

stay in the loop

KWA newsletter

King William Association

Volume 10, No. 11

December 2014 / January 2015

The King William Home Tour

Your Chance to get “Up-Close and Personal” with Historic Preservation

One of the featured houses on King William Street is still a work in progress. Len Ambrosio told me he fell in love with the house, which was in serious need of repair. “Hell, no!” was Tim Ziegler’s first thought. With your ticket to the KWA Home Tour on Saturday, December 6, you can see for yourself how well they have succeeded in preserving the lovely Sanger House, built in 1906.

Six years ago, Len and Tim moved to San Antonio from Hawaii. Len would be taking a job at Ft. Sam. Tim’s real estate agent assured him that the property they got near 1604 and Culebra was close to Ft. Sam - not so. After four years, they decided to find an apartment to rehab and rent out. They had experience doing this before. A new real estate agent told them, “You guys need to be downtown.” They researched other historic districts and looked into the permitting process with the Historic and Design Review Commission (HDRC) before making a decision.

IMPORTANT LESSON: You need the right real estate agent.

Work on their new/old home has been a labor of love - lots of labor. Fortunately, both Tim and Len have the skills to do most of the work themselves. The research they did in advance helped them to avoid potential problems in working on

continued on page 3



Sanger House, 242 King William

King William Home Tour
Saturday, December 6, 2014
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.

The tour features five homes and 2 museums.

Presale tickets: \$15 - Available online at kingwilliamassociation.org. Event day tickets: \$20 - Available at 120 Cedar Street and Villa Finale, 401 King William Street.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Harry Shafer

King William neighbors, Blue Star businesses and residents, and the Pioneer Flour Mill celebrated the re-opening the S. Alamo Street Bridge with a ribbon cutting and mini-parade on a beautiful, albeit chilly, autumn morning on November 1. District 1 Councilman Diego Bernal, District 2 Councilwoman Shirley Gonzales, County Commissioner Tommy Adkisson, and our SARA Board representative Tom Weaver gave speeches to mark this event. The mini-parade which followed was led by Mike Casey and included a fife and drum quartet, Steve Wood of Bullet Bikes, Pioneer balloons, the HEB Cart and a police car. A construction vehicle with a "Mission Accomplished" banner brought up the rear. Once crossing the bridge, folks dispersed at Blue Star for coffee and conversation. Cherise Bell, Sue Duffy, Brad Shaw and Rose Kanusky are to be thanked for their assistance in putting this celebration together.



The efforts of the various agencies, departments and contractors responsible for this are appreciated! We are all relieved now that this major thoroughfare is open to traffic and that congestion on Guenther Street has been alleviated. A few items, such as lighting, need to be completed, so do not be surprised to see construction vehicles still working on the bridge and temporary lane changes.

In addition to the Parking Committee mentioned in the last newsletter, I am also forming a First Friday Committee. This is one of the goals of the Strategic Plan that members can view on the KWA website under the member portal. The committee will consist of residents and local business owners. The idea is not to get rid of First Friday, but to see how we might work with COSA to better manage the event and perhaps return it to its original art focus. We will include Downtown Operations, Centro, SAPD and Bexar County in this conversation.

A few residents braved the rainy weather on November 5 to attend the KWA general meeting and hear reports on projects affecting our neighborhood. Omar Gonzales and Drew Hicks (who we found out resides in KW and joined the KWA that night) gave an update on HemisFair progress. I noted a number of changes in the plans since it was first introduced about two years ago. Andi Rodriguez gave a progress report on the construction at Bonham Academy. Mary Minor, our intern, gave a very interesting report on her windshield survey of S. Alamo Street/S. St. Mary's Street Historic District. Her report is available for viewing in the KWA office. Joan Carabin presented her book, *One-of-a-Kind Judge: the Honorable Hippo Garcia*. All in all, it was a very interesting evening with new and relevant information. We hope to see you at future meetings.



COORDINATORS Susan Athené,
Alan Cash, Bill Cogburn

LAYOUT Angela Martinez
Masthead design by Roland Rodriguez
Masthead concept by Cherise Bell

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 kingwilliamassociation.org.

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King William Home Tour

cont. from page 1

an historic property. Their neighbor, Jessie Simpson, told them, “Focus on one room at a time, and don’t get depressed.” Jessie has restored three houses in King William, so knows whereof she speaks. She is also a Co-chair of this year’s Home Tour.

