As I write my final President’s report, I feel as though I am passing the final mile-marker approaching the finish line in a marathon. There are many parallels: the initial preparation, the excitement of the challenge, a few potholes along the way, the persistent mantra of “I can do this” and relief when it’s over. I have experienced all of that this past year and I am grateful to have had the support and collaboration of a wonderful KWA Board and incredible staff. We have weathered a very challenging time with restrictions imposed by Covid and we are so fortunate to have had the benefit of Executive Director Lisa Lynde’s skill in seeing to it that we had sufficient liquidity to stay the course, despite the lingering pandemic. Reflecting on the milestones in 2021; we celebrated in January the purchase of 122 Madison; we survived the 5-day freeze in February; in March, in response to pleas from KW residents, the KWA Residential Quality of Life Committee led the way towards the formation of the city’s Noise Ordinance Task Force; in April Lisa and the KW Cultural Arts Committee produced the delightful House Float Parade to curtail the disappointment of not having a 2021 KW Fair… it was a “shot in the arm” with creative ideas such as the theme “Vaccine Wars” staged with caulking-gun syringes; June was one zoom meeting after another; The King William Yacht Club’s traditional July 4th event was much reduced by the need for social distancing…but later in July they could have canoed on King William Street with the surplus of rain; September brought the sad news that Syeira Budd would be leaving her position as KW Fair Director after 11 highly successful years, but…on a happier note…KWA membership is increasing thanks to the efforts of the Membership Committee with updated bilingual application forms and welcome baskets for new KW residents; October brought cause for celebration at getting over a huge hurdle with the welcoming of John Costello as the KW Fair Director… and many of you celebrated getting rid of a few things at the King William Area Yard Sale; in November, we saluted “Fort Sam’s Own” 323d Army Band at KWA’s free (thanks to HEB) Concert in the Park. And now…December.

It has not been easy to conduct meetings via email, phone or Zoom. Technology is miraculous as a source of communication, but it is no replacement for sitting around the table at a board meeting where we can see each other face to face as we meet the challenges inherent in making group decisions. Our November Board Meeting was around the table for the first time in person in the building we now own.

Thank you for staying with us when the going got rough. There will be no medals at the end of this year’s race, but we can anticipate the exultation of crossing the finish line. We look forward to being together with you at the December Social which will be held on December 8th, 5 to 7pm at Camp Outpost.

With deep appreciation for giving me the opportunity to serve this wonderful neighborhood.

Margaret Leeds
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.

**NEWSLETTER STAFF**

**Content:** Monika Perez-Moad  
**Editor:** Lisa Lynde  
**Editorial Designer:** Alicia Spence-Schlesinger

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**2021 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**President:** Margaret Leeds  
**Vice President:** John Doski  
**Secretary:** Shawn Campbell  
**Treasurer:** Carlos Villarreal  
**Parliamentarian:** Gretchen Garceau-Kragh, RP  
**Board of Directors:** Kate Campbell, Mickey Conrad, Tina Garza, Randy Gay, Pat Heard, Leigh Anne Lester, Gretchen Rose, Brad Shaw, Tim Ziegel

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**KWA CONTACT INFORMATION**

**Office Hours:** Mon. - Thur., 9:00 am-3:00 pm  
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**KWA Phone:** (210) 227-8786  
**Fair Phone:** (210) 271-3247  
**KWA Email:** info@ourkwa.org  
**Fair Email:** info@kwfair.org  
**Website:** OURKWA.ORG • KWFAIR.ORG  
**KINGWILLIAMCULTURALARTSDISTRICT.COM**

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**KWA STAFF**

**KWA Executive Director:** Lisa Lynde  
**KWA Business Manager:** Monika Perez-Moad  
**Fair Director:** John Costello  
**Fair Operations:** Michael Tamez  
**Fair Entertainment & Vendor Coordinator:** Noah Peterson  
**Chief Parade Wrangler:** Alicia Spence-Schlesinger

