

KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION NEWS

JUNE 2023

THE FAMILY ISSUE

IN MEMORY OF JESSIE SIMPSON



JESSIE SIMPSON
1948-2023

Jessie Nora Margaret Simpson was born on February 27, 1948, and grew up in Crossett, Arkansas in a loving home of modest means. She earned her BA in Social Studies Education from Arkansas A&M in 1969, taught middle school math for a time, then did graduate work at the University of Arkansas.

When she moved to San Antonio in the early 1970s to work for the Air Force, she fell head over heels in love with King William: a small town

inside a small, laid-back city. She spent the next 50 years restoring and preserving a dozen historic homes, including 514 Madison and 241 King William, the Alexander Joske House. She fiercely loved the beauty of old, well-made things, stripped the old shellac from her woodwork by hand with ammonia, and ensured that every missing brick, turned finial, and brass fixture was set properly back in its place.

Her first house in the neighborhood was 514 Madison. An article from Texas Southwest Magazine talks about the near impossibility of anyone financing an older home back then in what we now recognize as red-lined areas. The opening lines:

The voice on the phone was quiet, calm, disinterested really. "Our appraiser said the house has no value." "What does that mean?" I asked. "It means no value...the house has no value."



When you want an old house badly enough.

by Ron White

514 MADISON, 1975, FROM TEXAS SOUTHWEST MAGAZINE- BAILEY FAMILY DUSTER IN THE YARD

(continued on page 4)

THIS MONTH'S FEATURES INCLUDE:

KWA DESIGNER BAG BINGO
Table Sponsorships & Individual Tickets..pg 3

STARS, STRIPES & REGATTA
Sign up today.....pg 8

MISSION CRAFTS CHANDLERY
A family inspired business.....pg 9

The mission of the King William Association is to promote the health and welfare of the King William neighborhood by preserving the historic and residential nature of the neighborhood and fostering educational, recreational, and cultural activities.

Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion(s) of the KWA Board of Directors.

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Promote your business directly to King William neighbors by advertising in this newsletter!

Advertising Rates are listed on our website at

ourkwa.org or you can call 210-227-8786

or email info@ourkwa.org.

FOLLOW US ONLINE

FACEBOOK: KingWilliamAssociation
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DAVID.MCCALL@SANANTONIO.GOV

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Shawn Campbell

The Nathan Historic District signage went up a week before Fiesta, under budget, I might add. But you might ask, how did they get to be part of the King William "family"? As usual, it's not an easy answer. Well, it is but, took a bit of figuring out on my part. If you look in the 2021 Membership Directory (yes, we are getting a new one) there is a map entitled King William Neighborhood, Historic District and Environs. Those street boundaries were established when the King William Association was established in 1967 in our bylaws. This was acceptable as per the City of San Antonio's Department of Planning and Community Development policy statement entitled Neighborhood Associations, Partnership Organizations, Community Organizations. See sanantonio.gov/planning. I asked Maria Pfeiffer about this, and she confirmed

the boundaries were set a long time ago. She assumes the boundaries were drawn because the area over to Flores Street shared architecture, time period and proximity to King William. She wrote it was a huge fight to prevent development of incompatible uses on what was known as the SAHA property, but the KWA and other neighbors prevailed so we had a history of solidarity with the expanded area. However, the Nathan area was not ready to become an historic district. When Jim and I moved here in 2011, there were the building remains of, I believe, a gas station at the corner of S. Flores and W. Guenther. The KWA encouraged Nathan to become an historic district, but they did not and 1010 S. Flores apartments were built. Not great from a historic design perspective, but great because I convinced my sister-in-law Kate Campbell (current board VP) & Fred to move in (family). Nathan then moved to become an historic district in 2017. I walked the streets a number of times to write down the correct signage and numbers. It is a gem characterized by a concentration of Folk Victorian and Queen Anne Victorian homes. Originally developed by Lewis-Gaenslen, it was comprised of 68 properties and 27 historic landmarks. Notable residents included William Gebhardt, VP of Gebhardt Chili Powder Company, at 119 Sweet and J. Ray Lambert, Parks Commissioner, at 502 Nathan. There are still some houses in the King William Neighborhood which are not designated as an Historic District, but the houses are historic. And, I discovered the Arsenal Historic District strictly encompasses the H-E-B campus and not those houses. I love H-E-B, but they can get their own historic signs.



