



King William Association

Volume 12, No. 10

November 2016

## KWA to Provide a “First” to Celebrate a “Fiftieth”

The King William Association Home Tours and Fairs not only celebrate and preserve history, they have made

history as well. On Saturday, December 3 the KWA is going to kick-off a yearlong celebration for the 50th anniversary of its establishment in 1967 with a Holiday Home Tour and Fair.

KWA’s first home tour took place December 1967 with a tour of association president Ray Dobie’s home at 316 King William Street at a cost of \$1 per person. Thus began the association’s goal of working on a history of the homes’ occupants during years past as well as its activism on behalf of the area. That year the issue was streetlights and the slogan “Write for Light” to city hall.

The first King William Fair took place April 1968 during San Antonio’s Fiesta and HemisFair ‘68. This included a tour of some historic houses in the neighborhood. The Fair and Home Tours were held in April at the same time through 1988. That year, there was also a Candlelight Tour of Homes in November.

An item in the *San Antonio Light* on April 26, 1985 gives an apt description of our beloved community event:

“Welcome to the King William Fair, one of the most jumbled assortments of neighborhood characters and free-for-all fun. Fiesta has to offer. It starts tomorrow at 11 a.m. with a parade featuring queens in jeeps, a pretend king in a flatbed truck (if someone remembers to invite him), leaping dancers, antique cars and all children who



A view of the King William Fair as painted in watercolor by Caroline Shelton, 1977. This print is part of a larger folio depicting King William Street, created in the Japanese Makimona style and measuring 8 ½" X 10 ½" X 16'.

want to tag along.” The Fair was praised for its attitude as well as the array of art vendors and food booths. The home tour included inside views of seven historic houses.

In 1989 the Home Tour was moved to November and was no longer a part of the annual King William Fair. On some years KWA put on “Secret Gardens Tours.” The tour is now a biennial event. Proceeds from the Fair and home tours have helped to beautify the area, attract tourism, promote the arts, and support community programs through grants. KWA has become a model and inspiration for other historic neighborhoods.

Continued on page 9



# President's Message

by Chris Price

**T**hanks to all of you who have welcomed my leadership with open arms. I am excited and energized to embrace the task of leading this wonderful neighborhood association! I want to thank Harry Shafer for his strong leadership over the past two years. He has done an outstanding job in positioning the organization for the future.

I want to also take this opportunity to thank the members who have recently left the board: Anne Alexander, Annice Hill, Jessie Simpson, Patrick Conroy and Curtis Johnson. They have served our organization well and we appreciate their strong efforts.

Next, I want to thank the returning board members: Beth Davis, Patty Duarte, Josephine Garcia, Charlotte Luongo, Ethel Pedraza, Bradley Toland and Christine Viña. In addition, I would like to welcome all the new board members: Shawn Campbell, Gretchen Kragh, Erich Landry, Monika Maeckle, Betsy Schultz, Brad Shaw and Amanda Strickland. I thank you all for your commitment to our organization, and I am excited to work with you over the next year to lead this organization.

My vision for this year's board is to develop a strong cohesive organization, building upon the accomplishments of our previous boards, that will lead the King William Association into the next phase. Change is inevitable for our neighborhood as Southtown becomes a more and more desirable place to live. Stopping change is not realistic and counterproductive. My goal is to navigate our organization through these changes, being proactive, not reactive, in managing our growth, so that we can remain the desired neighborhood that we all loved when we moved here.

All the best!!

## King William Receives Centropolitan Awards

**E**ach year, Centro San Antonio recognizes those who have made a significant contribution to downtown with the "Downtown's BEST" Awards. Initiated in 2001, the awards are divided among multiple categories that celebrate people, organizations and places that support downtown San Antonio. The BEST Awards Program is a juried event and awards are presented at an annual program.

Based on our partnership with the City on transit issues, KWA nominated the City Center Development Office (CCDO) for a "Best Award." CCDO received this year's Best Award for Private/Public Partnership as a result of our nomination. In addition, KWA nominated King William in the category of "BEST place to live." This category, as well as "BEST place to eat," were awarded based on popular vote. This is the third year in a row that King William has won Best Neighborhood and the fifth year in a row we have received an award from Centro.

- Rose Kanusky



COORDINATORS Susan Athené,  
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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 [kingwilliamassociation.org](http://kingwilliamassociation.org).

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# Old News

I was sitting on my front porch swing one afternoon enjoying the mild weather and admiring the well-maintained homes up and down my block. It dawned on me how much has changed since I moved to King William in 1979 and how many new neighbors have taken residence in just the past few years and who may not be aware of its history.

So, I am starting this occasional series, calling it "Old News," mainly using past issues of the KWA newsletter for inspiration. I hope it will be enjoyed by our newer neighbors and that it will bring back some memories to those of you who were early arrivals when you were asked, "Aren't you afraid to live downtown?"

My first bit of Old News started in the fall of 2002 and is about the King William/Lavaca Tree Project. Although not in the too distant past, I am writing about the tree project because I was part of the group of volunteers from both neighborhoods who initially raised funds for and planted the first trees.