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**ADVERTISING**

Promote your business directly to your 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

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**FOLLOW US ONLINE**

**Facebook:** KingWilliamAssociation  
**KingWilliamFair  
**KingWilliamCulturalArtsDistrict**

**Instagram:** KingWilliamAssociation  
**KingWilliamFair  
**KWCAD**

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**SAFFE Officer David McCall**  
**David.McCall@sanantonio.gov**

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**UPDATE FROM THE 2021 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Due to the resignation of President-Elect Dan Ratliff, the Nominating Committee has nominated Shawn Campbell as President and Kate Campbell as Vice-President. Ballots will be sent out in January. Bios for both Shawn and Kate follow below.

**Shawn Campbell President**

I am a 21-year retired Special Agent of the U.S. Secret Service. I could tell you stories, but since retiring I was a strong volunteer in the PTO at my sons’ schools, a church volunteer for Corazon Ministries Inc. at Travis Park Church downtown, and a 10-year plus volunteer at Haven for Hope in ID Recovery. My husband Jim and I have lived in King William since the summer of 2011. I previously served on the KWA board from approximately 2016-2019, stepping in early to fulfill a board member’s seat and then continuing a few months past the 3-year term because of the bylaws change. I served on the AAC during that time and was the secretary for 2 years. I have been a docent and home chair for the KWA Home Tour and Jim and I offered our house for the last tour. I regularly walk the Mission Reach and the neighborhood. I want to encourage KW residents to use the KWA as a resource for advice and support.

**Kate Campbell Vice President**

I am a native Texan and moved with my family to San Antonio in 1984. My husband and I moved into the 1010 apartments 7 years ago. I am retired from being executive director of a ministry that provided housing and services to women in recovery from addiction. I joined the KWA board in 2020 and serve on the Cultural Arts Committee and the Membership committee. I love the King William area and have really enjoyed serving on the board.

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**2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Kate Campbell**  
**Margaret Leeds**  
**Shawn Campbell**  
**Leigh Anne Lester**  
**Mickey Conrad**  
**Kerry McKeon**  
**Tina Garza**  
**Gretchen Rose**  
**Randy Gay**  
**Brad Shaw**  
**Pat Heard**  
**Carlos A. Villarreal**

---

**Board Briefs:**

At the November 17th board meeting, as per the by-laws, the KWA board voted to fill the board positions left open by Dan Ratliff and Pat Conroy for the last 2 months of 2021 with Randy Gay and Tina Garza. Both Randy and Tina are incoming board members for 2022 and agreed to start a bit early. Due to the changes, the Nominations Committee have nominated Shawn Campbell to serve as President, Kate Campbell to serve as Vice President. This new slate will be voted upon in January 2022. The Board reviewed and approved the 990 Tax Return. The Finance Committee will present their recommended budget in December. Shawn Campbell requested approval from the board to create and advertise in the KWA newsletter a “Friends of the Big Pig” budget line item to ask for donations for maintenance of the Big Pig to include window repair, landscaping and painting which was approved by motion. Fair Director John Costello reports he attended the Texas Festivals & Events Conference and vendors are excited to come back the KWA Fair in 2020. He is interviewing candidates for the Operations Manager and expects to hire a candidate by December and advised the Foundations Board will meet in the near future. All standing committee reports reflect active, engaged work of the committee members in support of the KWA. The board approved a motion to fund a December social at Camp Outpost on Dec. 8th.

**Shawn Campbell, Board Secretary**
Our main concern with the noise ordinance is enforcement. Are you surprised to learn that code enforcement officers mostly work during the week and during the day? Working through the Residential Quality of Life Committee and the city’s Noise Ordinance Task Force, we have some good news to share. The city listened. We have a three-month pilot program in place to enforce the noise ordinance at night when the worst noise happens.

