

## Leave the Car at Home

As downtown residents we can walk, jog, or pedal for many if not most of our needs. But one thing for which a vehicle is essential is a trip to the grocery store. Must that vehicle be a car? This may not work for all households, but you CAN leave your car at home and take the bus. Some of us would never, ever be caught doing such a thing. However, if you are adventurous enough to try it one time, it may not be your last.

Bus service to three grocery stores, McCreless Marketplace, the little H-E-B on Nogalitos, and Central Market on Broadway, is conveniently scheduled and varies only slightly between weekdays and weekends. No transfers are needed.

Bus 34 goes out S. St. Mary's Street to McCreless Marketplace and takes only about 20 minutes. Bus 51 goes out S. Alamo Street to the small H-E-B on Nogalitos and takes about 15 minutes. Bus 51 going in S. Alamo becomes Bus 14 as it goes through downtown and continues out Broadway to Central Market. It takes about 25 minutes. The travel times are based on VIA schedules available online at [www.viainfo.net](http://www.viainfo.net) or VIA customer service at 362-2020.

If you pay with cash you need exact change, but a monthly fare card can be purchased and you merely show it to the driver as you enter the bus. Seniors 62 and over can purchase a Reduced Fare Card that is good for 5 years and pay the reduced fare as you get on, which is \$0.50 or \$0.25 depending on the time of day. Travel with the Reduced Fare Card is FREE on weekends.

In case you are wondering, I do not receive any benefit from VIA for this plug and I did purchase my Reduced Fare Card at the going rate. But getting more people in fewer vehicles reduces emissions and makes the roads safer. Maybe I'll see you at the bus stop.

*Alan Cash*

# The Newsletter

OF THE KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION

KWA Newsletter

Volume 5, #10

November 2009

[kingwilliamassociation.org](http://kingwilliamassociation.org)

## 421 Cedar Street, A Home Again



Elizabeth Llanas has lived at 421 Cedar Street for many years in a 1905 Victorian cottage she inherited from her grandmother. On the night of June 18, 2008, Liz's home was extensively burned, leaving only the foundation and walls. Early the next morning, the City had demolition equipment on site to tear down what remained of the structure. Thankfully, due to quick action by many individuals and groups, the home was spared the wrecking ball, and on Monday, September 28, 2009, a ceremony was held in the front yard celebrating the restoration of the home.

The effort to save the home was initiated by Liz's neighbor up the block, the late artist and engineer Henry Rayburn, and quickly included the San Antonio Conservation Society, the National Trust for Historic Preservation, and King William Association. Soon neighbors had organized fundraisers to help pay restoration costs. District 1 Councilwoman Mary Alice Cisneros joined in and was instrumental in getting the City to suspend its normal demolition process so that a restoration plan could be developed. As a result of this latter action, the City's emergency demolition policy has been changed to allow owners of historic properties the opportunity to evaluate if a structure can be saved.

*Alan Cash*

## 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](mailto:king.william@sbcglobal.net) if you would like to volunteer to chair the 2010 Home Tour.



## Fair Focus 2010: Key Volunteers Needed

Come be part of the behind-the-scenes fun at our biggest fundraising event of the year! Contact the Fair office at 271-3247 or kwfair@sbcglobal.net for more details about the following key volunteer opportunities and to let us know we can count on your help.

**Info Booth Manager** – With multiple entertainment areas, dozens of food vendors, approximately 200 art & craft vendors, and so much more, how do the thousands of fairgoers find what they are looking for? They stop by one of our Info Booths, of course! The Info Booth Manager helps recruit and schedule Info Booth volunteers and works with Fair staff to update the Info Booth manual. If you like being in the know, you will shine in this job!

**KW Kids Parade Entry Coordinator** – We need help to keep the King William Kids Parade Entry tradition going! Please consider helping out with your parental/grandparental/friend of kids/organizational skills. Even if you think you don't have the necessary skill set, if you have any contact with kids, you've got organizational skills. If you have the teensiest inkling of an idea that you might like to help, please contact Sue Duffy, 2010 King William Parade Wrangler, at 550-5184, sduffy@fulbright.com, or the Fair office.