In 2002 that part of the Missions Trails National Parkway from Pereida St. to the S. St. Mary's underpass was

completed, including 42 tree wells. The boards of the King William and Lavaca Neighborhood Associations voted to adopt that part of the parkway and sponsor the tree plantings. A committee was formed, funds raised, volunteers drafted and the 42 trees were planted. The work was helped along by probationers from the Bexar County Detention Center, coordinated by neighbor Bill Cogburn. After



Beauregard and S. Alamo Sts., 2004



Alan Cash, Mary Ann Ohlenbusch and Bill Cogburn at Beauregard and S. Alamo Sts., 2016

the initial planting, the project was expanded to include the area from S. Flores St. on the west, to I-37 on the east, the boundaries of the two associations.

Since 2002, over 500 trees have been planted along curbs in both residential and commercial areas. After 14 years the trees are now adding beauty to our urban environment and new trees are being planted where appropriate sites are found.

The pictures above show project trees at the corner of Beauregard and S. Alamo Sts., both when they were planted in 2004 and now. Standing in the now picture are project chairs Mary Ann Ohlenbusch, Bill Cogburn and yours truly.

- Alan Cash

## Research Reveals Ethnic Diversity

The KWA Cultural Arts Committee is working on a walking tour brochure for the "Arsenal" side of our neighborhood association. Deed and consensus research conducted by intern Michael Carroll revealed this area's original settlers were ethnically diverse:

- **210 Arsenal** - Russian Jews Michael and Freda Dubinski Milgrom immigrated to the United States in 1880.
- **119 Daniel** - Irish immigrants Patrick and Anastatia "Statia" Donoghue purchased their lot in 1901.
- **115 Rische** - James Montanio was born in Italy in 1888. He immigrated with his parents at the age of eight, their ship docking at the port of New Orleans.
- **920 S. Main** - Eugenio Ruiz and his wife and fellow Mexican immigrant Carlota built their house here after Carlota purchased the lot in 1910.
- **216 W. Johnson** - French-born Jean and Alexine Loustaunau immigrated to the United States in 1867. Jean co-founded La Maison Blanche, a French restaurant on Market Street.

- Cherise Bell



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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](mailto:info@ourkwa.org).

## SAPD Central SAFE Unit Contact Info

Main office: 207-7413

**KW SAFE Officer on patrol:**

**Officer David McCall  
207-7413**



**S**AY Sí will present its 10th annual Muertitos Fest, a three-day Día de los Muertos festival that celebrates the tradition that ties our city to Mexico and commemorates the rich Mexican-American culture of San Antonio, on November 3 – 5. With this year's theme, "Fronteras de la Tierra y Cielos (Borders of the Earth & Heavens)," artwork, installations, altars and performances will focus on the connections between the living and those who have passed.

Muertitos Fest, one of San Antonio's most comprehensive Día de los Muertos celebrations, provides an educational context to this important holiday, with three days of unique cultural happenings including: an exhibition of student Día de los Muertos art, notable folk art exhibits, altars to honor the departed, family folk art workshops, food booths, an artisan mercado and live multidisciplinary cultural performances.

This year, SAY Sí will bring an international perspective to the holiday through a creative collaboration with Prayasam, a youth organization from Kolkata, India. Youth from Prayasam will travel to San Antonio to work with SAY Sí student-artists and cultivate a project that explores the connections between Día de los Muertos and the Indian celebration Pitru Paksha (fortnight of the ancestors). This project is part of an international youth residency series, Project Papalote, supported by Adobe Project 1324. The project that the organization's youth create will be premiered at the Fest.

### Opening Night Fundraiser: Thursday, November 3 7:00-10:30 p.m.

An intimate and high-spirited celebration where patrons can feast on re-interpreted Mexican delicacies by San Antonio's ¡Viva Vegeria! and enjoy libations including a specialty cocktail. Listen to live music and poetry as you preview the student artwork and altars. Join in on our Día de los Muertos costume contest and be the first to purchase our specialty folk art and artisan vendors' traditional crafts. - \$35 Presale, \$40 at the door - Only 200 tickets available!

### First Friday: Friday, November 4 6:00-10:00 p.m. - Free

The Muertitos Fest festivities continue with a Día de los Muertos First Friday celebration. Enjoy the exhibits, altars, festive food and artisan booths. Participate in hands-on art activities and be entertained with live musical and dance performances on two stages throughout the evening. A free shuttle will be available to transport guests to and from the festivities.

### Family Day Saturday, November 5 12:00-4:00 p.m. - Free

Bring the kids! On this family-friendly final day of Muertitos Fest, you can get hands-on with various folk art inspired workshops, let our young artists paint your face and shop for treasures from one-of-a-kind artist vendors. Enjoy a special family program of music and performances in the SAY Sí Black Box Theatre.

- Stephen Guzman

SAY Si Communications Manager



# What Are Your Trees Worth?

Real estate experts agree that trees add significant financial value to a property: trees add at least 7%, sometimes more. In San Antonio, for example, a mature and properly maintained pecan or live oak tree will have an appraisal value of \$10,000 or higher. Whenever a mature, healthy tree is cut down, the entire property's value decreases. Trees also serve an important role in our neighborhood's ecological system.

