



October Is Archeology Month

October is celebrated annually as Texas Archaeology Month (TAM). The Texas Historical Commission recognizes the month as an opportunity to rejoice in “the spirit of discovery,” and events are held throughout the state. San Antonio will be hosting some of the most exciting TAM activities, and you are cordially invited to attend.

Archaeology Symposium, Witte Museum

October 11, 8:00 a.m. – 12 noon

As part of Archaeology Day at the Witte Museum we invite you to join archaeology scholars, professionals and practitioners from the Brackenridge Park Conservancy, the City of San Antonio Office of Historic Preservation, UTSA Center for Archaeological Research, Texas State University Center for Archaeological Studies, and the Witte Museum for a mini-conference on recent Texas field work, featuring several sites adjacent to the San Antonio River. The morning will provide presentation topics exploring Texas prehistory, colonial, nautical, and industrial temporal periods.

Artifact Identification and Family Day, Witte Museum

October 11, 12 noon – 4:00 p.m.

Plot! Dig! Sift! Preserve. Have you ever daydreamed of discovering a dinosaur or digging up long forgotten objects of the past? Now you can! Join us for hands-on archaeological activities designed to give students and families a glimpse into the past and discover the many aspects of archaeology, including the science behind it all. What happens after the artifacts are found? Visit the B. Naylor Morton Research and Collections Center to find out how artifacts are cared for after they are discovered and how you can care for your own discoveries.

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Fall Social / National Night Out Let's Give Neighborhood Crime a Going-Away Party! Tuesday, October 7, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Commander's House

This year we will celebrate the KWA Fall Social and National Night Out (NNO) at the Commander's House, 645 S. Main Ave. NNO is a nationwide event for citizens across America to send a powerful message about neighborhood unity, awareness, safety and police-community partnerships.



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The KWA will provide a main dish, drinks and paper goods. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share with neighbors and friends.

Opening ceremony at 6:15 p.m.: Children's Parade, followed by flag ceremony by Cub Scouts Pack 765 and guest speaker (TBA).

Activities

- Visits from local law enforcement agencies, fire department, local city officials and mascots
- Contests and prizes – “Spot the Burglar” and Neighborhood Bingo

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

by Harry Shafer

When approached to be president of the KWA, my first reaction was to pass up the candidacy because of a heavy workload. After talking it over with my wife Molly and KWA staff, however, I decided to accept the opportunity to preside over the KWA Board and operations. I approach the position with no preconceived agenda, but look to assist in meeting the challenges that will occur and to help guide the association forward with regards to neighborhood needs. I am a past Board member and served on the Executive Committee under president Brad Shaw, and have been on the Finance Committee for six years. I also bring the experience of serving on the CoSA Historic Design and Review Committee for the past five years. Presiding over a non-profit is not a new experience for me, so I feel qualified to meet the challenges.

The businesses along S. Alamo and S. St. Mary's are part of the neighborhood and should be included in our conversations about issues of mutual concern. Proximity to downtown and tourism bring with them many visitors who enjoy the historic neighborhood ambiance as we do. We are part of the city of San Antonio, and need to work in partnership with the city on issues that impact our neighborhood.

I did learn that the position starts immediately upon election. Cherise and I have met with Councilman Diego Bernal regarding the issues of parking and amplified music on the weekends and First Friday. Bernal has directed some action for a traffic study and has taken the music problem under advisement. First Friday is always an issue because no one "owns" it and takes responsibility. It just happens, and there are no amenities to accommodate the crowds. Crime is a major concern for us too, but petty crime has always occurred in the neighborhood, albeit seemingly in peaks and valleys. I think the increased awareness and reporting is due, in part, to the enhanced communication via Nextdoor King William, a private social network for neighbors (not managed by the KWA). Our SAFFE Officer McCall is working closely with the KWA, and is responsive to calls and concerns. The best deterrent, however, is our own vigilance and common sense.

We have an excellent board. The Executive Committee, consisting of Vice Chair Annice Hill, Secretary Nora Peterson and Treasurer Chris Price, will provide leadership. In addition, with the expertise of our Executive Director Cherise Bell, and Administrative Assistant Monica Perez-Moad, Fair Manager Zet Baer and Fair Coordinator Carol Jackson, the Association is in good shape for another successful year. I am looking forward to working with this team.