**Volunteer Coordinators** – The Fair wouldn't be possible without the help of hundreds of volunteers and two special volunteer coordinators (one for corporate volunteer groups and one for individual volunteers) with excellent communication skills to organize this integral part of the Fair. If you're enthusiastic about meeting new people from all over the city, this is the job for you!

## Additional Information re: Eagleland Bridge

In response to Alan Cash's *Eagleland Bridge Installation* article (October 2009), King William resident René Lynn shared the fact that the bridge was named for author William S. Porter whose pen name was O. Henry. He was a Southtown-area resident and his office for *The Rolling Stone* was located about where the former Handy Andy grocery and Mission Restaurant Supply Store is now.

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## Out in the Garden with Alan Cash



In the last issue I reported that for the first time ever I applied beneficial nematodes on a section of my front lawn that has looked bad for some time. These very small worms are used for the control of soil-borne insects. Maybe they need more time to work, but so far I have not noticed much change in the condition of the lawn. But then it has not gotten worse either. I'll follow up over time if it appears that beneficial nematodes are something to consider using.

Daffodil bulbs are becoming available at local nurseries. These are spring blooming plants that are good to plant in areas that are usually shaded during the summer after trees leaf out. They will get winter sun and be through blooming by the time the trees are out. Daffodils will naturalize which means you leave them in the ground and they will come back year after year and multiply. Be sure the area drains well so the bulbs do not rot. As the foliage dies back, put other plants in the area. The bulbs should be 6 inches apart and there should be about 2 inches of soil above the top of the bulb. Daffodils planted in areas of ground cover are especially striking when they bloom.

With cooler temperatures, there are annuals we can plant that will bloom off and on until it warms up in the spring. These include: alyssum, asters, calendula, dianthus, flowering cabbage and kale, pansies, petunias, phlox, snapdragons, and stock. Swiss chard does not bloom but has colorful leaves.

At the end of August we had received only 8½ inches of rain this year. In September I recorded just over 4 inches in my rain gauge and as of October 4 an additional 2¼ inches. It is cooler, plants are showing signs of recovering and the aquifer is slowly rising. But although these are good conditions we should all continue to be as frugal in our water usage as possible. SAWS recently announced the end of Stage 2 restrictions; we are still in Stage 1 of water restrictions and I recommend that they be followed as normal practice all year no matter how high the aquifer level gets. Remember, it was at record levels only a year or so ago.

*Garden Note: You can bury a lot of troubles in the garden.*



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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](mailto:king.william@sbcglobal.net) for consideration. The deadline for inclusion in the December/January newsletter is November 11.

### Día de los Muertos Celebration & Reading on November 1

**WHAT:** Sandra Cisneros and the Macondo Foundation invite you to a day of memory and remembering. Join us in celebrating and remembering our loved ones who have passed with a special reading performance by the Teen Arts Puentes Project and music. Bring a picture or favorite item of your loved one to place on our neighborhood altar. Light refreshments will be served.

**WHEN:** Sunday, November 1, 4-6pm

**WHERE:** 736 E. Guenther

**MORE INFO:** Call 534-0517 or visit [www.macondofoundation.org](http://www.macondofoundation.org).

### SAY Sí's 3rd Annual Muertitos Fest on November 5-6

**WHAT:** Celebrate Dia de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) at SAY Sí's 3rd Annual Muertitos Fest. The festival will include local featured artists, an exhibit of Master Mexican Printmakers, student exhibits of traditional folk art, altars created to honor the deceased, family workshops, food booths, artisans stalls, and live music and dance performances.

**WHEN:** Muertitos Fest Fiesta on November 5, 7:30-10:30pm (opening night fundraiser, tickets \$20); Muertitos Fest First Friday on November 6, 6-10pm (free); and Muertitos Fest Family Day on Nov. 7, 12-3pm (free)

**WHERE:** SAY Sí, 1518 S. Alamo

**MORE INFO:** Call 212-8666 or visit [www.saysi.org](http://www.saysi.org)

### District 123 Senior Alliance Meeting on November 13

**WHAT:** Join State Representative Mike Villarreal for the District 123 Senior Alliance. Senior citizens meet regularly with Rep. Villarreal to share good news about their work in the community and to share their views on important issues.

