

KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION NEWS

OCTOBER 2020

THE TEXAS ARCHAEOLOGY ISSUE

ARCHAEOLOGY AND POLLEN

Harry J. Shafer, PhD

The Witte Museum is excited to present a Super Saturday “Can You Dig It” on October 17. Along with fun activities for the whole family, Dr. Harry Shafer, Curator of Archaeology, will be speaking on Archaeology and Pollen. The event is free with Museum Admission. More details online at wittemuseum.org.

Archaeologists recover many things besides artifacts when they excavate ancient campsites. Fossil pollen is one such item. Huge amounts of pollen rain from all kinds of plants and fall on the earth’s surface each year. As pollen becomes buried in the soil, it leaves a record of vegetation and climate through time. Pollen is also ingested in foods that we eat. Pollen in human coprolites (fossil feces) provides information on diet.

We all contend with pollen produced by plants each year as it fills the air and excites our allergies. It takes special processing by paleobotanists to recover the fossil pollen from the soils.



Dr. Harry Shafer standing in front of the Witte Museum

Fossil pollen can tell the story of past environments, climates, and climate change. Each plant produces its own distinctive shaped pollen grain and by identifying the percentages of different kinds of pollen, it is possible to reconstruct the ancient plant communities at a point in time. Fossil pollen can help tell the story of the environment people in the past lived in and some of the foods they consumed.

The Witte Museum invites you to come learn more on October 17 at their Super Saturday and explore the Kittie West Nelson Ferguson People of the Pecos Gallery to discover how we know what we know about the People of the Pecos by studying coprolites and evidence discovered at archaeological sites. The Witte Museum hopes to see you at the 2021 King William Fair and Parade! •

WHAT’S COOKIN’?

Annic Hill



I am excited about an archaeology newsletter. So let’s do some “digging” into the history of food – some fun and ancient and not so ancient food facts!

1. What is the only rock that we eat?

Salt (NaCl) – the earliest mention is from 6000 BC in present-day Romania. People living there at that time boiled spring water to extract the salt. There were salt works in China about the same time. Salt is essential for life.

Continued on pg 5

THIS MONTH’S FEATURES INCLUDE:

PREHISTORIC SAN ANTONIO

The past 12,000 years pg 4

ANCIENT EGYPTIAN FLAT BREAD

Enjoy a fresh taste of history pg 5

TRANSFORMATION OF A BRIDGE

The history of O’Henry’s Bridge pg 7

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.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

John Doski

"No one else was in the room where it happened. No one really knows how the game is played, the art of the trade, how the sausage gets made. We just assume that it happens. But no one else is in the room where it happens..." - Hamilton, Lin Manuel Miranda

I still really enjoy listening to the soundtrack of *Hamilton* 16 months after seeing it, and I find many of its themes current today. A major struggle through my tenure leading the KWA has been information in the Information Age. Specifically, the timely and targeted dispersing of relevant information to inform but avoid overload and my obtaining of broad opinion from membership on KWA areas of interest. The recent undertaking of purchasing 122 Madison consumed a lot of my time with no intent for secrecy. However, there remain some who are dissatisfied with either the information shared or the timing or manner of involvement, which had never been the intent. While the term transparent is overused, there is absolute and important applicability to KWA member interactions. And there is no personal desire nor intent to be in the room where it happened alone. So, there is clearly room for improvement.

However, once considered, I think this sense of disconnectedness can be considered extending in every direction, with notoriety during this time of plague. With two children in two different schools learning virtually, each school is forwarding massive amounts of uber detailed but questionably relevant information. I am then apoplectic when we find out that school started at a different time and notice was only sent 10 minutes before, or that there have been unannounced and impactful senior administrator and faculty changes. As a physician, the electronic medical record vastly expands the amount of data captured for a patient and purportedly improves care, but then a specific piece of information may be effectively hidden from the doctor trying to find it quickly. Then we are witnessing leaders who hear the same information I hear, based and grounded in science and fact and ostensibly beyond reproach, with this information then questioned, ignored, discounted, impugned, or declared fake.

Taking all of this into account, we are living through a very stressful and complicated time. As such, it is vital we go out of our way to communicate effectively and inform, with emphasis on veracity and clarity. If there are better ways to inform the KWA community, your input is most welcome. And we similarly need to stay focused on what we hear and read, trying to make sense of things and advance the mission of the Association. Wait for it...

"You got more than you gave. And I wanted what I got. When you got skin in the game, you stay in the game. But you don't get a win unless you play in the game. You get love for it. You get hate for it. You get nothing if you...wait for it." - Hamilton, Lin Manuel Miranda •

BOARD BRIEFS:

On September 16, 2019, the board met via Zoom as permitted by the bylaws. The finance committee presented a payment plan for acquiring the building at 122 Madison based on budgets prepared by Lisa for a five-year span. Board member Boris Abad presented an alternative financial analysis and moved to rescind the August board decision to purchase 122 Madison. The motion did not carry, with 4 voting against, 3 in favor, and 3 abstaining.

