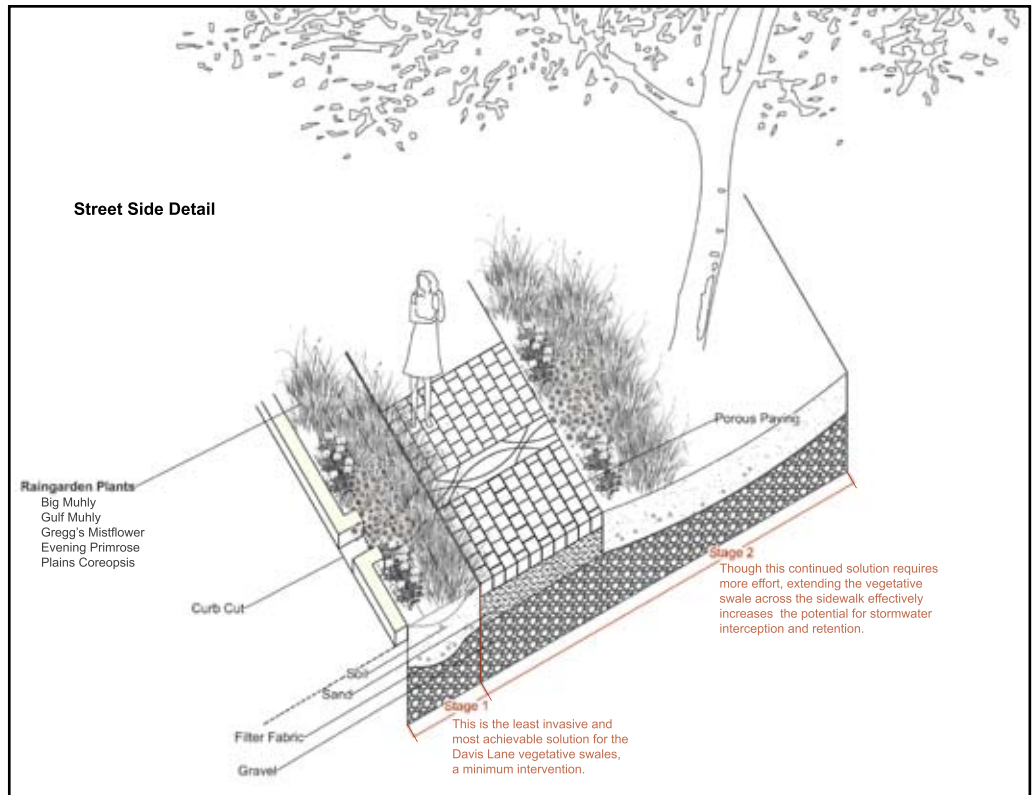


Message - (Continued from Cover Page)

Yes, I did manage two plugs for the website which brings me to another bit of news. Sally Iwanski has taken over as the Sendera Webmaster. She is doing wonderful things with it. Thank you, Sally!

Lastly, we have three new committee chairs. Courtney Hessinger is heading up the pool committee. Vic Booth is in charge of landscaping. And taking over community relations is Drew Crosby. Big cheers and Thank you for your involvement. Please shake their hands for their volunteer efforts. Also, since I have the ability, I want to tell my wife, Erica, I love you.

Everyone, have a safe and happy September!



Come join the family!



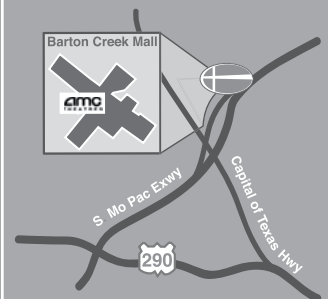
Southwest Family Fellowship: Providing parents with the resources they need to teach their kids values and character in a safe and fun environment

1st Service:
 9:00 AM - Adult Worship Service & Dynamic Kid's Program

The Buzz:
 10:20 AM - An interactive service for kids and their parents

2nd Service:
 11:00 AM - Adult Worship Service & Dynamic Kid's Program
 (512) 282-7771

SWFF is meeting at the AMC Theaters in Barton Creek Mall



swfamilyfellowship.com



Sendera Recreation Committee News Mark your Calendars

Submitted by Suzann Vera



Wishing all students a great year Back to School!

We hope everyone had a restful and joyous summer. This Fall the Sendera Recreation Committee is looking forward to hosting some great neighborhood events which will also be posted on the Sendera website at www.senderahoa.com.

All are welcome to attend Recreation Committee meetings. Any help is most appreciated- whatever your schedule allows. If you are unable to attend meetings, but would like to be placed on the Recreation Committee e-mail list for updates about neighborhood events, please e-mail suzannchili@sbcglobal.net.