**WHEN:** Friday, Nov. 13, 1:30pm

**MORE INFO:** Contact Toni Serna for the location and more details at 734-8937 or [toni.serna@house.state.tx.us](mailto:toni.serna@house.state.tx.us). To learn more about Representative Villarreal's public service, please visit [www.leaderslisten.org](http://www.leaderslisten.org).

### Storytelling with Doc Moore & Tim Tingle on November 15

**WHAT:** Stories Galore is a monthly story-swap hosted by Elder Stone for experienced and beginning storytellers and listeners of all ages. Doc Moore and Tim Tingle will be the featured "Stellar Tellers" this month.

**WHEN:** Sunday, Nov. 15, 5-7pm

**WHERE:** Commander's House, 645 S. Main

**MORE INFO:** Call Elder Stone at 673-4468.

### Dec./Jan. Newsletter Mail Prep on November 23

**WHAT:** Please help us prepare the KWA newsletter for mailing. Stop by to stick mailing labels on newsletters and visit with neighbors.

**WHEN:** Monday, Nov. 23, 6-7pm

**WHERE:** KWA office, 1032 S. Alamo

**MORE INFO:** Contact the KWA office at 227-8786 or [king.william@sbcglobal.net](mailto:king.william@sbcglobal.net).

## Renovation Nation to Feature Nix House

A segment featuring the Nix House, 434 King William Street, is scheduled to air on November 13 on "Renovation Nation," a Planet Green cable network program. The program is hosted by Steve Thomas, formerly of PBS's "This Old House." Visit [www.planetgreen.discovery.com/tv/renovation-nation](http://www.planetgreen.discovery.com/tv/renovation-nation) for show times and more information.

## National Night Out 2009

Many thanks to Sherry Hess and KW West volunteers, Robert Riley and TX Masonic Lodge No. 8 volunteers, and all the neighbors & community representatives who came out to give crime a going away party for National Night Out on October 6.

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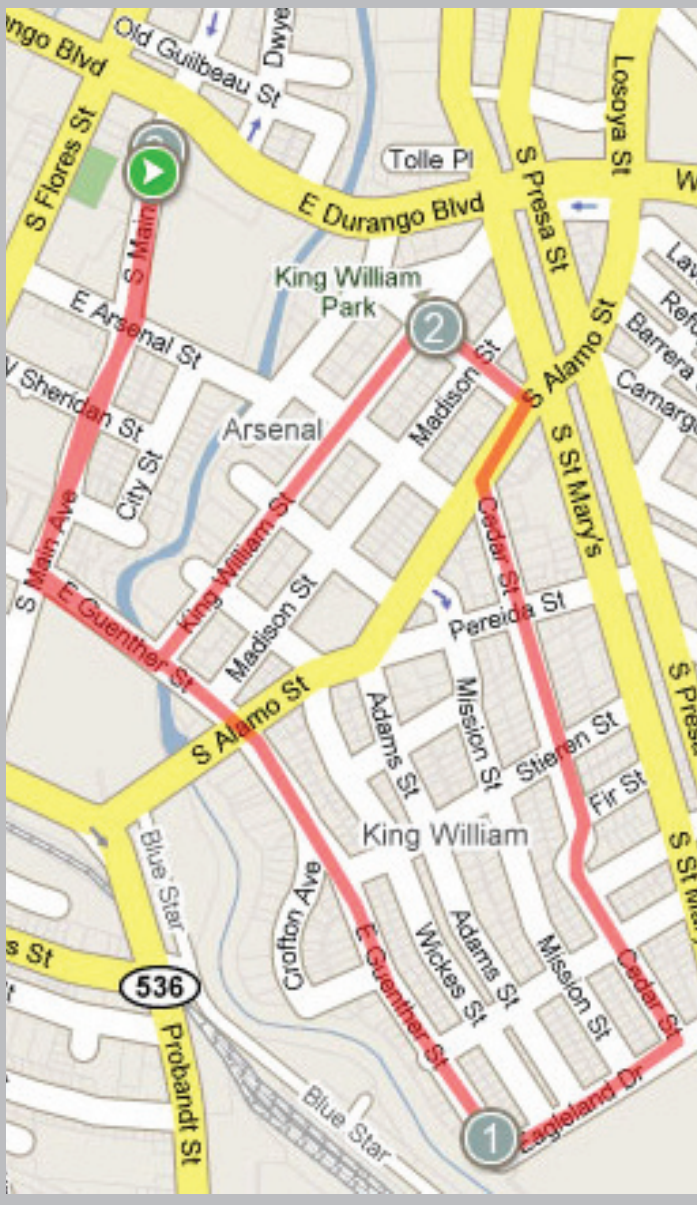
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# San Antonio Food Bank Turkey Challenge 5k Run/Walk