Neighbors have given them a lot of support and encouragement, becoming friends in the process. The former owner of the home, Carolene Zehner, has become a friend and frequent visitor. The process of permits, approval and renovation has been pretty smooth.

IMPORTANT LESSON: Do research before plowing ahead; get to know the neighbors and listen to their advice; get support from friends to carry you through the project.

The basic structure of the house was not changed, so Len and Tim did not need to hire an architect. They worked on the inside rooms first, before tackling the exterior. The first room they did was on the second floor, which became a comfy living room area. Eventually this will be turned into another bedroom. At this writing, they have yet to do the large attic space, the kitchen and the garage. The house is absolutely lovely. It is hard to

imagine how challenging it was when they started. One fireplace on the first floor had actually sunk to the lower level.

The wooden floors, made of different types of wood, were in very bad shape. They found Joe Miller, who did an awesome job of restoring the floors. There had been a lot of termite damage. Len and Tim completely disassembled a gorgeous teardrop chandelier, cleaned it, and put it back together. It is stunning in their dining room. On the first floor, they retained the original picture rail and added additional trim to the walls. They furnished each room as it was completed. On average, each room took about a month to complete.

IMPORTANT LESSON: Sign up with a pest control service ASAP – this is Texas!

Tim can’t imagine how anyone could live here without heating and air conditioning, so they added that first thing. They started on the exterior of the house after much of the interior was done. They scraped down the trim paint and uncovered only three layers of paint. The original color was a yellow that Tim figures had faded over time. The yellow they chose to

paint is bright and more intense. The gutters needed to be replaced, so they decided to replace the asphalt shingle roof, choosing brown instead of the original green.

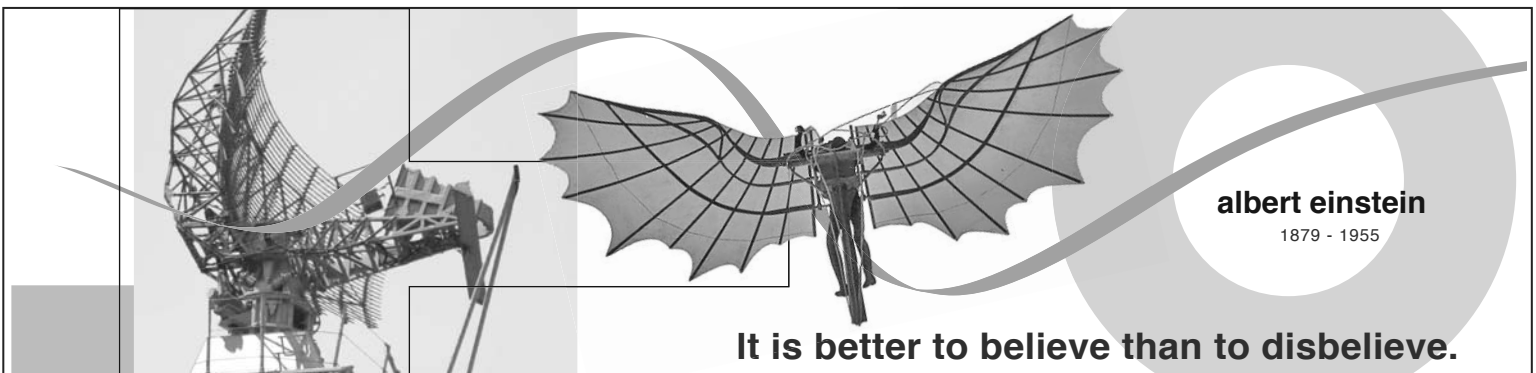
IMPORTANT LESSON: Restoration of historic homes is possible without too many hassles.

The costs of the restoration are higher than they anticipated. It is fortunate that they have the skills and willingness to do much of the work themselves, saving a lot of labor cost. Len said, “You have to love the area and love restoring houses.” Tim added, “Don’t run out of money. A passerby asked, ‘You bought the house? I hope you’re rich!’ We are not, but we save everything and reuse it where we can.”

Len was impressed by how these homes were built 100 and more years ago. Tim feels great respect for the workmanship of the original builders. They learned a lot.

VERY IMPORTANT LESSON: Expect to spend twice as much money and time as you think the project will take, and enjoy the adventure!