BOARD BRIEFS:

At the May 17 board meeting the Fair Director gave updates regarding the Fair. Executive Director Lynde reported that membership directories are at the printers. President Campbell spoke on the upcoming July Social Regatta and the Bingo event on August 12. More to follow! Board agreed to not have an August General Membership Meeting. Committee members from the Architectural Advisory Committee, Cultural Arts Committee, Membership Committee, and Residential Quality Committee all reported active and engaged work in support of the KWA. Neighbor Night (6pm) and the General Membership Meeting (7pm) will be held on June 7, 2023 at the King William Association Office at 122 Madison Street. Hope to see all our neighbors there!

Tina Garza, Board Secretary



Saturday, August 12, 2023

12 noon – 4pm

Hermann Sons Ballroom 525 S. St Mary's St., 78205

Dress casual - black & white • Free Parking Available

Table Sponsorship & Individual Tickets Available!

Purchase your table/tickets online at:

<https://www.ourkwa.org/bag-bingo>

___ **\$2,500 Gold / 8 Seats** - 2 bottles wine & 2 bottles champagne w/souvenir glassware & table service Per person: 2 drink tickets, boxed lunch, 1 set colored Bingo cards, 20 extra white bingo cards, bingo dauber, 2 book set KWA Burkholder books, KWA swag

___ **\$1,500 Silver / 8 Seats** - 2 bottles of wine on table w/souvenir glassware Per person: 2 drink tickets, boxed lunch, 1 set colored bingo cards, 10 extra white bingo cards, bingo dauber, KWA swag

___ **\$125/ Individual Seat** - 2 drink tickets, boxed lunch, 1 set of colored bingo cards, 1 KWA swag item

As per Tx Gaming Commission minors (under 18) may play but must be accompanied by an adult and must purchase a ticket.

For questions, please contact Shawn Campbell shawn78@swbell.net



The KWA continues to address issues that arose at the 2023 King William Fair. A press release went out on May 1 explaining why there were issues with BlastPass. The Executive Committee met with the Executive Director on May 2 to discuss the Fair and made the following decisions:

- To reduce the commission paid by all food vendors from 20-25% to 15-20%
- To return to using paper tickets for Food/Beverage and Kid's Kingdom sales
- To reduce the price of Admission to the 2024 Fair to \$15 (down from \$20) in advance and \$20 (down from \$25) at the gate on Fair Day

On May 3, the KWA announced in a second press release that it will be returning to paper tickets for 2024 and to let the public know we are working to identify customers that may be due a refund.

The KWA continues to go through the data to identify those customers and is addressing those on a case-by-case basis. As part of that process, Saffire has identified those customers whose BlastPass funds never loaded onto their wristbands. The KWA is working with Saffire to identify those whose BlastPass monies loaded after a considerable delay, to best assess any refunds these customers may be due.

In addition to BlastPass, staff, Board President, Board Treasurer, and key volunteers met on May 12 to review all other aspects of the Fair and are making adjustments as needed.

CULTURAL ARTS EXHIBIT



Opening Reception for Terry Ybanez:

Paisajes de Francia y Tejas – Wish You Were Here

Thursday, June 8

6-8 p.m.

122 Madison St.

The King William Cultural Arts Committee invites one and all to the opening of an art exhibit featuring San Antonio artist Terry Ybanez on Thursday, June 8 from 6 – 8 p.m. in the Molly Shafer Gallery at the King William Association office, 122 Madison Street. The event is free and open to the public of all ages. Enjoy refreshments and meet the artist! According to Terry, "It began with a trip to France in the heat of the summer month of July with my friend Jeanette McDougal. She was leading a watercolor workshop on a farm in the Occitanie region near the city of Pamiers. I decided to tag along and paint on the farm while she gave her workshop. So many beautiful inspirations to paint. I decided to focus on landscapes for that was what moved me the most and what would become a meditation to a genre I had not focused on in my studio." The exhibit will be on display through Thursday, August 31, 2023.

JUNE EVENTS

- 5 Architectural Advisory Committee Meeting
- 7 Neighbor Night & General Membership Meeting
- 8 Art Exhibit: Terry Ybanez
- 19 Architectural Advisory Committee Meeting
- 21 Historic & Design Review Commission Meeting
- 21 KWA Board Meeting

IN MEMORY OF JESSIE SIMPSON (CONTINUED)

To buy it in 1975, she and her then-husband Ted Bailey (our dad) borrowed \$10k from Walter Mathis (Villa Finale) who had rotated the house from Alamo to face Madison then they set about restoring it. They did it with their own hands. Ted turned the porch rail spindles on Ed Slezak's lathe in his garage across the street and she stripped woodwork and scavenged. She was particularly amused by the quite-literally blue-haired ladies from the Conservation Society who were horrified by her color choices.



