

King William Association

Volume 14, No. 1

February 2018

## Medicine Across Cultures

IV CASES ON THE RISE" a recent edition of our local daily screamed in 48-point type. Behind the alarming headline—and the alarm is real and appropriate—lay another story, voiced in part by King William neighbor Dr. Barbara Taylor: a story of compassion, progress, and hope.

As clinician, researcher, and teacher — she is associate professor in infectious diseases at UT Health San Antonio and adjunct faculty at the UT School of Public Health — Taylor focuses on prevention and man-

agement of HIV infections. The rate of new HIV infections is in decline nationally but still rising in Bexar County, especially in populations underserved by medical care. While infection with the virus was effectively a death sentence when it first emerged in the 1980s, modern therapies can suppress both transmission of HIV and progression to AIDS — if patients are aware of treatment options and receive consistent care. "My patients are super inspiring to me," Taylor said. "They face so much and come out determined to live, support their families, engage with the community. It's amazing."

Her interest in the intersection of health and social factors began in her undergraduate years, after which she received a Fulbright scholarship to study indoor air pollution in rural Mexico. "I'd studied Spanish in school, but this was full immersion in the language," she said. Her interest in HIV treatment was stimulated when, as a

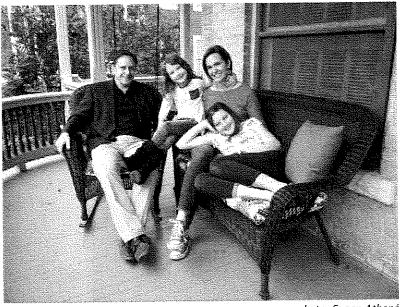


photo: Susan Athené

Dr. Barbara Taylor with husband Michael and daughters Lizzy and Campbell.

student at Harvard Medical School, she took a course on medicine and social justice from Paul Farmer and Jim Yong Kim, legendary co-founders of the global nonprofit Partners in Health. "I had no idea [at first] what rock stars they were, but it became clear during the course as they changed everyone's way of thinking about the world," Taylor said. She began to study approaches to delivery of HIV treatment, first in Cuba and then, during her residency at Columbia University Medical Center, in the Dominican Republic.

Because of this research experience and her fluency in Spanish, Taylor was

recruited by UT Health (then UTHSCSA) in 2009. She and her husband Michael - a finance educator known for his trenchant Bankers Anonymous blog and his regular column in the business pages of the SA Express-News and the Houston Chronicle — were starting a family and ready for a change from Manhattan. Their first impression of life in San Antonio was rather less urban than they'd hoped, however, as a well-meaning real estate agent gave them a tour of the outer suburbs where the "good schools are." Fortunately, a member of the search committee, the late Dr. Andy Diehl, alerted them to King William and, crucially, to the bilingual program at Bonham Academy. Hosted by Andy and Nancy Diehl, the Taylors explored the neighborhood and fell in love. They initially lived in the St. Benedict Lofts but soon found their current home on Crofton Avenue. Both of their daughters have attended Bonham, and Taylor calls herself "pro-SAISD."

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# **President's Report**

by Chris Price

Last year we said goodbye and good luck to Cherise Bell, our first Executive Director. In her five years with the KWA she took a wholly volunteer organization and turned it into a professionally run association with influence beyond its borders and throughout the city. We wish her luck in her new role as a historic preservation consultant.

During the search and transition for a new Executive Director, the Board temporarily hired former King William resident and former designer at Ford Powell & Carson, Michael Guarino to serve as our interim director. Many of you know Michael, who served on the KWA Board and as President in 2011-12. Michael is an ideal interim director given his deep knowledge of the KWA, neighborhood issues, the City of San Antonio and in his professional capacity as a designer.

While Michael serves as the interim director, the KWA Personnel Committee, composed of Gretchen Kragh, Margaret Leeds, Cherise Bell, Connie Martinez, Zet Baer and myself, is busy pursuing candidates for the permanent Executive Director position. The job was posted and generated a pool of 21 highly qualified applicants from diverse backgrounds. The committee has selected six candidates to interview. Of those, two or three applicants will be put through a more extensive vetting process. We hope to make an offer to the most ideal candidate in February with a start date of March or April, just in time for the Fair! From such a talented pool of applicants we are confident that we can find the right person to build on Cherise's success and take the KWA to the next level.