Lori Hall and Nancy Shivers have withdrawn from next year's slate of officers, and Lori also resigned her position on the board. Pursuant to the bylaws, the nominating committee provided advice regarding a replacement, and the board selected Pat Conroy, a former board officer who is seeking election for next year's board.

The board also named Shelley Galbraith and Rose Kanusky to the board of the King William Foundation, with their respective one-year terms starting in January when they are no longer sitting on the KWA board.

"Board briefs" are not intended to replace the official minutes of the Association but to summarize the board's latest activities. – Rose Kanusky, Board Secretary •

LETTER FROM LISA

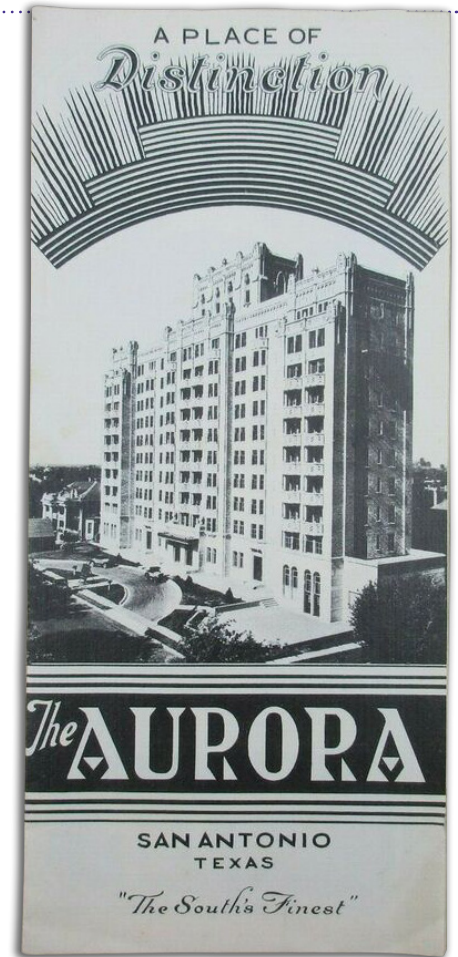
Executive Director Lisa Lynde

Over the summer I moved. While I loved my little apartment, we needed more living and work space. In May we viewed many homes searching for that perfect (and preferably) historic home, but the layout and size we needed eluded us. We settled on a home on the SE side of town that has been absolutely perfect, albeit not historic. Throughout the search process I was reminded of the prior year, when I flew to San Antonio for the weekend to secure a place to live. I spent time then too driving through other neighborhoods just exploring. That is when I saw "it."

In almost every city I have visited I have one building that stands out in my mind; that one building that gives me a sense of place. In Detroit it is The Michigan Central Train Station. Looming above the interstate surrounded by a vacant landscape, this building stood vacant for decades; victim to scavenge and decay. Redevelopment was always dreamed of, but could never seem to come together. Thankfully this glorious building is finally being saved! Its story mirrors the story of Detroit and its slow crawl back from death.

Which brings me back to San Antonio. While exploring SA neighborhoods in May 2019, I saw a tall building in the distance, ornate and seemingly surrounded by open space. I immediately thought of Michigan Central and decided to navigate over to it – curious to see if it too was a deserted train station. It wasn't. What building did I happen upon? After some quick curbside research, I learned I was looking at The Aurora Apartments (formerly The Aurora) and to me it was magnificent. I've still not been inside and have only seen a handful of interior photos online, yet this building continues to pique my curiosity.

Which leads me to a question for you. What building or structure (other than your home) here in San Antonio stands out in your mind? I'd genuinely like to hear from you! It doesn't have to be historic, currently occupied, in King William or even in good repair. We may mention it in a future newsletter! And if any of you have a "in" with The Aurora and can help me sneak inside let me know that too! •



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Painting of a bison latifrons, an extinct species of bison that once roamed what would become San Antonio
 Pictured below: Folsom Spear Point (peach color), Castroville Spearpoint (gray color), Corner-tang Knife (purple color)

SAN ANTONIO'S ANCIENT HISTORY: OF CLIMATE AND PEOPLE

Harry J. Shafer, PhD

The human history of San Antonio was written in episodes of climate change and the ebb and flow of cultural groups. Archaeologists identify ancient cultures by the artifacts they left behind, and the artifacts tell about the way they lived and how they coped with the environment of that time. People began to arrive in this part of the state about 13,000-12,000 years ago during the Paleo-Indian period of mobile big-game hunters. A very cold climate episode occurred near the end of the last Ice Age 12,500-11,000 years ago, and the last of the Pleistocene era megafauna were in Texas at that time as were the first human cultural groups to populate the state. These were the Clovis people who coexisted and hunted the now extinct mammoths, giant bison, and New World horse, and were responsible for the oldest archaeological sites known in Bexar County.