## Thursday, November 26

The San Antonio Food Bank's 1st Annual Turkey Challenge 5k Run/Walk will bring up to 1,500 runners to our neighborhood on Thanksgiving Day. Access to our neighborhood will be limited that morning beginning at 7:30 a.m. The 5k run/walk will start and finish at H-E-B Arsenal, 646 S. Main.

Funds raised from The Turkey Challenge will support San Antonio Food Bank's efforts to place turkeys on the tables of needy families in our area. For every \$10.00 donated, the San Antonio Food Bank can provide one turkey to a family in need this holiday season. Visit [www.safoodbank.org](http://www.safoodbank.org) for more information.



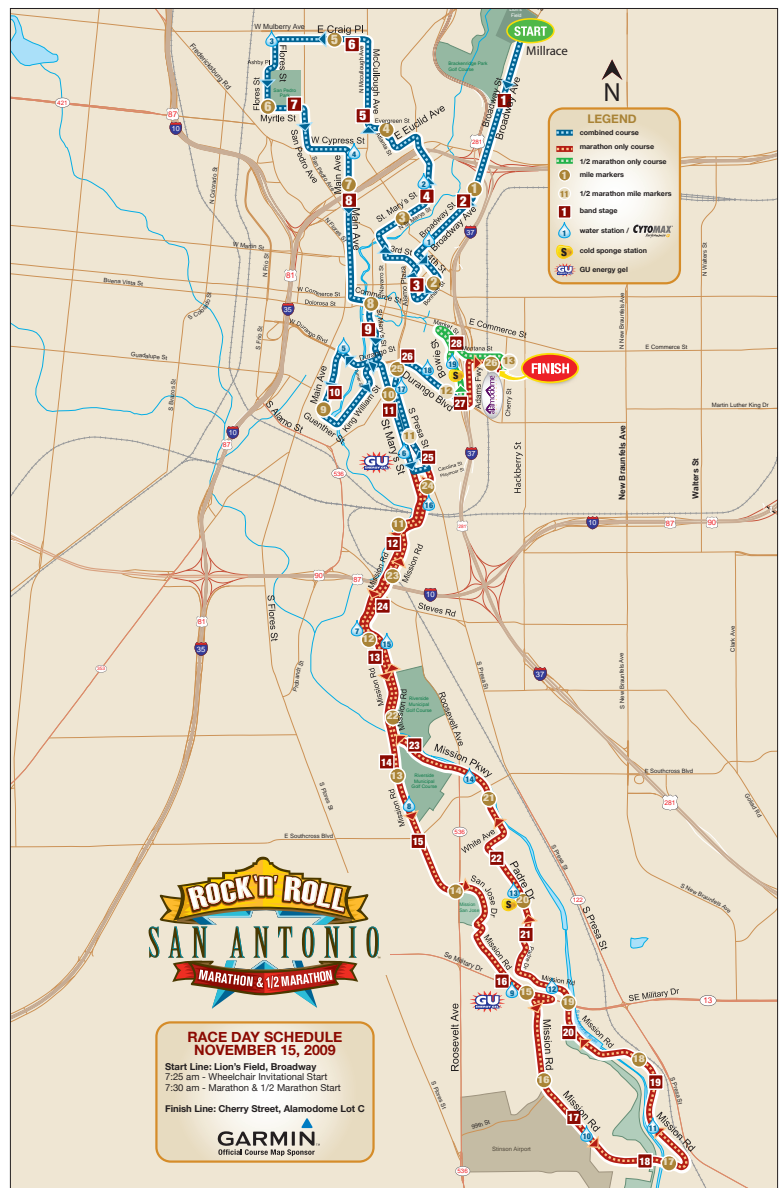
# Rock 'n' Roll San Antonio Marathon

## Sunday, November 15

The Rock 'n' Roll San Antonio Marathon & 1/2 Marathon is returning to King William on Sunday, November 15, bringing 30,000 runners to participate in this exciting event. Access to our neighborhood will be limited on race day, between 6:30 – 11:30 a.m.

If you live on the route, a special parking pass has been mailed to your house directing you to park outside of the route for guaranteed access to/from your home during the race. Additional parking passes are available at the King William Association office.

We encourage you to take part in the event, watch and wave as these runners come through our community, the majority of which will run through between 8:30-10:30 a.m. More information about the race is available online at [www.competitor.com/community](http://www.competitor.com/community).



## Green Spaces Gala Held in King William

Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas' seventh annual gala, A Garden Gala, was held at Stacey Hill's urban oasis in King William on Thursday, October 8.



Chuck Ramirez and Stacey Hill

The planners anxiously watched the threatening sky, but the rain held off until the event was over, allowing the event to proceed as planned with dinner by Don Strange, live and silent auctions and music by JJ Lopez. Auction items included exciting travel destinations, works of art, a movie premier, private tours, and numerous gift packages.

The proceeds from the Green Spaces Gala help fund its programs, which include land preservation, environmental education and community gardens.