#### **KWA Board Briefs**

We are launching this short column to help keep neighbors informed about KWA board activities. This column is not intended to replace the official minutes, and the content can be blamed on the author, not the Association or its secretary.

n January 17, 2018, several neighbors attended the board meeting to express their opinions about short-term rentals (STRs) and parking issues. After hearing from these neighbors, the board finalized its letter to City Council, staff and applicable commissions that opposes non-owner occupied STRs (Type 2) in historic districts. The letter also requests that the City prohibit any amplified noise at STRs, decline to grandfather existing STRs, and apply the bed and breakfast ordinance to STRs.

The board also discussed a request for a marathon to be held in the neighborhood on March 4, and authorized Michael Guarino, as interim executive director, to formalize our understanding with the City that no more than six runs or similar events take place in the neighborhood each year. The board also authorized Michael to explore distribution of *Down the Acequia Madre* through Trinity Press.

A request to finance street signs in the new Nathan Historic District was referred to our normal grant process.

The executive director search committee expects to make a recommendation to the board next month.

- Rose Kanusky



COORDINATORS Susan Athené, Alan Cash, Bill Cogburn LAYOUT Angela Martinez

Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion(s) of the Board of Directors of the KWA. Editorial guidelines are available online at ourkwa.org.

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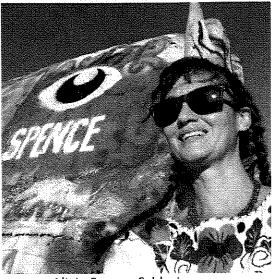
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# Fair View Welcome, Alicia!

The Fair is pleased to welcome new staff member Alicia Spence-Schlesinger to Alicia joined us in December as a Fair Coordinator and has jumped right in with the requisite Fiesta spirit by focusing her creative and organizational skills on redesigning our website, updating our social media and marketing plans, coordinating our corporate volunteer program, and assisting with our Art & Craft vendors, among many other Alicia has also taken on the distinguished responsibility of Chief Parade Wrangler after learning the ropes by working closely on the 2017 Parade with Sue Duffy, our dearly departed Chief Parade Wrangler.



Alicia Spence-Schlesinger, KW Fair Coordinator

Alicia considers herself to be a native San Antonian as she was born in New Braunfels, raised in Schertz, graduated with a degree in Print Graphics from San Antonio College, and has been living and working in the downtown area since she was 21. She first heard about the King William Fair from her coworkers at Herweck's on Broadway. She was thrilled to learn about this "artsy" Fiesta event, and her coworkers' excitement for the Fair left a lasting impression on her.

You might recognize Alicia from one of her many other roles in our community over the last two decades. She has been busy blazing her trail to the Fair by working and volunteering at a variety of familiar businesses and organizations: she worked as a production designer for the *San Antonio Current*; was involved with the Southtown Arts District; volunteered for the annual Art in the Hood event; exhibited her artwork at local galleries; worked for Joey and Maggie Villarreal as the marketing/graphic designer for Joey's Inc., which included Blue Star Brewing Co., Blue Star Bicycle Shop, Joe Blue's, Blue Star Kiosk in Main Plaza, and coordinated their entry in our Parade; and most recently worked as the package designer for Freetail Brewing Co., where she created their beer can designs and additional marketing materials. Check out her work at alicia-spence.com.

Alicia and her husband Marty are also embarking on an exciting new entrepreneurial adventure at the old Citgo station at 1203 S. Alamo. They are opening the fourth location of Small Planet eBikes (smallplanetebikes.com), an electric bicycle shop that also provides full service repairs for all types of bicycles, traditional "acoustic" bicycle sales, and will eventually offer food and

drink. Their ultimate goal is to create a third spot for the bicycling community and provide services that will help foster a healthier and earth-

conscious community. We look forward to seeing their neighborhood business grow!

Please give Alicia a big welcome next time you see her at our office, her bike shop, or the myriad other spots around the neighborhood where you are likely to run into her.

- Syeira Budd, Fair Manager

# More Pictures, Please!

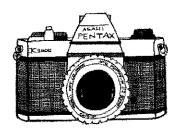
In preparation for the reissuance of Mary Burkholder's book, *Down the Acequia Madre*, Al Rendon is taking pictures of the exterior of houses in the Acequia Madre Historic District. The pictures will be taken during the next couple of months, at all times of the day, whenever the light is most flattering for individual houses.