The Clovis people were followed by waves of human groups that came and went through time, each recognized by their distinctive spear point style. Factors



that led to different groups coming into the region were climate change, ecological changes, and social pressures. The climate after the last Ice Age has become gradually warmer and drier through the past 10,000 years of the Holocene era during the Archaic archaeological period. The people during the Archaic period were hunters and gatherers and began to ascribe to territorial ranges. Dry cycles during this period were interrupted by several cold episodes that were associated with some very dramatic changes in the ecology and human populations. These cold periods occurred about 6,000, 2,500, and 700 years ago causing bison to migrate southward. Each time different cultural groups came to hunt bison. As the climate warmed, bison moved northward. About 6,000 years ago a brief cold episode pushed bison herds southward in the Great Plains and well into Texas. During the warm-dry cycles, deer was the largest animal hunted until the bison began to reappear. Bison were walking mega-grocery stores and once present, the local Indian economy shifted to-

ward their exploitation that resulted in a more mobile lifeway for them, not unlike that of the people who made the Folsom and St. Mary's Hall projectile points.

The climate returned to the warming trend about 5,500 years ago, and our local cultures returned to the more territorially restricted hunting and gathering pattern, and deer again were the largest animal hunted. About 2,500 years ago the climate became colder and wetter, and once again bison moved southward into Texas. The distinctive Castroville spear points, corner-tang knives, and scrapers are evidence of large animals being processed for meat and hides. Hide trade became a major economic endeavor and people in Bexar County were actively trading with folks along the Gulf Coastal Plain.

The bison once again migrated northward following that brief cold period and the previous pattern of hunting and gathering resumed during the Medieval Warm Period ca. A. D. 700-1300. This was the time when Indian groups in east (Caddo) and far west Texas (Pueblo) took up agriculture and developed large settled villages. The people in central Texas never engaged in agriculture until the arrival of the Spanish in A.D. 1719, but did adopt a new weapon system about A.D. 800 that was introduced from the Northwest and Asia, the bow and arrow. There is ample evidence that the pattern of intergroup warfare increased with this new deadly weapon.

The climate turned colder about A.D. 1300 with the onset of the Little Ice Age that lasted until about A.D. 1800. Once again bison made their way into central Texas and once again the Indian economy shifted to their exploitation and trade. Bison attracted groups from as far south as northern Mexico, Trans-Pecos, and eastern Texas into the region. It was this concentration of Indian nations that first met the Spanish and altered the history of Bexar County. It was only then that names of the Indian nations were recorded.



Continued from pg 1

- 2. What is the only food that doesn't go bad?** Honey – honey was found in the country of Georgia dating from 5000 BC and was still edible!
- 3. What is the oldest recorded recipe?** From the walls of an Egyptian tomb dating to the 19th century BC – a recipe for flatbread.
- 4. What is the second oldest recorded recipe?** A 14th century BC recipe for Sumerian beer – called “liquid bread!”
- 5. What is the first recorded cookbook?** *Of Culinary Matters* written by Apicius in 4th century Rome. He was a glutton who squandered all his money on food. When he was down to his last food sestertii, he hosted an epic banquet – and poisoned himself during the last course!
- 6. What commodity was used as currency in ancient Mexico and South America?** Chocolate (cocoa beans) – Aztecs loved cocoa beans, which couldn't be grown in their civilization. They had to rely on the Mayans and traded for cocoa beans with them as a system of money.
- 7. French fries are not French!** They originated in Belgium and are called French fries because they are French cut.
- 8. Are flour tortillas Mexican?** I was told by a barge guide on our river that these are created by Pennsylvania Dutch who settled in Texas and wanted to adopt the Mexican culture. However, they are Mexican! They originated in the northern Mexican states of Chihuahua, Durango, Sonora, and Sinaloa – these territories were more suited to growing wheat than corn.
- 9. German Chocolate Cake is not German!** It was created by a Texan named Sam German.

Here is the ancient Egyptian flat bread recipe for you!

Aish Baladi (Egyptian Flat Bread)

- 6 fl oz warm water
- 1 tablespoon honey
- 7g active dry yeast
- 250g all-purpose flour
- ½ teaspoon salt
- 1 tablespoon olive oil

Mix the warm water, honey, and yeast together in an electric mixer and let it rest for 5 minutes until it becomes foamy. Add the flour, salt, and oil and mix until it forms a smooth dough.

Lightly oil a clean bowl and transfer your dough to it. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise for about 2 hours – until it has doubled in size.

Place two cookie sheets in your oven and preheat to 425 °F.

Punch down the dough and transfer to a lightly floured surface. Cut the dough in half and cover both pieces with plastic wrap and let sit for another 10 minutes.

Roll out one piece of dough (keep remaining piece covered) into a thin rectangle. Transfer to one of the cookie sheets and repeat with the remaining dough.

Bake for about 20 minutes until golden brown, rotating the baking sheets halfway through cooking.

Cool a few minutes before serving. Delicious served warm with olive oil!