514 MADISON CIRCA 1977

In 1984 after returning from a few-year stint at Wright-Patterson AFB in Dayton, OH, she traded 514 Madison for the massive wreck that was 241 King William. It was a monumental project, orders of magnitude beyond the Madison endeavor. The family moved into a few unfinished rooms upstairs with a temporary kitchenette and tried to block the dust with sheets. I fondly remember the luxury of the window AC unit in one of the rooms: the first air conditioning I recall us ever having. When she and Ted divorced in the early nineties, she doubled down on the house and managed to hold it. She threw everything she had into it. She met and married the great love of her life, Bill Hoover, and together, they lived there and finished fixing it up in the ensuing 30 years.



241 KING WILLIAM CIRCA 1984

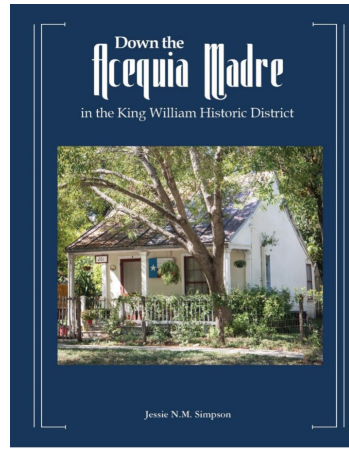
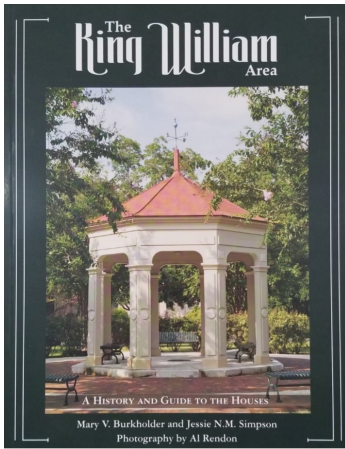


241 KING WILLIAM TODAY. PHOTO BY AL RENDON

Jessie is the author of two award-winning books: "The King William Area, A History and Guide to Its Houses" and "Down the Acequia Madre", both of which are available from the King William Association online shop. She spent years painstakingly researching County deeds to ensure that the historical record was set down accurately. Bursting with lush photography from Al Rendon and others, these homes recount the history of every house and building in the historic district.

(continued on page 5)

IN MEMORY OF JESSIE SIMPSON (CONTINUED)



She served the King William Association in many capacities over the decades, leading at times the Home Tour and the King William Fair, sitting periodically on the Board of Directors, and acting as President of the Association.

Every Spring, her garden at 241 explodes in a riot of colors: yellow sunflowers, purple irises, and red roses from her mother's garden in Arkansas. Jessie gardened in a militantly sustainable fashion, not out of any sort of ideological impetus but because it was practical and aesthetically pleasing to her. Every corner of her half-acre lot was hand-weeded and only that which could survive drought and cold persisted. Thirty years of letting the leaves lay where they fell yielded a rich soil, biological diversity and butterfly habitat, and a bubble of peace in a maelstrom of yard maintenance noise, which she abhorred.



JESSIE SIMPSON AND BILL HOOVER IN HER GARDEN, 2020. PHOTO BY ANGELA MARTINEZ

She loved to cook and entertain, and she was very good at it. She would regularly host neighborhood gatherings of scores of people and would start working on the Thanksgiving cornucopia weeks in advance. On game nights, she'd fanatically cheer the Spurs. She quilted and sewed,

she painted, and she loved the WOW book club.

She was a champion runner with a closet full of trophies from 5- and 10k races. San Antonians would regularly see her and husband Bill riding their steel Cannondale tandem on the Greenways, cruising the streets of the Southside, or barreling down country roads to the south, east and west of San Antonio. Together, they had enough momentum to outpace the folks in spandex on fancy carbon bikes! Needing an occasional rest from competing, she and Bill traveled extensively in Europe, Australia, and New Zealand and crisscrossed the US in their camper van seeking new trails to ride or hike.

After a monumental battle with cancer, she died just before the Fair on April 24, 2023, in the home and neighborhood that she poured so much of her life into, surrounded by those closest to her. She left behind a host of loved ones: from immediate and extended family members to a broad community of former coworkers, neighbors, and fellow preservationists who mourn her passing.

Throughout her life, until the moment she drew her last breath, she had agency of her own making. She did it all her way.

Thank you all for being part of her world.