- Nora Peterson



OUT IN THE GARDEN with Alan Cash

Household water use between November and March is generally the time period that San Antonio Water System (SAWS) uses to determine our monthly sewer charge for the next year. To conserve water and keep your utilities cost down, reduce water use as much as possible. About 40 percent of residential water use is for maintaining



yards and gardens. If you have a sprinkler system, put it on its manual setting until next spring. Water lawns only about every three weeks and flowerbeds as needed when the top 2 to 3 inches of soil is dry. Moisture evaporation is slower in cooler weather.

As the year comes to a close, I want to wish each reader a happy holiday season. I hope 2015 is better for you than 2014. I want to thank those who thought my advice worthwhile enough to ask questions, make comments and give your compliments. All were appreciated.

Garden Note: This note is a little different from the usual, which is directly related to gardening. However, as the other, I believe it, too, is philosophical. When touring the home of Mark Twain (Samuel Langhorne Clemens) in Hartford, CN a year or so ago, I bought a book of his quotations of "wit and wisdom." I hope you like this one: "Make it a point to do something every day that you don't want to do. This is the golden rule for acquiring the habit of doing your duty without pain.

In Memory of
Ann Davis
Beloved daughter of
Beth and Rich Davis

You Are Invited
TO THE ANNUAL GUENTHER HOUSE
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Extravaganza

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2014 · 5PM-8PM

Featuring a Frozen Wonderland and
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Our delicious restaurant menu is offered serving your
favorite breakfast and lunch items as well as
featuring evening specials. No reservations are needed.

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Toy Drive benefiting the San Antonio Police Department
Blue Santa Program. With each donation you receive
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City Lights

The beginning of December is a time for rummaging in closets, lugging boxes out of basements or attics, and opening drawers and cupboards that are otherwise undisturbed for the rest of the year. The holiday rituals of decorating the house demand that the captives of these airless prisons be released, if only for a few weeks of liberty.

Untangling strings of lights has been a holiday curse since at least the 1880s, when electric holiday lights first became available. But stringing lights is only the most physically challenging aspect of holiday commemorations. Opening drawers and boxes may be less taxing, but more rewarding to the psyche.

The architect and teacher Charles Moore once said that all houses are memory palaces. He meant the kind of generously proportioned houses he remembered from his own privileged childhood, places with coal cellars and wine cellars and acres of attics where seldom used objects were allowed to accumulate, waiting their cues for occasional domestic productions, like holiday decorating.

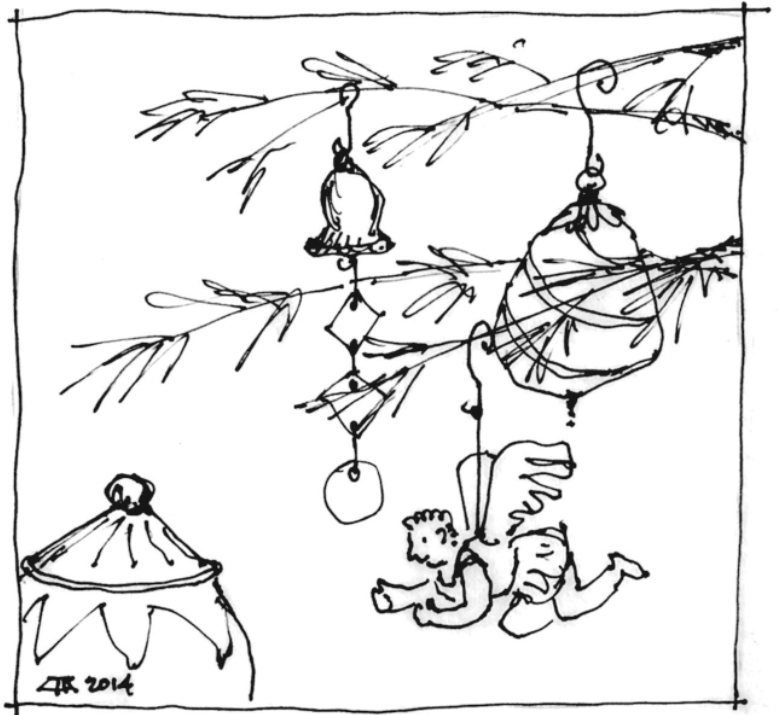
I have a basement and an attic, and a carriage house that's still full of boxes from my last move eight years ago. Like most Americans I've moved around quite a bit. Unlike their son, my parents stayed put, dwelling in the same house, accumulating objects and memories, for more than half a century.

