



King William Association

Volume 13, No. 5

June 2017

# 150 Years of Beethoven

In the late 19th century Germans outnumbered both Hispanics and Anglos in the population of San Antonio. Our neighborhood was called Kaiser Wilhelm or, jokingly, Sauerkraut Bend. The German immigrants built the German-English School (on South Alamo across the street from Beethoven Hall) to educate their children for life in their newly adopted home.

To keep the memories and traditions of the homeland alive they gathered to sing, talk and make a little piece of Germany in San Antonio. Thus began the Beethoven Maennerchor (men's choir) in July of 1867. It has met at its present location, 422 Pereida Street, since 1920. Membership stands at over 600 now. The Damenchor, or women's choir, was founded in 1932 and a concert band formed in 1943. The Kinderchor was established in 1977 for Beethoven children to join the singing.

Today the Beethoven is livelier than ever with First Friday events often featuring an exuberant

*continued on page 6*



*Photo: Angela Martinez*

Beethoven Maennerchor

## KWA Announces 2017-2018 Grant Program

The KWA Community Cultural Development Fund is now accepting applications for 2017-2018 grant funding. The Fund supports the King William Association Charter, which states that grants and donations of KWA funds shall be made to schools and other organizations serving the neighborhood and its residents. The first grants from the King William Community Cultural Development Fund were awarded in 2001. Since that time, more than \$500,000 has been granted.

Annual grants from the Fund are available to organizations located within the general King William area of San Antonio, and grant awards are generally up to \$10,000. Working to meet the goals of the Association, grants may be used for a variety of purposes including program support, physical projects or program development.

Full details about the grant are available in the application, which is now available as a fillable PDF form on the KWA website. The deadline to apply is Friday, June 23.

*- Shelley Galbraith, Chair, Grants Committee*

# President's Report

by Chris Price

It's hard to believe that it is already summer. The kids are home, vacations are planned and the fun begins.

We had a very busy spring, which was capped off by another successful King William Fair. We are still tabulating the results and will report them when final. The results are no doubt due to the dedication and support of our staff, sponsors, volunteers, and of course our residents. I personally want to extend a huge thank you to Zet Baer, who is stepping down as the Fair organizer, for her years of service and leadership. Zet's vision and leadership made the Fair what it is today and we promise to build on it as we move forward.

The City, after two and half years of work with the neighborhoods, has developed a pilot parking program that it plans to implement later this year. We will be coordinating with the City to plan meetings to discuss the plan and its implementation. Look for more information to come. I want to thank Rose Kanusky, who represented the KWA in the City's development of the plan, and was instrumental in ensuring that the City addressed what many felt were the shortcomings in the initial plan. Since the program is a pilot, we will be monitoring its successes and shortcomings to ensure that they are addressed when the program is evaluated after its first year.

The issue of Short Term Rentals has surfaced as a major issue. We have been monitoring the legislature as well as participating in a committee that the City has established to look at the issue and determine possible solutions that address the concerns identified.

Finally, the Southtown TIRZ has allocated \$160,000 for street light improvements. We will be working with the City to see where the improvements will be made and how we might leverage this into a more robust program.

Have a great summer.



Zet Baer, center, with Rudi Harst and their son Mateo in this year's parade. Their lovely chauffeur is Linda Rutherford.



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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](http://ourkwa.org)

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2017 King William Association

# Pilot Parking Program Needs Your Input

The City has refined its parking pilot to align it with a traditional residential permit parking program (RPP). An RPP allows certain areas of on-street parking to be designated for resident parking only. Residents in these designated areas can park in the designated area with a permit. The neighborhood already includes an RPP on Arsenal Street. See map below for proposed streets to be affected.