Congratulations to Zet Baer

Based on her years of experience, dedication to King William and continual improvement of the Fair, the KWA Board has promoted Zet Baer from Fair Coordinator to Fair Manager.

KWA thanks Zet for all her hard and successful work!



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.

KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

kingwilliamassociation.org
kwfair.org
kingwilliamculturalartsdistrict.com

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SAY Sí Fall Happenings

On Friday, October 3, SAY Sí and UTSA will present “SERIE, a Serie Project Retrospective,” an exhibition of 100+ Serie Project artworks never before displayed from the private collection of Drs. Ricardo and Harriett Romo.

The Serie Project, which started in 1993 by the late artist and teacher Sam Coronado, allows underrepresented artists to benefit from collaboration and learn the “serigraphy” technique. In the last two decades the organization has fostered over 250 artists from different professional levels and ethnic backgrounds. Similarly, SAY Sí, San Antonio’s premier youth arts organization, acts as an incubator for emerging middle and high school artists.

“SAY Sí is an educational treasure in our city,” says Dr. Ricardo Romo. “Harriett and I are proud to be one of their many padrinos in their endeavors. We began collecting Serie prints 20 years ago and are pleased that today these prints will be in exhibit for the first time in San Antonio. We are proud to donate this collection of prints for the purpose of supporting college scholarships for talented SAY Sí graduates.”

SAY Sí’s gallery spaces will be transformed by prints from 74 Serie Project artists representing an array of unique creative perspectives and techniques.

“We are extremely grateful for the generous artwork donation and ongoing commitment of Harriett and Ricardo Romo,” says SAY Sí Artistic | Executive Director, Jon Hinojosa. “It is a true honor to celebrate the life of Sam Coronado and his work through the Serie Project. With all artwork proceeds going toward SAY Sí students, his legacy will continue to touch emerging Latino artists.”

SERIE: A Serie Project Retrospective
First Friday Reception: October 3 – 6-9 pm
Exhibition runs through October 24

SAY Sí’s 8th Annual Muertitos Fest

SAY Sí presents San Antonio’s most comprehensive Día de los Muertos Celebration on October 30-November 1 with its 8th Annual Muertitos Fest. This event celebrates the tradition that ties our city to Mexico, and commemorates the rich Mexican-American culture of San Antonio with local artists, folk art exhibits, altars to honor the deceased, family art workshops, food booths, artisan stalls, live music and dance performances. SAY Sí’s Muertito’s Fest provides a special aspect to our city’s Día De Los Muertos celebrations by providing an educational context to festivities.

The Muertitos Fest Fiesta Fundraiser will kick off the festival on Thursday, October 30 from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. This night will be filled with regional Mexican delicacies, live music, student and artisan work, and the tradition of Lotería

(Mexican Bingo) games with local celebrity callers. Muertitos Fest Friday (a free community event) will take place on Oct. 31, and will feature exhibits, altars, food and artisan booths, and live music and dance performances. It all culminates with Muertitos Fest Family Day, a free, family-focused, hands-on art event that takes place from noon to 3:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 1!

For additional information visit www.saysi.org or call (210) 212-8666

- Stephen Guzman
Communications Manager

Archaeology Month

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Archaeology Day, Mission San Jose
October 18, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Mission San José will host free hands-on activities, exhibits and demonstrations for the whole family. Activities will emphasize techniques, information learned from digs and artifacts found at the missions, importance of preservation, and future archeology planned for the park.

Co-sponsors are the UTSA’s Institute of Texan Cultures and Legacy Program, Southern Texas Archeological Association, San Antonio Museum of Art, San Antonio Office of Historical Preservation, Texas Historical Commission’s Casa Navarro, San Antonio River Authority, and Southwest Texas Archeology Society, as part of Texas Archeology month.

- Matthew T. Elverson, M.A., R.P.A.
Assistant City Archaeologist

Fall KWA Social / National Night Out

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- Children’s Area – Child ID fingerprinting, face painting, bicycle race and games
- Live Art – community artists will be painting a scene “live” from our event!

For more information, contact Patty, NNO Chair at (210) 227-8786, or Gloria, Recreation Supervisor, Commander’s House at (210) 207-3011.