I've been back in the 'hood, living in the carriage house at 241 for the last couple of years, in large part to be close to her and Bill when the end came. I took that opportunity to learn about her gardening methods and the plants that she nurtured. Over the last few months, I have been doing my best to manage things the way she did. If you see me or Bill puttering around out there, please feel free to say hi and offer advice.

John and Debbie Bailey still live at 321 Madison.

Mike Bailey is down on Theo Parkway in sight of Mission Concepcion.

We hope to hold a celebration of her life sometime this summer at the Joske House. Keep your eyes peeled for that!

Jim (and John and Mike) Bailey



KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

SIGN ME UP OR RENEW MY DUES TO BE A KWA MEMBER IN 2023

Dues for 2023 are payable by January 15 in order to receive complimentary King William Fair admission and be included in the printed directory. We nominate voting members in good standing to serve on the Board of Directors and nominating committee. A voting member must be current with annual dues 30 calendar days prior to any vote. The membership year runs January 1 to December 31. Dues may be paid any time but will not be prorated. The King William Association is a nonprofit 501(c)(3).

VOTING MEMBERS: Select a category:

- Individual (\$30/1 vote) Business/Organization (\$50/1 vote)
 Patron (\$75) Family (\$40/2 votes)
 Benefactor (\$250) Lifetime (\$1,000)

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Select a category:

- Individual (Free) Family (Free) Business/Organization (Free)

INDIVIDUAL NAME(S): _____

(For voting business members, list the designated person and alternate who may cast a vote.)

BUSINESS NAME (if applicable): _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP: _____

(Check one) I AM I AM NOT WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF THE KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION.

PRIMARY PHONE (with area code): home cell work _____

SECONDARY PHONE (with area code): home cell work _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS(ES): _____

VOTING MEMBERS: Would you like your email address(es) listed in the Directory?

Yes No

WEBSITE ADDRESS (for businesses): _____

ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE ON THE...

- Architectural Advisory Board Cultural Arts Home Tour King William Fair
 Newsletter Committee Other: _____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Please fill out the KWA membership form above and mail to the KWA office. You may also drop your KWA membership form in the mail slot in the door facing Madison (not the parking lot entrance). You may also email us at info@ourkwa.org, or you may become a KWA member online by going to <https://www.ourkwa.org/membership-join>.

Renew your membership today or join King William Association for the first time! The membership year begins in January, but it is never too late to renew or join.

The more numerous and diverse our members the more powerful our voice in the effort to advance the KWA mission of preserving and protecting our historic residential environment. We encourage you to become involved in the work of KWA and to participate in KWA sponsored events that offer an opportunity to strengthen a sense of belonging by building relationships with neighbors. Your membership offers other benefits in the form of discounts on KWA merchandise and at businesses in the area.

Equally important, your membership helps support KWA programs, including the King William Fair!

Joining for the first time or renewing your membership is quick, easy and secure online by visiting our website at www.ourkwa.org.

Shawn Campbell
KWA Board President

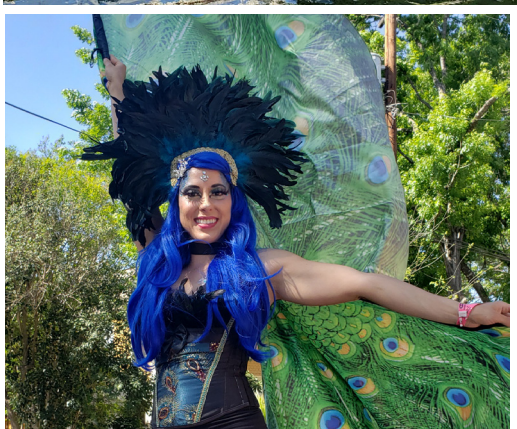




FORMULARIO PARA MEMBRESÍA DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

FAVOR DE ACTIVAR O RENOVAR MI MEMBRESÍA DE KWA PARA EL 2023

Para recibir la entrada gratuita a King William Fair y ser incluido en el guía impreso, favor de pagar la cuota antes del 15 de enero del 2023. Solamente, se nominan miembros activos para servir en la Mesa Directiva y el comité de nominaciones. Para poder votar, el mismo debe estar al día con las cuotas anuales 30 días corridos antes de cada votación. La membresía es efectiva del 1 de enero al 31 de diciembre. La cuota se puede pagar en cualquier momento, pero no se prorrateará. La Asociación King William es una organización sin fines de lucro 501(c)(3).