It is easier for Al to take a good picture if the houses are free of clutter such as yard signs, trash cans, empty flower pots, leaves on the roofs, etc. One of the more important but most difficult things to have is the curb in front of your house free of cars!

Depending upon the time of day and the house, lights on the porch or inside may need to be turned on. He will not need access to the inside of any house.

We are attempting to call and schedule the photo shoots, but sometimes do not have a phone number or email for the residents. If you are a member of the King William Association, we have your contact information. If you are not a member, it would help if you would provide your contact information to Monika Perez-Moad at info@ourkwa.org or 210-227-8786; or contact me at 210-224-9756 or jnmsimpson@hotmail.com.

- Jessie Simpson



# A Tale of Two Houses: King William Residents Since 1906!

In the September 2017 newsletter, Bill Cogburn wrote an article about the Reilly house at 230 Madison that burned down and was subsequently replaced with a house moved from S. Alamo St. That was a story about the houses. Steven Kobernat, the great-grandson of

Jeremiah and Catherine Reilly, will tell you about the people who lived there. - Editor

n 1906, Jeremiah and Catherine Reilly, Irish immigrants, moved their large family from Refugio, Texas to San Antonio, buying the house at 230 Madison Street, which was built in 1896. There, the Reilly children - William, Katie, Cornelius (Neil), Annie, Agnes and Helen - completed their growing up. Their mother Catherine died in 1911 and their widowed father, Jerry Reilly, was tragically killed in a horse and buggy accident on Alamo Plaza in 1919.

As the brood of orphaned Reilly children gradually left the nest, Will Reilly continued to live in the Madison St. home after both parents died. In 1923 he married Hilda Augusta Bahnsen from Louisiana, and in 1926 they gave birth to their only child, Josephine Marie. For nearly a decade, the three of them lived in a newly-built smaller house on Bailey Avenue in the Highlands neighborhood south of King William, while other Reilly siblings continued to live in

the Madison St. house. Will and Hilda returned to the family home in 1936, and Josephine attended St. Mary's Parochial School downtown through high school graduation, walking home every day through the streets of King William.

Meanwhile, Will's sister – Josephine's "Aunt Katie" – had married a railroad man, Timothy Fitzgerald, and in 1923 they built and moved into a new house a few short blocks away at 507 Adams St. During construction of the house, "Uncle Fitz," as he was known, repeatedly threw himself against the walls to test their soundness, insisting on the highest standards of carpentry. Marrying late in life, Aunt Katie and Uncle Fitz had no children of their own, but loved keeping young Josephine, their niece, Will and Hilda's only child and the darling of the family. Josephine loved playing with the Richter children (of Butter Krust Bakery fame) who lived next door to Aunt Katie, on the corner of Adams and Barbe.

In 1944, at the age of 17, Josephine, while attending a dance at the Catholic USO (in the building later known as the Bonham Exchange), met the love of her life, Leonard Kobernat, a soldier in the U.S. Army Air Forces. He was stationed first at Kelly, several bus lines

away from downtown San Antonio, and then at Big Spring, Texas. A native Minnesotan, Leonard was instantly smitten with Josephine, "a beautiful black-haired, blue-eyed Irish Rose," as he described her in letters home to his family. He began courting Jo by making the bus trip from Kelly Field, and then the long hitchhiking trek from Big Spring Field, to the King William neighborhood every weekend.

Leonard and lo were soon

Leonard and Jo were soon and married engaged, September 19, 1945; she was 18 years old and he was 20. With the end of WWII, they settled into the second floor of the Madison St. house where Will and Hilda had made a private apartment for them. On the G.I. Bill, Leonard set about earning his business degree at St. Mary's University, while Joattended Incarnate Word College. By 1949, they had given birth to two sons. Cory and Greg, before moving out of the Madison St. house to build their own home in Terrell Hills. In the 1950s these two young boys had wonderful

adventures in the lovely Madison St. house, playing on the landings of the grand staircase, spending summer nights on the upstairs "sleeping porch," and walking with their grandfather, Will, to the small grocery store at the corner of S. Alamo and Beauregard St. (the Alamo Market sign still hangs there). Ten years after moving to the north side of San Antonio, Josephine and Leonard had a "second round" of two more children, Steven and Anne.