I have most of those things now and I see many of them only during the holiday season. There's an early 1900s tree stand with a very Victorian Santa lithographed on it. There are large serving pieces from the long tables of lace-curtained houses that at least five generations of us have lived in.

The ornaments for the tree form a collection reaching back into the 19th century. The oldest ornament is also the most diminutive, a two inch tall angel made of beaded silver wire with a round celluloid head.

He reappears from the first week of December until Epiphany, then flies away again to the case he normally dwells in. Some things are blown glass, some are lacquered paper, some clay bisque, simple shapes, complex things, some as elaborate as baroque gems, enough for a cascade that nearly obliterates the tree beneath them. There are even a few clip-on candleholders from pre-electric trees.

The built-in china closet in my house is full of things I never use but can't imagine parting with. A great-grandmother's china, silver that never touches a tabletop



any more, even a large shell-shaped porcelain lobster dish, complete with a gilded crustacean for a handle. It is the most surreal thing in the house. I'd have to invite Salvador Dali or Elsa Schiaparelli over for a fully appreciative audience.

When I think in Italian I remember that everything has gender, no matter how inanimate. The things that we live with take on their own lives over generations. All Soul's Day is in November, but it has a recurrence in December houses.

- Michael Guarino



Dec. 5th from 6 pm - 10 pm
Dec. 6th from 10 am - 6 pm

Mockingbird

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Growing Pains

With the SA2020 initiative, the City has set a goal to add 7,500 new residential units downtown. Already built are Cevallos Lofts and 1010 S. Flores. Currently under construction are the Elan Riverwalk apartments and the Big Tex apartments, both which have 350 units. In the planning stages are a 150-unit apartment complex located on "the slab" next to La Tuna Restaurant and a project on Cedar Street with 12 units and 5 units.

The Cedar Street Townhouses are being developed by Steve Yndo, with Jim Bailey of Alamo Architects. In order to accomplish the project, the Children's Shelter would be demolished. After presenting their plan to the KWA Board several times, the number of units was reduced and the configuration of the site plan was rearranged to reduce the visual impact on adjoining neighbors. The KWA Board approved the concept and zoning changes at its June 18 meeting. Currently, the zoning for the two of the lots is MF 33 (multi-family with maximum of 33 units); the other lot is zoned RM4, so no zoning change is required to accommodate the proposed 5 unit structure. Yndo will be changing the zoning of 133 Cedar to IDZ – with residential uses, specifically tied to the site plan. Zoning for 311 Pereida will go from MF-33 to RM-4 (single-family dwelling). Yndo, KWA and SAISD are working together to try and move the Solon Stewart House from 114 Cedar to 311 Pereida. The KWA Board, using the KWA charter and mission as guidelines, approved the change in use of the Children's Shelter property (from commercial to residential) and putting a single-family house on the vacant lot at 311 Pereida.

The zoning change request went to the Zoning Commission on November 4, where it was postponed to allow District 1 Zoning Commissioner Marianna Ornelas the opportunity to visit the site and better understand the case. The case was approved by the Zoning Commission on November 18. Yndo and Bailey will continue to work with the KWA Board and neighbors regarding the project's design, and must go before HDRC for final design approval. The units will be designed to have two parking spaces each.

With increased density there will be more pedestrians, dog walkers, traffic, and bicyclists, which means we have a thriving, vibrant community. Let us all use common courtesy and respect as we connect in the neighborhood, keeping King William a great place to live.

- Cherise Bell

SAPD Central SAFFE

Unit Contact Info Main office: 207-7413

KW SAFFE Officers on patrol:

Officer Robert Esquivel

Officer David McCall

Tel: 207-7413

Tel: 207-7413

Saturday December 6, 2014



Happy Birthday, Andrea and Joe

Andrea Benito Ayala will be 92 years old on December 1. Andrea and her husband Gilbert bought their house on W. Guenther Street soon after World War II and joined the King William Association in 1970. Andrea and her son David are a welcome sight whenever they are able to attend Association meetings and socials.

Little Brother Joe Benito will be only 80 years old on December 2, so we see his smiling face more often at meetings. Joe lives next door to Andrea on W. Guenther, and served three years on the KWA Board in the 1990s.

Happy Birthday to two sweet neighbors, quietly keeping King William a good place to live.

- Roselyn Cogburn

Clarification

October newsletter, "2014 KWA Grant Award Recipients" article, page 10: The first sentence of the last paragraph should have read: "A contribution will also be made to the King William Association Endowed Scholarship at Alamo Colleges in the amount of \$15,000 in the 2015 KWA budget year."