MIEMBROS CON DERECHO A VOTO: Seleccione una categoría:

- Individual (\$30/1 voto)
- Empresa/Organización (\$50/1 voto)
- Patrocinador (\$75)
- Familia (\$40/2 votos)
- Benefactor (\$250)
- De por vida (\$1,000)

MIEMBROS ASOCIADOS: Seleccione una categoría:

- Individual (Gratis)
- Familia (Gratis)
- Negocio/Organización (Gratis)

NOMBRE(S): _____

(Para los miembros empresariales con derecho a voto, indique la persona designada para votar y el respectivo suplente.)

NOMBRE COMERCIAL (si aplica): _____

DIRECCIÓN: _____

CIUDAD/ESTADO/CÓDIGO POSTAL: _____

(Seleccione uno) VIVO NO VIVO DENTRO DE LOS LÍMITES DE LA ASOCIACIÓN KING WILLIAM.

TELÉFONO PRIMARIO (con código de área):

casa celular trabajo _____

TELÉFONO SECUNDARIO (con código de área):

casa celular trabajo _____

CORREO(S) ELECTRÓNICO(S): _____

MIEMBROS CON DERECHO A VOTO: ¿Le gustaría que su dirección de correo electrónico se publique en el Directorio de KWA? sí no

DIRECCIÓN DE SITIO WEB (para empresas): _____

¿ESTÁ DISPUESTO A SERVIR EN . . .

- Artes culturales
- Comité de asesoramiento arquitectónico
- Comités para el boletín
- Feria King William
- Mesa directiva
- Recorrido de Casas
- Otro: _____

GRACIAS POR SU APOYO!

Por favor llene el formulario y envíelo por correo a la oficina de KWA. También puede depositarlo en la ranura de la puerta que da a Madison (no en la entrada del estacionamiento). También puede enviarla por correo electrónico a info@ourkwa.org, o puede activar su membresía en línea en <https://www.ourkwa.org/membership-join>.

OUT IN THE GARDEN WITH ALAN CASH

The weather seems to be getting back to what we typically expect. If you are looking for plants for container growing that will bloom from now until the fall, consider petunias, million bells, pentas and begonias. Plants that will provide a nonstop foliar show are coleus, Persian Shield and Cuban Oregano. Most good nurseries should have them.

Now is a good time to take walks through the neighborhood to find plants to add to your garden. Two local gardens to go by are at 421 E. Guenther St. and 315 Stieren. Both have a display of various plants.

With warm weather comes lawn cutting. A chore most dislike. Switching from a gas powdered mower to an electric one reduces pollution, and electric mowers require less maintenance. Just plug them in, flip the switch, and go.



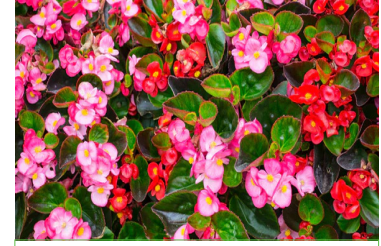
PETUNIAS



MILLION BELLS



PENTAS



BEGONIAS

Garden Note

To assure success in our garden, the best fertilizer is the gardener's shadow.



COLEUS



PERSIAN SHIELD



CUBAN OREGANO

STARS, STRIPES &...REGATTA!



All neighbors are invited to participate in King William's traditional **July 4 Regatta celebration** of our river and our passion for the offbeat. On the morning of July 4, neighbors will gather at the Nueva Street floodgates of the San Antonio River in their canoes, kayaks, paddleboats, and other floating contraptions. Some participate in the canoe race, some participate in the one-person kayak race, most just come for a leisurely paddle through our neighborhood. All participants should be in place in the river by 10 a.m. sharp!

All paddlers, kids, dogs, boats and floats will be styled-out in their best stars-and-stripes decorations. Each participant is a contestant in the "Most Stylish" competition – the zanier, the better. Awards will be presented at the social that follows the Regatta to the neighbors who finish first in each category: canoe, kayak and style. Please encourage your neighbors to participate in the KW Independence

Day extravaganza!

If you want to participate, get more info, or if you want to lend or borrow a canoe or kayak, please contact Commodore of the King William Yacht Club Jen Morey at jemorey@gmail.com. Now is the time to dust off your paddles so you can participate in our July 4 fun!

NEIGHBOR NIGHT & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MTG



Neighbor Night & General Membership Meeting

June 7

Neighbor Night: 6-7 p.m.

General Membership Meeting: 7-8 p.m.

122 Madison St.

Join us for Neighbor Night preceding the May General Membership Meeting! Visit with KW neighbors and welcome new neighbors! Please bring your favorite finger food to share. All are invited!

