

RECKONING RECORDS

Matador Records' Gerard Cosloy Causes a 'Casual Victim Pile'-Up on Red River

blowin' indie wind

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Disabled

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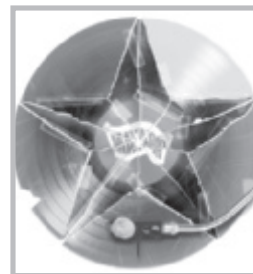
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Reform School

Why throwing the bums out doesn't work

BY LOUIS BLACK

There are things that seem to me impossible for people to believe, but that has never meant they don't believe them. There are any number of different groups ranting against the government. All of them enumerate its failures, while a significant number seem to believe that the situation is hopeless and beyond saving through the electoral process. This is a look at the most extreme of those groups, but the opinion is widespread.

The thinking runs that politicians are mostly corrupt, greedy, and dishonest. When elected, they use the government to enrich themselves and tyrannize citizens, taking away their rights and ignoring the Constitution. They serve not their constituents but only the moneyed special interests and/or secret organizations that really rule. They intentionally commit a wide range of abuses in an effort to destroy this country.

The left and the right, conservatives and liberals, radicals and reactionaries all espouse some variant on that scenario. Old-left communists still rant against capitalism, anarchists rail against every organized group, and our conspiracy hobbyist brothers and sisters urge us to toss aside the old and "phony" paradigm of left vs. right for the real power struggle: the people against the evil elite.

Now, that motif is by no means limited to the conspiracy collectors. The exact definition of the "people" and the "evil elite" just varies with different groups, each trimming those terms to fit its beliefs.

In the political middle, there is more the sense that the problem is greed, special interest groups, personal weaknesses, party partisans, money, and big business. The equation is usually quite simple: "We are overtaxed. The way to cut taxes without destroying basic federal services is to cut government fat and throw out the corrupt politicians. Most of what the government does it fails at, thus providing very few necessary services to its citizens."

The more politically extreme groups demonize not just the government but other groups, which demonize them right back. The exact villainy of a group is rarely self-articulated; rather, it is explained and defined by the opposition. The definers are always good, noble, and heroic, while the groups they've tagged as enemies are evil, overtly wishing to destroy freedom and this country.

In these extreme scenarios, more often than not the failures of the government, legislative deadlock and missteps, crises, problems unsolved, bad laws, and the like all happen because corrupt, inhuman monsters work to make them happen as part of a conspiratorial scheme.

Now, all of these different groups that insist that the government is dramatically broken talk about politics only in the broadest generalities rather than ever discussing specific issues. They also use phrases and slogans that are more romantic than helpful:

page
two

"Talking truth to power." "The people united will never be defeated." "The sheeple have to have their eyes and minds open to the truth." "Free markets and free enterprise equal freedom." "The tree of liberty needs to be nourished with blood every 20 years." "The government serves the people, not the other way around." "We need to reform a corrupt system." These all share the common implication that if the people took the power into their own hands, most problems would disappear.

It seems impossible to accept that there are people who really believe that bad things happen because of bad people – so that the only way to overthrow evil, it is argued, is if the people rise up to take back their government. This may even require force.

After such an overthrow takes place, according to this view, the country will again be a proud, sovereign constitutional republic where political transgressions, illegal acts, unconstitutional laws, and unnecessary interference in people's lives will end. It won't exactly be pure utopia but close to it. The largest internal political problems – such as vicious partisan divisions, the greatest government abuses, and the seeming inability of Congress to legislate in the best interests of the people – will for the most part be gone: If good, well-intentioned people were running the government, there would be few problems.