Next meeting: Tuesday September 23, 2008 6:30pm 8817 Whiteworth Loop.

National Night Out will take place on Tuesday, October 7th this year from 6:00-9:00pm. This evening is a great opportunity to meet your immediate neighbors and commit to helping law enforcement reduce crime in the community. Residents are encouraged to have a cook-out in their front yards, be involved in a block party, organize a neighborhood walk, and/or just sit out front and greet your neighbors. If you do plan to host a block event, let Suzann know by September 3rd to include the information in the October newsletter. suzannchili@sbcglobal.net 291-0714.

The **Sendera Neighborhood Fall Garage Sale** will take place Friday and Saturday October 10th and 11th from 8:00-1:00pm. If you would like to participate on one or both days, just set up your stuff and help by hanging at least one sign. An ad will be placed in the Austin American Statesman and on Craig's list announcing the sale.



(Continued on Page 5)

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Recreation Comm. News- (Continued from Page 4)

Don't miss **COWAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S FALL CARNIVAL** on Saturday October 18, 2008 from 11:00-4:00pm. There will be food booths, games, vendors, and entertainment. Feel free to wear your Halloween costumes to this great event which gets bigger and better every year!

Judges are needed for the annual **Halloween Decorating Contest!** Judges will drive the neighborhood at dusk Thursday October 30th and award 20 Hollywood Video gift certificates to the Best Halloween Decorated Homes. Winners will be listed in the newsletter and on the Sendera website www.senderahoa.com.

4th Annual Sendera Chili Cook Off and Fair

November 9th the Sendera Recreation Committee will host the fourth Sendera Chili Cook Off and Fair in the parking lot by the pool. Judging will take place at 2:00 PM at which time residents not participating as cooks can join in the fun with a "bottomless" cup to be filled at the chili booths (while it lasts), check out the vendors, enjoy entertainment and get to know your neighbors. Cash Prizes and trophies will be awarded for several categories of chili including: best red, best green, best booth, etc. If interested in entering the chili cook off or renting a vendor space please complete the entry forms included in this issue of the newsletter.

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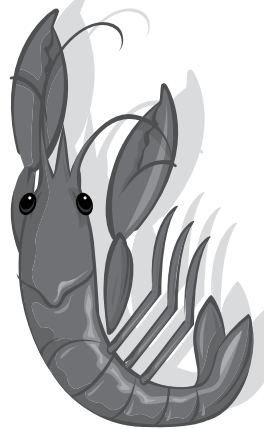
FREE Stuff!

**Come dine with us during
September and we'll give
you a FREE gift!**

There's a catch though – you have to come back in October to find out what it is! There'll be FREE food certificates from Cypress Grill as well as prizes from other local merchants and restaurants. You're a guaranteed winner – just come on by during September.

**Cypress Grill turns 6 years old this
September and we're celebrating all
month long! We just wanted to say,
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The Green Corner Austin's GreenChoice Renewable Energy Program

By: Sheri Hicks

Are you looking for one more way to lower your carbon footprint? Look to Austin's GreenChoice Renewable Energy Program? Back in the early days of the GreenChoice program, the lines were long, the sign-up convoluted and the wait to actually use green energy interminable. Those days are gone. Austin Energy has streamlined its GreenChoice Program and signing up is as easy as filling out an online form and clicking the button.

What is the GreenChoice Program?

GreenChoice is Austin Energy's (Austin's municipal electric utility) green energy program in which electricity is derived from clean, renewable sources.

What is different about green energy?

Green or clean energy is energy produced from clean, renewable resources. Traditional power plants use coal and natural gas (fossil fuels) that are non-renewable and also emit toxins, such as mercury, a dangerous heavy metal, into the air and ground water. Those toxins contribute heavily to air, water and land pollution and find their way into our food sources. Fossil fuel power plants are thought to be a large contributor to mercury found in dangerous levels in ocean fish such as tuna. Clean power sources do not have toxic byproducts from energy production. Clean energy is derived from sources that

have an infinite supply, such as wind and sun, therefore the price should stabilize and perhaps decrease as generation and transmission technologies are developed and refined rather than increase as we have seen happen to fossil fuels over the past decade.

Where does the green energy come from?

Austin Energy has diversified its clean energy sources by contracting with developers to utilize wind, solar and biogases to power the GreenChoice program, making it available to more Austin residents than ever before. Wind power is provided by giant wind turbines located in West Texas wind farms. According to the Austin Energy website, the wind turbines alone produce enough energy to power 55,000 homes. Biogas is provided by three landfill methane gas collection sites that pipe the natural byproduct of decomposing garbage into a generator and use it for energy. Solar energy is provided from large groups of solar panels placed in several commercial locations around Austin including the Austin-Bergstrom Airport, the Palmer Events Center parking garage and the Habitat Suites.