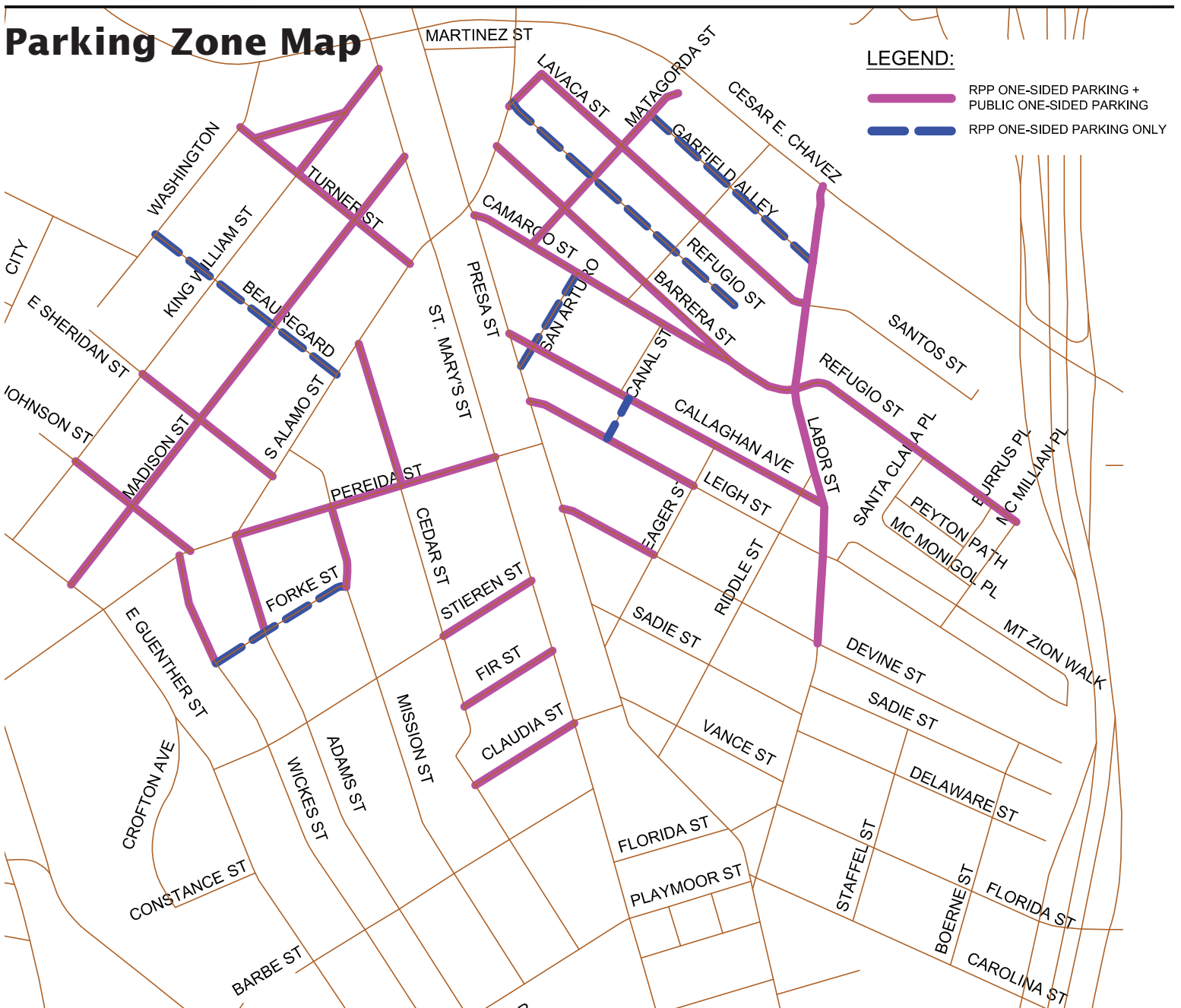
Additional information can be found on KWA's website. In summary:

- The program will operate from 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. daily.
- There is a fee of \$10 for each permit per year.
- Four permits per parcel are available. Multi-unit

- parcels are allowed two permits per unit.
- KWA will solicit signatures for a petition to document support or opposition for the project.
- Residents can identify their preferred side of the street for residential parking.

Next steps involve your help, as KWA volunteers and staff gather signatures from the affected blocks. Once signatures are collected and reviewed by City staff, City Council will be asked to pass an ordinance identifying the pilot area. The pilot will last for one year at which time it will be evaluated.

- Rose Kanusky





# THE EAGLE REPORT

We are very happy to have a new contributor on the KWA Newsletter team! Letie Wawrzyniak, Brackenridge High School alum and current Brack mom, has generously agreed to report on Eagles news and updates for us, as regularly as she can (having a job and life like the rest of us, we're not holding her to every month). Thanks for joining us, Letie! We're glad to have you.

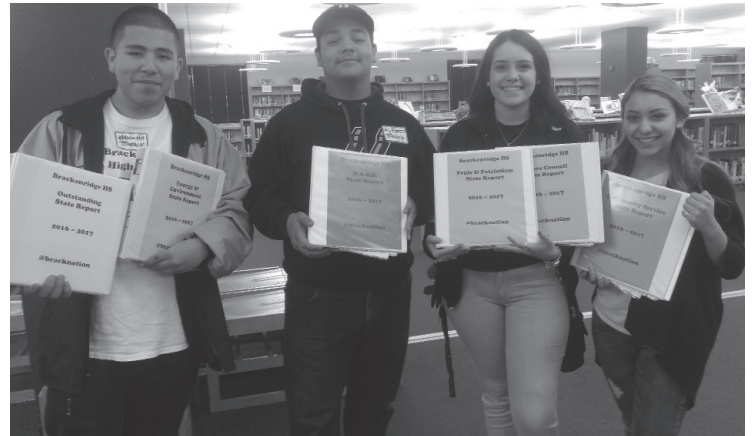
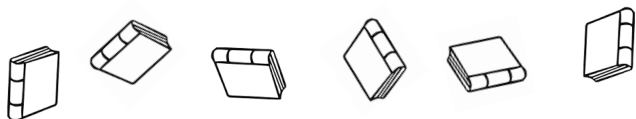
## Harvard Book Prize Award

