



KWA newsletter

King William Association Volume 13, No. 11 December 2017/January 2018



MAY HOPE'S BRIGHT RAINBOW BEAUTIFY THE YEAR!

President's Report

by Chris Price

As we enter the holiday season, the board has a full plate of issues it is working on including Short Term Rentals (STR), discussed elsewhere in this newsletter, review of our Association's operations, review of Fair operations, and the usual issues such as zoning requests.

December also brings to a close the 50th anniversary of the King William Association. In June 2016, a committee was formed and assigned the task of coming up with activities to celebrate the 50th anniversary. The activities included a neighborhood-wide party in the spring, Fiesta medals, Christmas ornaments, flags, and the updated re-publication of *The King William Area: A History and Guide to the Houses*, among other activities. The year-long celebration was to conclude with a fundraising gala in December. Several members raised concerns regarding the event, including the attendance limited to 50 members, the cost (\$125 per ticket) and the amount of money that would be raised. The board discussed the event and decided that it was in the best interest of the Association to cancel the event. As part of our effort to diversify our revenue base, we will look at whether such an event is a feasible opportunity in the future. I want to thank committee members Shawn Campbell, Curtis Johnson and Amanda Strickland for their fantastic efforts celebrating the KWA 50th anniversary. Our 50th year was a major success!

I want to wish each of you and your family and loved ones a joyous and safe holiday season!



Al Rendon, seated left, and Jessie Simpson sign Jack Kent's copy of *The King William Area* at the November KWA General Meeting.



COORDINATORS Susan Athené,
Alan Cash, Bill Cogburn
LAYOUT Angela Martinez

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 KWA. Editorial guidelines are available online at ourkwa.org.

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ourkwa.org
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KWA Grant Recipient

Preservation Through Education at Villa Finale: Museum & Gardens

Villa Finale: Museum & Gardens, the final home of local preservationist Walter Nold Mathis and the only National Trust for Historic Preservation site in Texas, recently became the recipient of a generous grant from the King William Association. This grant helps to ensure that Villa Finale's educational series for children and families continues to thrive.

Educational programming for children and families has become an incredibly important part of Villa Finale's annual lineup, and incorporates a variety of activities for children and their families throughout the year, aligning with holidays and school breaks for maximum reach and participation.

Villa Finale's family programming has always been neighborhood-centric. This is a natural fit, as Villa Finale was designed and preserved as a vital component of the King William neighborhood. We are committed to maintaining that close relationship with our neighbors. An annual architectural scavenger hunt brings children from all over the city to our beautiful neighborhood. This year's hunt introduced a "mystery" twist and featured neighbor Anne Alexander in a starring role. "A Spooktacular Halloween at Villa Finale" draws children and families all over the city to the neighborhood for

an old-fashioned carnival, in the tradition of 19th century Halloween celebrations.

The now-annual presentation of "A Christmas Carol" draws participation from talented neighbors (including director Diane Malone) and students from Bonham Academy. The entire cast will be back for this year's production! And the "Junior Preservationist Workbook," grant-funded by the King William Association, will be featured heavily in planned summer programming for 2018.

More than just a house museum, Villa Finale exists as a centerpiece of the neighborhood. The staff and volunteers work to weave the story of Villa Finale into the fabric of the community, and to the greater preservation-minded community at large. The KWA grant helps to ensure that future generations will continue to consider preservation not just an opportunity but a responsibility.

We look forward to the coming year of dynamic family programming and to many years of continued partnership and collaboration with our neighbors in King William.

- Farrah Varga

Marketing & Development Coordinator



Photo courtesy Villa Finale

Children enjoyed deliciously creepy treats and lots of other fun activities at Villa Finale's Spooktacular Halloween carnival.



Last Call for 2018 Fair Applications

The application deadlines to participate in the 51st King William Fair are fast approaching. Applications are currently being accepted online for the vendor, entertainer and parade opportunities listed below. Visit our website for more details: kwfair.org.