How much does it cost?

To support advancement of clean power, the costs of the program

(Continued on Page 7)



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The Green Corner - (Continued from Page 6)

are slightly higher (today) than standard coal and gas produced electricity. Residential subscribers are charged 1.85 cents per kilowatt hour more than standard produced electricity which amounts to less than \$20 per month. However, those rates are locked in until 2022 whereas standard electricity may increase due to the rising costs of natural gas, a non-renewable resource that Texas relies heavily upon to meet its ever increasing power demands.

Why should I sign up?

The GreenChoice program uses renewable, clean energy sources to produce electricity. Unlike traditional coal and gas fired power plants, wind power, biogas and solar power do not add to air pollution, an issue Austin has been struggling with for several decades now. The more energy produced by clean sources, the less needed from traditional polluting sources. Austin's poor air quality was the reason behind Austin coming under the EPA mandated Emissions Control and Testing which led to emissions testing required during annual automobile inspections. While we are limited in keeping pollution from blowing in from other areas, GreenChoice is just one more way to help curb Austin's air quality issues.

How do I sign up?

Signing up is easy! Simply fill out the sign-up form on the Austin Energy GreenChoice website at www.austinenergy.com. After you sign up, you will receive a postcard (printed on recycled paper)

welcoming you to the GreenChoice Program. The GreenChoice charge will replace the standard fuel charge on your energy bill within 60 days. If you sign up and fail to receive the postcard or see the change in energy source charge on your bill, you should contact Austin Energy at 494-9400.

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Architectural Control Committee Guidelines Update

by Eric Steen, Architectural Committee Chair

Paragraph 4.01 of the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (DCCR) states the following:

“No Improvements shall be constructed upon any Lot without the prior written approval of the Architectural Committee.”

Therefore if you want to make improvements to your property you need to fill out and submit an “Architectural Control Committee Approval Request Form” and provide the appropriate backup documentation.

The most current form can be obtained from either the Sendera Website or RealManage.

- To get the form off the website go to www.senderahoa.com click on “Document Library” and then “ACC Information”. Then pull down the “ACC Request Form” and print it out. You don’t need to log in to access this.
- To obtain the form from RealManage call them at 1-866-4-RealService (866-473-2573) between the hours of 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. They can either fax the form to you or send it via the postal service.

Once you have the form, fill it out and include the following:

- A plot plan/survey showing the location and dimensions (including elevation) of all existing and proposed Improvements. Existing and finished grades should be shown at Lot corners and

at corners of proposed Improvements. Lot drainage provisions should be indicated, as well as cut and fill details, if any appreciable change in the Lot contour is contemplated.


- The structural design, exterior elevations, exterior materials, colors, textures and shapes of all Improvements should be described, along with any diagrams or representations necessary to depict all proposed exterior illumination (including location and method), utility connections and fire protection systems.
- Initials of residents on either side and to the rear of the Lot indicating that they have been notified of the proposed Improvement.

When you have all the information put together send it to RealManage at the address listed on the form. Upon receipt of the ACC request RealManage will file a copy and then send the documents to the designated Architectural Control Committee (ACC) contact. The documents will then be reviewed by the Architectural Committee, and, if necessary, the Board. Once a decision has been made the form will be completed by the ACC and sent back to RealManage who will then contact you with the decision and file a copy.

When submitting a request please note the following:

- The entire process should take less than two weeks, but just to

(Continued on Page 9)



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ACC Guidelines- (Continued from Page 8)

be safe you should allow for up to a month.

- Approval by the ACC does not waive a municipality's permit requirement. Please check with your contractor and with the City prior to the construction of any building, addition or improvement.
- The spirit of our restrictions is to help homeowners ensure that improvements made are tasteful and do not detract from the livability and/or value of our neighborhood.

For Your Information

Cowan Elementary PTA will be offering Entertainment Passbooks through September 12th. Starting September 19th, they will begin a catalog fundraiser. Please support out neighborhood schools in their efforts to improve the educational experience of our children.

Sendra Gardening Club has set its first meeting for Thursday, September 25th at 7:00 PM. The meeting will be held at 8600 Barrow Glen Loop. All Sendra residents interested in gardening are welcome. For directions, call Pam at 292-9758.

