

SARA Education & Outreach Program

The San Antonio River Authority (SARA) would like to introduce its new Education Specialist, Matthew Drifill.

Matthew has a Bachelors of Science degree in Renewable Natural Resources from Texas A&M University and is currently finishing up work on a Masters degree in Water Management, also from Texas A&M University. Before joining SARA, Matthew was the Executive Director of the Seguin Outdoor Learning Center in Seguin, where he developed and implemented teambuilding, outdoor education and science programs for elementary-aged children through adults.

As SARA's Education Specialist, Matthew is spearheading SARA's Education and Outreach programming, and he will be immediately focusing on informing the community about the Mission Reach project. This is the southernmost portion of the San Antonio River Improvements Project that extends 8 miles from the Lone Star Boulevard south to Mission Espada. He is ready to make presentations about the project, including information on the reasoning and goals behind the project, the project timeline, and conceptual images of what key areas of the project will look like during construction, upon completion, and in the future.

Matthew is actively searching for local groups interested in receiving the Mission Reach presentation. He is also responsible for educating the community on other aspects of the river and coordinates free presentations for schools, youth organizations such as Girl and Boy Scouts, as well as participating in community events. If your organization would like to know more about the Mission Reach Project or other educational and outreach opportunities, please contact Matthew to at 302-3222 or mdrifill@sara-tx.org.

Steven Schauer

The Newsletter

OF THE KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION

KWA Newsletter Volume 5, #11 December 2009/January 2010 kingwilliamassociation.org

Madison Street Garden Homes Update



If you have been down Madison Street lately, you probably have noticed that construction of the first two Madison Street Garden Homes is underway. Designed by neighbor Jim Poteet, Poteet Architects, and a project of neighbors Jim Nelson and Steve Yndo, the homes are being built with Apex brand (www.apexblock.com) insulated concrete forms. In short, Apex blocks are made of a combination of concrete and foam, with a series of round cavities that form a grid of interlocking “pipes” running vertical and horizontal. The cavities are then pumped full of concrete to form a monolithic structure. The primary reason for using Apex block was esthetics—when stuccoed, the blocks come closer than other modern materials in providing the same feeling of mass and permanence found in the limestone and caliche block homes of our area. Secondarily, the blocks reduce energy use up to 50%, and are highly resistant to sound transmission; damage by fire, water, or insects; and release no harmful gasses. By the time of this article's publication, the first floor walls should be complete and poured in, with the second floor walls underway. The homes will be roughly 2,700 SF each and are expected to achieve at least a LEED Silver certification. Completion is projected for spring of 2010. For more information, contact Steve Yndo at 771-0334.

Steve Yndo

2009 Home Tour Cancelled

The 2009 King William Holiday Home Tour has been cancelled due to the lack of a volunteer chairperson. Please contact the KWA office at 227-8786 or king.william@sbcglobal.net if you would like to volunteer to help organize the 2010 Home Tour.

Cooking with Doña Maria Treviño

Doña Maria Treviño is a special gem in King William—a neighborhood full of treasures—as the folks who keep coming back to El Mirador restaurant can attest. Even as she will turn 100 this year, Doña Maria is still a fixture in the kitchen of the restaurant she made her own in 1968.

Much of what she knows cannot be captured by words on the written page, said Doña Maria, as she recounted “the crazy story” of how she, a housewife who didn’t cook, came to purchase a small, cozy restaurant with her husband and the course of events that led her to become a magician of Mexican cooking featured in state and national magazines as well as *The New York Times*. People seldom give Mexican food credit for its complexity, she said. To fully understand it can take a lifetime. “It’s colorful. Almost all the plates have the color of the Mexican flag,” she said. “It’s aromatic. It’s not hot like people think. It’s very delicate. It’s very nourishing and it’s very economical.”

Regulars come back for her distinctive salsa and her inimitable mole sauce, which once upon a time would take her two full days to prepare. But it is soups where she first forged her own style, and which still give her the greatest pleasure. You see, when she and her husband and some family members cobbled together the money to buy El Mirador, folks said: “You don’t know how to cook.” She assumed she would rely on the cook. But when the cook left, she stepped in, experimenting with her own recipes over time. She started with caldo.

“I remembered the taste – I wanted my mother’s taste,” she said. “I remembered ajo and comino,” recalling the spices her mother, who was from Guanajuato, favored. And she similarly tasted her way through additional soups – Xochitl and Tarasca.

Doña Maria has never sought to keep her recipes a secret. But nor has she sought to write them down. When someone would ask for a recipe, she said, “I’d say, follow me and you can write it down.” But a recipe is never perfect, she cautioned, “you have to add a little of this and a little of that. The spices, if they are fresh, you need to taste it.”

Doña Maria has offered to pass on a taste of how she does it in a cooking demonstration in the Garden House of El Mirador restaurant on January 20, 2010, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Friends of Bonham is proud to sponsor this event. Tickets are available for a minimum donation of \$100 per person and all proceeds directly benefit the school children. The demonstration will be followed by a buffet dinner. A cash bar will also benefit Friends of Bonham.