A good rule of thumb is to prune or remove trees *only* if there is a compelling reason, such as to remove an obstruction or branches that are too close to a structure.

According to San Antonio city arborist Mark Bird, "Properly maintaining trees provides a huge return on the investment in the aesthetic, environmental, financial, and health (both physical and psychological) areas that we don't take into consideration."

The National Tree Benefit Calculator can help determine both the financial and ecological value of your trees. Visit [treebenefits.com/calculator](http://treebenefits.com/calculator) and follow the instructions. This special calculator estimates the amount of money each tree on a property is worth yearly, as well as each tree's environmental benefit.

Other ecological and economic benefits of trees:

- Properly sited trees reduce home heating and cooling costs for the consumer and reduce the need for our utility company to build new generation plants, which may lead to rate increases.

- CPS Energy encourages the strategic planting of trees around homes, and periodically offers rebates on the cost of native Texas trees. Check for Green Tree Rebates at [cpsenergy.com](http://cpsenergy.com).
- Trees of all sizes mitigate air pollution by filtering air (removing carbon dioxide) and producing oxygen, like all plants.
- Trees provide habitat - food and shelter - for wildlife of all types.
- Trees help reduce storm water runoff and soil erosion, and lessen the pollutants and chemicals that drain into the San Antonio River. Our neighborhood is in the watershed, so it is particularly important to minimize runoff.
- Trees are beautiful! A recent feature on National Public Radio discussed the physical and emotional health benefits of living in an urban environment

If you think a tree on your property needs to be pruned or possibly removed, the City requires that residents hire a tree contractor who holds a valid Tree Maintenance License issued by the City. This will ensure that a professional with appropriate training trims your trees, which will preserve their value. Call 207-1111 or choose "license type: TRM Tree Maintenance License" and then enter company name on the City's website ([tinyurl.com/salicensedtree](http://tinyurl.com/salicensedtree)) for a list of professionals.

- Nancy Diehl

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# City Lights

Something like fall has finally arrived on our neighborhood streets. The trees are debating whether they agree with this fact and are undecided about dropping their leaves. My fig tree and the pecans have already carpeted the lawn and terrace with their summer clothing, the red oaks are still waiting for their cue on the arboreal striptease stage.

With the shade diminishing the unfiltered, dramatic, raking light of fall becomes more evident. The lower angle of the sun seems to create sharper contrast between light and shadow, crisper, more defined edges in the chiaroscuro scene that's framed by bare branches.

The effect of the descending sun is dramatic in the dining room, radiating below the half drawn shades and making the lace curtains blaze with the fire-light of sunset. These windows are my observatory where I chart the arc of Phaeton through the seasons.

On the porches the setting sun probes the soffits, illuminating what was all in shade for the summer, as if a spotlight was being deliberately aimed upward.

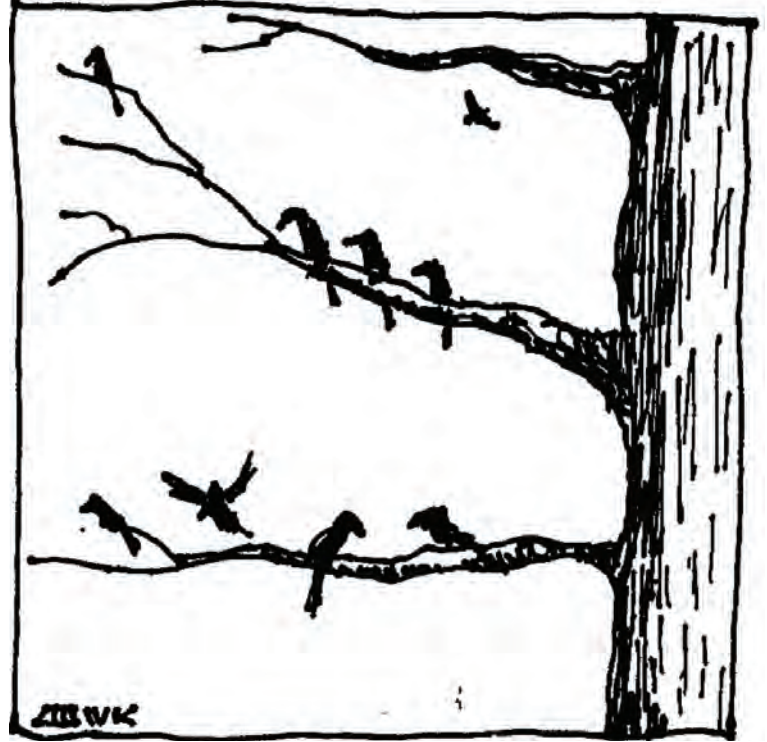
The summer's shield of giant bamboo and trees to the west is losing its welcome function as the sun moves to the south, blinding a sunset watcher's gaze on the back porch.

I'll hate going to work in the dark and coming home in the same gloom. Winter is not my favorite season, even in as mild a place as San Antonio. I don't like being reminded of its inexorable approach by fluttering leaves, the whispered announcement of Pluto's reclamation of the world for the season.