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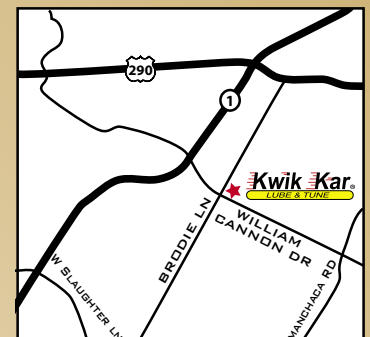
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Sendera Chili Cook Off and Fair

November 9, 2008

Rules and Regulations

1. Official signed chili cook-off registration forms must be received by November 1, 2008. There will be no on-site registration the day of the cook-off. Judging is at 2:00PM. Cooks can begin set up at any time that day.
2. A chili entrant team may have no more than 4 people.
3. Chili must be cooked from scratch on site the day of the cook off. It must be prepared in the open at the entrant's booth site.
4. Chili must be cooked using equipment provided by the cook: propane or gas stove or grill. There will be no electricity furnished and generators are not allowed.
5. A listing of ingredients used to make the chili must be displayed. Quantities do not need to be included.
6. Cooks are to prepare and cook chili in as sanitary a manner as possible. Cooking conditions are subject to inspection by the head judge. The cooked chili temperature must remain at a temperature of 140 degrees or higher at all times. All food, equipment, and utensils must be stored at least 6 inches off the floor on pallets, tables, or shelving at all times.
7. Appropriate "themed" decoration of your area and related costuming is encouraged!
8. Cooking will take place at the designated booth area only. Cooks must provide their own booth materials to include, table, chairs, cooking utensils, & ingredients.
9. Each team is responsible for preparing one pot of red or green chili (at least 3-5 quarts) to be judged. About beans- chili will be judged without beans, but teams may add beans before serving to the neighbors.
10. At the discretion of the head judge, cooks may be required to taste their own chili in front of a judge at any time during the event.
11. 11. No deliberate sabotage to another contestant or their entry will be tolerated and such an act would lead to automatic disqualification. So, don't even think about it.
12. 12. Firearms, explosives or other pyrotechnics will not be allowed on the premises. (Hey, it's Texas- we had to say it).

I, _____ have read the above listed rules and regulations for the 2009 Sendera Chili Cook Off and agree to abide by them.

Date: _____

Chili Cook-off Registration

All interested parties are required to complete and submit a signed copy of Rules and Regulations form by November 1, 2008.

Mail or drop off completed form to:

Sendera Chili Cook Off and Fair
Attn.: Suzann Vera
8817 Whiteworth Loop
Austin, TX 78749

Team Name: _____

Team Captain: _____

Names of other team members: _____

Captain contact information:

Address: _____

Phone #: _____

e-mail address: _____

Vendor Registration

If you would like to rent a space for a booth at the Sendera Chili Cook-off and Fair on November 9, 2008 from 1:00-4:00 P.M. to sell crafts, merchandise, jewelry, services, etc. please complete the following form.

- Sendera residents will be considered for booths first with remaining booth rentals available to non-residents.
- Vendors are responsible for set-up and equipment of booth including tables/chairs.
- Rental space is \$10.

Mail or drop off completed form and registration fee to:

Sendera Chili Cook Off and Fair
Attn.: Suzann Vera
8817 Whiteworth Loop
Austin, TX 78749

*checks are to be made payable to the Sendera Homeowner's Association.

Name: _____

Address: _____

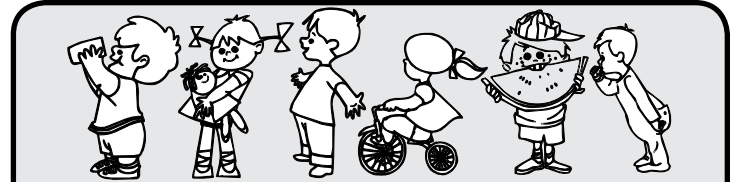
Phone #: _____

Explanation of booth: _____

Booth space rental fee enclosed \$ _____

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Sendera residents have an outstanding communication tool available to them but few are taking advantage of it. Our very own web site offers a Message Board, an Events Calendar, a Resident Chat page, Classifieds, Bulletins, and many other subjects to choose from.

Anyone can access Public pages but, to access the Resident pages, you must first complete a Login Request Form. Go to www.senderahoa.com and click on Request Login. Fill out the form and click on Submit. Your Resident Login will be sent to you by the web master.

BE INFORMED! BE INVOLVED!

**Important Notice to All
Sendera Teenage Job Seekers**

If your name has been removed from this list, it is because I did not receive a confirmation on your availability by August 5, 2008. If you want to be listed again, please send your information to newsletter@senderhoa.com.

The Teenage Job Seekers listing is offered free of charge to Sendera teenagers looking for work opportunities. With your parent's permission, you may send your name, age, contact information and job interests to senderhoanewsletter@yahoo.com. To appear in the next issue of the newsletter, your information must be received by the 5th of the month.

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