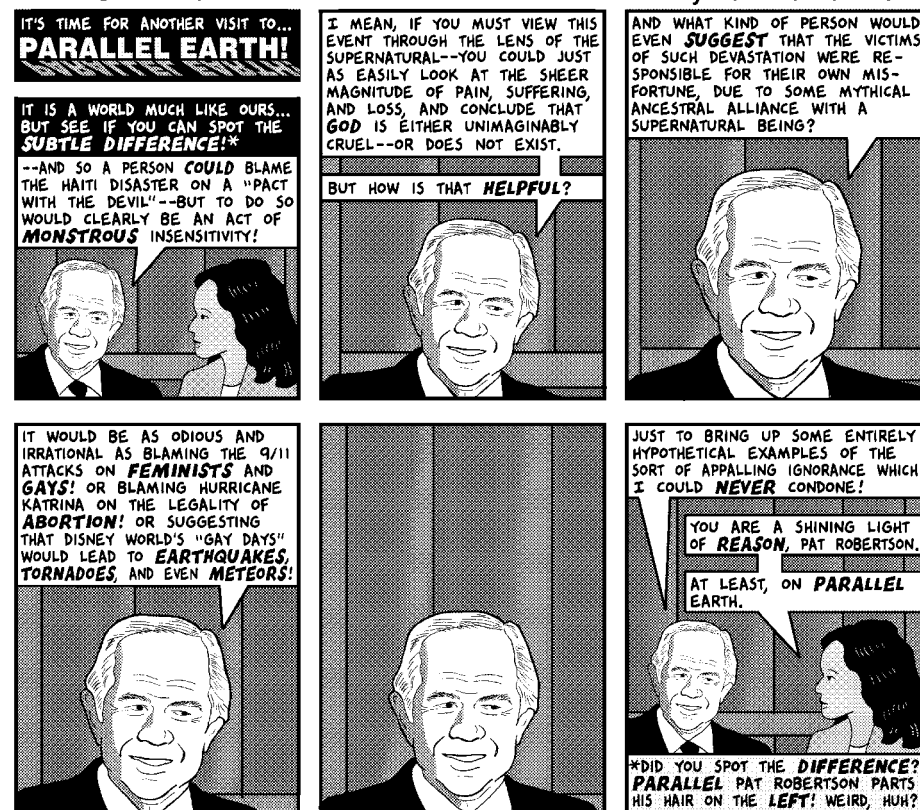
Many people who speak out against the government seem to believe absolutely that they are very much speaking for most Americans. There is not just a silent majority but a vast silent majority that shares almost exactly the same beliefs as the person speaking; no matter what that person's beliefs, they are assumed to be shared and dominant. There is a harmonious American ideology, in other words, but the government has undermined it.

Remember Ross Perot's Reform Party, which rose to prominence in the late 1990s. Millions signed on because, "Gosh, reform sounds like such a good idea that it should be a central plank in any campaign platform." Reform means better, fairer, and more honest government, which is what we all desire. The problem is that nonspecific reform sounds great but without actual details is nearly meaningless. It is like being in favor of good.

Currently, Alex Jones has emerged as an international leader in the conspiracy community. Jones has an advantage over most ideologues in that, as he points out, he knows and speaks "the truth," while the rest of us at best can offer only our simple opinions. Jones denounces the New World Order, which is believed to have plans to wipe out 80% of the world's population. He explains the conspiratorial roots of every tragedy and political decision, from 9/11 being an inside job to the NWO's ability to control the

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



weather causing Katrina to every flu epidemic being staged so the people can be poisoned by so-called "vaccines."

Jones makes it clear that the most patriotic action is resistance to the NWO puppet government, which would ultimately lead to a second (or next) American Revolution. In his calmer moments, he insists that this revolution does not have to be violent but can be achieved by spreading "the truth" and exposing the NWO. At other times, it is clear that he regards violence as a perhaps necessary course.