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WHY I LIVE IN KING WILLIAM

LOVE AND A BREWPUB

Markus Haas

Laura's and my paths to living in this neighborhood crossed a few times during the years before we actually met, but we each forged our own way to living here on Adams Street. The first time I saw this neighborhood was after attending a show at the old Beaugard's (most recently Madhatters) while I was a student at Trinity. When I left at the end of the night, I drove around the block to turn around and, once off Alamo, discovered this whole neighborhood of beautiful old houses I never even knew existed. I told myself right then I wanted to live down here someday, and sure enough, it happened 16 years later when I was on an unhurried house hunt. 410 Adams came on the market at just the right time in 2011, and I took the plunge from being a downtown apartment dweller to a historic homeowner.



PICTURED LEFT TO RIGHT: LAURA, MARKUS & LEO HAAS STANDING IN FRONT OF THEIR HOME ON ADAMS ST.

Laura discovered this neighborhood when she applied for work at the soon-to-open Blue Star Brewing Company during her college years. (I was quite likely at one of her tables back in 1996, but we wouldn't figure that out until we officially met in 2013!) She lived in several rentals around the neighborhood before buying a house in Highland Park, but never lost her

King William friends or her fondness for this area. I guess it's little surprise that we chose 410 Adams as our home after we got married. As for little Leo, who became a King William resident this January, he didn't really have a choice, but we're sure he'll love this neighborhood as much as we do when he's old enough to realize its charms. •



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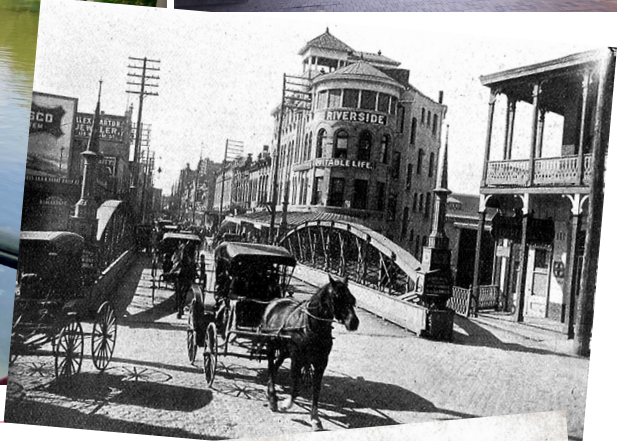
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Down the Acequia Madre in the King William Historic District



ANA CABRERA AND HER DOG DIEGO ADMIRING THE VIEW OF DOWNTOWN ON THE O. HENRY BRIDGE



O. HENRY'S BRIDGE

Bill Cogburn

One of San Antonio's iconic treasures is nestled right here in our neighborhood. It is the old Commerce Street Bridge, or what's left of it. It is often referred to as the O. Henry Bridge because it is mentioned in at least one of his San Antonio stories.

In 1914, the old Commerce Street Bridge was dismantled and reinstalled on Johnson Street in King William where it served as a vehicular bridge until it was temporarily removed in the late 1960s for river rechanneling. When the river work was completed in the early 1980s, it was reinstalled as a pedestrian bridge but the old bridge girders were not long enough to span the new, wider channel, so much of the bridge structure you see today dates from that time. The most distinctive features of the old bridge were the tall Victorian spires, and fortunately they survived. Sadly, one of the spires was damaged beyond repair so it had to be replicated, but now all four spires stand tall, proudly guarding the Johnson Street walk bridge.

One of O. Henry's most moving stories, *A Fog in Santone*, tells of a doomed consumptive's final hours in old San Antonio:

"The drug clerk looked sharply at the white face half concealed by the high-turned collar. 'I would rather not supply you,' he said doubtfully. 'I sold you a dozen morphine tablets less than an hour ago.' The customer smiles wanly. 'The fault is in your crooked streets. I did not

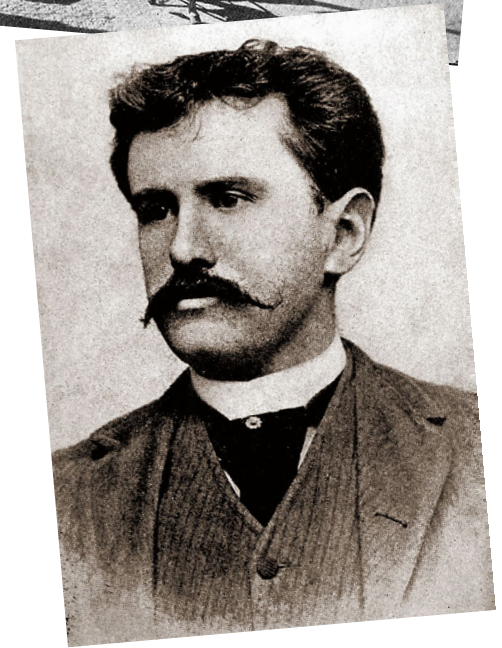
intend to call upon you twice but I guess I got tangled up. Excuse me.'"

In the late 1800s, San Antonio, with its warm sunny climate and clean air, was a destination for sufferers of tuberculosis. O. Henry's story suggests that 3,000 "tubercules" lived within the city limits. Many were in their final stages of the disease and were liberally dosing themselves with whiskey and morphine.