Brackenridge Junior Cassandra Acosta and her teacher Jair Ortiz received the Harvard Book Prize award. Harvard University makes available a prize book that a sponsor, a member of the Harvard Club of San Antonio, can present to a secondary junior or teacher who has demonstrated attributes that Harvard fosters in its students and teachers.



Harvard Book Prize Awardees  
Jair Ortiz and Cassandra Acosta

More than just being smart, these attributes include a real use of intellect, not only for the acquisition of concrete knowledge, but also the acquisition of wisdom. They include the ability to think independently, the ability to be proactive in setting academic goals and in achieving in them, the development of the emotions as well as the intellect so that, as much as possible, the mind and heart are made one, the better to ascertain the truth and to get more joy from life. They include the development of other talents, such as in athletics and fine arts, and they include goodness – the desire to use one’s abilities to foster the wellbeing of others.



Brack 2016-17 Student Council Members

## Student Council Distinction

The Student Council’s primary reward for a job well done is the service we provide for our class, school, community, city, state, country and planet. However, there are tangible accomplishments as well. Every year the Texas Association of Student Councils, or TASC, suggests writing our projects down and submitting state reports. There are three major categories: Pride and Patriotism, Energy and Environment, and Drugs, Alcohol, Safety and Health. Two other categories are Outstanding Council and Community Service.

This year, the Brackenridge Student Council made all FIVE reports and its members were recognized for all their hard work! Along with this distinction comes the award of Sweepstakes, the highest honor for a Student Council. As a member of the AASC, or Alamo Association of Student Councils, Brack’s Student Council received a local award of HONORS council.

James Martinez, Student Council Sponsor, said, “This year has been one of the busiest and most satisfying due to the amount of goals we set and accomplished. We are proud to lead through our service and serve as exemplary leaders.”

## Sports Report

Brackenridge Mighty Eagle Tennis dominated District 28 5-A again, Coach Victoria Shaheen reports! Throughout the spring season the team came away with some championships, but it was the District 28 5-A Tournament where

they dominated once again. They won three championships, one second place, and two third place district titles.

Sebastian Gutierrez was undefeated again, and won Boys Singles Championship advancing to the Region IV Tennis Tournament. Juan Santana and Alexis Granados defended the Boys Doubles championship title and won it for Brack again this year, as did Sarai Ahedo and Myteanna Terry for the Girls Doubles championship title. Both doubles teams advanced to the Region IV tennis tournament. The Boys Doubles team of Christopher Bender and Rosendo Ceballos and the Girls Doubles team of Karla Izaguirre and Lizbeth Briones both placed third.

Brack's baseball team soared to new heights in 2017. The Eagles won more games this season than they had in any of the previous 10 seasons! They notched 18 victories in 23 regular season games and finished second in District 28-5A, behind only Highlands.

Brackenridge (18-7) played for the bi-district championship against the Victoria West Warriors on May 5 in Victoria and on May 6 at the SAISD Sports Complex. In 25 total games this season the Eagles scored 206 runs and allowed their opponents to score 98 runs, but in the playoffs the Eagles ran into a team with two tough pitchers and the Eagles' offense stalled.

In Victoria, the Eagles managed one hit against West ace pitcher Kasey Kalich and lost 3-0, despite a premier performance from junior pitcher Zeke Lopez (4-2). Back home in Game 2 the next day, the Eagles scrapped just two hits in a 4-0 loss. Sophomore pitcher Daniel Rodriguez (5-3) kept the Eagles in the game for six innings.

This year, the team climbed to second place in the standings, loaded with juniors. The Eagles and their head coach Bryan Adams expect nothing less than a district championship next season!

- compiled by Letie Wawrzyniak

# Summer Tennis Camp at



**N**ational Junior Tennis and Learning (NJTL) is back! This is our sixth year to host NJTL camp at Brackenridge. For those of you who are not familiar with it, this a FREE program for all kids to take tennis lessons. We take ages 6-15 (if they are younger, please talk to me because I usually take them), and in the past most of my campers have been from Bonham and other SAISD schools. There is a requested \$10.00 donation (not mandatory). I volunteer my services every year and do not receive any compensation for this program.