As a direct result of our work on the noise ordinance task force, City Manager Eric Walsh, Mayor Ron Nirenberg, and City Council created a pilot program for noise ordinance enforcement. It runs for three months starting October 7th and consists of dedicated peace officers for code enforcement and noise nuisance complaints. These officers are trained and familiar with all aspects of the existing noise ordinance and respond to calls with a noise meter. This increased effort occurs Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays, from 8 pm to 4 am, and is triggered by complaints to the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) non-emergency phone number, 210-207-7273.

We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunity to report noise issues before the program ends. We know already that the pilot program has resulted in increased citations. The full results will be shared at the end of the program.

Here’s a short history of what we’ve done to make progress on the issue. The King William Association formed the Residential Quality of Life committee in Fall 2020 in response to increasing friction between residents and surrounding inner city activity. Challenges include traffic, parking, crime, costs, and noise. Specifically regarding noise, discussions with Former Councilman Roberto Treviño contributed to the creation of a Council Consideration Request (CCR) in March 2021 with a specific charge, “...to determine how the Noise...”
I love the house tour, maybe because I love everything about Christmas – lights, tinsel, smells and sounds! I have served as a tour guide in some of the houses, but my favorite job during the house tour is to serve cookies and hot cider to our guests.

I made these cookies several years ago and Anne Alexander loved them. So I thought I would share them with you. There are many ingredients but get everything prepared and they are a cinch to make: it just takes a little time. And they taste and smell like Christmas!

A Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all my KW friends!

Dried Fruit Cookies

**Ingredients:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>½ pound dried figs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>¼ pound raisins</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ounces candied cherries, coarsely chopped</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 ounces dried apricots, coarsely chopped</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 tbsp. honey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 tbsp. dry sherry</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 ounces chopped pecans</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosher salt</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ pound unsalted butter, softened</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ tsp. ground cloves</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>½ cup superfine sugar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1/3 cup brown sugar</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 extra-large egg</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 &amp; 2/3 cups all-purpose flour</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 tbsp. honey</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 tbsp. fresh lemon juice</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>1 tbsp. honey</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Directions:**

Snip off the hard stems of the figs with scissors and coarsely chop. In a medium bowl, combine the figs, raisins, cherries, apricots, honey, sherry, lemon juice, pecans, and a pinch of salt. Cover with plastic wrap and allow to sit overnight at room temperature.

In the bowl of an electric mixer, cream the butter, cloves, superfine sugar, and brown sugar on medium speed until smooth, about three minutes. With the mixer on low speed, add the egg and mix until incorporated. With mixer still on low, slowly add the flour and ¼ teaspoon salt just until combined. Don’t overmix! Add the fruits and nuts, including any liquid in the bowl and mix. Divide the dough in half and roll each half into a log about 1-1/2 to 1-3/4 inches thick. Wrap in waxed paper or parchment and refrigerate for several hours, until firm.

Preheat oven to 350°F.

With a small, sharp knife, cut the logs into ½-inch-thick slices. Place the slices ½ inch apart on an ungreased sheet pans (or use parchment) and bake for 15 to 20 minutes, until lightly golden.

Home water usage from mid-November to mid-March is the basis used by SAWS to determine next year’s monthly sewer charge. So be careful in your water usage to keep next year’s charges as low as possible. Lawns do not need as much water in cooler months so consider operating sprinklers systems on their manual setting. Only turn them on when the top two inches of soil is dry.

As we approach the holidays Poinsettias become available as the traditional plant of the season. Another colorful plant for indoor decoration is the Croton. It has bright red, yellow, and green leaves. If put in a sunny window they will last until they can be put out on the patio in spring. Kept in pots they can last several years.

How time flies. We are at the end of another year. I hope the holiday season will be for you and yours as Andy Williams says in song, “it’s the most wonderful time of the year”.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to All.