By the end of 1961 Aunt Katie and Uncle Fitz had died, along with the other Reilly siblings, Helen, Agnes, Neil and Annie. Will and Hilda Reilly sold the Madison Street home and moved into Katie's house at 507 Adams. By this time, they were happy to live in the smaller, singlestory home on the wide, comfortable street with big lazy porches and friendly neighbors. Then in 1971, while mowing the front lawn, Will suffered a fatal heart attack at age 80. Hilda continued on as a widow at Adams St. until 1986, when health issues led her to move in with



Jo & Leonard sitting on the curb at 230 Madison, 1944

her beloved daughter Josephine in Terrell Hills, where she lived to the ripe old age of 98.

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Will & Hilda Reilly on porch at 507 Adams, 1963

Sadly, in 1980, the original family home at 230 Madison St. – by then divided into low-rent apartments – was destroyed by a fire. Five years later, the 1901 John T. Brackenridge house was moved from S. Alamo St. to the lot at 230 Madison, soon becoming the Brackenridge House B&B. When Hilda needed to leave her home on Adams St. in 1986, for the first time since 1906, none of the Reilly heirs would be living in King William! Was this to be the end of a family era?

No! For one of Josephine and Leonard's four children was both willing and eager to move from the north side suburbs of San Antonio into the ancestral family home in our historic downtown district. Steven Kobernat and his wife, Michele Maxwell, bought out the other grandchildren's inherited interest and have happily and gratefully lived at the (95-year-old) house at 507 Adams St. for the past 30 years.

In late 2016, Josephine died at age 89, preceded in death by her beloved Leonard in 2010. Nevertheless, through the various descendants of Jeremiah and Catherine Reilly, this one family has now inhabited our beautiful King William neighborhood continuously for 112 years!

- Steven Kobernat

Photos courtesy Steven Kobernat.

# SAPD Non-Emergency 210-207-7273

King William SAFFE Officer on patrol: Officer David McCall 210-207-7413

# BOUES contemporary

INSPIRE, NURTURE, INNOVATE,

### **BSC News**

SC's exhibition Manifest features photographs by artist Wendel White from his series of the same title. The histories of the objects depicted are varied. Some are artifacts of violent offenses committed by humankind, while others are everyday personal items of unknown and famous African Americans, including such significant figures as Frederick Douglass, Malcolm X, Madame Sarah Spencer Washington and Jimi Hendrix. The works depicting objects of slavery, abolition and segregation immediately envelop us emotionally, and although their iconography and brutality are recognizable and disturbing, the representations of these objects communicate subjects and histories society needs to continue to confront.

In celebration of San Antonio's Tricentennial year, six downtown artist-centric organizations, Artpace, Blue Star Contemporary, Carver Community Cultural Center, The Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center, Mexican Cultural Institute San Antonio and the Southwest School of Art, will partner to present an exhibition that will illuminate the 300 years of their hometown's history.

Common Currents is a diverse, encyclopedic

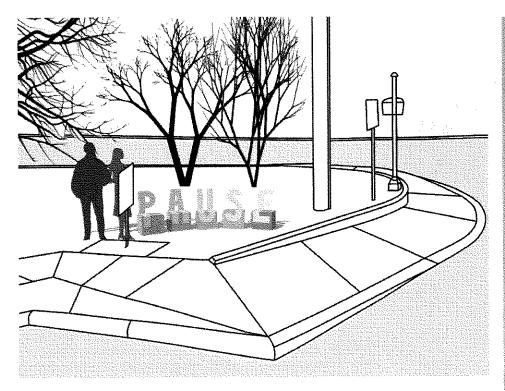
showcase of our city's history as told and retold by more than 300 artists, invited to participate by their peers. Drawing on the connections or currents that run through San Antonio's vibrant creative community, each of the organizing partners began by inviting two artists. These ini-



tial artists were then asked to invite two peer artists, until more than 300 were amassed.

All of the participating artists were assigned one year of San Antonio's history to reflect on in the development of their work for Common Currents. This exhibition is presented chronologically through a variety of contemporary media across the six venues.