This year, Green Spaces celebrated the success of the City of San Antonio Aquifer Protection Program. Thanks to this program, nearly 90,000 acres over the aquifer will be protected. The gala recognized the collaborative efforts of the Mayor, City Council, and City Staff; the Citizens Advisory Board; the Scientific Evaluation Team; the Nature Conservancy; and Green Spaces Alliance in making this program possible.

Howard and Margie Peak served as the honorary co-chairs of the gala while the gala committee was headed by Sonya Dawson and Liz Tullis.

Sponsors included Valero Energy Foundation; the Marty and Steve Hixon Family Foundation; AT&T; NuStar Energy; Pape-Dawson Engineers; H-E-B, Brown & Ortiz, LLC; Judy Morton; Bender Wells Clark Design and Braun and Associates, Attorneys at Law; John and Karen Waugh and Albert Fernandez, Jr. Family; McDevitt Media Group LLC and Sprinkle Davis, Architecture; Team Integrated Engineering, Inc.; Two Hearts Studio; Frances and Roger Hill; James Darnell Family; Phil and Linda Hardberger; David Shelton Gallery and Lara and Jason Luce; and CPS Energy.

For more information about the Green Spaces Alliance of South Texas, visit [greenspacesalliance.org](http://greenspacesalliance.org).



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## Eagleland Reach Flora & Fauna Update

We haven't seen much in the way of colorful blooms over the past couple of months in the Eagleland Reach of the San Antonio River Improvement Project between South Alamo Street and Lone Star Boulevard, but we finally received some good rains and the native plants are once again coming alive with color. Areas that were brown and crunchy just a few weeks ago are now lush and green, and native wildflowers and grasses are blooming throughout the area.



One of the showiest flowers in bloom right now is the Maximilian sunflower. This native perennial plant can reach heights of 10 feet and its tall, bright yellow blooms stand out above everything else in the landscape. It blooms from August to November and individual flowers can reach up to 5 inches in diameter. Maximilian sunflower likes full sun and can tolerate a variety of soil types. It is a valuable wildlife plant, providing nectar for bees and butterflies, as well as seeds for birds and deer. At Eagleland, this wildflower is mainly scattered along the middle section of the slope and can be easily seen if you head downstream from the Blue Star Arts Complex on the hike & bike trail towards the former Big Tex Grain Company site (please note this trail is currently closed further downstream where the City is constructing a bridge).