Garden Note:
Gardening can change the way you see the world.
SAN ANTONIO: THREE VIEWS
Molly Shafer Gallery in the King William Association Office

Featuring San Antonio Plein Air Artists
ANDREA ALMOND  •  SHEA DANIEL-YOUNGBLOOD  •  MAREN PHILLIPS

Andrea Almond, a native Texan, began her painting career as a plein air landscape painter and moved to San Antonio in 2012. She now includes urban landscapes in her artwork.

Shea Daniel-Youngblood started plein air - open air – painting about 5 years ago, taking a class from Maren Phillips. You might see her in the city with her easel and paints.

Maren Phillips grew up in Tennessee with a keen appreciation of nature. She shares her passion for painting with others by teaching and leads plein air workshops and holds seminars on Nature Journaling and drawing in the field.

Be sure to stop by the King William Association offices at 122 Madison St. to take in views of San Antonio in this Plein Air Art Exhibit.

Plein Air Art Exhibit on view through January 18, 2022

Margaret Leeds

Most of you know that King William is fortunate to have its own resident rock art specialist Curator of Archaeology Harry Shafer, PhD, and editor of “Painters in Prehistory: Archaeology and Art of the Lower Pecos Canyonlands.” You might not know, however, that we have rock art right here in King William! Others have shared with me that they, too, have discovered this rock art in various places in the neighborhood.

For the past few months while walking in the neighborhood I have been delighted to discover little gifts of painted rocks placed whimsically at the base of the metal framework for Arsenal Street Bridge. Each time I saw one I vowed to bring my camera next time to photograph these continued on pg 9
MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

KING WILLIAM ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

☐ SIGN ME UP OR RENEW MY MEMBERSHIP FOR 2022

Dues for 2022 are payable by January 15. A voting member must be current with annual dues 30 calendar days prior to any vote and dues must be paid by January 15 in order to receive complimentary King William Fair admission and be included in the printed directory. 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).

ASSOCIATE MEMBERS: Select a category:
☐ Individual (Free)  ☐ Family (Free)  ☐ Business/Organization (Free)

VOTING MEMBERS: Select a category:
☐ Individual ($30/1 vote)  ☐ Business/Organization ($50/1 vote)
☐ Patron ($75)  ☐ Family ($40/2 votes)
☐ Benefactor ($250)  ☐ Lifetime ($1000)

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

BUSINESS NAME (if applicable):______________________________

CHILDREN (under 18, list names): ____________________________

VOTING MEMBERS: Would you like your children’s names in the KWA Directory?
☐ YES  ☐ NO

STREET ADDRESS:________________________________________

CITY/STATE/ZIP:_________________________________________

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

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

WEBSITE ADDRESS (for businesses):________________________

E-MAIL ADDRESS(ES):___________________________________

VOTING MEMBERS: Would you like your email address listed in the KWA Directory?
☐ YES  ☐ NO

ARE YOU WILLING TO SERVE ON THE…
☐ Board  ☐ Home Tour  ☐ King William Fair  ☐ Architectural Advisory  ☐ Cultural Arts
☐ Newsletter Committees  ☐ 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. Finally you may also become a KWA member online by going to OurKWA.org/Membership.

Renew your membership today or join King William Association for the first time! The membership year began in January but it is never too late to renew or to 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 to support KWA programs that we hope will return to in-person events in the coming year, 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.

Margaret Leeds
KWA Board President

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Margaret Leeds
KWA Board President

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FORMULARIO PARA MEMBRESÍA DE LA ASOCIACIÓN

☐ FAVOR DE ACTIVAR MI MEMBRESÍA DE KWA PARA EL 2022

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 ASOCIADOS: Seleccione una categoría:
☐ Individual (Gratis)  ☐ Familia (Gratis)  ☐ Negocio / Organización (Gratis)

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 ($1000)

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

NOMBRE COMERCIAL (si aplica):

HIJOS (menores de 18 años, liste los nombres):

MIEMBRO CON DERECHO A VOTO: ¿Le gustaría que los nombres de sus hijos se publiquen en el Directorio de KWA? ☐ SÍ  ☐ NO