In past years we had many faculty, staff, SAISD employees from other campuses and SAISD police officers bring their own kids to take part in this camp. It starts June 12 and we are here Monday - Wednesday from 10:00 am to 11:30 am.

We usually take participants to the cafeteria at 11:30 a.m. for the free lunch program that is offered here at Brackenridge High School. We will not have the camp session during the week of July 4, and we will end the summer on Wednesday, July 26.

If you have any questions, please let me know. Sign up online at [www.satennis.org](http://www.satennis.org). This must be done before your kids start the camp. I love having all these young kids here learning how to play tennis, so the more the merrier!!

GO EAGLES GO!

- Coach Victoria Shaheen  
Head Coach, Boys & Girls Tennis  
Brackenridge High School



## Want to promote world peace?

**H**osting an exchange student allows you to do that one person at a time! The AFS high school foreign exchange program is looking for homes for students for the upcoming school year. A "home" can include not only traditional two-parent families with kids but also couples without children, single parents and kids, or even single individuals without kids. All it takes is a desire to be a parent to a high school student. You provide a bed, food and a loving home. You receive a world of experience in return.

If you would like to learn more, visit the AFS website at [www.afsusa.org](http://www.afsusa.org) or contact Jeannie Frazier at [AFSalamo@hotmail.com](mailto:AFSalamo@hotmail.com) or (210) 274-0554.

# Short-Term Rentals

Short-term rentals (STR) is a hot topic in San Antonio and the State of Texas. As stated in Rose Kanusky's article last month, the KWA was instrumental in the 90s in the creation of San Antonio's B&B ordinance. With the advent of the internet, marketing of houses or rooms for rent is on the rise. The Texas Legislature has two bills pending regarding STRs; House Bill 2551 and Senate Bill 451. Both bills basically limit a city's regulatory authority over STRs. House Bill 2551 is currently "dead" in the Urban Affairs Committee. Senate Bill 451 was approved was sent to the Urban Affairs committee to be voted on May 20.

In April, KWA Board President Chris Price, wrote a letter to Representative Bernal and Senator Menendez explaining why the KWA opposes the bills. First, the bill reduces the City of San Antonio's "home rule" rights. Second, the City of San Antonio already has a B&B ordinance. Finally, the City of San Antonio is currently working with stakeholders to address Short Term Rentals.

Based on citizen's concerns, Councilman Gallagher, District 10, asked City staff to review Short Term Rentals. The City has formed a task force to discuss the issue, of which I am a member. However, the City has to wait on the State Legislation in order to determine their legal jurisdiction. What actions the City can take are dependent on the wording of the State Bill.

The KWA Board discussed the topic at the April 19 meeting and agreed that further action by KWA is also dependent upon the State bills. KWA will continue to discuss this matter.

For more information of the status of the bill go to <https://legiscan.com/TX/bill/SB451/2017>.

- Cherise Bell

# Grant to Shed Light *Perseverance Pays Off*

This fall the City will be investing \$1 million dollars to improve South Alamo Street from Pereida to South St. Mary's Streets, providing pavement, bicycle lane and sidewalk improvements. After working for over a year with City staff regarding South Alamo Street, the City identified and secured funding to improve the street. However, due to a funding shortage the project was not going to add new street lights. To add pedestrian street lights to match those installed on South Alamo Street south of Pereida, the City needed additional funding.

Not to be deterred, we continued to discuss the project with City staff and the councilman's office. TIRZ 11 (Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone) was identified as a possible funding source.

TIRZ 11 was designated in 2000 to support redevelopment and public infrastructure improvements. The areas encompass portions of the City's downtown, east and south sides. The Zone is approximately 2.5 square miles and is expected to capture \$16.5 million in tax increments in its life of 14.79 years. This funding gap prompted the KWA to apply for monies from the TIRZ 11 for infrastructure improvement.

After submitting a multiple page application that required coordination with the City's TCI department (Transportation and Capital Improvement), and going through a competitive process, KWA was awarded \$160,000 to pay for the purchase and installation of the needed pedestrian streets lights.

- Cherise Bell

# Beethoven Anniversary

*continued from page 1*

rock or swing dance band. There are Gartenfests in the beer garden throughout the year and, of course, October is Fest-full. It couldn't be German without lots of great beer on tap. Check out [www.beethovenmaennerchor.com](http://www.beethovenmaennerchor.com) for a listing of activities and come join the fun and share the history.

While the King William Association celebrates 50 years, the Beethoven is celebrating 150. *Prosit!*

- Anne Alexander and Georg Seidel



*Photo courtesy: Anne Alexander:*

Anne Alexander and Georg Seidel enjoy Beethoven's historic bar.