The twittering tree canopies are becoming more silent with the departures of summer's avian guests. The lack of their songs makes me more conscious of breathy rustle of leaves bidding goodbye before they too depart.

The sharpness of the light seems to come from a more focused lens. It may be that thoughts are more focused in the fall too, it's a season that seems to demand reflection since there is no soft foliage to hide from the probing brightness. What corner of our lives is not illuminated?

That acuity, the crystalline quality of daylight, may be our parting gift from the sun. It is as if it is an apology



for the grayer days to come, and a reminder of the last warmth of our very long summers. You can feel this as the rays rotate over the horizon, leaving their heat on your shoulders as your feet and legs begin to feel the pooling chill of evening.

Finally, everything takes on the bluer hues of dusk. There's a pungent aroma in the air; one of the neighbors is building a fire.

- Michael Guarino



Rebecca Horn

Pablo Picasso

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## *KWA Concert in the Park*

### **The Alamo Hot Club Band**

**Bringing the Sounds of Gypsy Jazz  
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Saturday, November 12**

**5:30 - 6:30 p.m.**

Mark your calendars now for another free concert at King William Park. As part of Southtown The Arts District (STAD) Second Saturday events, KWA is sponsoring a concert featuring The Alamo Hot Club Band. They play acoustic jazz in the style of 1930's jazz giants such as Django Reinhardt, Stephane Grappelli and the Hot Club of France.

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# King William Fair Awarded Pinnacle Bronze Award

The International Festivals & Events Association (IFEA) paid tribute to the King William Fair on September 27 during the annual Pinnacle Awards Ceremony held at IFEA's 61st Annual Convention, where it received the Bronze Award for Best Pin/Medal in the prestigious IFEA/ Haas & Wilkerson Pinnacle Awards competition.



King William Fair Manager, Zet Baer, CFE, was on hand to receive it. Awards were made in 68 different categories.


The 2016 King William Fair pin/medal was designed by San Antonio artist and Blue Star Complex business owner, Robert Tatum. Clearly, judges were impressed by the playful nature of the design with a celebratory "George the Duck" playing guitar in a tasseled cowboy hat with a traditional ionic column, all surrounded in

colorful glitter.



The professional competition draws entries from among the world's top festivals and events. Winning entries came from organizations as diverse as the St. Louis Art Fair, St. Louis, MO; the International Cherry Blossom Festival, Washington, D.C.; the Pasadena Tournament of Roses, Pasadena, CA; the Sausalito Art Festival, Sausalito, CA; and Celebrations Ottawa in Ottawa, ON, Canada.

The IFEA/ Haas & Wilkerson Pinnacle Awards Competition recognizes the outstanding accomplishments and top quality creative, promotional, operational and community outreach programs and materials produced by festivals and events around the world. Striving for the highest degree of excellence in festival and event promotions and operations in every budget level and every corner of the globe, this competition has not only raised the standards and quality of the festivals and events industry to new levels, but also shows how event producers can use innovation and creativity to achieve a higher level of success.

Headquartered in Boise, Idaho, IFEA has global affiliates in Africa, Asia, Australia, Europe, Latin America, Middle East and North America. The organization's common vision is for "A Globally United Industry that Touches Lives in a Positive Way through Celebration." For more information and to see award winners, go to ifea.com.




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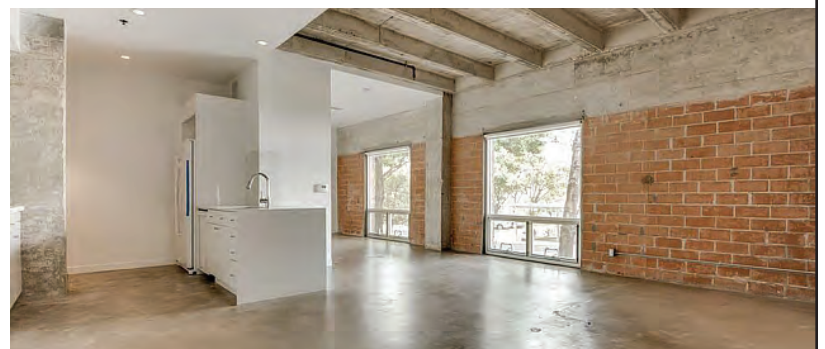
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# FLIP THE SWITCH! Historic Mission Road Power Plant to become EPIcenter

At last, that lonely Mission Road Power Plant will soon undergo a big change. The historic plant at Mission Road and Highland Boulevard will be transformed into a world-class center that will serve as a cradle for invention and a catalyst for clean energy innovation and technological advancement.



“EPI” stands for “Energy, Partnerships and Innovation.” The \$74 million center will be unique in the country in terms of combining a think tank, incubation/start-up space (similar to Geekdom), fabrication laboratory, museum and conference center focusing on new energy innovation - all in one place. Its estimated opening is in 2020.