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

DIRECCIÓN DE SITIO WEB (para empresas): ________________________________

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

¿ESTÁ DISPUESTO A SERVIR EN . . .
☐ Mesa directiva  ☐ Recorrido de Casas  ☐ Feria King William
☐ Comité de asesoramiento arquitectónico  ☐ Artes culturales
☐ Comités para el boletín  ☐ 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 enviarlo por correo electrónico a: info@ourkwa.org, o puede activar su membresía en línea en www.OurKWA.org/Membership-Join
John Costello, King William Fair Director

Our neighborhood school, Bonham Academy, has experienced a tremendous amount of growth. A decade ago, enrollment was around 425 students. Now, our enrollment is about 670 students from Kindergarten to 8th grade. This growth has left us in temporary need of portables until the bond construction is completed at Burnet. Currently, we have elementary art, music, and theatre floating which means they have no classroom. The elementary specials teachers “float” into other teachers’ rooms to provide instruction. Our advanced band rehearses in the cafeteria. We have additional floating middle school electives as we are out of space: Conjunto, dance, folklorico, reading intervention, and Japanese.

We are asking for support to temporarily house several portables on campus until Burnet is ready for our use. The most likely location would be between the playground and Cedar Street. Please help us provide the best education possible for our Bonham students and provide relief for our fine arts and specials team.

Bonham Academy
Blanca Gebhart, Interim Principal

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KING WILLIAM FAIR

Meet the new Fair Director
Lisa Lynde

John Costello comes to the King William Association after a varied career in the public service sector and the non-profit world. A native San Antonian, John spent ten years as an assistant district attorney before moving into the development arena. The majority of his fundraising time has been in the public broadcasting industry, most recently with KLRN in San Antonio. During his tenure there, John led numerous successful events from the annual Blazing Gavels TV auction to the San Antonio Wine Festival, garnering several awards of excellence from PBS. In his spare time, John has been a longtime member of the San Antonio Mastersingers and the Opera San Antonio. John also volunteers his time as the President of the Friends of the San Antonio Library and with University Health as a member of their Patient Family Advisory Council.

To Friends of the Big Pig
Shawn Campbell

Dear neighbors and fans of the Big Pig located at 807 S. Presa. A great example of programmatic artwork, the Big Pig needs a bit of maintenance: window repair, painting, landscape work and general upkeep. The KWA is starting a fund dedicated to the repair and upkeep for what is an iconic historic piece of work. Please send a check made out to the King William Association but mark in the notation line “Friends of the Big Pig”. If you have spare change or want to bring in cash, please stop by the office. Your donations will be used only for the Big Pig. More to come!
wonderful little creations. Recently, when I saw that there was one painted rock at one end and two painted rocks at the other end of the bridge, I raced home to get my camera only to find that someone had removed all three within that 5-minute time span. Two days later, I was astonished and delighted to discover a cache of these little treasures at the corner of King William and Beauregard. They had been carefully arrayed on top of the rock bed which holds the historic sidewalk marker that was preserved when intersections were modified for easy access. I think the ones with cats might be my favorites. Oh, by the way, don’t expect to find these in situ anymore. They were all in private collections within a few days.

The King William Membership Committee members Anne Alexander, Kate Campbell, Roselyn Cogburn, Pat Heard, Robin Raquet and Carlos Villarreal, who left the committee to serve as KWA Treasurer, created the “Welcome Basket” as a way to welcome newcomers to our neighborhood and to encourage them to join us as members of the King William Association. A variety of items may be included… the current KWA Newsletter, KWA 50-year Banner, Fiesta pins, posters, t-shirts, information from the KWA Architectural Advisory Committee about caring for a historic residence and, naturally…a KWA Membership Application Form in English and Spanish. Help us to share this fun way to welcome new neighbors by letting the KWA office know when newcomers arrive.