Application Deadline

- Art & Craft Vendors, December 15, 2017
- Entertainers, December 15, 2017
- Food Vendors, February 2, 2018
- Parade Participants, February 7, 2018
- Kids Kingdom Vendors February 7, 2018

- Syeira Budd, Fair Manager



COSA Proposing Short-term Rental Ordinance

The City of San Antonio is proposing an ordinance to help regulate the use of homes as short-term rentals (STRs), often known as Air BnBs or Vacation Rentals by Owner (VRBO). The purpose of this ordinance is to “establish regulations for the protection of the health and safety of occupant(s) of short term rental properties and to protect the integrity of the neighborhoods in which short term rental properties operate.” The city formed a 25-person task force in May, 2017 to evaluate the proposed ordinance and to make recommendations. The city task force is comprised of short-term rental owners, concerned citizens and neighborhood association representatives. The King William Association has a representative on the city-wide task force and also formed a neighborhood task force to look at parts of the ordinance that were of particular interest to the neighborhood and to make recommendations to the King William Association Board of Directors.

The current draft of the ordinance is proposing two types of STRs: Type I and Type II. Type I STRs are owner occupied (the owner is “generally present”), only part of a dwelling (casita, guest room, etc.) can be rented out and there are no proposed density restrictions. Type II STRs are owner not occupied, the entire dwelling must be rented and they will be limited to the same density restriction as Bed and Breakfasts. However, under the current ordinance draft, it is possible to have Type I and Type II STRs adjacent to one another. The following is also being proposed:

- All STRs must pay a yet to be determined fee for a rental permit. The permit will be valid for three years.
- Rentals must be for less than 30 days in duration.
- STRs must provide at least (1) off-street parking spot per unit rented.
- Each STR must have an initial health and safety inspection. The City of San Antonio may conduct renewal inspections if conditions warrant additional inspection.
- All STR owners must remit payment of the Hotel and Occupancy Tax (HOT), to the City of San Antonio. Currently, the culminative HOT rate is 16.75%.
- A STR legally in existence at the time City Council votes on the ordinance will be considered “grandfathered.” “Legally in existence” is defined as current on all applicable HOT taxes at the time of registration.

The city anticipates this ordinance going before City Council in February, 2018. The current draft of the ordinance can be found on the City of San Antonio’s web site: sanantonio.gov/DSD/Resources/Codes#176642678-short-term-rentalCodes#176642678-short-term-rental

- Gretchen Garceau-Kragh

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Bonham Academy
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Out in the Garden with Alan Cash



Pointsettias have begun to appear for sale. They provide color for the holidays and for a time after. Crotons are another plant to consider for indoor color over the winter and beyond. They can last for many years and with warm weather can be put outside in filtered light. Each leaf has a variety of colors ranging from yellow, to red and orange. Inside they require bright light and well-drained soil. Fertilize about every 2 weeks with a liquid organic fertilizer.

Occasional misting of the leaves will help maintain their vitality. Small Norfolk Island pine trees are readily available this time of year and when decorated with small ornaments make a good holiday decoration. When kept in a bright window it will last many years.

Spring blooming bulbs can still be planted but do not wait much longer. If bluebonnets are coming up in your garden, do not let them get too dry. Mother nature needs a little help over dry periods to assure abundant spring flowers.

Lightning bugs are not seen much anymore, but a few were recently noticed around the Crofton/Constance Park. Hopefully they are making a comeback. If you have seen some where you live, call 210-533-9005, and let me know. Let it ring several times for the machine to pickup. Perhaps the increase in organic gardening practices is a contributing factor.

A FREE list of shrubs and plants that are drought tolerate and adapted to South Texas is available in a stand beside the King William Association office entrance by the parking lot. Help yourself!

We are at the end of another year when we as gardeners can rest on our laurels, be proud of our successes, and learn from our mistakes. Happy Holidays and a Happy and Safe New Year.

Garden Note: Those who believe in magic and dreams plant a garden.



Let's Throw a Party!

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KWA Grant Recipient

MOSAIC Student Artist Program

Blue Star Contemporary fulfills our mission to inspire, nurture, and innovate through contemporary art in part through our MOSAIC Student Artist Program, led by renowned muralist and our Artist-in-Residence Alex Rubio. Students are mentored five days a week, after school and during summers, for an intensive, year-round, arts education. Students participate in BSC's programs and also attend workshops, lectures and exhibitions at local cultural institutions and artist studios to gain further exposure to the city's artistic landscape.