- Patty Garcia Duarte

Sweet, Sweet South Flores Street

Just think of it! Three of San Antonio's major candy factories were once located right here in our neighborhood, all within a few blocks of each other.

Duerler Candy Factory, 114 Camp Street at S. Flores



In 1849, John Jacob Duerler and his family emigrated from Switzerland. Their son Gustav attended local schools and apprenticed in the printing

trade until the Civil War interrupted his career. After his Confederate service, he started a candy factory in the rear of his small house in La Villita. By 1926, his growing business allowed him to build a six story building on Camp Street to house his candy manufacturing and pecan shelling company. The business remained in the family until 1937 when the factory building was taken over by aerial mapping pioneers, Tobin Surveys, Inc.

In 2001, the late San Antonio art patron, artist and philanthropist, Linda Pace, bought the building and turned it into urban living spaces, which spurred further development along S. Flores Street. Included in the complex is a beautiful urban park across the street, CHRISpark, which honors the life of Linda Pace's son, Christopher.

Judson Candy Company, 831 S. Flores Street

Above the front door of the Judson Candy Company building is inscribed, "1899 – JENNER MFG. CO. – 1912."

Candy maker E. J. Jenner started his company in 1899, producing peanut brittle, hard stick candy and five-cent fudge bars. When J. W. Judson bought into the business in 1910, he added jelly and crème filled hard candies, fruit drops, orange slices and jelly beans to the company's inventory. A relentless experimenter, Judson stumbled upon what would become a bestseller when he created the first "sour" while attempting to tart up the Judson jelly bean.

Judson's four sons acquired full ownership of the company in 1941, and in 1945, they changed the name to Judson Candy Company. It continued to be operated by Judson family members, and, for many years, was a destination for countless field trips where San Antonio school kids were given a tour of the factory and free candy samples. Jeff Judson fondly remembers when his father George brought samples home for him to try out. "It was the closest thing we had to Willy Wonka in San Antonio," he said.

At its peak, the company made 100 different candies and employed 125 people. In 1983, the 84-year-old company closed its doors and was later bought by Atkinson Candy Co. The factory building was eventually redeveloped as trendy condos.



Joykist Candy Company, 641 S. Flores Street

Joykist Candy Company was started by Eugene Lewenthal in the early 1930s. In 1936, his nephew, Sam Nelson, dropped out of St. Mary's University to assist his Uncle Eugene and Aunt Anna Lewenthal in their small but growing candy business. Lewenthal's candy factory occupied three small historic buildings on E. Nueva Street between S. Alamo and Presa Streets, just south of La Villita.



In 1942, Nelson was drafted into the army, but returned to San Antonio after the war and resumed working at Joykist. When the city decided to enlarge La Villita in the mid-1960s as part of the Urban Renewal Project, the buildings fronting on Nueva Street were bought by the city, the Joykist buildings among them. Nueva Street then became the new southern boundary of the expanded La Villita complex.

Having been displaced after nearly 35 years in their old location, Joykist moved its operation to 641 S. Flores. After Nelson's uncle and aunt passed away, he became president of the company that would eventually become one of the largest wholesale distributors to convenience and grocery stores in South Texas. In the 1970s, Ricos Products Company, the famous nacho cheese concessionaire, took over the building.

After serving as a home to the food industry for several decades, the Joykist building was recently purchased by HEB, where they plan to operate their school of culinary arts and also house their expanded test kitchens.

-Bill Cogburn

Source: John Tedesco, San Antonio E-N; SAPL Texana Room; Fred Mosbach, Old Timers Recall La Villita.

Maintain Historic Wood Windows

You may have seen the flyers posted illegally around the neighborhood for free installation of new windows.

Maintaining your existing historic wood windows is an important part of historic preservation and owning property in a National Register Historic District. The size, shape and pane pattern of your historic windows help identify the style and era your home was built. Properly maintained wood windows are efficient and sustainable. See the City of San Antonio's Historic Design Guidelines on how to increase energy efficiency in your house.

Anna Mary Shirkus

Anna Mary Shirkus, who lived on Wickes and Crofton Streets since 2003, died peacefully at home on August 11, eleven days after her 98th birthday. Her daughter, Lorraine Shirkus Moore, is a longtime resident of King William.