Savoring Southtown

with Kristin and Patrick

We return for our second edition of “Savoring Southtown” with a restaurant that we’d review every month, if we could. Since moving to San Antonio three years ago, Feast has been one of our favorite places. Nevertheless, we’ll do our best to remain unbiased. (Even your favorite haunt can slip up or loosen its standards.)

Keeping the strictest journalistic standards in mind, Feast is still the bee’s knees. We sat inside on a chilly evening, puzzling over pieces of the funky decor. Feast is certainly loud inside, but that’s just a good reason to scoot in closer to your dining partner.

We kicked off our meal with selections from the royalty-themed house cocktail menu, usually a good bet for a strong start. The wine list is adequate, and the beer list has introduced us to some new gems, while also steadfastly offering Lone Star (more properly drunk down the street at Bar America).

Feast’s seasonal menu means that this review may lose some relevance in a few months, but it also shows off the care and creativity of chef Stefan Bowers and his team. An off-menu item for the evening featured purple sweet potato gnocchi and chanterelle mushrooms with an inky black sabayon, just in time for Halloween.

We started with a well-balanced asparagus dish with egg and hazelnut. Next, we ordered the mussels, which

wowed us with a slightly spicy cilantro sauce, and followed with the gnocchi. Unsure whether to sample another savory dish or try dessert, we compromised with the corn fritters, cake-like nuggets served with a jalapeno cream cheese. (We also highly suggest the mac and cheese with chorizo oil breadcrumbs as an alternative knock-out punch.)

Finally, a word about Feast’s future.

As reported in the Express-News, the restaurant’s owner Andrew Goodman is involved in a lease dispute with the landlord. The issue appears headed to court. In the meantime, Goodman has purchased old Fire Station #7 at 604 S. Alamo, initially as a future home for Feast. Now, Goodman may have other plans for the old station. It would be a shame to lose Feast, but if it really isn’t long for this Earth, head there soon. And trust us on the mac and cheese.



- Kristin Krenz and Patrick Steck



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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.

Raccoon Hunting on the San Antonio River

King William neighbors, particularly those living near the river, often see wild creatures roaming about – opossums, snakes, raccoons and skunks. A hundred years ago, wildlife was even more abundant. This c. 1903 photo shows August Zuercher and his family posed on the bank of the San Antonio River proudly displaying the results of a raccoon hunt. August is in the foreground with his gun, his wife Kate and daughter, Augusta in the boat and sons Emil and William are minding the dogs. This photo was likely taken about 1903 behind their house, which once stood at 923 E. Guenther Street.



The Zuercher house, along with dozens of others, were demolished in the mid-1970s to make room for a new high school building which would replace the old Brackenridge High School. The new school would be named Phillis Wheatley High School.

The old Brackenridge High School, designed by Alfred Giles, was built in 1916. When the old school was demolished, the Zuercher house, along with all the houses in the 900 block of E. Guenther were razed as well as houses on the last block of Wickes, Adams, Mission and Cedar. In addition, all of the houses on Marne St. were destined for demolition.

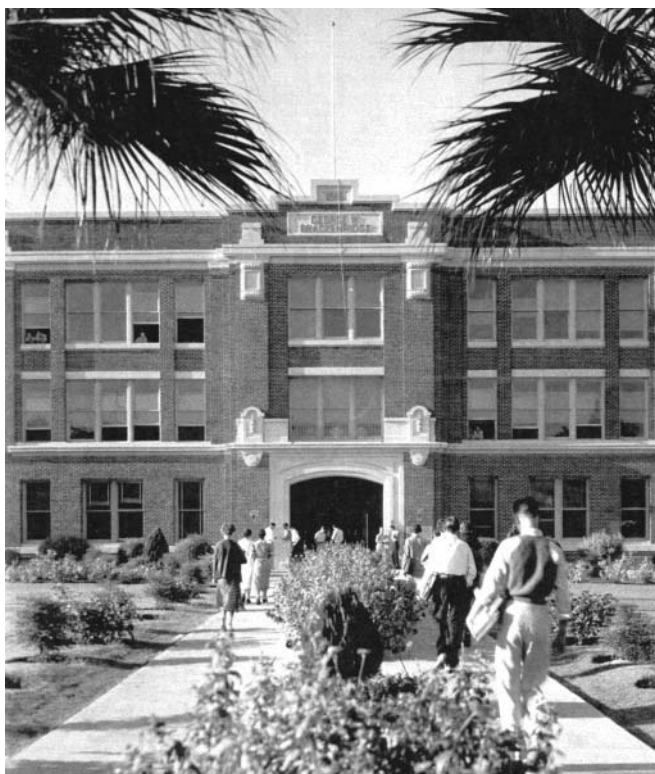
The March 24, 1972 edition of the *San Antonio Light* reported that “The San Antonio School District has purchased another site in the Brackenridge area for the new Wheatley campus. The newest acquisition is at 319 Marne,