"The purchaser of the morphia wanders into the fog and at length, finds himself upon a little iron bridge, one of the score or more in the heart of the city, under which the small tortuous river flows. He leans on the rail and gasps, for here the mist has concentrated, lying like a foot-pad to garrote such of the Three Thousand as creep that way. The iron bridge guys rattle to the strain of his cough, a mocking phthisical rattle, seeming to say to him, 'Clickety-clack! Just a little rusty cold, sir - but not from our river. Litmus paper all along the banks and nothing but ozone. Clacket-y-clack!'"

Poet Sidney Lanier also visited San Antonio in the 1870s seeking a climate to cure his consumption when he wrote, *"One may take one's stand on the Commerce Street Bridge and involve oneself in the life that goes by, this way and that."*

Today you can stand on O. Henry's bridge with little chance of encountering a pale consumptive. You're more likely to see casual



TOP RIGHT PHOTO: BRIDGE TODAY BY BILL COGBURN

MIDDLE PHOTO: OLD BRIDGE PHOTO COURTESY UTSA-ITC

BOTTOM PHOTO: O. HENRY PHOTO COURTESY OF CHARLES RAMSDALL'S SAN ANTONIO

pedestrians out for a stroll or if it's the 4th of July you'll see people cheering for boaters competing in King William's annual Yacht Club Regatta. On other days, watch kayakers and paddle boarders who regularly ply our section of the river. You may occasionally need to step aside for a wedding party's photo session.

I often tell folks, "If you want an outstanding photo, stand on the O. Henry Bridge and point your lens upstream toward the city. It's a spectacular view!" •

Sources: Jack Kent; Maria Watson Pfeiffer



ALTAR KIT ARTWORK BY JOSÉ SOLETO

FIFTH ANNUAL MONARCH BUTTERFLY AND POLLINATOR FESTIVAL TO HONOR THOSE WHO DIED THIS YEAR

Maddy Walshak

The fifth annual Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Festival moves on-line this October with programming designed to honor the memories of family, friends and loved ones lost to COVID-19, social injustice and other causes.

“We’re stressing the spiritual aspect of the monarch migration this year,” said Festival founder Monika Maeckle of the Texas Butterfly Ranch. “This crazy year has left us too few opportunities to mourn, to gather and grieve.”

The Festival takes place October 1-29 during peak monarch migration season with virtual workshops, teacher training, the delivery of “caterpillar condos” to Title 1 schools, the construction of a *Dia de la Memoria/Day of Remembrance* altar at Confluence Park in San Antonio, and the release of monarch butterflies tagged in the names of those lost during this unique and challenging year.

Every October, millions of monarch butterflies move through San Antonio, named the nation’s first Monarch Butterfly Champion City by the National Wildlife Federation on their way to roosting sites in the mountains west of Mexico City in time for Day of the Dead on November 1. The arrival of the butterflies has long associated the butterflies with the visiting souls of their ancestors.

Festival organizers are seeking help from the community to assemble a list of people in San Antonio and Bexar County who passed away due to COVID-19, social injustice, or other causes. If you have a friend, family member or other loved one you’d like to honor with a tagged butterfly, please fill out the form available on our website at texasbutterflyranch.com.

In its previous incarnations over the past four years, the Festival has consummated in a gathering of thousands at Pearl. Since in-person gatherings are not possible this year, organizers have partnered with local filmmakers Walley Films to create a documentary that takes a

SAN PEDRO CREEK PROJECT IN FULL SWING

Shelley Galbraith

Phase 2 of the San Pedro Creek Culture Park project is well underway, and you’ll notice traffic changes during the construction. With the closure of Guadalupe, Camp, and S. Alamo, Sundt Davila, the contractors on the San Pedro Creek Culture Park project, are working to replace bridges across the creek. All projects should be finished by early 2023. •

Photos: spculturepark.com



look at 2020 through the resilient lens of the monarch migration. The short documentary, *2020: A Metamorphosis*, will be shared FOR FREE on October 29th. •

All events are FREE and open to the public.

See the full schedule of events at
TexasButterflyRanch.com

KING WILLIAM CONCERT #6

King Pelican hits the concrete waves of the King William neighborhood to spread their penetrating Third Coast brand of surf rock to their fans on the [King William Cultural Arts District Facebook page](#).

Who is King Pelican? Three purveyors of the surf sound of the 60s who are reimagining the sonic palette of the mid-century in a new modern way for the twenty-first century. •

KING PELICAN

October 18, 2020 | 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

[King William Cultural Arts Facebook Livestream](#)



Darren Kuper - Drums, Lloyd Walsh - Bass, Ernest Hernandez - Guitar. Photo clemphoto.com

AIRBNB OFFERS NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT

Shelley Galbraith

Not all short-term rentals are listed with Airbnb, but for those that are it just got easier to get help when you're a neighbor and there's an issue. Airbnb's Neighborhood Support page at airbnb.com/neighbors offers a way to communicate directly with Airbnb when there's a problem with a guest at an Airbnb property and you don't know how to contact the host. You may either call the Neighborhood Support team at 855-635-7754, or enter the issue and the property address into a form and submit via the website. Airbnb promises to review the concern, match it with an active Airbnb listing if possible, and get in touch with the host. Hopefully, this will help resolve things faster. •



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KWA BUSINESS MEMBERS

WHAT A TUTTI PIE!