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Of Creed or Color?

I have received several inquiries from neighbors regarding repainting of buildings within the historic district. For the record, please note that colors are administratively approved by the Office of Historic Preservation staff, as the City of San Antonio Historic Design Guidelines do not address paint color.

As a professional architectural historian, I have to admit I am conflicted regarding exterior paint color for historic properties. In San Antonio, most house facades were painted white before and during the Victorian Era. Color was only used on trim, due to the high cost of colored paint. My own Folk Victorian Style house, built in 1904 and designated as an individual historic landmark, is painted brown with red and purple trim as accent colors. My paint has dark, muddy colors, close to colors that would have been available during the Victorian Era but realistically would not have been used on such a modest house. Most of my neighbors on my two-block street have white facades, and only their trim woodwork is painted a different color. My neighbors' houses - some historically designated, some not - more accurately reflect the historic color palette available in San Antonio during the era in which our houses were constructed than my own house.

Throughout the nation, preservationists have embraced the practice of "Don't faint, it's just paint." Even in San Antonio, the only historic district that specifically prohibits color in its design guidelines is Government Hill. When a house's exterior walls were painted all black, the neighbors decided this was an inappropriate color and stated that in their guidelines.

In the 1970s, "colorists" in San Francisco began painting Victorian houses in light pastel colors. Pastels

are not historic colors, as they were not produced in the late 1880s because color processing techniques used to make paint were not yet available. Many people do not know this fact and try to emulate the "painted ladies," perpetuating a false record of history.

Historic guidelines in Grapevine, Texas state: "The paint colors selected for a historic building will greatly contribute to the historic character of the building and surrounding historic district, and as such should reflect the historical age, period and style of a building, accentuate the architectural features of the design, and represent the current owner's taste. This method of selecting colors and locations of colors does not mean that every house or building in a historic district or of a particular period or style should be painted the same color. There is a wide range of attractive colors, which may be combined in hundreds of ways to provide for individuality with overall continuity."

Having contemplated the issue, I believe each historic property has a specific style and era in which it was constructed that dictated the color palette available at the time of construction, and it is that color palette that a historic property owner should be encouraged to use.

- Cherise Bell,

KWA Executive Director

SAPD Central SAFFE

Unit Contact Info

Main office: 207-7413

KW Officers on patrol:

SAFFE Officer David McCall

Tel: 207-7413

Officer Robert Esquivel

Office: 207-7413

Girls Inc. Offers Fall Programs

Girls Inc. of San Antonio has opened registration for fall programs, including G.I.R.L Academy After-School programs for K-9th grade girls and "Made with Code" party workshops.

Because we know how important good reading and comprehension skills are for future academic success, G.I.R.L Academy for K-3rd grade focuses on literacy. K-3rd grade girls will meet Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m., and costs \$60/semester.

For girls in 4th-9th grade, G.I.R.L Academy focuses on creating strong and healthy relationships with their peers, navigating messages they receive in the media, and developing the skills necessary to become the leaders of tomorrow. 4th-9th graders will meet on Wednesdays and Fridays from 3:30 - 6:30 p.m., and costs \$60/semester.

Girls Inc. and Google have partnered up to bring "Made with Code" for 12-18 year old girls. This interactive workshop is designed for girls who have never tried computer coding before but would like to explore a future in STEM careers. Workshops will be offered on Saturday mornings, and will be FREE.

For more information on these and many more programs to help inspire your girl to be strong, smart, and bold, please contact Sofia Gayou at sgayou@chshel.org, call the main Girls Inc. of San Antonio phone number at (210) 212-2510, or stop by our building 1209 S. St. Mary's Street.