Student exhibitions and public art projects, which include a large hand-made mosaic mural at H-E-B's East Side location and the River Walk's Compass Rose designating the city's geographic center, become part of San Antonio and its vibrant and rich visual culture.

The MOSAIC Student Artists are currently working on two large-scale public commissions. MOVEMENT, a colorful, abstract mural constructed of hand-made ceramic tiles, designed for the east wall of the San Antonio College McAllister Fine Arts Building, will engage viewers passing by car, on foot, and enjoying the nearby San Pedro Park. Undulating, fluid bands of color echoing the palette of the campus' architecture compose this large-scale artwork.

The Historic Outdoor Museum of New Braunfels has commissioned the MOSAIC Student Artists to create a 12 ft. by 60 ft. acrylic on polytab mural. The still-

untitled artwork is a representational depiction of the Indigenous, Spanish, and Mexican/Mexican American influence on that city. This project will be unveiled in spring 2018.



Photo courtesy BSC.

MOSAIC student artists work on a mural.

Each First Friday, the MOSAIC Student Artists open their gallery (adjacent to the main BSC Galleries), which operates as space for the students to learn first-hand the business of art. In addition to producing artwork for the exhibition, students organize and hang the work, prepare artist statements, and wall labels. They also grow their network of art collectors, building a foundation to support a career as professional artists.

MOSAIC's students often come from high schools in lower-income districts with lower-than-average graduation rates. 100% of MOSAIC's students have graduated high school, and many go on to college and careers in the arts, sharing in San Antonio's cultural economy.

This MOSAIC program is free and available for young people 13-19 years old. You can help sustain this program by donating at bluestarcontemporary.org.

Thank you for your support of Blue Star Contemporary and local artists!

- Inessa Kosub

Public Affairs & Engagement Manager

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Newsletter
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Do you have a story to tell?
Submissions and contributions to the KWA newsletter are welcome! Please send to info@ourkwa.org.

Members Invitational Exhibit at the San Antonio Art League & Museum: Creativity is Ageless

Four artists with four very different means of expression show their work until December 17 at the San Antonio Art League. Sallie Stanley Carter's contemporary portraits, Dona LeCrone Walston's

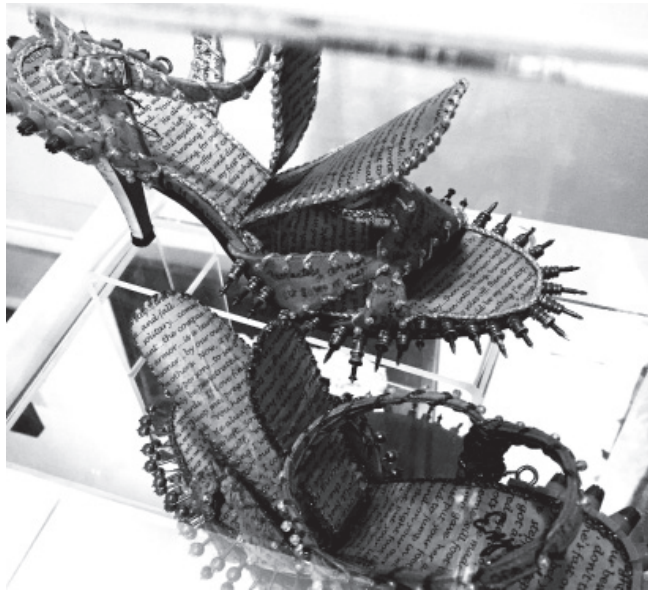


Photo courtesy SAALM

Artist Rachel Edwards Ridder's assemblages, including these stilettos, will be on view at the SAALM through December 17.

interpretations of mountains and water, and energetic octogenarian Lee Ricks' glowing transparent watercolors offer something for every art lover. But fiber artists Rachel Edwards Ridder gets special attention for her unusual creations, something you don't see in every gallery.