Tutti's a Place for Foodies

“Isn’t she a cutie pie?” exclaimed Donna Norling’s father to her brothers when her parents came home with their newly born baby girl. But, instead of answering “yes,” Donna’s older brother said, “she’s a Tutti Pie,” and it stuck! Raised in New Orleans, but a San Antonio Churchill High graduate, she’ll never forget her Bayou roots. “We don’t eat to live. We live to eat!” said Donna when asked what her inspiration for the restaurant was. “It was something I dreamed about doing most of my life but never had the confidence until now.”

After losing her husband to lymphoma in 2015, Donna kept to herself for two years before venturing to the King William area in hopes to discover herself. While enjoying the various art events in the ‘hood she realized living in the suburbs wasn’t the place to restart her life. So, she sold her house, purchased a home in the Lone Star District and took the necessary steps to fulfill her restaurant entrepreneur dream.

“I think belonging to a community is important in terms of maintaining the integrity of the



TUTTI'S A PLACE FOR FOODIES OWNER DONNA NORLING WITH HER FURBABY LAYLA

neighborhood,” Donna told King William staff. In fact, she believes knowing your neighbors and being able to watch out for each other is as important as making them your friends.

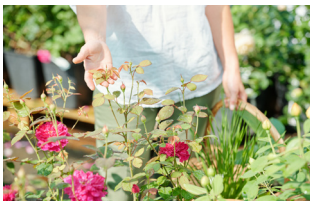
Tutti's A Place for Foodies recently opened their doors on June 15th, a scary time during a pandemic for an established restaurant let alone a new one. But, Tutti's brings a much-needed new casual dining experience to the area as many places across the city have shuttered during the pandemic. Located around the cor-

ner on Cevallos Street you'll find a century-old bungalow converted to a comfy neighbor escape serving upscale comfort food with craft beer and wine. The outdoor space is conducive to romantic evenings, relaxing with friends or treating your fur baby to a complimentary pupacino with a dog biscuit. •

KWA Members receive a free house blend coffee or tea

TuttisForFoodies.com

OUT IN THE GARDEN WITH ALAN CASH



This tip is from the August 2020 SAWS newsletter. Use WaterSaver Coupons to perk up your landscape with heat-hardy plants. Through October 15, SAWS residential customers can get up to four \$100 coupons to help replace part of your lawn with drought-hardy plants and permeable patio pavers. For details go to GardenStyleSA.com/coupons. Coupons must be redeemed by November 15.

I have been going through old files and found the following, which I think came from the *Old Farmer's Almanac* (OFA). To enhance the color of your roses, sprinkle half a cup of Epsom Salt around a mature rose bush. It is also supposed to increase the number of blooms. Try it. Epsom Salt is not expensive. And the OFA also predicts weather. It says when a cat sneezes, it is a sign of rain.

A lawn stays healthy if fertilized at least twice a year, early Fall and early Spring. The Fall application is especially important so that grass roots can survive possible severe cold winter weather. Use a granular fertilizer from a local nursery and some feed stores. Organic fertilizers will not burn the grass and do not have to be watered in immediately after application.

Fall is the time to trim, divide and mulch perennials after the weather cools. As they grow and widen they can be divided and replanted. Plants in this group include bee balm, black-eyed Susans, cannas, salvias, elephant ears, and ginger. Try to get clumps with roots and shoots.

With Fall, the garden can lose some of its vigor and require less attention. Houseplants can lift our spirits and get the gardener through to spring. Most require low light, but do better if kept near a window, are long-lived, and found at most nursery outlets. Look for Snake Plant, also called Mother-in-laws Tongue, Chinese Evergreen, and Golden Pothos or Devil's Ivy. •

Garden Note: As Lady Bird Johnson eloquently put it in 1965, “Where flowers bloom, so does Hope.” (March 2020, *Texas Highways*).



LESLEY RAMSEY, DIRECTOR OF SOUTHTOWN STUDIO, AND JOSH LEVINE, OWNER OF MBS FITNESS

MBS FITNESS COMMUNITY ALTAR FOR DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

MBS Fitness

We all know it's not just the historic houses that make King William the best place to live. It's the people – our neighbors – and the locally owned restaurants, bars, art galleries, shops, coffee houses and – yes – gyms, wellness centers and yoga studios that give our community its character and nourish our lives in so many ways.

After six months of economic hardship and the psychological strain of this new COVID-19 era, MBS Fitness is inviting our neighbors to participate in constructing a Community Altar for Día de los Muertos. The altar will memorialize and celebrate the lives and businesses lost over the past year, including those who succumbed to the virus.