EPIcenter will:

Showcase a range of clean, new energy technologies through facility installations and changing exhibitions;

Inspire new development by co-locating advancing companies from all over the world with members of the clean energy and technical community at a single facility to spur collaboration and creativity;

Educate professionals, students and local, state, national and international communities by spotlighting great work and great thinking;

Convene the best and brightest in the field for clean energy summits and conferences;

Transform a slumbering property into a gem for the emerging community surrounding it and all energy-engaged people around our globe to enjoy; and Impact clean energy advancement globally.

EPIcenter will do all these things while connecting to the Mission Reach of the San Antonio River; the San Antonio Missions World Heritage Sites; Confluence Park; the Lone Star Brewery; the Lone Star, King William and Roosevelt neighborhoods; and the entire San Antonio community.

We will soon roll out a new way for our neighbors to connect with EPIcenter, stay up-to-date on progress and receive invitations to EPIcenter Neighbors’ events. In the future, we envision outdoor family movie nights, bar-b-cues, and other special happenings. EPIcenter Neighbors is open to anyone living or owning property in the 78204 and 78210 zip codes. It is free to join and will help us keep you, our neighbors, in the know.

Check out our website at [epicenterus.org](http://epicenterus.org) and watch for an ad in an upcoming KWA newsletter announcing the launch of the online neighbor portal. Thank you for helping us flip the switch!

*- Kimberly Britton, CEO and Jill H. Vassar, Director of Development and Partnerships  
EPIcenter*

## KWA 50th Anniversary

*Continued from page 1*

Now we have another “First” with a combined Holiday Home Tour and Fair on December 3. The Fair has free admission and will be centered around the gazebo at King William Park located at King William and Turner Streets, starting at 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The Fair will include art vendors, food booths and music. Another “first” will be a collectable holiday Ornament featuring a print by Caroline Shelton from 1977, the first of a planned series. Fair-goers will also be able to purchase a commemorative medal and T-shirt that will be available throughout our yearlong celebration in 2017.

There is an admission fee to tour five houses. Presale tickets at \$15 will be available for purchase online at [ourkwa.org](http://ourkwa.org) or at the KWA office. Day of event tickets at \$20 will be available at Elsa’s Attic booth at King William Park. For additional information call 227-8786.

To add to the KWA festivities, Beethoven Maennerchor will be showcasing its annual free Kristkindlmarkt at 422 Pereida St. Plan to kick-off your holiday season in King William!

*- Nora Peterson*

# San Antonio Mennonite Church News

## *Building Rehabilitation Planned*

King William has only one church building that has continually functioned as a church. At the corner of Eagleland and St. Mary's, the familiar white stucco, tile-roofed structure was built as Westminster Presbyterian, but became San Antonio Mennonite in the 1980s. The very first Mennonites were Christian followers of Menno Simons in sixteenth century Europe who broke away from the state-sponsored Protestant church over their belief in adult baptism. Today, the Mennonite Church has two million members all over the world, and is known for a focus on nonviolence, community and service to others.

The past year has seen a few changes at SAMC. Our pastor of 11 years, Rachel Epp Miller, stepped down, and for a full year the church managed all its functions through unpaid lay leadership. John Garland was named the new pastor in May. John has many connections to the Southtown community: he lives in Lavaca, his children attend Bonham Elementary School, and he sells his backyard-grown, organic micro-greens to local residents. An avid runner, you might see him training around the neighborhood. His family also rides bikes and canoes on the King William portion of the Mission Reach River Walk.

In the spring, San Antonio Mennonite Church went through a process to develop a new Mission Statement: "A joyful community that does justice, loves mercy, and walks humbly with God." Our Sunday bulletins and the pastor's weekly emails are arranged according to the Mission Statement, so that we may identify concrete opportunities to live out this mission.

One of the ways we fulfill our mission is by renting space at below-market rates to community organizations that align with our vision. Currently, we have partnerships with the P.E.A.C.E. Initiative, which combats domestic violence, the Center for Formative Action and Reflection, which supports community workers, and RAICES, which helps refugees. One of our biggest challenges is maintaining our building with a small congregation and a limited budget.

San Antonio Mennonite Church has been working on a building rehabilitation plan in response to critical needs. Our HVAC has failed in most of the building, and in addition to a full system replacement, we plan to upgrade our kitchen and build handicapped-accessible bathrooms while fully preserving the special architectural features that landed our building on SA's list of historic landmarks. Jim Heck, of Fisher/Heck Architects in King William, has drawn our plans, and local engineer and fellow congregant Anna Morton has created engineering drawings. We are currently raising funds for this endeavor. If you would like to help, please contact our fundraising committee chair at moore.mitzi@gmail.com.

If you are searching for a church community, we invite you to visit our website ([sanantoniomennonite.org](http://sanantoniomennonite.org)), and come visit us on Sunday mornings at 10:45 a.m.

- Mitzi Moore



## 2016 San Antonio Express-News Critics' Choice Award Best River Walk Dining



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# Colonel Johnson to Lead a “Higher Calling” Neighborhood

*A beloved neighborhood leader has been called away to serve a permanent mission.*

James R. Johnson, Sr., LTC, U.S. Army (ret), who received the Silver Star for gallantry in action while serving in Vietnam and served his King William neighborhood with an equal amount of vigor, passed away on September 21, 2016. His health had declined over the past months, but he lived a full life of adventure and merriment for many of his 85 years.