Additionally, it is always a good time to see interesting wildlife at Eagleland if you take a moment to look. Recent bird sightings include a loggerhead shrike, belted kingfishers, numerous egret species, and a variety of flycatchers. You can usually spot one or more red-eared slider turtles sunning themselves on the banks, rocks or other flat surfaces near the water and softshell turtles are commonly seen in shallow water in this area. Take some time to visit the Eagleland Reach and you're sure to see something that will brighten your day.

*Lee Marlowe, San Antonio River Authority*



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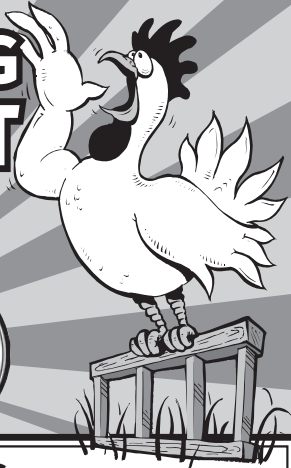
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*In Memoriam*

**Maria de Jesus Plasencia Martinez**

June 2, 1921 – October 12, 2009



Maria P. Martinez, a King William resident at 231 Wickes Street for 50 years, passed away on October 12, 2009. She is survived by her daughter, Rose Mary Martinez; son, Michael J. Martinez; son, Daniel A. Martinez and wife, Minerva C. Martinez; and one grand-daughter, Irena A. Martinez. She was loved and respected by all in this community and will be greatly missed.

**Newsletter Advertising**

Promote your business directly to your King William neighbors by placing an advertisement in our newsletter! Contact Syeira Budd at (210) 227-8786 or king.william@sbcglobal.net for more information.

**December/January Newsletter Deadline**

Please email any December 2009/January 2010 newsletter articles, announcements, photos, advertisements, or ideas to king.william@sbcglobal.net no later than Wednesday, November 11.

Editorial Guidelines Available Online at

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## Crime Prevention with SAFFE Officer Doyle

### SAPD Online Reporting



In its continuing effort to improve service to the community, decrease response time, and maximize its resources, the San Antonio Police Department has recently begun taking reports online via its web site ([www.sanantonio.gov/sapd](http://www.sanantonio.gov/sapd)). This service allows crime victims to file a police report from the convenience of work or home, while simultaneously reducing calls for service on field units. A reduction in call volume means patrol officers can spend more time deterring crime, rather than responding to crimes that have already occurred.

At the present time, crimes reported online must meet the following criteria: suspect(s) are unknown, theft under \$500 (no firearms), burglary of vehicle, criminal mischief (vandalism) under \$500, graffiti under \$500, theft of service under \$500, or lost property. If this service proves popular with the public there is every reason to believe that it can be expanded to include other crimes.

### Contact Numbers

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.

- Emergency: **911**
- Non-Emergency: **207-SAPD (7273)**
- SAFFE Officer Doyle: **207-5177 or [erik.doyle@sanantonio.gov](mailto:erik.doyle@sanantonio.gov)**
- SAFFE Officer Strothman: **207-5176 or [rstrothman@sanantonio.gov](mailto: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](mailto:king.william@sbcglobal.net)**



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**The King William Newsletter**

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**Layout Editor:** Angela Martinez

**Staff:** Alan Cash, Bill Cogburn, Nancy Diehl

**Contributors:** Alan Cash, Lee Marlowe

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**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 November General Meeting***  
**2009 KWA Grant Recipient Presentations**

**Wednesday, November 4, 7 p.m.**

**Blue Star Brewing Co., 1414 S. Alamo**

Please join us we congratulate the 2009 KWA grant recipients and learn about the wonderful work they are doing in our community. This year's grant recipients are Bonham Academy ArtSmart, Bonham Academy Library, The Classic Theatre of San Antonio, Page Middle School Band, Page Middle School Library, and SAY Sí.

***KWA Holiday Social***

**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.

**The KWA office will be closed November 2, 11, 26, and 27, 2009.**