# Margaret Flores Konkle

October 25, 1926 ~ April 28, 2017



**M**argaret Flores Konkle passed away peacefully Friday, April 28, 2017 in San Antonio, Texas. An active member of the King William Association and resident of King William for many years, "Maggie" was proud of her local heritage. A direct descendant of "Austin's Old 300," she was born October 26, 1926 at Gates Hospital in Eagle Pass, Texas where her mother, Margaret Striegler Flores, was head nurse. Her father, Arturo Flores, was a successful and well-known businessman. Maggie graduated from high school with the Eagle Pass class of 1944 and went on to study at Cincinnati Conservatory of Music. She had a long and colorful career in music and entertainment that spanned more than 70 years and countless venues. She was a full time entertainer, matriarch and full time mom with eight children to look after. To say her life was full is a substantial understatement.

Maggie was preceded in death by her parents Arturo and Margaret Striegler Flores of Eagle Pass, her brother Arthur Flores, first husband Clinton R. Good, second husband Gordon R. Konkle and son Gordon D. Konkle. She is survived by her children Clint Good, Bruce Good, Warren Good, Janice Storey, Greg Good, Brett Good and Molly Brown.

- Warren Good (aka Pogo)

She is also survived by countless friends and fans in the King William neighborhood. Her daily practice sessions, especially on nice days when she would open the French doors, was the highlight of many an afternoon walk. You never knew whether you would hear Chopin, the Beatles, the old standards or her personal favorite, Billie Holiday. Another personal favorite was sitting on the front porch at her home on Madison, sipping champagne. I, for one, can attest to that! I was blessed to have been her neighbor and friend. Thank you, Maggie, for joy and music.

- Linda Winchester

# Thomas Berg

July 2, 1937 ~ May 1, 2017

**F**ormer neighbor Tom Berg died May 1 after several years of declining health. Tom and his wife, Susan Erickson, lived on Madison Street for about fifteen years before moving to their condo at La Cascada in 2014. A psychologist by profession, Tom was a sweet, gentle soul – quiet and introspective. He loved good conversation with his many friends but seemed most content when listening to a beautiful symphony or reading a good book. On many mornings, Tom would join Ed Haverlah and me for a brisk three-mile walk along the river to the Lexington Street bridge and back. His death is mourned by his family and many friends.

- Bill Cogburn



## AT&T Fiber Coming to King William

**T**he first phase of the AT&T Fiber project will be in the northern portion of King William, with expected installation from July through September. What does this mean? Digging, 22" x 17" holes in the right-of-way (grassy parkway area), then boring underground to add duct to hold the fibers. Boxes will then be placed underground with a plastic lid at grade level.

There will also be some aerial construction. Submitted plans have one above-ground fiber hut, 40.5" x 42.8" x 19.9", located at the end of E. Sheridan Street. KWA worked with the City and AT&T regarding the placement and screening of this hut to reduce the visual impact to the streetscape. The Office of Historic Preservation has approved the project.

- Cherise Bell

# Garden St. School News

Summer is here at last. Summertime often means fun time and family time. Our kids have time to explore, and learn on their own, during the summer. Part of what they explore is who they are, what they like and dislike, and what their place in this world will be. It is a time of adventure and discovery.

This summer, spend some time with your children letting them be themselves. You get to be yourself, too. Think of creative ways to express yourself and follow up- on interests your child may have. San Antonio and Texas have a wealth of opportunities for families to explore. Zoos, parks, museums and road trips are a great way to spark a child's interests and explore things that your child already finds interesting. And, don't forget the library! San Antonio's public and electronic libraries have thousands of volumes in Spanish and English for children to explore. "Read, read, read! *¡Lee, lee, lee!*"

The summer school programs are underway in June. Students have a variety of choices to make and Bonham is hosting a summer program through our ACE grant.

In the spring of 2017, we planned and implemented the continuation of the Dual-Language instruction throughout the Middle School years. We are building our program so our students can earn the Seal of Bi-Literacy by their graduation. This will happen with Dual-Language continuing at Brackenridge High School (for more information, see [www.texastribune.org/2015/04/29/seal-recognition-bilingual-students/](http://www.texastribune.org/2015/04/29/seal-recognition-bilingual-students/)). Partnership with the King William Association has made Bonham Academy a model school for fine arts, science and languages as SAISD implements the academy setting in many other schools throughout the district.

All phases of the 2010 Bond upgrades have been completed, including the moving of the house and the extension of green space and the play area all the way to Cedar



Street. Our playgrounds are open! We look forward to 125 more years of academic achievement and pride at Bonham Academy in King William.

Sports News: Bonham Academy will have Middle School UIL sports in the 2017-18 school year, including 7 on 7 Football, Girls Volleyball, Boys and Girls Basketball, Boys and Girls Cross-Country, and Boys and Girls Soccer. We had a successful start to our sports program this year and will have even more participants in the Academy Sports League next year.