“After all these months of isolation, I am really feeling called to community, and also to the need to acknowledge the collective loss we have all experienced throughout this time,” said Lesley Ramsey, Director of Southtown Studio at MBS. “Many lives have been lost to COVID-19. Many businesses have suffered or closed up all together. All of us have felt the pain of isolation, the stress of ongoing uncertainty, and the real hardship of this pandemic on our lives.”

MBS is seeking collaborators and volunteers to start the planning and construction of the altar, to be built somewhere near the corner of S. Alamo and Pereida. [For more info or to help, email lesley@mbslife.com.](mailto:lesley@mbslife.com)

Mark your Calendar: Cleansing and Dedication Ceremony on First Friday, October 2, at the altar site. We will have the month of October to build the altar together. On November 1, reconvene at the completed altar to celebrate these lives. •

KWA Members receive 10% off your membership

MBSFitness.net



PHOTO COURTESY OF BLUE STAR CONTEMPORARY

KICK OFF MUSEUM MONTH WITH BLUE STAR CONTEMPORARY

Daniela Oliver de Portillo

Fall is officially here! Blue Star Contemporary (BSC) invites you to rediscover your favorite cultural institutions with San Antonio's Museum Month. And hurry! Check out BSC's Red Dot exhibition which is just a few days away from closing on October 4. 2020 is certainly a year of firsts, BSC is proud to have featured our first ever augmented reality exhibition and fundraising event, giving the public the opportunity to experience Red Dot online as well as in person. We'd like to gratefully acknowledge San Antonio-based Stoke and One80 Solar for pioneering the digital Red Dot experience for us.

This is a time of reflection and gratitude for BSC, we are immensely grateful to be a part of San Antonio's creative community with resilient and inspiring individuals who came together to make Red Dot a possibility and a success. 2020 Red Dot will make history thanks to our dedicated staff, Red Dot co-chairs Lori Dunlap and Charlie Biedenham, Red Dot Honorees Francie Mannix and César A. Martínez, Red Dot Committee members, collectors, and sponsors who rose to the challenge and believed in Blue Star Contemporary's power to innovate.

Stay tuned for our lineup of fall exhibitions opening the first week of November. •

KWA Members receive a \$3 entry entrance fee instead of \$5

BlueStarContemporary.org



PHOTO COURTESY OF SAN ANTONIO BIKE SHARE

PEDAL IN THE PARK CHALLENGE

San Antonio Bike Share

San Antonio Bike Share is teaming up with San Antonio River Foundation and Bill Simons, a Professional Tour Guide of San Antonio, to recreate their annual Pedal in the Park event. In previous years, Pedal in the Park was a conglomeration of various cyclists gathering at Confluence Park for a ride to Mission Concepción with the sole purpose to encourage local ridership. This year Pedal in the Park has morphed into a social distanced fundraiser to help maintain the B Cycle docking stations on the Mission Reach. For only \$23 you'll be challenged to complete the 17-mile Mission Trail over the course of a month and you'll have access to a custom made UC Places audio tour.

Not only will your registration fee help maintain the B Cycle docking stations on the Mission Reach, you'll know more about the city's largest ecological restoration site, the Mission Trail. The UC Places audio tour is based on GPS so it will queue up fun facts about the San Antonio River, its wildlife, fauna, public art pieces and the San Antonio Missions as you approach each point of interest.

The Pedal in the Park Challenge is open to all bicycles between October 11 – November 11. Don't have a bicycle? Your registration fee will include a one-month B Cycle membership. Once you register, you'll be able to log your trips and times so you can complete the “course” at your leisure. [Sign up for the Pedal in the Park Challenge at SanAntonioBikeShare.org/PedalChallenge](http://SanAntonioBikeShare.org/PedalChallenge) •

KWA Members receive an \$80 annual membership (regularly \$100)

SanAntonioBikeShare.org/PedalChallenge



KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION BOARD ELECTIONS

Our board election is coming up next month! This year we had two nominations from the floor at our September General Membership meeting. Margaret Leeds was nominated for President and John Doski was nominated for Vice President. There will be an additional 4 returning board members seeking to be re-elected and 6 new board nominees filling 12 of the 13 remaining seats. There is an open board position. We've outlined short biographies of the nominees here.

MARGARET LEEDS *President*

A native Texan, I chose to live in King William in 1998 after retiring as Assistant Principal of Beverly Hills High School in California. I volunteer as a mediator at the Bexar County Dispute Resolution Center. My primary concern is preserving the historic residential character of the neighborhood. In 2018, I served on the Short-Term Rental Committee to curtail Type 2 STR's. In 2019, I organized 14 KWA members who conducted the door-to-door survey that resulted in increased membership. In 2020, to become better informed as a member of the Architectural Advisory Committee, I earned OHP's certification as Historic House Preservation Specialist. I currently enjoy being a member of our renowned KW Cultural Arts Committee.

JOHN DOSKI *Vice President*

I am thankful for the privilege of having led the King William Association. It has admittedly been a most challenging time. In a time of COVID, trying to maintain KWA activity in a virtual fashion has been really tricky. We then add the complexities of the canceled King William Fair and the opportune purchase of the current KWA space which we rent. As a Board member, it is vitally important to listen to neighbors and friends, encourage involvement, and to work carefully and deliberately toward consensus. I would like the opportunity to continue advancing the organization in any capacity on the Board, including execution of many leftover contingency plans, long-term payment plans and goals for 122 Madison, and aiding our terrific Executive Director, Lisa Lynde.