Like Lee Ricks, Ridder is in her 80s, but you wouldn't guess it by looking at her quirky, contemporary take on non-traditional materials and construction.

One of her 3-D assemblages features two stiletto-heeled shoes embellished with, among other things, orange metal cartridge casings that once held the nails used to build her studio.

The artist says, "The shoes came from a friend's bridal shop, and they began speaking to me. I wrote stories, words and poems about them and the steps we take in life. I printed these pages, airbrushed and cut them to fit the innersoles. I stitched the edges with metallic threads and used pliers to pull the needle through the holes. When I told my daughter what I was working on, she said the title must be 'Sole Mates'."

Rachel collects and recycles "stuff." She is self-taught in many areas, but has studied with local, regional and internationally recognized artists including the Textile Fiber Forum in Australia. She combines the knowledge of all these techniques in creating art quilts, garments/sculptures/jewelry and mixed media that have been exhibited locally, nationally and internationally.

Her work may be the most unusual in the Art League's Members Invitational exhibit, but all of the artists inspire in their own individual way. Whether your taste is for Sallie Stanley Carter's rodeo cowgirl, Dona Walston's fused glass and majestic mountains, Lee Ricks' sparkling watercolors, or – yes – Rachel Edwards Ridder's fine Sole Mates, you'll enjoy this exhibit.

The San Antonio Art League & Museum is located at 130 King William Street. Hours are 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, admission is always free. For more information, visit saalm.org.

- Lyn Belisle, President, SAALM

Event Center Tabled, Zoning Case Withdrawn By Applicant

You may have noticed the new landscaping at the former Monterey restaurant (1127 S. St. Mary's St.), which closed in 2015. The location was rebranded this year as The Monty with the Ivy Hall and Gardens, the "container house" that sits behind and beside the former restaurant. The L-shaped property for the container house (1119 S. St. Mary's St.) backs up to houses on Cedar Street.

Together, these two properties are zoned IDZ with uses permitted by C-2 and MF-25 zoning. Amplified sound is permitted under C-2, which is a form of commercial zoning. MF-25 allows multi-family housing with a maximum density of 14 units per acre.

The new use for these properties originally came to the attention of KWA's Architectural Advisory Committee (AAC), which supported the request to convert the restaurant's preexisting parking lot to a circular drive. Later, the owner applied for a zoning change to allow a special use from C-3 zoning: "party house, reception hall, and meeting facilities" (in the City's terminology).

Before the new zoning was obtained, the event space opened with advertised accommodations for "30 to 300 guests" for "an intimate reception to a rowdy good-time." Several neighbors complained to the AAC and the KWA board about loud noise.

In September, the AAC voted to support the new zoning only if outdoor amplification was not allowed, and the applicant could prove off-site valet parking for 150 cars. The AAC's recommendation was endorsed by the KWA board at its October meeting.

The properties are owned by a limited liability company with ties to Stacy Hill, a King William resident. Her zoning application was denied by the Zoning Commission on November 7, and she later withdrew the application for the zoning change and issued a letter of apology to the neighborhood. According to a representative of the owner, the facility is available to rent for lunch in the gardens, a class field trip, or morning yoga by calling (210) 502-8161.

- Rose Kanusky



THE EAGLE REPORT

4TH Annual Eagle Harriers 5K Run/Walk & Alumni Challenge January 7, 2018, 9:00 a.m.

All funds raised will be donated to our Cross Country Team and we would like to raise enough for senior scholarships.

There will be a free kids run, a 5K and an Alumni Challenge. The Brackenridge Alumni class with the fastest times and the Brackenridge class with the most participants win! This year we are adding a Non-Alumni Team Competition for any other teams of 5 or more. Also looking for sponsors and donations for the after party.

Registration: active.com/san-antonio-tx/running/distance-running-races/4th-annual-eagle-harriers-5k-run-walk-and-alumni-challenge-2018 Also register through active.com.

*- Sandra Apolinar-Jordan
Girls Athletic Coordinator*

Head Cross Country & Track Coach

Mighty Eagle Band

In November The Mighty Eagle Band came away with the 1st Place Band Award in the 2017 US Military Veterans Parade.