As always, thank you for your continued support of your neighborhood school, and *Go Bobcats!*

- Principal Will Webber

## Street Etiquette

Temporary storage containers were designed to be placed in driveways on private property. To place a temporary storage unit on a street or sidewalk, the City requires a permit, which is available from the "One Stop" facility at Alamo St. and Flores St.

Please note that the storage container must have reflective barricades. More information about the City's Right of Way Ordinance is available on the City's website.

- Rose Kanusky

## SA Preservation Rehabber Club Asbestos Abatement and Wood Siding Repair

A Rehabber project is coming to King William! The SA Preservation Rehabber Club and the King William Association are partnering on June 23 and 24 to raise the architectural integrity of neighborhood homes by removing asbestos siding to reveal and repair the wood siding underneath.

Integrity, as defined by The National Park Service, is "the authenticity of a property's historic identity, evidenced by the survival of physical characteristics..." Seven qualities are considered when evaluating integrity, materials is one.

The King William Historic District is made up of structures that feature various levels of integrity. Structures that hold high levels of integrity may feature original materials like wood windows, wood siding, and architectural elements such as porch columns and other decorative elements. Mismatched or inappropriate exterior modifications can occur over time and can lower the integrity level. For example, removing original wood windows, original porch columns, and installation of asbestos or vinyl siding over original wood siding typically lower integrity. This project will show that modifications can be reversed and the integrity level can be reestablished.

The project will use recommended methods and best practices to remove and properly dispose of the asbestos material as well as repair the original wood siding. The work will be documented to create informational videos showing these best practices. We hope that by sharing the "step by step" of restoring original siding materials, property owners will feel confident to try it on their homes!

For more information on the project and other Rehabber Club activities visit [www.sapreservation.com](http://www.sapreservation.com).

- Kathy Rodriguez  
Assoc. AIA, Deputy Historic  
Preservation Officer  
City of San Antonio



# 2017 King William Fair Art & Craft Award Winners

Many Fair guests return year after year to shop for art and handcrafted jewelry in San Antonio's oldest and most beautiful neighborhood. This year, over 400 artists applied and 200 were selected to participate in the 50th King William Fair. Art & Craft Chairs Nancy and Chris Price and their team had the challenging but oh-so-fun job of selecting the best of the best from this outstanding field.

Congratulations to the 2017 King William Fair Art & Craft Award Winners!

## Best in Show, Henry Rayburn Award for Creativity & Originality - Eric Mort, Eric Mort Art Glass

Applauded by Fair guests and other artists alike for his Best in Show win, Eric creates pocket galaxy spheres and pendants from borosilicate (pyrex) glass, soda lime glass, precious metals and opals using an ancient art known as flameworking.



Nancy Price and Eric Mort

## Best Booth Display - William and Eva Medford, Tweet Tweet Dynasty

"Is the bird-house guy here this year?" is not an uncommon question heard on Fair Day. William and Eva Medford, who have been exhibiting at the Fair for almost a decade, create one-of-a-kind wooden bird-houses and bird feeders that range from single dwelling houses to bird-house castles.



William and Eva Medford

## Best Fiesta Spirit - Maureen Brown and Charles Harrison, Art by Momo & Pompa

First time exhibitors and long-time local favorites Maureen Brown and Charles Harrison delighted Fair goers and discriminating selfie connoisseurs with their Fiesta-themed sculptures near Artists Alley and King William Park. They create fun San Antonio, animal and abstract-themed "fiesta" art products based on their original paintings, photography, drawings and sculptures.



Maureen Brown and Charles Harrison peeking through their interactive San Fernando Cathedral and Tower of the Americas sculpture, with Chris Price.

In addition to the outstanding award winners, three distinguished artists received Honorable Mentions:

- **David Gleason, Anthill Art by G7 Artworks** - David's technique includes pouring molten aluminum into an ant hill, giving a breathtaking insight to the hidden world of Mother Nature and her miraculous architects, the ants, as they come to life in these unique creations.
- **Larry Pile, Kessler Craftsman** - Larry uses traditional and innovative processes and materials to create amazing kiln glass sculptural and functional pieces imbued with color, texture and form.
- **Nickie Siegel Keith, Siegel Keith Artistry** - Nickie hand-sculpts and paints faces and forms in oils that inspire whimsy and imagination to delight the heart and soul of all ages.

- Carol Jackson, Fair Assistant

# Summer Exhibitions at Blue Star Contemporary

Summer is upon us, and with it the opening of three new exhibitions at the Blue Star Contemporary (BSC). *Augmented Reality*, a group exhibition, examines what impact the digital landscape has on our three-dimensional reality. *Echo and Narcissus*, an exhibition featuring Blue Star Contemporary Berlin Residency alum Chris Sauter, is in response to his time in Berlin and current events. *Insurrection*, an exhibition of black and white photography by British artist Marcus Haydock, is a narrative of lived, felt and seen moments.