To reserve your seat, please contact Jeanne Russell at 857-7603 or jeanner2004@yahoo.com. Space is limited to 50 people.

Jeanne Russell

Save Our Trees

It has come to our attention that one of the trees the Lavaca and King William Tree Committee planted four years ago was removed. Volunteers spent numerous hours watering each tree, once a week, for two years. Private and city funds were used to purchase them. Occasionally, a few small, newly planted trees have also disappeared.

Please contact the KWA office at king.william@sbcglobal.net or 227-8786 if you have reason to move one of the trees that the Committee has planted. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated by all who have been involved in this project.

Mary Ann Ohlenbusch

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St. Benedict's Update



St. Benedict's, 1115 S. Alamo Street

St. Benedict's is now roughly 95% complete with the only remaining items being some minor finish work and straightening up of the grounds. As most of you know, abrupt changes in the condominium finance market last summer prompted the decision to lease the units until such time as mortgage lending returns to something closer to normal. The response to the rental program has been great and as of November 1, with Building 3 still pending completion, the project stood at roughly 60% leased.

Things won't look completely finished until Liberty Bar has completed their construction, but they should be looking good around January. Mind, Body & Soul gym has been up and running and accepting applications for membership. We have also signed up King William's first pet salon, South Bark, a venture by experienced pet grooming neighbors, Michelle Stress and Liz Manzella, to open December 1. For questions or concerns, please contact Steve Yndo at 771-0334. For leasing info, please call 862-LOFT.

Steve Yndo

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What's Happening: Community Events

All events are free and open to the public, unless otherwise noted.

Please email the details of your upcoming community event using the "what, when, where, more info" format to king.william@sbcglobal.net for consideration.

First Friday Reading on December 4

WHAT: Join Gemini Ink welcome fall faculty members, multi-genre writer Jacqueline Kolosov and fiction writer Laura Furman, as they read from their works.

WHEN: Friday, Dec. 4, 6:30pm

WHERE: Gemini Ink, 513 S. Presa

MORE INFO: Contact 734-9673, info@geminiink.org, or geminiink.org
Also, registration for fall classes at Gemini Ink is ongoing and runs through early December. For more information, visit www.geminiink.org.

Sandra Cisneros' 55th Birthday Party on December 20

WHAT: Come help Sandra celebrate her 55th birthday at a party to benefit the Macondo Foundation, a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization that supports professional writers giving back in underserved communities. RSVP by donating today. The attire is leopard.

WHEN: Sunday, Dec. 20, 6pm-12am

WHERE: LUNA, 6740 San Pedro

MORE INFO: Call 534-0517 or visit www.macondofoundation.org.

February Newsletter Mail Prep on January 25

WHAT: Please help us prepare the KWA newsletter for mailing. Stop by to stick mailing labels on newsletters and visit with neighbors. Your help is greatly appreciated!

WHEN: Monday, Jan. 25, 6-7pm

WHERE: KWA office, 1032 S. Alamo

MORE INFO: Contact the KWA office at king.william@sbcglobal.net or 227-8786.

Friends of Bonham

Friends of Bonham, an independent foundation that supports Bonham Academy, was formed in early 2009 to deepen the ties between our neighborhood school and the neighborhood. The board has grown to include seven parent members and many additional committee members. In its first year, Friends of Bonham has sought to build community around the school through fundraising and events, and also through improved communication and deeper partnerships with neighborhood businesses and organizations.

In October, Friends of Bonham held its third successful "Tastes of the Hood" at Azuca Nuevo Latino restaurant. It will soon host two kid-oriented Christmas events in partnership with local businesses. On Saturday, December 5, author Carmen Tafolla will read and act out her story "What do you do with a Rebozo," as Tres Rebecas owner Becky Barrera kicks off Saturday read-alouds at her store. On Friday December 11, Slab Cinema and Friends of Bonham will hold a pajama party movie night at Bonham Academy featuring children's Christmas movies.

Friends of Bonham has focused its fundraising in two key areas – arts and after-school enrichment. The King William Association gave the Friends a \$7,000 grant for the arts and offered an additional \$4,000 challenge grant. And the City of San Antonio provided \$5,000 in seed money if the Friends could raise an additional \$5,000.

Foundation arts funding has helped pay salaries for two art teachers, Ballet Folklórico, and field trips. After school, we've added college students as tutors, enrichment sessions and athletic opportunities as well as Scouting.

Our school-based effort to ask each parent for \$45 per child to help pay for arts education has raised \$1,195. We've been lucky to have several donors already join our "Dean's List," for donations of \$1,000 or more, and you can find those individuals listed on our website, www.friendsofbonham.org, where you can also sign up for our newsletter, learn about events, or make an electronic donation. Please join in and help us reach our matching goals!