We would like to thank all of our parents for the support this marching season and for helping make our band program strong and successful. Special thanks to Principal Yesenia Cordova for her continuous support.

Holiday performances:

December 14 - King William Holiday Parade - 4:45 p.m.

December 19 - Winter Concerts (mall area of Brackenridge HS) & Tamale Plate Sale - 6:30 p.m.

*- Alfonso Alvarado, Director of Bands,
TMEA Region 11 Jazz Coordinator*

JROTC Program

On November 3, Brackenridge High School JROTC cadets went to Kelly Field Annex to view the 2017

Air Show. The elite U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds were the highlight, piercing the skies with graceful precision maneuvers; indicators of practice, teamwork and trust the pilots have for one another - all attributes that we instill in our cadets every day.

On November 11, 66 cadets marched in the San Antonio Veterans Day Parade. They had the opportunity to meet local veterans who participated in conflicts ranging from World War II, Vietnam, the Gulf War in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The JROTC Varsity Female Color Guard had the honor and privilege of presenting the colors for the Alegre Awards organization at the Arneson River Theatre in October. Notable individuals being recognized were Spurs Legend George "Ice Man" Gervin, Brackenridge Alumni and former NFL player Warren McVea, and U.S. Army Retired Colonel Peter Diaz. The Color Guard was acknowledged as the 1st place National Champions in April 2017. They continue to work hard as they wait for the next opportunity to support this great community and showcase their talent and skills.

- Maj. Jonathan Ladson

Sports

The Varsity Tennis Team has been hard at work since the end of July. They came in 2nd place in District, losing by only one point, but captured the Region IV 5-A Bi-District Title against Houston Angleton with a score of 10-4. Having this title is a huge success and proves the hard work and dedication that these young athletes have been giving. I am so very proud of them!

*- Coach Victoria Shaheen
Head Boys & Girls Tennis*

GO EAGLES!

- Compiled by Letie Wawrzyniak

Old News

This article is inspired by past issues of the King Association newsletter, beginning in November 1967. Its purpose is to inform newer neighbors and remind those who have been here awhile of how the King William Area has evolved through the years.

References and comments are from those issues containing "news" items that seem, to this writer, to show the development of the King William neighborhood or merely to show how some things are unique to an historic district. The series starts with comments taken from the November 1967 newsletter about the first King William Association meeting held in October 1967. Articles will continue, but will not in every issue of the newsletter.

DECEMBER 1972 - The King William Home Tour and Fair were held jointly. The Tour netted \$394.74, and the Fair \$378.00.

SEPTEMBER 1973 - King William Association dues were raised to \$3.00 to balance the newsletter mailing budget. The San Antonio River Authority began design work for flood control improvements between Johnson and Nueva Streets.

OCTOBER 1973 - The King William Area, A History and Guide to the Houses, a book by long-time resident, Mary V. Burkholder, was at the printers and would soon be available for sale. (This book has been updated and the new edition went on sale in November 2017.)

JULY 1975 - Home restorations continue at a great pace, including several by Walter Mathis. This included the house formerly at 1217 S. Alamo which was turned around and is now at 514 Madison Street.

SEPTEMBER 1975 - Mr. Graham Knight, a founding member of the King William Association, bought 236 and 242 Madison St. This was welcomed by neighbors because the structures "had fallen on evil times in recent years." (When recently asked what "evil times" referred to, Mr. Knight said he thinks it was referring to the very rundown condition of both houses, especially 242 Madison, which had been divided into several small apartments. Both residences have since fared well.)

.- Alan Cash

Then...and Now: 241 King William



241 King William, 1980s



241 King William now

Julius Joske brought his family from Germany to San Antonio in 1873 and started a mercantile store near Alamo Plaza, which he named J. Joske. By the 1970s, his chain of department stores had become Joske's of Texas. His store in San Antonio was perhaps the most popular store in the city.

In 1892, Julius's son, Alexander, bought the property at 241 King William for \$9,000. There was a stone house on the site built by Thomas Wren in 1881. The house you see today, which was completed in 1900, incorporated the smaller 1881 structure. Alexander Joske's new mansion measured 7,500 square feet, including the basement, and featured the most up-to-date furnishings of any house in the city including a complete steam heating plant, an indoor telephone system and eight fireplaces.