Jane Lewis, Executive Director of Villa Finale, will talk at the General Membership Meeting about the new Villa Finale Visitor Center.

Cindy Miller

Marcie Anguiano is the owner of Mission Crafts Chandlery located at 1010 S. Flores. She grew up in McAllen, Texas with her sister and mother. Her mother, artist Sue Fowles has always been an inspiration and guiding force for Marcie's creativity and eagerness to help people as well as her passion for civic involvement. Sue owned a fragrance company and dabbled in pottery, painting, bead work, jewelry, and other creative outlets. Marcie remembers her mother lovingly creating beautiful Halloween costumes because they could not afford store bought costumes. She fondly recalls with pride that her mother was one of the first artists to sell at pop up markets. A brick-and-mortar store had always been her mother's dreams, but she did her best with options available to sell her art. The Old San Antonio Soap Company (her business) made products such as soaps, body lotions, and natural perfumes which were sold out of her home and at pop-up markets.

Marcie originally came to San Antonio to attend UTSA where she earned a degree in communications with a public relations concentration. Her degree fits her extroverted personality. Her life after graduation quickly turned into a series of serendipitous moments which led her to very meaningful jobs and ultimately to starting her own business.

Upon graduation, she began a career as a nonprofit development grant writer for Meals on Wheels followed by a stint at the Guadalupe Cultural Arts Center and Dress for Success. Memories of the challenges endured by her single mother inspired her work and helped her thrive at each of these organizations. The time spent at The Guadalupe Arts Center was a full circle moment for her as she remembers visiting there when her mother had submitted an art piece for a poster. Her mother's art submission was not chosen, but the time visiting the Arts Center and visiting local artists sparked an interest that would eventually lead her to work there. Women including her mother, Lorrain Pulido, and Susie Walker Atchison helped to mentor, inspire, and encourage Marcie. The skills she learned from working with nonprofits were invaluable when she began her work in corporate America at TJ Maxx and later when she started her own business.

She met her husband, Andrew Anguiano in San Antonio. He is an eighth-generation Canary Island descendant. His roots extend back to the first 16 families to settle San Antonio. His family tree includes the Padron family which was the fifth family to settle San Antonio. The couple has one daughter, Winter, who often helps her mom set up group activities. The tradition of women helping women and family unity is a legacy she has seen modeled throughout her life. Andrew's great aunts were potters and tile "decorators" at San Jose Potteries, which was located on the grounds of Mission San Jose. Andrew and Marcie are also owners of a beverage company, Southside Craft Soda, which is co-packed out of Alamo Beer. The Anguiano

family are proud of their artisan family legacy. They have a private collection of "whoopsies" created by family potters.

Mission Crafts Chandlery continues to evolve. What started as a shop to showcase mission inspired crafts now includes many artistic items and opportunities for clients to spark creativity. The original shop sold home decor with the Missions as inspiration. Luminaries, pottery, pillows, and artwork depicting Missions gave customers unique items with a San Antonio flair for the home. The shop at 1010 S. Flores now offers candle making classes which are great opportunities for family and friends to share a fun activity while learning something new. The classes and group activities are perfect for bridal showers, birthday, bachelorette parties, team building, baby

showers, or any other reason. It's an activity that can be done individually or in a group. Give her a theme, and she will create options and fragrances that will carry out customer visions. Mission Crafts Chandlery takes custom orders and assembles gift sets. Some of her clients include Hyatt Hill Country, UTSA, and Methodist Hospital. She can create custom and personal gifts that include customer brands or designs.

Marcie honors her mother not only with her creative ventures, but also with her spirit of "giving back" and giving others a "hand up" as often as she can.

(continued on page 10)

Candle Culture
POUR MENU

Show Stoppers
Pick One Fragrance

Southtown Gal
Neroli - Raspberry - Vanilla - Pink Sugar

Blue Star
Bergamot - Muguet - Violets - White Musk

Crown Jewel
Pomegranate - Mandarin - Rose - Sandalwood

King Wilhelm
Bird of Paradise - Palm - Tonka - Vetiver

Lavaca
Amber - Sage Leaf - Lavender - Driftwood

K.I.S.S.
(Keep It Simple, Scents)
Pick One or Two Fragrances

Grapefruit	Bergamot
Lemon	Vanilla
Mandarin	Lavender
Sage Leaf	Sandalwood
Rose	Patchouli

  @MissionCraftsChandlery
#CandleCultureSA

CONTEMPORARY AT BLUE STAR

Daniela Oliver de Portillo

San Antonio, the ideal city for a family staycation, offers a diverse range of public parks, attractions, and cultural destinations, ensuring there's something for every kind of family to enjoy. Among these incredible options is Contemporary at Blue Star, where we eagerly anticipate welcoming families seeking a refreshing escape through our thought-provoking and captivating exhibitions.