We're hosting our most ambitious fundraiser January 20, 2010, a cooking demonstration and dinner with Doña Maria Treviño who will turn 100 years old in 2010. We're so grateful to Doña Maria, Julian and Diana Treviño, the owners of El Mirador restaurant, for this incredible opportunity to learn from a neighborhood master. See you there!

To make a contribution to Friends of Bonham, please use the self-addressed envelope included in your newsletter. For questions, or to RSVP, please email or call Jeanne Russell, jeanner2004@yahoo.com, 857-7603.

Jeanne Russell

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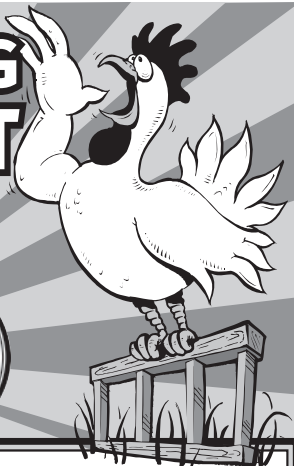
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- Chorizo & Papa**\$1.50
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- Potato & Egg**\$1.25
- Bean & Egg**\$1.25
- Papas Rancheros**\$1.25
- Bean & Cheese**\$1.25

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- Oatmeal**\$2.75
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- Cold Cereal**..... \$2.50
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**Sidewalk Improvement
Program Reauthorized for
2009-2010**

The King William Association board has reauthorized the neighborhood sidewalk improvement program. Guidelines are as follows:

- KWA will reimburse approved work at \$25 per linear foot up to a maximum of \$2,500. Corner lots and handicapped access may get additional reimbursement.
- Previously approved applications must give notice of resubmittal and receive approval for the 2009-2010 program.
- Applications must be submitted to the KWA office by January 8, 2010.
- All work must be completed prior to April 1, 2010.
- Project approvals are on a first come, first serve basis.

Visit www.KingWilliamAssociation.org or the KWA office for complete guidelines and the application form. If you have questions, contact the sidewalk chairman, Fred Pfeiffer at 222-1586.

Fred Pfeiffer

Newsletter Advertising

Promote your business directly to your King William neighbors by placing an advertisement in our newsletter! Contact Syeira Budd at king.william@sbcglobal.net or 227-8786 for more information.

February Newsletter Deadline

Please email king.william@sbcglobal.net no later than Wednesday, January 13, with your February 2010 newsletter articles, announcements, photos, advertisements, or ideas.

**Editorial Guidelines Available Online at
www.KingWilliamAssociation.org**



Neighborhood Safety with SAFFE Officer Doyle



Officer Erik Doyle is the King William area SAFFE officer and is on duty Monday-Friday, 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. Officer Ron Strothman is the Lavaca area SAFFE officer and is on duty Monday-Friday, 12 - 8 p.m. Both officers can be reached through the Central SAFFE office at 207-7413 or through their direct lines listed below, and will respond to King William and Lavaca area calls during business hours. SAFFE office at 207-7413 or through their direct lines listed below, and will respond to King William and Lavaca area calls during business hours.

- Emergency: **911**
- Non-Emergency: **207-SAPD (7273)**
- SAFFE Officer Doyle: **207-5177 or erik.doyle@sanantonio.gov**
- SAFFE Officer Strothman: **207-5176 or rstrothman@sanantonio.gov**
- Central SAFFE Unit: **207-7413 (M-F, 7am-8pm)**
- Code Violations & City Services: **311**
- Report tour bus violations to SAPD: **207-7482**
- KWA Office: **227-8786 or king.william@sbcglobal.net**

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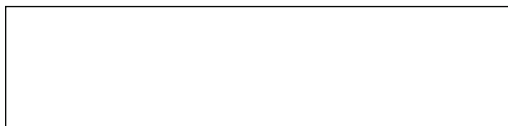
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www.KingWilliamAssociation.org

Office Hours: Mon.-Fri., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion(s) of the Board of Directors of the King William Association.

KWA Holiday Social and Blue Santa Toy Drive

Wednesday, December 2, 6:30 p.m.

St. Joseph's Society Hall, 420 E. Durango

RSVP by November 27 to 227-8786 or king.william@sbcglobal.net.

Please join us for good food, great company, and holiday cheer!

The KWA will provide entrée selections and beverages, but we ask that you bring an appetizer, side dish, or dessert to share. Volunteers are needed to help with set-up and clean-up. Contact Hope Garza-Cortés at 274-4636 to volunteer.

Help a child have a memorable holiday this year by bringing a new unwrapped toy for the SAPD Blue Santa Toy Drive.

KWA February General Meeting

Wednesday, February 3, 7 p.m.

Blue Star Brewing Co., 1414 S. Alamo Street

KWA Office Closed

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Monday, December 21, 2009 – Wednesday, January 6, 2010

Monday, January 18, 2010

There will be no KWA January General Meeting.