The first recipients of the KWA Welcome Basket, Juan and Romanita (Romy) Barrera, new members of the King William Association, are enjoying what we hope will be their residence for a very long time. Juan and Romy are San Antonio natives and were thrilled to move “back home” after living in Washington, DC for 7 years. They have always preferred to live downtown where they have easy access to restaurants and special events and they are delighted to have found their home in King William where they can walk to numerous gourmet restaurants, stroll in the neighborhood with its wonderful tree canopy and explore the Riverwalk. The two feline members of the family, Chocoflan and LaKidi, seem quite content to survey their surroundings from the front window sill.

In DC, Romy was a Deputy Director for Hispanic Outreach at the White House’s Initiative on Education and Juan was with Microsoft. Romy now is the Chief Workforce Officer for Greater: SATX, San Antonio’s Economic Development Foundation. Juan has been in IT for almost 25 years and currently works from home representing a large global company based in India with operations in the US that provide technology services to clients in the banking and financial services sector.

Before moving to their current home at 306 King William, they lived at 510 Adams Street for several years. They love to travel, particularly to Mexico, and to other states in the US. They appreciate fine wine and dining and Juan says Romy is a fabulous cook. Juan shared a family tradition that goes back three or four generations of hosting a “hot tamale making day” each year. Romy has continued the tradition and hosts a full day for making dozens and dozens of tamales the week before Christmas. I am glad I live next door to these wonderful neighbors. I love tamales!
Ordinance can be adjusted so it is easy to understand and enforce, and so residents can have peaceful and quiet enjoyment of their home without having to resort to filing a complaint on their commercial neighbors.”

The current noise ordinance was last modified in 2005. Its stipulations include daytime hours defined as 6 am to 10 pm Sunday to Thursday, and 6 am to 11 pm Friday and Saturday. The noise limits during these time periods for residential properties is capped at 63 decibels (dB), 70 dB for business zoned properties, 72 dB for industrial properties, and 85 dB for Entertainment zones. (There are three in the city - SeaWorld, Fiesta Texas, and Morgan’s Wonderland.) For nighttime hours, after 10 pm Sunday to Thursday, after 11 pm Friday and Saturday, the decibel limit is 7 dB less than daytime limits. There are also provisions for vibration which state “it is unlawful for any person to create, maintain or cause any ground or airborne vibration which is perceptible without instruments any point on any affected property adjoining the property in which the vibration source is located.”

The current ordinance has well defined enforcement measures as well as progressive penalties, including seizure of noise producing property. However, enforcement has been lacking as there are no specific code compliance officers on duty for nighttime noise complaints.

The CCR Noise Ordinance Task Force is composed of city officials, including Development Service Division, the City Attorney’s office, SAPD, and representatives of both residential and commercial stakeholders, including the KWA. We began meeting in June 2021 and have had wide ranging discussions about how, what, when, and where to monitor noise; how to consider vibration violations; and enforcement. KWA has emphasized a lack of enforcement.

The task force was initially charged with a 3-month effort for specific recommendations to modify the existing ordinance or determine other actions to answer the CCR charge. That term has been extended.

There is increased media coverage about noise. Businesses express concerns about potential tightening of restrictions, which may limit their ability to continue to operate. Petitions are being circulated. There is criticism the original CCR is exceeding its mandate, and that the current structure of the Noise Ordinance Task force does not represent all appropriate interests. Other city council members are interested in the process. Residents continue to complain of noise violations, including recent vibration noise emanating from Hemisfair that rattled windows in King William.

Still to come are discussions about vibration noise with expert input, noise generated at Hemisfair, and long-term enforcement strategies. It is not our intention to preclude outdoor entertainment or hurt businesses. Most already are responsive to neighbors’ concerns. We remain dedicated to promoting the charge provided by the CCR, “so residents can have peaceful and quiet enjoyment of their home without having to resort to filing a complaint on their commercial neighbors.”

As the city’s pilot program runs another 5 weeks, it is vitally important to call the non-emergency SAPD number, 210-207-7273, if you have a complaint.
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