This month we proudly open *Actions for the Earth: Art, Care & Ecology*, curated by Sharmila Wood and produced by Independent Curators International (ICI), this traveling exhibition explores artistic practices that promote a deeper awareness of our interconnectedness with the earth. The exhibition features interdisciplinary artists addressing global crises such as climate change, social inequity, and public health concerns. Through participatory interventions, healing strategies, and research in ecology and ancient beliefs, the artworks emphasize our connection to living networks and the planet. The exhibition showcases the work of 18 intergenerational artists and collectives, highlighting action, instruction, reciprocity, and exchange as central themes. By honoring ancestors, valuing Indigenous knowledge, and exploring speculative imaginings, the artworks span various disciplines including science fiction and network sciences. *Actions for the Earth* serves as a resource to study our current times, emphasizing learning, care, and intimacy.



IRMANDADE: THE SHAPE OF WATER IN PINDORAMA, 2018. VIDEO HD, SINGLE CHANNEL SOUND. 00:16:13. COURTESY SMAC GALLERY AND THE ARTIST

Visitors are invited to participate in instruction-based meditation and deep listening activities, extending the impact of the exhibition beyond its physical space to engage individuals in their personal contexts.

Actions for the Earth is on view June 2 through September 3, presentation of this exhibition at Contemporary at Blue Star has been organized in collaboration with Jacqueline Saragoza McGilvray.

We hope to see you and your family through the summer! Please save the date for three new exhibitions opening on July 7 and featuring the work of Adam Schreiber, Michael Velliquette's and Brittany Ham.

MISSION CRAFTS CHANDLERY (CONTINUED)



She has plans to hire three UTSA interns to help her as her business grows and evolves. Candles for Causes, launched in February, is a project whereby she partners with a nonprofit and the profits of the candles are split or donated to

the nonprofit partner. Previous partners have included Child Advocates of San Antonio, Footbridge Foundation, Students of Service, and this month will feature San Antonio Legal Services Association.

The Anguiano family prides itself on their civic involvement. Marcie is currently the vice president of the Friends of Library-Mission Branch Library, sits on the board of the UTSA Alumni Association, and a mentor for UTSA students. She was the first entrepreneur interviewed for the UTSA Birds Up podcast. She has been featured as a Top Maker in San Antonio magazine, Scene San Antonio magazine, and Latina Woman magazine as well as on the cover of Southside magazine. Marcie was a guest presenter at Palo Alto College's International Education Week and at the Business

Activator Summit as well as a guest panelist for Texas Public Radio's Hispanic Heritage Month discussion – Crafts on a Mission.

Mission Crafts invites all King William Association members and residents to visit the shop, take a class, and apply the 10% discount given to KWA members. The business will be rebranding soon. Follow the shop on Instagram and Facebook @missioncraftschandlery to keep up with the latest classes, products, and happenings.



Jessie Simpson literally wrote the book on the King William neighborhood, painstakingly updating Mary Burkholder's seminal works. Mary would have been proud of her. Jessie was well-qualified for the task. She was a dogged and precise researcher who had observed and participated in the neighborhood's restoration since 1975. Neighbor Roselyn Cogburn remarked, "Jessie's death is a real blow to the neighborhood. She loved and defended the historic houses and the history of King William."

Jessie was a proud country girl from Arkansas who became an urban pioneer in the heyday of King William's revival. It was the time when Walter Mathis was purchasing, stabilizing and reselling houses to young families who would bring new life to the aging area. Among his projects was the 500 block of Madison Street where Jessie and her husband Ted, like their neighbors Russi and John Crain and Ralph and Barbara Wells were among Walter's recruits. Nearby neighbors, Paulette and Batt Batterson and Caroline Matthews and Ed Slezak also arrived in the mid 1970s. Financing for restoration was scarce and these visionary buyers invested "sweat-equity" to transform dilapidated houses into their dream homes. Russi recalls "Our whole end of the block sort of arrived at the same time, buying property...we all hung out together and talked about restoring our houses... we had a good time together."