Though each exhibition differs in materials and methods, a thematic thread connects the summer exhibitions, addressing the continuing complication of virtual, mediated experience versus actual, lived experience in our information-overloaded and consumer-driven world.

The opening reception for these exhibitions is Thursday, June 1 at 6:00 p.m., with an artist talk by Marcus Haydock at 7:00 p.m. A Members First Look will take place earlier in the day at 11:00 a.m. June 2 is First Friday, so BSC will be open until 9:00 p.m. and admission will be free and open to the public. As always, BSC members will have access to the Member's Lounge on First Friday. *Augmented Reality*, *Echo and Narcissus* and *Insurrection* will be on view through September.

- Katy Tuck, BSC Visitor Ambassador



Photo: [bluestarart.org](http://bluestarart.org)

Image from Chris Sauter's Loudspeaker series in Berlin.

# Out in the Garden with Alan Cash

We have been cutting lawns for a while now, so it is time for my annual appeal to reduce air pollution by recommending that readers switch from a gas powdered lawnmower to an electrical mower. It has been reported that gas mowers pollute as much in an hour as a car in a day. Another plus for electricity is that electric mowers hardly ever need repairs other than to perhaps have the blade replaced which would also be required with gas mowers. Just plug it in, flip the switch, and go.



Continue to fertilize the garden every three or four months with an organic fertilizer. Compost also helps build the soil but it is getting too hot to put it out so wait until cooler fall weather.

Ferns grown in pots and placed around the garden in shady spots give it a tropical look. However, they do require a little more water than other plants. An easy way to keep them healthy is to place their pot in a bowl-type container that is about 2 inches wider and has no hole in the bottom. Then simply fill the space between the containers when watering.

As we go from spring into summer, many volunteer plants and trees sprout in the garden and probably should be removed or transplanted. This is especially true for trees that come up too close to foundations, walkways and patios. Palm trees, for instance, look nice when they are small but can become a problem in a short time as their fronds spread.

Do not forget to feed and water the birds. Sunflower seeds attract a variety of birds, and they in turn help control insect pests. A bird feeder can be just a shallow tray placed on an upturned bucket, and a birdbath can be an inexpensive bowl placed near a shrub.

From *The Wit and Wisdom of Mark Twain: A Book of Quotations*: It is the little conveniences that make the real comfort of life.

Garden Note: Nature's peace will flow into you as sunshine flows into trees. - John Muir



# Saving King William

As late as the 1980s, the little caliche block cottage at 201 Cedar Street was still being referred to by neighbors as “the chicken coop.” Johnny Von Dohlen, however, saw a diamond in the rough.

Roz and I were good friends with the Von Dohlen in Houston where Johnny was an agent for HUD for many years. In the 1980s, his job took him to San Antonio. Rather than move the family to San Antonio, they decided to move back to their ancestral home in Goliad while Johnny spent his work weeks in San Antonio. It wasn't long before he fell in love with King William's architecture and small town atmosphere. He rented a small apartment behind 516 King William Street from Dorothy Schuchard. He referred to this tiny space as his “walk-in-back-out” house.

In the evenings, Johnny enjoyed exploring the neighborhood on foot and kept returning to the vacant, derelict cottage on the corner of Cedar and Pereida. The tiny two-room cottage, one of the oldest structures in the neighborhood, is thought to have been built by Ernst Wehrhahn for his farm workers in the early 1860s.

After a bit of research, Johnny found the owner of the cottage to be Edmund James who lived on his family's Cedar Creek Ranch west of San Antonio near Barksdale. When Johnny asked if James was interested in selling the property, he was told that it was not for sale. Refusing to take no for an answer, Johnny proposed a plan whereby he would manage the restoration and then live in the finished cottage, paying modest rent with the option of buying the house. James agreed to these terms and they shook on it.

After months of work under Johnny's supervision, restoration of the little cottage was completed. For the next several years, it served as Johnny's home away from home – his casita, as he called it. Roz and I, still living in Houston at the time, often stayed in Johnny's cottage on weekends when he was home with his family in Goliad. That was in the late 1980s and our first introduction to King William.

Tragically, 44 year-old Edmund James was shot to death on his ranch by teenagers on a robbery spree in 1992. Besides being a rancher, James was a member of the board of directors for the Pioneer Flour Mill and a great-grandson of C. H. Guenther, the Mill founder.

With the death of James, the handshake deal between the two men was never consummated. Shortly thereafter, Johnny Von Dohlen retired from HUD and lived out his life at his family home in Goliad. I think of Johnny every time I pass by the pretty little cottage and continue to thank my dear friend for his part in saving one of our neighborhood's precious houses.