- Sofia Gayou, Program Director

City Lights

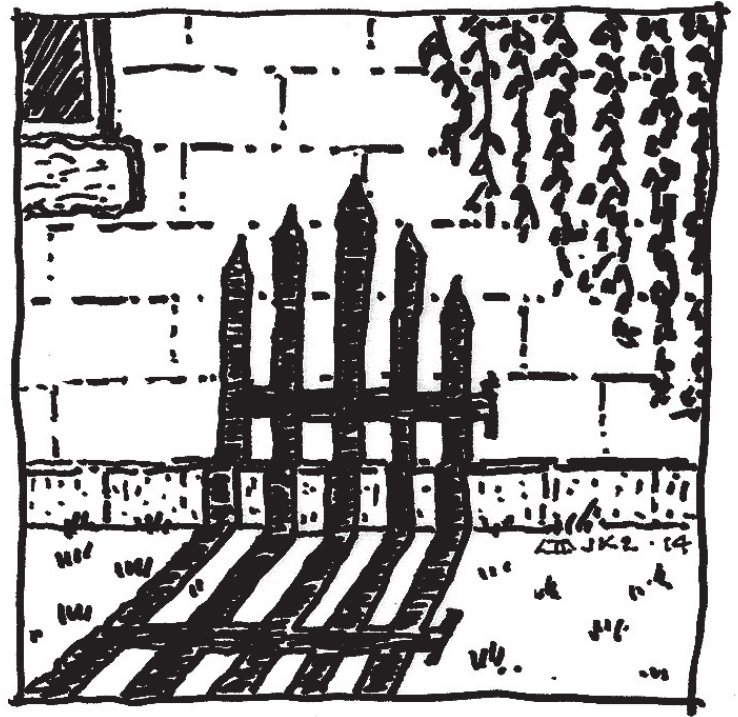
I came home and discovered that some vanished delivery man had left a package on my front porch, and nearly pulled my front gate off its hinges in the process. I love the orderly rank of pickets on my fence rails and their continued march across the gate. The notable sag produced by the separation at the top hinge made it look like a boxer who'd staggered back to his corner to recover from a decisive blow.

While I was screwing the hinge back in place a little breeze picked up – not quite a foretaste of fall, but enough of a reminder that Halloween is almost at hand. Looking at the gate I was reminded of the one-night-only sanctioned hooliganism that used to prevail in late 19th and early 20th century cities and towns on the night before Halloween.

This was Gate Night, and children and teenagers were allowed to roam the streets and roads looking for (and finding) mischief. The centerpiece of the anti-celebration was the building of a bonfire, fueled by gates from all the picket fences in the neighborhood.

Older children contributed doors, barrels, packing crates and the occasional outhouse. Halloween's eve was in every sense a diabolical evening. The custom seems to have died out, or been done away with by local ordinances by the 1930s, when the homeless were gleaning scrap wood for more purposeful campfires.

There is a vivid portrayal of Gate Night in Vincente Minnelli's film "Meet me in St. Louis." The child actress Margret O'Brian (who was famous for being able to cry on cue) is a participant in a virtual child-riot and the viewer's guide to the carnage. I saw the film as a boy with my mother and father who surprised me with knowing smirks growing into laughter. I thought the scene was very confusing. Where were the police? Where was the fire department? Where were everyone's disapproving parents? Was my utterly respectable jury-foreman father a delinquent? Well, he was. And my mother, too. They explained that they'd made a bonfire or two themselves, as did all their playmates and neighbors. Everyone



knew this was going to happen and prepared accordingly. If a homeowner was concerned about his gate, he simply took it off its hinges and stored it until the threat had passed.

Parents were usually lurking nearby with buckets of water in case things got out of hand. Tolerated misbehavior was viewed as a method of releasing social pressures on children and adolescents. Everyone knew the rules governing the lapse in order, and generally everyone knew how to play their part, straying just so far and no farther from more normative behavior.

This year I'll be waiting for the more than 600 trick-or-treaters I see at my gate every year. I might just put the gate in the basement for now.

- Michael Guarino



art provocateur
robert
rauschenberg

canyon 82" x 70" x 24"
oil, housepaint, pencil, paper, fabric,
metal, buttons, nails, cardboard,
printed paper, photographs, wood,
paint tubes, mirror, string, pillow
and bald eagle on canvas



thomas edison
1847 - 1931

To invent, you need a good imagination and a pile of junk.



Save the Date!
**King William
 Biennial Home Tour**
 Saturday, December 6, 2014
 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

To volunteer as a docent
 contact the KWA office
 at 227-8786 or
 email info@ourkwa.org

What is the Story of Our Ancient Acequias in San Antonio?