“The Colonel,” as he was known to many of his neighbors, was a tireless advocate who sought to “do his part” in bettering the San Antonio community. In the late 1990s, he provided great leadership when he served as the King William Association president. During 2001-2007, Jim represented District 1 on the board of the San Antonio River Authority, where he served to make sure there would be dedicated funding to support the Mission Reach project.

Jim had a real passion for life and companionship, whether with friends, one of his dogs, a tennis partner or foe, or a personal love. Although he sometimes hid behind a rigid demeanor, the tenderness in his eyes usually gave him away. He was an old soul who celebrated the nostalgia of baseball, the military and rustic travel, but had the spirit and heart of a young trooper who approached every mission with purpose, leadership, a vision and the ability to coerce (i.e., delegate, in his mind) every task that need addressing...usually, so he wouldn't have to.

Jim was committed to the King William neighborhood and invested in his home, with the never-ending improvements that would offer just a little better environment to watch TV, smoke cigars, take an outdoor shower, or, most importantly, create a variety of spaces where he could entertain his wonderful family, or variety of visitors – whether 1 or 200 – and make them feel comfortable engaging in decisions about the neighborhood, the county or the world, or dancing to the tune of the many live bands that graced his backyard under the light of a

starry night. Jim established many, many long term relationships with friends, neighbors and elected officials, and



Jim Johnson, Jr. said, "This photo is of my Dad circa 1993 with the best canine to ever walk this earth. Her name was Atascosa. She was an Australian Shepherd whom he bought and raised for my family. For me at least its one the most touching memories and photos we have."

was a great conversationalist, who liked to muse upon and celebrate life's offerings – a bitter disappointment, the next river improvement, or a grand “win” for the neighborhood, for which Jim was so invested and passionate.

One of Jim's early wins for the neighborhood demanded his leadership, along with that of Jose de Lara (who is now again with Jim “fighting the fight” from above), to lead neighborhood advocates to fight institutional expansion/encroachment in the core of residential housing stock. His leadership culminated in one of the hardest fought zoning cases, which required 7:00 a.m. daily strategy

meetings for almost a year. The case was eventually won on Cinco de Mayo, which seemed an appropriate day to celebrate a small army of neighborhood defenders.

Fast forward to the present: it is quite ironic that the eventual demolition of one of the institutional structures that Jim fought against was razed to build new residential buildings the week that Jim decided his mission was accomplished and could leave us all...to remember him with a smile, a drink and many a fond memory.

- Christine Viña

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# Garden St. School News



## Fall Highlights

Parents, students and teachers shared an evening of discussion about curriculum and instruction during our Open House events in September (K-2) and October (3rd – 8th). Information for the Gifted and Talented Program was presented and the School, Parent and Student Compacts were shared. It takes a community to support every child.

## WATCH D.O.G.S. (Dads Of Great Students)

Over 60 fathers attended the first event to form the Bonham Academy chapter of the Watch D.O.G.S. Program on October 13.

Fathers, grandfathers, uncles and other father-figures volunteer at least one full day during the school year at an official WATCH D.O.G.S. school. These men work right alongside the educators, play at recess, eat lunch with students, watch the school entrances and hallways, assist with traffic flow and any other assigned activities where they actively engage with students.

The two primary goals of the program are to provide positive male role models for the students, demonstrating by their presence that education is important, and to provide extra sets of eyes and ears to enhance school security and reduce bullying.

## Fall Festival

Bonham Academy will once again host its annual Fall Festival on November 4. We anticipate over 200 Bonham students, family members and staff will take part in the

festivities. Please join us, neighbors! Money collected from the sale of food and drinks will be used to support the PTA's efforts to provide field trips, extracurricular activities and other school-based art opportunities in dance, theatre and cultural appreciation. In keeping with our school's commitment to celebrating the cultural heritage of our community, this year's event will incorporate themes from El Día de los Muertos. Attendees may participate in art activities including making clay calaveras and scarecrows from recycled materials, watch performances by Bonham's Folclórico dancers, play games, and be frightened in the Haunted House planned and staffed by members of our drama club, art classes and band.

## Bonham Open Mic Night

On October 25 students participated in the first Bonham Open Mic Night for the 2016-17 school year. In addition to listening to middle school students recite poetry by professional writers, they also heard their friends recite original poetry. Not to be outdone by the poets, several students also played instruments and sang. Thanks to the support of Gemini Ink, San Antonio Public Library and current and former PTA parents, we enjoyed a fun evening in the Black Box theatre. Look for the next Open Mic Night in December. Contact Nathan Busse at [nbusse@saisd.net](mailto:nbusse@saisd.net) if you are interested in participating, sponsoring or collaborating. Adults and children over 11 are encouraged to recite, play music, or otherwise share their passion for writing!

## Theatre Events

From November 9-17 "Peter Pan" will be performed six times in the Black Box Theatre. There are presentations for kids and adults both during and after school. Performances are open to the public, so please come support your neighborhood thespians!