- Inessa Kosub Public Affairs and Engagement Manager Blue Star Contemporary



### Wait for the Pause

eep an eye on the convergence of S. Alamo and Pereida Streets in February. A new public art project is being created and will be installed on that corner in the coming weeks. The Cultural Arts Committee of the King William Association commissioned local artist Jennifer Khoshbin to create seating that invites travelers to take a "pause" in their stroll through our historic neighborhood.

We are delighted with Ms. Khoshbin's whimsical and inviting concept (see rendering above), and look forward to seeing the benches completed. The limestone blocks will be near the wayfaring sign that was recently installed next to the B-Cycle station across from the Liberty Bar.

- Nora Peterson

See Jennifer Khoshbin's work at www.jenkhoshbin.com.



### Medicine **Across Cultures**

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Stopping an epidemic is an intricate combination of science, clinical practice, social policy, and public outreach. Some forms of outreach are large: Taylor co-chaired the Fast Track Cities Initiative Convening Meeting this past October, at which both San Antonio Mayor Ron Nirenberg and Bexar County Judge Nelson Wolff committed to a coordinated effort to halt the spread of HIV. We join more than 70 cities around the world in a shared goal of ensuring that at least 90% of residents infected with HIV are aware of their status and receive the latest therapies to prevent transmission of the virus and development of disease. In a lighter form of outreach. Taylor was also recently quoted by Cosmopolitan magazine on the risk of infection from public toilet seats (relatively slight, but remember to wash your hands!).

"When I entered medical school and became interested in HIV care, most people were dying, and those who were living had to take mountains of toxic pills every day to control the virus," Taylor said. "Now, my patients and friends living with HIV can take one pill once a day and live a normal life span. I'm not that old, but even in the short time I've been around. I've seen what science and evidence-based medicine can do. It gives me endless hope that the world will be better in five or ten years than it is today."

lack Kent

For more information:

Dr. Taylor's faculty profile: profiles.uthscsa. edu/?pid=profile&id=2L90R6U5F

San Antonio Fast Track Cities Initiative: www.sanantonio.gov/Portals/0/Files/ health/News/Reports/Fast-TrackCitiesSAReporttoCommunity. pdf?ver=2017-12-07-090036-390

## **Garden Street School News**



#### Winter Highlights

Mr. Muñoz organized and had his students present our first Dances Around the World Night. Foclórico and several other national and regional folk dances were demonstrated. The children danced well, and many parents and com-

munity members attended. Remember, the Foclórico Alegría performance will be in May, near the end of the year.

**Bonham's Teacher of the Year!** 

Congratulations to Holly Clifford, our Theater teacher, for the well-deserved title of Teacher of the Year. Ms. clifford received a grant from the International Thespian society to study Shakespeare in England this past summer. One of the requirements was that she return to teaching and focus on Shakespeare plays. She began the year with Macbeth, a very challenging piece for young actors. During December, she produced and presented A Midsummer Night's Dream. One of the performances ended when snow began to fall, and many of the fairies from the show were dancing in the snow. Ms. Clifford's third production this year was Twelfth Night, which will be a UIL competition piece.

#### **More Grants!**

Monico Vitela and Liza Vega also received grants this winter from the SAISD Foundation.

Mr. Vitela's grant is for "Flipping Out for a Flipped Art Room," and will involve student-directed art projects. Ms. Vega's grant is for *La Prensa de Bonham*, a Spanish language school newsletter. Congratulations to our grant recipients!

#### Re-envisioning Bonham

The Bonham Charter sponsored two community input events on January 25 and 30. These "Re-Envisioning Bonham" programs were initiated to get initial parent and community input on the needs, strengths and areas of growth for Bonham Academy. With this information, a more specific questionnaire is being developed to focus on the identified needs. Thank you to all who participated! More information will be gathered in February and throughout the school year.

#### **Bonham Philosophy Club**

Bonham Academy, in a partnership with a local philosopher, has opened a new club for philosophy. This club will help develop logic skills and supportable philosophical positions. Thank you to our new sponsors.

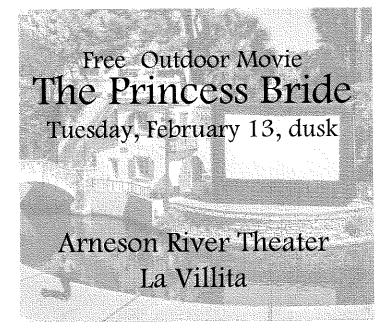
As always, thank you for your support of our neighborhood school, and Go Bobcats!