bringing the total of sites purchased to date to 37. The remaining 19 sites needed for the campus have had condemnation suits brought against their owners.”

Marne St. was one block southeast and parallel to Temple Street (now Eagleland) running from S. St. Mary’s to E. Guenther. Marne St. no longer exists, as it was incorporated into the school campus. In 1988, amid much controversy, the school was renamed Brackenridge High School.

The Zuercher’s house on E. Guenther was not their first

home in the neighborhood. In 1883, August Zuercher, a butcher, bought a lot at the corner of Pereida and Mission Streets from developers B.F. and Adalina Dane for \$400. Their house, numbered 402 Pereida, was built soon thereafter, and August, his wife Kate, daughter Augusta and infant son William moved into their new home. About five years later, their son Emil was born. They lived in their house on Pereida for about twenty years before moving to their new house at 923 E. Guenther. The Pereida house remained in the family as rental property until 1928, when it was sold by the Zuercher heirs.



Brackenridge High School c. 1970

- Bill Cogburn

Sources: Mary Burkholder’s *Down the Acequia Madre*; SAPL Texana Room; *San Antonio Light*; photos courtesy of UTSA Library Special Collections.

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SARA's Goals - Measuring Up

To improve watershed health and safety, the San Antonio River Authority (SARA) has partnered with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide up-to-date flood hazard information and risk assessment tools. The program, known as "Risk MAP," sets out to deliver high-quality flood risk data, increase awareness of these risks, promote community mitigation action plans, and reduce risk to lives and property. Risk MAP builds upon the established National Flood Insurance Program maps, and combines other data sources to assist communities with an understanding of their comprehensive flood risks.

Risk MAP is an acronym for Risk Mapping, Assessment, and Planning. Through mapping, general public users will be better able to understand flood risks by visualizing flood depths, water surface elevations, and stream velocities. The user will also be able to interpolate the annual chance for flooding and visualize the percent chance of flooding on an annual basis, as well as a 30-year period. In visualizing the flood-prone areas and identified hazards, local, state and federal data will be used to develop plans to mitigate the community's flood risk.

The current Risk MAP study areas include the Upper San Antonio River, Medina River, Cibolo Creek and Lower San Antonio River Watersheds. Over the course of approximately five years, each watershed will be studied. The goal for SARA's current fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, is to host an open house for the Upper San Antonio Watershed followed by a series of community meetings. Also, to conduct on the Medina Watershed a discovery close-out meeting, followed by community review meetings and resiliency meetings. The overall goals of these community meetings are to receive input and create an overall increased understanding and value of the Risk MAP products to the community.

If you would like more information on Risk MAP, visit sara-tx.org, or call John Refolo, GIS Project Administrator at (210) 302-3277, or toll free at (866) 345-7272.



SAN ANTONIO
RIVER AUTHORITY
Water Brings Us Together

- Gloria Rivera Rodriguez
Community Relations Specialist

City of San Antonio Historic Design Guidelines

General Principles for Exterior Maintenance and Alterations

Principle 1: Routine Maintenance is Essential for Preservation

With proper maintenance, most historic buildings can last for centuries. Poorly functioning gutters, downspouts, and flashing, standing water at foundations; water splashing onto walls from the surrounding hard surfaces; and water-entrapping vegetation such as vines and shrubs on or near walls and foundations can all contribute to the deterioration of historic structures. Each of these issues can be prevented or corrected through proper maintenance.