Thank you for your support of our neighborhood school. Go Bobcats!

- Principle William Webber

## Jesus "Toro" Martinez Paintings on Exhibit through November

You still have a chance to view Toro's delightful "Westi Lost in the Park" series of colorful paintings at the offices of King William Association. Toro is a local artist and native Texan with a studio at Lonestar Art Space. After attending the San Antonio Art Institute in the 1990s, he was encouraged by his mentor, Linda Pace, to travel abroad. Toro studied in the Netherlands and traveled to Jerusalem.

Once home and working on his paintings, Toro began to experiment with homemade pigments. He was searching for a certain quality with an aluminum effect. His frustration in finding what he was searching for led him to mix different organic and inorganic items into paints. He started by cutting up aluminum cans with pliers. The pieces were not fine enough and this led him to using a coffee grinder to make a finer grade. Once he learned how to make his own paint, he found a mill in Houston to make his required ingredient.

Toro continued to experiment with adding flower petals, seeds, crushed chipotle peppers and bee pollen to his pigments. He finally achieved the qualities that he was looking for. These paints are used with great effect in his paintings. Plan to stop by during office hours to see his colorful expressions before the exhibit ends.

- Nora Peterson



# Out in the Garden

## with Alan Cash

Cool fall weather seems to be settling in. Now is the time to plant winter annuals that will bloom until January and again in March and April. These cool natured plants include snapdragons, stocks, dianthus, and calendulas. Snapdragons, depending on type, grow to various heights up to three feet. Stocks are fragrant, usually white or blue, and grow to 18 inches. Dianthus are red, white pink, and lavender, do not grow tall but do well in hanging baskets. Calendulas have yellow or gold blooms on one and a half foot stems.

With the cool weather, now is the time to put about 1/4 inch compost on lawns and in flower beds. If you have not yet done so you can still put out a good organic fertilizer. The combination puts needed nutrients in the soil.

It is not necessary to water lawns as often as we go into fall and winter. About every three weeks should be enough. Put automatic sprinkler systems on the manual setting and use only as needed. Remember, your sewer charge for next year is based on your water usage from November to March.

Tired of cutting and trimming a lawn or want to make changes in your garden so it is not so labor intensive? Consider putting in a xeric

landscape using drought tolerant plants. A good example can be seen at 112 Mission St. Take a look.

From *Wisdom of Mark Twain: A Book of Quotations*: "To promise not to do a thing is the surest way in the world to make a body want to go and do that very thing."

*Garden Note: A beautiful garden is a work of love.*



## Blue Star Contemporary Grand Re-Opening Weekend

Blue Star Contemporary is thrilled to celebrate our Grand Re-Opening Weekend with our neighbors in King William. We invite you to join in the party and visit our newly-renovated space on November 4 during extended First Friday hours. On Saturday, we'll host family-friendly activities during the day. We'll also have a 30-year timeline of Blue Star Contemporary's history, and we invite our KW neighbors to contribute.

These events are free and open to the public, but those who purchase our VIP All-Access Passes or Sponsorships receive additional perks, including a private tour of the building and our four new exhibitions on Saturday night, free valet parking, and a dance party in a secret spot in the Complex (plus delicious eats and drinks). Details are available on [bluestarart.org](http://bluestarart.org), by calling 227-6960 or emailing [elaine@bluestarart.org](mailto:elaine@bluestarart.org).

The renovations wouldn't have been possible without the support of the King William Association. We are most thankful for your ongoing investment in our mission to inspire, nurture and innovate through contemporary art, and we look forward to continuing our KWA Members Tours.

- Elaine Leahy  
Development Manager  
Blue Star Contemporary

## Volunteers Needed for Home Tour, Dec. 3

Docents will be assigned two-hour shifts. Please contact a Home Tour Chair if you'd like to work. They are Beth Davis, Robin Raquet, Jessie Simpson, Patty Duarte and Shawn Campbell. Or give me a call at 277-2775 or email [annealexander@satx.rr.com](mailto:annealexander@satx.rr.com) and I'll try to find a place for you. Volunteers can visit all the houses for free. It's fun, too.

- Anne Alexander

# Solar Panel Installations in the King William Historic District: Not all structures are good receivers

The KWA Architectural Advisory Committee (AAC) is comprised of association residents – including licensed architects – who volunteer their time to evaluate cases that are presented to the City of San Antonio Historic and Design Review Commission (HDRC), for discussion and recommendation. Any property owner who desires to make changes to the exterior of their property, or to their site (front, side or back yard), must make application to the HDRC. This application process is handled through the City’s Office of Historic Preservation (OHP). Once the OHP staff reviews the case (project request), they make a staff recommendation, and then forward the King William neighborhood cases (and others that have an impact on the neighborhood) to the AAC, so that our neighborhood can weigh in and provide commentary to the HDRC as part of the public input process.