- Principal Will Webber



Photo courtesy Dave Lopez.

The Bonham Academy Robocats participated in the FIRST LEGO League area qualifier competition on January 20 at Central Catholic High School. The Robocats, all 5th graders, won the Champions Award First Place and the Robot Performance Award (highest score on the Robot Game). The top 8 teams from this meet go on to compete in the Alamo FIRST LEGO League Regional Championship, West Division, on March 3. The Robocats thank the KWA for its support, saying, "We couldn't have done it without you!" Go Robocats! We're proud of you all!



### San Pedro Creek Improvements Project Update

Improvements Project, there is some planned construction taking place in the king William area at the bank of the San Antonio River. The project requires the water level of the river to be temporarily lowered, which will also impact pedestrian access along the west bank of the river. The San Antonio River Authority is working diligently to minimize the disruption to area residents and anticipates all construction in the area to be completed by the end of March.

The San Antonio River Authority briefed the King William neighborhood on this work in during the KWA's September 2017 neighborhood meeting, and will once again attend the February 7 meeting to provide a project update and answer questions.

Water and electrical utility work began in December 2017 in the Arsenal Street area, reducing Arsenal Street to one eastbound lane from Washington to S. Flores Street. Beginning in mid-January, the San Antonio River Authority temporarily restricted water flow along the San Antonio River to install a pump station that will supply reuse water to San Pedro Creek.

In order to accommodate construction, the pedestrian walkway along the west bank of the San Antonio River between Arsenal Street and Cesar Chavez Boulevard will be closed until early March.

The water that will be diverted to San Pedro Creek is recycled water that will be used for irrigation and to supplement the flow of San Pedro Creek during low rain periods when the water level in the Edwards Aquifer drops below a certain point and the springs in San Pedro Park stop flowing.

During construction, water levels in the San Antonio River will be approximately three inches at Nueva Street and will gradually increase to three feet at Alamo Street. Prior to the start of construction, the San Antonio River Authority Environmental staff has taken precautions to properly relocate fish and native wildlife from the area, working in compliance with Texas Parks and Wildlife rules.

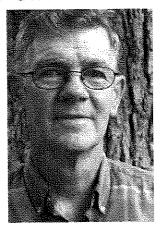
Due to low water levels, recreational activities that typically take place on the river will not be possible in this segment during this brief period of construction. The water levels will return to normal following construction.

- Abigail Bush, San Antonio River Authority

## **Out in the Garden**

with Alan Cash

pring is just around the corner, and Valentine's Day is a good time to get started on this year's garden. Fertilize lawns, shrubs and flowerbeds if has been three or more months since the last time. Use an organic fertilizer. It will not burn plants, so you can wait a while to water it in and hopefully spring rains will do the job. SAWS rates went up January 1, so every little bit helps. Also, mulch around shrubs and in flowerbeds to a depth of 3 to 5 inches. This will keep roots cool and preserve soil moisture as it gets warmer.



As you start work in the garden, it is also a good time to start a journal in which to keep notes on what you do. Record what and when you plant, when you fertilize, sources of garden supplies, when different plants bloom and other useful information.

Trim shrubs to keep them in bounds. Many perennials may freeze, but even if they haven't they should be trimmed to 4 to 6 inches above ground. If not trimmed, they can become large and unsightly. If trimmed now, new growth usually will not start until early March after the latest frost. With the freezing weather during the first half of January, Mother Nature may have already made that decision for us.

I like to think of gardening as a hobby that repeats itself every year. So here is my annual pitch for a small tree that I think should be in every garden. The Mexican Plum is one of the first plants to bring color in spring, covered with brilliant white flowers. It is a good understory tree, meaning it will do well under the outer canopy of larger trees that lose their leaves in winter. A good example of Mexican Plum is just inside the side drive gate at the Steves Homestead at 509 King William St. It may seem large, but has been there many, many years.

To help you select plants for your garden there are free lists in the box outside and to the right of the King William office door at 122 Madison St. The plants are adapted to our area and tend to need less water.

Weather can be unpredictable and vary over short distances. The downtown San Antonio area and south along the river in the King William area seem to have its own microclimate. Temperatures during the cold snap the first week of January demonstrate that. Each morning from January 1 thru 3, I recorded the temperature on my back porch on Mission St. and the official airport temperature. The Mission St. temperatures each morning were 33, 35, and 30. The airport temperatures were 26, 25, and 23. This variance can be a guide in deciding when to haul garden pot plants in and out of the garage or greenhouse.