Principle 2: Preservation of Features in Place is Preferred Over Replacement

Maintaining and repairing features is preferred over replacing features as to maintain the high-quality materials, character, and embodied energy of historic buildings and to

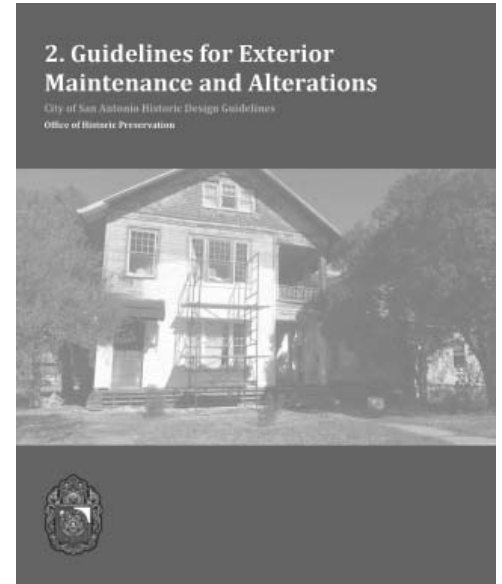
reduce the amount of waste that goes to a landfill. However, if features are deteriorated beyond repair (more than 50%), in-kind replacement using new components that match the original in form, finish, and materials is favored while replacement with comparable substitutes will be considered.

Principle 3: More Flexibility in Treatment and/or Replacement May be Considered in Locations Not Visible from the Public Right-of-Way

Building features not visible from the public right-of-way are less likely to detract from the character of the structure or district. More flexibility in the treatment and/or replacement of features in these locations may be considered if the historic integrity of the structure has already been lost or compromised and/or other unique circumstances exist that warrant con-

sideration of a more flexible approach. However, the OHP will review proposed alterations on a case-by-case basis to determine whether they are appropriate.

Source: sanantonio.gov/historic/HistoricDistrictGuidelines.aspx



KWA Holiday Social

Wednesday, December 3 • 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
King William Garden House
732 S. St. Mary's (next to El Mirador)


Everyone welcome!

KWA will provide the main course, appetizers and beverages. Neighbors are asked to bring a side dish or dessert, following this system:

- ★ If your last name ends with A-N, please bring a side dish.
- ★ If your last name ends with O-Z, please bring a dessert.

Live instrumental guitar by King William neighbor Matthew Rose.

We will also be unveiling the 2015 King William Fair medal!



Cocoa Women's Half Marathon
Sunday, January 18, 2015

The local producers of the Third Annual Cocoa Women's Half Marathon want to thank King William neighbors for allowing their charity run to take place in the neighborhood.

To show their gratitude (because the runs do cause an inconvenience) any woman residing in King William can sign up for the half marathon/relay for FREE! Just email them through www.cocoahalf.com/contact/.

Please come out and welcome the women runners from all over the country with our warm King William spirit and hospitality.

New Book Club Forming in the 'Hood!

If you are interested in joining, contact: Annice Hill at HillA3@uthscsa.edu or Suzan Lambillotte at suzanlambillotte@hotmail.com



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15% off
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All offers good through January 31, 2015. Must call ahead to schedule all services, classes or appointments.

Bonham Academy News

It was a brisk afternoon on Veteran's Day this year. Since our campus is under construction, we do not have access to our indoor venues. The Veteran's Day program was conducted on the front steps of Bonham Academy, just as it was in the old days. The Bonham Bobcat band played patriotic songs and our national anthem. Kindergarteners wore their paper army hats and presented a program to honor our veterans. The cool fall wind blew across the crowd. Thank you to all of our veterans.

That evening, the program was inside and, during the PTA meeting the construction architect and contractor presented information regarding the future of Bonham Academy. Our kindergarten students presented their program again. Our own Ms. Hlebik, who was featured in the newspaper this past week, reminded us of the sacrifices our service men and women give for our country. It is our community that makes Bonham a special school - the neighborhoods, the parents, the teachers and the children working together.

We are entering the holiday season and moving towards winter. It is a special time of year to enjoy more time together as a family. Families

read together, visit friends and relatives and reflect on the many things they appreciate. November and December are very short months, as far as school goes. Please spend this holiday time wisely and well. Keep reading with your children and stay connected with their schoolwork. The job for students is to do their best to promote their own learning, while their parents support them.