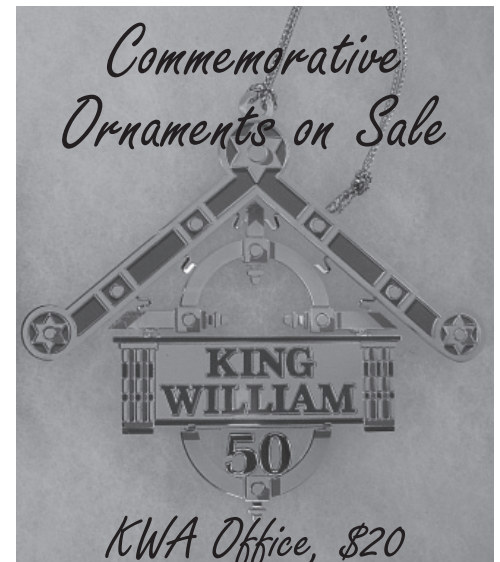
It was the Joske family's home until 1922 when they moved to the suburb of Terrill Hills. The terrible 1921

flood may have prompted them to seek higher ground away from the river. They put their King William house on the market for \$30,000.

For the next several years, the old mansion was used for various purposes: converted into several apartments and even a halfway house for mental patients for a time. By the 1980s, it had become so dilapidated that sections of the porches were being propped up with braces of scrap lumber. For years, it was mired in complicated tax and ownership disputes, but when those problems were finally resolved around 1987, the house was bought by Jessie Simpson and subsequently restored.

- Bill Cogburn

Source: *A History & Guide to the Houses* by Mary Burkholder; *The Snottiest Neighborhood in Texas* by Gary Cartwright; 1980s photo courtesy Robert Maxham; current photo by Scott Cogburn



Fall Concerts in the Park Series a Resounding Success!



Youth Orchestra of San Antonio played for an appreciative crowd in October.

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Many thanks to Concerts in the Park Committee Chair Ethel Pedraza for all her hard work in putting these free public concerts together, and to Noah Peterson for his assistance in ensuring their success. We're already looking forward to next year's concerts!

Volcán brought lively danceable tunes to the Park in November. *Photos: Susan Athené*

Medicine Wheels

I think that the dying / pray at the last
not "please" / but "thank you"
as a guest thanks his host at the door.

- Annie Dillard
"Tickets for a Prayer Wheel"

These spokes of stone extend beyond the dreams
of those who laid them down - ochre and schist -
atop this lonely crag, beyond the schemes
of enemies and anthropologists
to dislodge odd gods or fathom secrets
so old they seem simple, or simply strange,
as unlikely as eagles and egrets
nesting together, odd as stones arranged
in spokes by folk who did not know the wheel
as a tool but as the image of time.

This wheel's were always the last rungs to climb
to cast a lone prayer that seeks to unseal
the crack in the world where the light gets in
that illumines the dreams we now must mend.

- Bryce Milligan



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Holiday Social

December 13
Steves Homestead River House
6:30-8:30 p.m.

KWA will provide the main dish.
Please bring a dish to share in a disposable container, based on the first letter of your last name: A-I: Appetizers, J-R: Side Dishes, S-Z: Desserts

Our Social will take the place of December's General Membership meeting.

December Calendar

- 3 Rock 'n' Roll Marathon
- 6-8 A Midsummer Night's Dream - Bonham Academy - 6:30 p.m.
- 13 Holiday Social - Steves Homestead
- 19 Mighty Eagle Band Winter Concert & Tamale Plate Sale - Brackenridge High School - 6:30 p.m.
- 20 KWA Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.

KWA office will be closed December 22 to January 2.

January Calendar

- 1 New Year's Day - KWA office closed
- 7 4th Annual Eagle Harriers 5K Run/Walk & Alumni Challenge - Brackenridge High School - 9:00 a.m.
- 15 Martin Luther King, Jr. Day - KWA office closed
- 16 Deadline for February Newsletter
- 17 KWA Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.