Happy gardening in 2018!

Garden Note: A seed hidden in the heart of an apple is an orchard invisible. - Welsh proverb

# In Memory of Peter Zubiate

Peter Thomas Zubiate, age 47, passed away on December 28, 2017, surrounded by his loving family. He was born in El Paso, Texas in 1970, to Ida and Richard Zubiate. His family relocated to Marfa when he was a baby, a town that remained in his heart as his childhood home, beautiful and

ideal in his eyes.

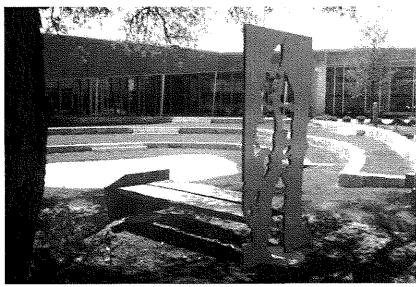
Peter married Katie Pell in 1995 and they immediately moved to Mission Street in King William, where they started their life in Southtown. Peter worked with local builders and created relationships with neighbors that he maintained for the rest of his life. Many of the houses in King William and the surrounding areas benefit from his eye for beauty and his strenuous standard of high craft. His built-ins, tables, lights and chairs are integral to the beauty of many San Antonio homes. Among his proudest accomplishments were his improvement and restoration of O'Neil Ford properties, his public art at the Parman Branch Library, and the joyous collaborative dinners (called Special Projects Social) he hosted with local business Tim the Cirl. His shop on Labor Street was a hub of creativity and collaboration, and he adored it and the life it enabled.



Photo: Angela Martinez
Peter Zubiate

Peter was truly committed to the creative life he built with his wife in the center of the city. He enjoyed a magnificent circle of dedicated friends, and raised his daughter Bygoe Zubiate to be a reflection of his admirable intelligence and sincerity. He lived his life with honesty and loyalty to his own ideals and was accorded respect and affection by many. In lieu of flowers, his family requests a gift to Sala Diaz, the San Antonio non-profit of Peter's choice.

In 2011, Peter was a featured speaker at Pecha Kucha. See his work and hear a moving reading of Shel Silverstein's *The Giving Tree* at www.youtube.com/watch?v=6i5MqYvQZ2U.



One of Peter's public art benches for his Stone Oak Shadows project at the Parman Branch Library. photo: getcreativesanantonio.com

### Art League Receives Grant from Semmes Foundation

he San Antonio Art League learned in December that it was awarded a grant from the Semmes Foundation for \$20,000 to update the outside studio and storage building next to the gallery.

Among the details of our plans are an accessible restroom and expansion of the teaching space. Several successful workshops have already been taught in the space, demonstrating the feasibility of the building as an effective venue for learning and outreach. Future plans for the space include workshops for children and adults, and educational events for the public that align with the SAALM's well-regarded permanent collection.

Construction is scheduled begin in February. The main house, gallery and museum space will not be heavily affected by the renovations to the studio, which will be named The Semmes Studio at the San Antonio Art League. For updates on the project and plans for classes and events in the new Semmes Studio, visit our website, www.saalm.org.

Currently, SAALM is exhibiting works by Mary Bonner from its permanent collection as well as four unusual Bonner pieces loaned by John Nold Mathis, nephew of Walter Nold Mathis.

The San Antonio Art League is located at 130 King William Street and is free and open to the public Tuesday through Saturday from 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

- Lyn Belisle Kurtin President, San Antonio Art League & Museum



# Offering Environmentally Sound Choices in Transportation!



www.smallplanetebikes.com/satx



# Want to be healthier?

Bienestar Adult Health Program is a proven diabetes prevention and obesity control program recognized by the CDC.

It is right in your neighborhood and it works!