Children swimming in the Mission Espada acequia, 1947,
SA Express-News

The KWA Cultural Arts Committee is proud to sponsor a presentation about the acequias at a FREE event, open to the public of all ages.

Kay Hinds, City Archaeologist for San Antonio, has an encyclopedic knowledge of the Spanish Colonial Acequia System in San Antonio. Over the past several decades, she oversaw extensive archaeological investigations, including Main Plaza during restoration, Plaza de Armas, the Mission Trails, Museum Reach and the Linear Creekways projects.

Put this on your calendar: Saturday, October 4, 10:00 - 11:30 a.m., at the Commander's House, 645 S. Main.

- Nora Peterson

PAINT. DRINK. HAVE FUN.

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Rock 'n' Roll Marathon Notice

Sunday, December 7, the Rock 'n' Roll Marathon will be running through our streets. The route has changed from previous years. Participants will run south down King William Street, turn left on Guenther Street then left on Eagleland. Start time is 7:30 a.m. from the Alamodome.

Riverwalk Salon

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 WAXING - \$15 AND UP



123 Villita | For Appointments call:(210)227-4743. Walk-Ins Welcome!

OUT IN THE GARDEN

with Alan Cash

There is always something to do in the garden. This article has some tips for cooler weather gardening. Although some may be repeats from previous articles, is always good to be reminded.

October and November are good months to fertilize lawns, shrubs and trees to promote healthy roots systems for new growth next spring. With our usually warm South Texas winters, roots continue to grow even if the rest of the plant is dormant. Continue to feed outdoor container grown plants with a water-soluble fertilizer. Use organic fertilizers, which can be found at independent local nurseries.

Maintain mulch in flowerbeds and around shrubs and trees at a depth of three to five inches. It will protect roots from severe cold snaps and help retain soil moisture. Mulch decomposes at a rate of about one inch a year, so mulching is a continuing chore.

Late fall and early winter is a good time to plant trees. For large trees cedar elm is a good choice for one that loses its leaves in winter, and Monterrey Oak is a good evergreen. Both will grow up to about 40 feet and are long lived. Crepe myrtle is good for summer color in the garden. They lose their leaves in winter and grow to varying heights depending on the type. A free list of crepe myrtles is on the front porch of the KWA office.

October is the time to start planting cool-weather flowering plants. These include petunias, dianthus, ornamental cabbage and kale, phlox and Shasta daisies. Wait until late October or early November to plant pansies and violas.

Divide iris, phlox, daylilies and other perennials now. Plant half and give the other half to family, friends and neighbors.

Plant bulbs, such as narcissus, daffodils and paperwhites, that will bloom in the spring. Plant so that the top tip of the bulb is about four inches below the surface of the soil. They can be left in the ground to multiply over the years.

Put out birdbaths and feeders to help birds survive over the winter. With cooler weather, their natural food supply is not as plentiful. Maintaining birdbaths and feeders will keep the birds in your garden throughout the year, which can reduce the “bad” bug population.

Garden Note: In the hope of reaching the moon men fail to see the flowers that blossom at their feet. Albert Schweitzer.



King William Park Trees Get Extra TLC

The Parks and Recreation Department was quick to respond to reports of drought stress noticed on the younger trees in King William Park! Not having a current contact, Maria and Fred Pfeiffer wrote to the department’s director Xavier Urrutia, who took time to answer within several hours—and on a Sunday! Tree section manager Melinda Cerda and the new city forester Ross Hosea were right on the situation. Ross met Maria and Fred at the park and reviewed the situation. Extra watering was ordered immediately and by Tuesday tree bags were installed and all of the park trees mulched. Ross and his staff will continue to monitor the trees. He is also working with the Downtown Operations Department to water the stressed cypress trees in the park at Pancoast and Chavez. We appreciate all of the quick attention and hope it rains soon to take some of the load off the overworked Parks’ staff.

- Maria Pfeiffer



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A Family oriented tour of the Missions and the San Antonio River.
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2014 KWA Grant Award Recipients



Representatives from The Magik Theatre and Brackenridge High School accept their award from Grant Program Chair Beth Davis, far right, and Max Martinez, 2013-2014 KWA Board President, far left.