DAVID AYALA *Board of Directors*

I was born in New Braunfels, but have been a resident of KW in the Nathan Historic District for 29 years. I lived in New Hampshire too, and moved back two years ago after selling my manufacturer's rep business to take care of my mother on W. Guenther Street. I am currently retired.

BORIS ABAD *Board of Directors*

Upon graduation from UT in 1999, my daughter Jennifer made San Antonio her home. She became a homeowner in King William where she lives and is raising a family with her spouse. My wife, Elizabeth, and I came to San Antonio back in 2010 and were lucky to find a beautiful house just across the street from Jennifer in 2016. The rest of our family has followed. Our youngest son Ivan and his wife moved to Lavaca three years ago, and finally our son Leonardo

moved to KW from Dripping Springs. I have worked in the oil and gas business all my life and I'm very happy to be here sharing the history and hospitality of this neighborhood. I do hope I'll be able to contribute to its betterment.

KATE CAMPBELL *Board of Directors*

Kate Campbell and her husband Fred moved to the King William area permanently in 2013 when they sold their home on the Guadalupe River. They fell in love with the area while visiting Jim and Shawn Campbell. Kate's career has been focused on the non-profit sector since 1989 when she joined the board of Child Advocates San Antonio, becoming Development Director in 1991 and continued as a member of the CASA state board. She was on the board of Planned Parenthood where she later joined the staff as Major Gifts director. Her last employment was as Executive Director of Deborah's House, a ministry of Travis Park Church that provides housing for women in recovery from addiction. The King William area is such an exciting and welcoming place to live and I am honored to be considered for the Board.

MICKEY CONRAD *Board of Directors*

In 2010, my wife Cyndee and I moved to King William fulfilling our desire to live, work and play all within walking distance. As an architect and raised in historic Castroville, living in our neighborhood, filled with history and charm, feels just right. I have served as the Chair on the Architectural Advisory Committee since 2015 and want to serve on the Board to help sustain the great work preserving the historic character and promoting the cultural, recreational, and educational activities for all of San Antonio to enjoy.

PAT CONROY *Board of Directors*

I'm Pat Conroy, and I've lived on the 300 block of Madison Street since 2001. I fell in love with King William after attending a year 2000 New Year's party at John Doski's house. I have previously served on the KWA board for three years, including one year as VP and one as Secretary. I also volunteer with the Fair Parade. I am an attorney, doing mostly business related work. I am on the St. John's Lutheran Church Council and volunteer with the Alamo Battalion of the US Naval Sea Cadet Corps. My wife Paula is a Professor at the Medical School. I have a son at West Point, another at Indiana University, and a daughter at ISA.

PAT HEARD *Board of Directors*

I was born and raised in Mexico City. I received my bachelor's from UT Austin. John Heard and I were married at Mission San Jose in 1983. We lived in Monte Vista and Terrell Hills. I was a stay-at-home mom for many years. When it was time to downsize, King William is where we chose to come. This year I was Chair of the Nominating Committee. I enjoyed working with my neighbors and getting to know them better in the process.

DAN RATLIFF *Board of Directors*

I live in St. Benedict's Lofts and am married to Nancy Ratliff. I am a Professor and Chair of the Counseling Department at St. Mary's University. I have consulted with veteran serving nonprofit organizations and other social service agencies. In 2010, I lived abroad in Romania where I was a Fulbright Scholar, teaching assessment research and nonprofit (NGO) development at the second largest university in Romania.

GRETCHEN ROSE *Board of Directors*

Mel Laracey and I reunited at our 40th high school class reunion. After a three-year, long-distance relationship, I finally made the big move, and I haven't regretted it for one moment. I feel so fortunate to be living in the beautiful King William district, where I have made so many friends. In the past, I served on the following boards: The Riverside Children's Theatre, The Samaritan Center, The Homeless Center, and the St. Sebastian Building Committee—all in Vero Beach, FL. I feel passionate about preserving the quality of life we so prize in King William and serving my community.

CARLOS A. VILLARREAL *Board of Directors*

I am a native Texan who first visited King William in the 90s and fell in love with the architecture and historicity. My wife, Macarena, and I are professional translators (Spanish/English). We became KW property owners in 2016 and residents in 2017. We rehabbed our home, working with the KW Architectural Advisory Committee and the Office of Historic Preservation. I understand that change and preservation are essential to continue to enrich KW's character and sense of community.

TIM ZIEGEL *Board of Directors*

I was born in Wisconsin, lived in Colorado a few years, but lived most of my life in Hawaii. Been in San Antonio for 10 years and in King William 7 years. Was visual director for the Sullivan Family of Companies for 21 years and retail design group before that. Love restoring homes and stained glass, running, and hanging with my friends and neighbors. •