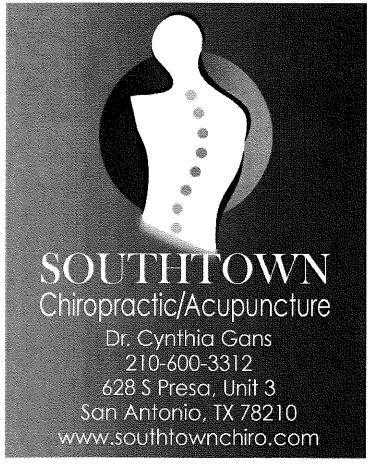
Call or come visit Christina Piña Social & Health Research Center Tuesday-Friday 8am—5pm Saturdays 7am—12pm 1302 So St Marys St. Tel: 210-533-8886 \$25 per visit



Health Program

The program is based on health education and lifestyle modification. Its goals are achieved by learning about the relationship between chronic disease and lifestyles; self-monitoring techniques; goal-setting; building self-efficacy; and problem-solving skills.





# Visit From the Past on Adams Street

93-year old woman paid a visit to our home recently. For the past 71 years, she has treasured a photo of our house, taken in 1945, when she was a young bride. Her new husband was an Army Air Forces pilot and flew a B-17 bomber. He'd been shot down during a mission over Berlin, and spent over a year in a German prison camp. When he was released, they married in North Carolina just before he was ordered to San Antonio for debriefing. She came here with him on what she calls their "extended honeymoon." and they lived for seven weeks in a rented bedroom of what is now our home.



310 Adams Street, 1945

She nearly refused to get on a plane to make the long trip to San Antonio from her home in North Carolina with her daughter and son-in-law for a vacation. She finally agreed only because she'd get a chance to drive by this old house again. She had no idea that her daughter had researched the name of the current owner and arranged with me for a visit inside. At first she couldn't understand that I knew who she was and that I was expecting her. Then she smiled a huge smile and was led into the house, holding back tears as she crossed the threshold. At the top of the stairs she again choked back tears when she saw the front bedroom that she had once rented. She explained that there had been a small sink just to the left of the door as you entered. "I know," I said, "I remember the pipes." But the sink was long gone. She insisted that the room had been bigger, and she was right. Laura and I added closets on one side of the room, Which also hid the new AC ducts and a door that led to a back bedroom. "That door was always locked," she said.

When she lived here the house was already 50 years old. As she put it, it was "really rough!" But none of us in the room could mistake the thrill in her voice as she gazed from the bedroom window, transported back to 1945, and described looking out every morning to watch as her husband walked away to catch his bus to the base.

- John Hartman

# **Book review:** Old Villita and La Villita Continues

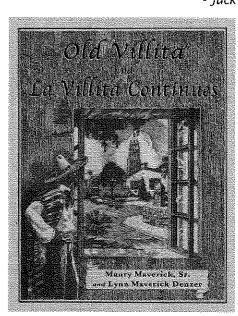
ing William-based Wings Press has announced its re-publication of Maury Maverick, Sr.'s 1939 book Old Villita together with subsequent historical notes and watercolors by his granddaughter Lynn Maverick Denzer. Book release, timed to celebrate San Antonio's 300th anniversary, is set for March. The book will be available at The Twig Book Shop and other booksellers, as well as

wingspress.com.

As a Depression-era mayor of San Antonio and a vigorous supporter of the New Deal, Maverick spearheaded acquisition of the La Villita neighborhood and its restoration by the National Youth Administration under the guidance of the legendary San Antonio architect O'Neil Ford. The book provides invaluable insight into the vision that Maverick and Ford brought to this innovative project, which combined historic restoration with economic development through hands-on training in and marketing of traditional arts and crafts. It also provides a glimpse of how San Antonio's rich history was understood by leaders of the mid-20th century. Ms. Denzer's update provides additional information on the development of La Villita in the intervening years, its connection to the River Walk, and its increasing use as a venue for NIOSA and other public events.

With La Villita's modest streetscapes increasingly hemmed in by urban development, and after a series of tinkerings by public and private interests with its management and purpose, it is most timely and refreshing to have this clear statement of the original vision that saved (in Maverick's words) "this storied district from inevitable destruction."

- Jack Kent





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# 2018 Fair Logo Artwork Unveiling on February 7

Please join us at the KWA February General Membership Meeting for the unveiling of our official 2018 King William Fair logo artwork and to meet the artist, Paula Cox of Mockingbird Handprints at Blue Star Arts Complex.

### **February Calendar**

- 7 General Membership Meeting KWA Office 7:00 p.m.
- 13 Deadline for March Newsletter
- 21 KWA Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.