Representative from Jump Start accepts the award for their project at Bonham Academy.

The following 2014 KWA community grant awards were presented at the September 3 general meeting:

- Blue Star Contemporary Gallery – \$5,000 for the MOSAIC Program youth art gallery
- Bonham Academy PTA – \$15,000 for the ArtSmart program
- Cannoli Fund – \$2,000 for Community Cat Carpool, with goal to spay, neuter and vaccinate 100 cats in the neighborhood over one year
- Gemini Ink – \$4,000 for Creative Writing Workshop at Brackenridge High School
- Jump Start – \$5,000 for Historia y Cuentos at Bonham Academy
- Magik Theater – \$5,000 for Artist in Residency program at Brackenridge HS
- Page Middle School Band – \$5,200 for sets of band music,

reeds and valve oil, and SAISD bus transportation for performances

- Page Middle School Choir – \$6,000 for Choir Improvement Project
- SAY Sí – \$12,000 for Program Expansion and Growth: Middle and High School

This year's grants totaled \$59,200. The KWA is proud to support these excellent programs in our community! All grant recipients will provide reports on their projects, to be published in this newsletter.

A contribution was also made to the King William Association Endowed Scholarship at Alamo Colleges in the amount of \$15,000. The KWA was awarded over \$504,000 in community grants since 2001, thanks to the success of the annual King William Fair.

- Beth Davis, Grants Program Chair

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Bonham Academy News

So, have you heard all of the grumbling about the construction at Bonham Academy? Neither have I! In fact, everyone I've talked to seems impressed by the quick pace set so far by the general contractor in clearing the site, pouring foundations and even putting up some walls. The new theater building, by the way, is what you see taking shape already in gray cinder blocks close to the St. Mary's Street sidewalk. Principal William Webber, now in his second year at Bonham, says that if construction stays on track, "We should have our gym back and be in our newly renovated cafeteria for the new year, in January. The people who will be happiest are the food service workers, followed closely by the coaches." In the meantime, as reported here last month by Dina Toland, the gym is being used as a cafeteria, and PE classes are being held in a large repurposed foyer/hallway.

The new building is scheduled for completion next summer. It will house the theater, a computer lab, a science lab and music and art rooms, in addition to the middle school classrooms upstairs. But the work won't end then. From May to December 2015, the historic old building and its additions from 1910 and the 1990s will be completely renovated and modernized. So the portable classrooms and juggling of spaces to accommodate classes will remain a necessity through the end of that phase.

You might have noticed that the morning drop-off looks busier than ever. When access to the back of the school by way of a sidewalk easement from Cedar Street was closed this spring for site preparation, it meant that many neighbor-



Bonham Bobcats

hood children and more than a few commuters had to join the majority of families in coming to the front of the school on St. Mary's for morning drop off and afternoon pick up. A new rule has been put in place to keep everyone moving along St. Mary's: parents are no longer allowed to park in front briefly and walk their kids up to the school. The Safety Patrol, adult volunteers and parents have embraced the challenge; traffic still flows, and nearly all of the students are in the building on time. Somehow it all works.

And how is Bonham Academy, a SAISD charter school, doing academically? Mr. Webber reports, "In 2013, Bonham Academy met standards in all three areas assessed by the state and earned Distinction Designations in Reading and Student Progress. For 2014, Bonham Academy's accountability rating met standards in all four areas assessed by the state and earned Distinction Designations in four of the seven possible areas: Reading, Mathematics, Science and Student Progress."

Bonham is one of the district's bright spots. *Go Bobcats!*

- John Hartman



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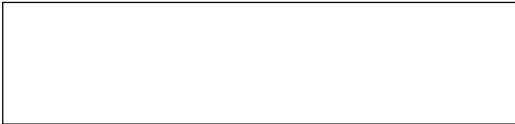


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October Calendar

- 4 The Spanish Colonial Acequia System in San Antonio - Commander's House - 10:00 - 11:30 a.m.
- 7 National Night Out / Fall Social - Commander's House - 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. - *Everyone welcome!*
- 14 Deadline for submissions for November newsletter
- 15 KWA Board of Directors Meeting - 6:30 p.m.
- 18 King William Neighborhood Yard Sale
- 31 Halloween!