Although most of the cases that are reviewed include additions, renovations, requests to change out windows (which are not often approved), fence installations, landscaping and site improvements (walkways, drive-ways, etc.), new roofing, and material replacements, more recently, there have been many cases that include requests to install solar panels, understandably due to the CPS rebates that are being offered. As the KWA committee that is charged with evaluating the architectural and design integrity of the historic district, through the use of the City of San Antonio Historic Design Guidelines ([san-antonio.gov/historic/Resources/HistoricDistrictGuidelines.aspx](http://san-antonio.gov/historic/Resources/HistoricDistrictGuidelines.aspx)), the AAC evaluates each case individually, using cri-

teria that will preserve the integrity of the neighborhood.

Solar panels that are visible from the public right-of-way, and it has been determined that they are not an appropriate addition to roofs that are visible from the right-of-way, whether or not a home will be deemed appropriate to accept solar panels, will, for the most part, depend on the shape/slope of the roof, and the orientation of the roofs. In most cases, if the desired location of the solar panels (due to an efficiency evaluation) faces the public street, or is visible from the public street, the panels will be unlikely to get support from the AAC. Generally, if panels are located in the rear yard, or if a roof surface is hidden from the view from the public right-of-way, the AAC will provide support to the HDRC for approval.

The decisions of the AAC may be perceived to be inconsistent; however, each decision is based on individual facts that are pertinent to the case, and the orientation of each face of a roof.

If a resident or business owner would like to explore the rebate that CPS is offering for solar panel installations, they should contact either CPS or Build San Antonio Green (BSAG), a liaison for CPS and installers. Their websites ([buildsagreen.org/solar-101](http://buildsagreen.org/solar-101) and [buildsagreen.org/green-supplier/renewable-energy](http://buildsagreen.org/green-supplier/renewable-energy)) offer a wealth of information to assist homeowners and business owners in their quest to provide a more efficient way of addressing solar panels. Their information does not address structures located in historic districts.

If solar panels are deemed inappropriate for a specific home application, there are alternatives for becoming more efficient and reducing energy costs, such as solar window films and other products or processes.

It is important that a home or business owner be “armed” with as much information as possible on installations/installers, efficient roof locations and costs, as the process can appear daunting. In addition to the BSAG resources, another consumer-minded resource to assist with installations includes Jason Pittman from Solar Smarty Pants ([solarsmarty-pants.com](http://solarsmarty-pants.com)). There are also resources listed in Section Two of the City’s Historic Design Guidelines: Guidelines for Exterior Maintenance & Alterations.

Regardless of application intent, the KWA Executive Director, who is also an architectural historian, and staff are a big resource for the neighborhood. Please contact the office before you begin on your next rehabilitation!

- Christine Viña  
KWA AAC Member

## Urban Farm Stand

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# National Night Out 2016

**B**ig red fire engine, handsome fire fighters, and Sparky the Fire dog along with his best friend McGruff came together to take a bite out of crime the evening of October 4. King William celebrated NNO in style, joined by Texas Lodge #8. These gentlemen grilled over 100 hotdogs with all the trimmings, add a six-foot sub and you've got the makings of a celebration. Mr. Ramos with KONO kept those oldies but goodies coming while everyone enjoyed visiting with neighbors and friends. Thanks to all who came out and enjoyed a lovely evening.

A special thanks to Sheldon Shed, NNO organizer for Texas Lodge #8 and to the KWA Social Committee for all their time and efforts in organizing this event. We also want to thank everyone who showed their support of the SA Food Bank by bringing a jar of peanut butter. We collected 14 jars and a cash donation! This is awesome! Thank you!

- Josie Garcia



KWA NNO organizers Josie Garcia, Ethel Pedraza and Nelda Burch, with Sheldon Shea from the Texas Masonic Lodge #8 AF & AM and our neighborhood fire fighters from Station #7.



KWA board member Patty Garcia (standing) with neighbors Roger Martines, Mari Feist and Henry Botello.



Past President Harry Shafer, KWA ED Cherise Bell, current KWA President Chris Price and Cheryl Bell.

## Graffiti Abatement

**A**ccording to the LOCAL Community News "San Antonio budgets about \$1.2 million a year for graffiti abatement. A 15-member team labors six days a week, aided by 2,500 volunteers." Graffiti includes painting, glass etching, "slaps" and stickers.

Although the motivations behind tagging and graffiti vary, experts agree it is important to clean or remove the tagging immediately. A clean building, sign, electrical box, or wall sends the message that vandalism is not appropriate in our neighborhood. Help keep our neighborhood clean by volunteering to be a block captain. Also, the KWA office has graffiti wipes that easily clean paint off of metal – just come by the office to pick some up. Together we can help keep King William clean.

- Cherise Bell



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## November Calendar

- 2 General Membership Meeting – KWA Office – 7:00 p.m.
- 4 Blue Star Contemporary Grand Re-Opening
- 8 Deadline for December/January newsletter
- 9–17 Bonham Academy Presents *Peter Pan* – Black Box Theatre
- 12 The Alamo Hot Club Band – King William Park – 5:30 – 6:30 p.m.
- 16 KWA Board Meeting – 6:30 p.m.
- 24–25 Thanksgiving Holiday (KWA Office closed)

The Bergstrom House at 208 King William, depicted here by Caroline Shelton, is on the 2016 home tour.