- Bill Cogburn



Photo courtesy Graham Knight  
201 Cedar Street, 1980s



Photo: Bill Cogburn  
201 Cedar Street, now

## KING WILLIAM HOUSE SITTERS

...  
YOU TRAVEL – WE STAY

Jay Hall and her husband, Rex Stone, resided in King William for 14 years and owned the KW Bed & Breakfast. Now Jay and friend Becky, mature, non-smoking adults, will "love" your home and pet, and perform minor duties. Pricing based on your needs.

[jay.hall123@gmail.com](mailto:jay.hall123@gmail.com) 210-889-8062  
Becky - [62theboss@att.net](mailto:62theboss@att.net)

# Fair Parade's Newest Team Member

We'd like to say welcome and thanks to Alicia Spence-Schlesinger. She is the Graphics, Merch & Promos Manager at Freetail Brewing on S. Presa. Before that she served the same position at Blue Star Brewing Co. Alicia has had a parade connection with the King William Fair for many years in planning and executing the Blue Star parade entries.

Last May, Alicia asked me about volunteer opportunities in working with the Parade team. I was ecstatic - here's a woman who knows how to put on events! I gave her one project, included her in my planning, gave her more projects, and the rest as they say, is history. She took off running and has added so much to the Parade team. Along with her good ideas, she is a great personality with an abundance of creative energy.

We are already planning for next year and are so happy to have her on the Team!



Alicia Spence-Schlesinger

- Sue Duffy, Chief Parade Wrangler



## *In Loving Memory of Sue Duffy*

Sue Duffy, long-time Chief Parade Wrangler, passed away on May 20.

In lieu of flowers, Sue's family requests that memorial donations honoring her can be sent to the King William Association Grant Program at 122 Madison Street, San Antonio, TX 78204. Cards can be sent to Ryan Orsinger at 738 Elmwood Drive, San Antonio, TX 78212.

## Parade Route Change a Success

Parade viewing has been historically very low. This gives the parade participants the idea that the parade is over and they start to bail. The Parade Team wanted parade viewers all the way back to Eagleland.

Last year we went before the Board with our request. We were posed a number of good questions, then given the OK from the Board. This spring we included the route change (and time change 9:45-ish on Adams) to quite a number of media outlets.

And the viewers came! While it wasn't yet crowded, it did have a sizeable number of viewers, and there were many neighbors on their porches celebrating the new route.

Thank you KWA Board!

- Sue Duffy, Chief Parade Wrangler



Photo: Angela Martinez

Linda Jackson and Rose Cunningham, Bonham Crossing Guards

If you've driven by Bonham Academy, chances are you've seen Rose Cunningham and Linda Jackson. These crossing guards, affectionately known as Ms. Rose and Ms. Linda to neighbors, are sisters who have been standing watch over Bonham crosswalks as a team for twelve years. Ms. Rose, who works the intersection at St. Mary's and Pereida, started in 2003 and brought in her sister, who works at Pereida and S. Presa, a couple of years later.

"I just love kids," is Rose's reason for choosing this job. Both women are grandmothers, and their affection for children is apparent to anyone who observes them in action. Rose said that former students come back to visit from time-to-time and asks if she remembers them. "Of course I do!" she answers enthusiastically. Past Bonham student Felice Martinez says that, in addition to making sure kids cross safely, they also "really brighten your day." These women are a wonderful asset to our neighborhood. Thanks, Rose and Linda!

- Angela Martinez



Brackenridge High School Theatre students led this year's King William Fair Parade.



### Neighbors Program

FREE to 78204 and 78210

Register at  
[epicenterus.org/connect](http://epicenterus.org/connect)

A full service hospital helping your pet live a happy and healthy life.



210-534-4300

3608 S. Gevers @ Fair Ave. 78210  
[southeastanimalhospital.com](http://southeastanimalhospital.com)

**SAPD**  
**Non-Emergency**  
 210-207-7273

**KW SAFE Officer**  
**on patrol:**  
**Officer David McCall**  
**Tel: 210-207-7413**

## Newsletter Improvement Plan

Do you have a story to tell? A neighbor to praise? News to share? A general interest column to launch? Submissions and contributions to the KWA newsletter are welcome!

Please send to  
[info@ourkwa.org](mailto:info@ourkwa.org).



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San Antonio, Texas 78204

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Ethel Pedraza and friend, representing 6 generations in King William at this year's Parade.

## June Calendar

- 2 Last Day of School!
- 7 General Membership Meeting -  
KWA Office - 7:00 p.m.
- 9 Deadline for July newsletter
- 21 Summer Solstice
- 21 KWA Board meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 23 Deadline for KWA grant applications