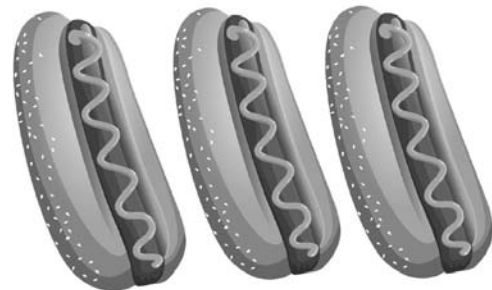
The Miracle on 34th Street reenactment will occur again this year the week of December 8. Please reassure any disenchanted children that this is a reenactment, and we will not imprison Santa Claus nor hold hostage any holiday. The trial is set for December 13, at the Federal Courthouse. Families are welcome to attend. Families are always welcome as an integral part of schools.

- Will Webber

Principal, Bonham Academy



**Bonham
Bobcats**



Frank Restaurant – Not Your Run-of-the- Mill Hot Dog Place

The KWA executive committee, along with Cherise Bell and Mike Casey, enjoyed a delightful Sunday brunch at Frank Restaurant in Austin in November. The owners plan to open a Frank next April in the former church on S. Alamo and Wickes Streets.

They have done their homework on the King William District, and their goal is to become good neighbors. At their invitation, we sampled their excellent food and enjoyed the company of their families. It was fun, and I left feeling as if they were already old friends. I am eager to put out the welcome mat. I hope you will, too.

- Nora Peterson



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Frankie and Elisabeth get their Wings

SAY Sí's ALAS Youth Theatre Company Reimagines a Holiday Classic – with a Rock 'n' Roll Twist!

SAY Sí's ALAS Youth Theatre Company revisits its original rendition of the classic film "It's a Wonderful Life" on Dec. 12-14. The Theatre Company's new and youthful adaptation, "Frankie and Elisabeth Get Their Wings," shares the original message of this yuletide story - with a rock 'n' roll twist. Incorporating live and original rock music accompaniment, this original production is complete with unforgettable characters, plenty of laughs and more than a few heart-warming moments.

Set in a typical San Antonio neighborhood, "Frankie and Elisabeth Get Their Wings" follows Elisabeth, a high school senior who dedicates much of her young life to serving her community and preparing for a successful college career. For the past few years she has volunteered at the annual food and clothing drive at the local community center. This year, however, things are not going as planned. As she coordinates the drive, hope is on short supply when the holidays are potentially ruined for hundreds of families. Instead of spreading peace and harmony, Elisabeth is feeling lost and confused. But with the help of Frankie, a teenage angel looking to get her wings, Elisabeth discovers that we are all unique and special gifts to the world.

- Stephen Guzman



Performances:

Friday, December 12 - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, December 13 - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14 - 3:00 p.m.

FREE for youth under 18

\$10 for adults

\$8 for San Antonio Theatre Coalition
members



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S. Alamo Street Opens - Finally!

On Saturday, November 1 - to the tremendous relief of residents and businesses - the S. Alamo St. bridge was re-opened. Despite the unseasonal chill, a convivial crowd was on hand for the ribbon-cutting and parade, thrilled to see the end of two years' worth of construction that included drainage improvements, utilities updating and various enhancements for pedestrians and traffic flow.



KWA President Harry Shafer (at podium) addresses the crowd of neighbors eager for the street to be open.



Dist. 1 Councilman Diego Bernal (left) and Dist. 5 Councilwoman Shirley Gonzalez, assisted by County Commissioner Tommy Adkisson, prepare to cut the official ribbon.



Belinda Molina, Luz and Ed Day, and Patty Garcia Duarte were among the many neighbors enjoying the beautiful (but chilly) morning.



Alan Cash (from left), Michael Guarino and Diego Bernal.



The Mayor of King William, Mike Casey, led the parade across the bridge to the Blue Star Arts Complex.



A trio of Blue Star shopkeepers, thankful for the renewed public access to their businesses (from left): Laura Thornton of Blue Star Bike Shop, Leigh Anne Lester of San Angel Folk Art and Denise McCoy of Robert Hughes Gallery.

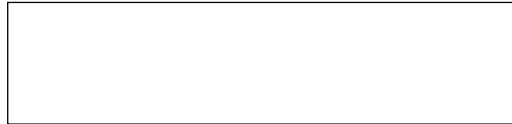


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December

- 3 Holiday Social - King William Garden House -
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- 6 Home Tour - 11:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
- 7 Rock 'n' Roll Marathon
- 17 KWA Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 24-26 KWA Office closed
- 31 KWA Office closed

Note: There will be no newsletter or general meeting in January.

January

- 1-2 KWA Office closed
- 13 Deadline for submissions for February newsletter
- 18 Cocoa Run
- 21 KWA Board Meeting - 6:30 p.m.