In 1984, after restoring 514 Madison, Jessie set her sights on her greatest challenge, the Alexander Joske House at 241 King William Street. The house was in dire need of restoration, having suffered badly through years as a rooming house. But Jessie was drawn to details that had miraculously survived- original fixtures, cabinetry, fireplaces, stained glass and parquet floors. Well-experienced from their Madison Street project, Jessie and Ted set about slowly restoring the Joske House. After their divorce, Jessie soldiered on, never giving up on her life-long project. Always creative, when a film company asked to use the house as a location for "North and South," she negotiated a fee that helped with the ongoing restoration. Later she was joined in her quest by Bill Hoover who shared her vision and dedication. They married, appropriately, in the Joske House.

Her long-time friend, Carolene Zehner, recalled how glad she and her husband were to have Jessie, already a neighbor, move across the street. Jessie dedicated her available time to the restoration while raising her children, entertaining grandchildren, volunteering with the King William Association and continuing her successful civilian contracting career with the Air Force. Her



neighbors knew Jessie as a runner, cook, life-long learner and devoted member of the WOW (Women Out Walking) book club. As a cyclist, she and Bill were often seen riding their tandem bicycle through the area. Roselyn recalled the time Jessie hopped off at a stop and Bill took off without her. Finally realizing she was missing, he did return!

Jessie's great love was gardening. Regardless of season, Jessie wore her signature loose fitting dresses to work in her natural landscape, greeting neighbors and interested passers-by. Her expansive yard was a seasonal riot of color and a fragrant sanctuary for birds, butterflies and humans alike. Decades ago she planted cilantro which reseeded and still lends its distinctive smell to the air. Red roses traced their lineage to her grandmother's garden, towering purple iris were a legacy from a neighbor, Niles Norton, and Roselyn contributed her mother's pinky/yellow iris. In turn, Jessie divided and shared her plants with fellow members of the neighborhood's Loosely Potted Garden Club. Unlike most gardeners who regarded native sunflowers as unwanted invasives,



(continued on page 12)



Jessie let them grow and reseed for visiting birds. She carefully nurtured a bright poinsettia that climbed to the second story and prolific fig and avocado trees. After hard freezes, she did not hesitate to severely trim prune them but they always came back.

Just as Carolene had welcomed Jessie to King William Street in 1984, Jessie was there to welcome Tim Ziegel and Len Ambrosio when they bought Carolene's house in 2013. Tim recalls, "She was the first person to come over and greet us...she gave us the best advice of just taking one room at a time, which I have now passed on to others." Tim always enjoyed her sense of humor that never failed her. When her hair grew back curly after chemo treatments, she remarked that she had always wanted hair like that. She observed, "There are easier ways of getting curly hair, but Medicare won't pay for it!"

Jessie's years in King William were filled with a diverse and always entertaining cast of resident characters, architectural transformations, quality of life battles, and events that ran the gamut from laughable to sad. It was an era with enough fodder for a best-seller. After the publication of her award-winning King William his-

tories, Jessie was asked "When are we going to write our novel about King William?" She reportedly whispered back, "Just as soon as a few more people die!" Jessie's legacy is part of that story, a story we will now have to write without her. Rest assured, she will be a lead character!

Friends of Jessie

"COOL" SUMMER SPOTS

Cindy Miller

A few "cool" places near our neighborhood to visit when it gets hot this summer!

Hopscotch 711 Navarro Street

Located in the heart of downtown, Hopscotch San Antonio is a uniquely curated permanent 20,000 sq. ft. gallery which features 14 distinctive immersive and interactive installations from over 40 local, national, and international artists. Hopscotch hopes to elicit a sense of joy and wonder in the spaces we curate, where guests may participate in a playful manner and explore beyond their day-to-day reality. Along with the immersive art gallery, guests enjoy a full bar and lounge area which often has live music and a food truck on the patio. Visit the gift shop for a variety of unique curiosities.

The Selfie Museum 314 East Commerce

The most Instagram-able place in the nation. Texas Selfie Museum is the first creative space in Texas uniquely designed to take your photos and videos to an entirely new level of awesomeness. Charge your phone and grab your family and friends to the one and only Texas Selfie Museum in San Antonio! Enjoy Yourselfie!

SAMA 200 W. Jones Avenue

Join SAMA's knowledgeable and passionate docents on a guided tour of the Museum's permanent collections. They have a variety of themed tours that rotate on a monthly schedule. Whether you're a long-time member or visiting for the first time, there's something for everyone!

Many artworks in SAMA's collection reveal aspects of how people from different times and cultures live. Food and drink, clothing and cosmetics, games, and entertainment—it's all part of SAMA's Daily Life tour.

Public tours are free with Museum admission and are offered most Sundays and Tuesdays.