TV pundit Glenn Beck says almost the same things as Jones does, but rather than blaming our current ills on an evil conspiracy of the elites, he believes in an evil conspiracy of Americans who hold progressive and liberal views with which he disagrees. These two views are not conflicting visions of what the government of this country should be, according to Beck. It is the blatantly good – conservative, right-leaning, religious, patriotic real Americans – against the "evil" out to intentionally destroy the country: liberal/progressive/Marxist/communist traitors. Jones is a brother wolf threatening to blow our house down, as it is made of paper and tissues, while Beck is a clown-faced bobble-head toy, lacking substance but urging hate.

The argument boiled bare is pretty simple: It is not that we face complicated, and in some cases nearly impossible, problems that come about from a wide range of natural causes, including the environment, historic injustice, social and economic inequalities, education, opportunities for advancement, availability of jobs, and so on. Political disagreements are never principled nor based in a concern for the common good that is shared by most Americans (even when they have strong ideological differences).

Instead, it posits that problems come from evil people: The only thing needed to make the government "good" (serve the people) is to eliminate the "bad," as most Americans share the same political beliefs about government. Allowed to function autonomously and constitutionally, given these common ideas, creating a new government will be easy. All that is needed is to put good, well-intentioned people in charge.

This is where I offer a screwball theory so blasted that people will be tempted to wake their children up so they can join in the laughter. What if the problem is not that the population is enslaved but that most citizens feel too empowered? The government, in trying to respond to so many different ideas, opinions, and attitudes, becomes stymied. What if the problem is not evil people but patriots who love this country and merely have very different views as to what its problems are and how to solve them? The trouble results not from malignant forces but actually comes right out of a U.S. Constitution that purposefully guarantees gridlock.

The simplistic notion that bad government comes from evil people trivializes all the ongoing complications, differences, and compromises critical to the functioning of a republic. It isn't bad people; it is the incredible difficulties involved in governing, as well as the complications inherent in all of us living and working together. If there is a revolution, here's betting that the new government that emerges ends up just as disharmonious and polarized as it is now – if not considerably worse.

This may simply be the rant of a delusional and diseased mind. In all honesty, however, I fear our constitutional republic is far more likely to be done in by those claiming to defend it than by any intentionally out to destroy it. ■



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Postmarks

EAST OF I-35 MUST BE INCLUDED

Dear Editor,

Re: "Reinventing Airport Boulevard" [News, Jan. 8]: We need to make sure that any redevelopment corridor along Airport Boulevard also includes the area east of I-35, and not just to service Mueller. There is a lot of dynamism on the Eastside of Austin, and many working- and middle-class individuals and families are moving there for the relative affordability and friendly character.

Stuart Gourd

DON'T TRUST TXI AT FACE VALUE

Dear Editor,

Re: "Point Austin: The Army Saves the Day" [News, Jan. 15]: Mr. King's article is accurate, especially in saying, "Let's hope the court doesn't rely only on TXI's version" of their meeting with the Corps of Engineers. The county court and staff have been taking TXI's statements "at face value" all through this permit application process. At first it was a 10-year project, and the property would be returned to the way it was. There would be a conveyor and no giant gravel trucks in the neighborhood. TXI has claimed that those of us with private wells have nothing to worry about with the pit next door. They say that they will water down the roads and dirt piles so that all that dust won't hurt the kids in the schools and playground just downwind. TXI has claimed that our property values won't go down with a 2,000 acre gravel mine next door and 250 trucks a day in our neighborhood.

All of these statements the county has taken at face value from TXI. The neighborhood, on the other hand, has had TXI figured out from the start. Drive on FM 973 or Toll Road 130 north of the airport to FM 969 like many of us do daily and you will see what TXI has been doing to our county and extraterritorial jurisdiction for the last 20 years. TXI has all along been offering Travis County "a deal they can't refuse" on this gravel mine in our residential neighborhood. I'm with Commissioner Karen Huber: "It's time to step up" and stand up to TXI.

Richard Macdonald

NOT AN ARROGANT ASS

Dear Mr. Black,

Re: "Page Two" [Jan. 15]: Like you, I opposed the smoking ban, even though I don't smoke and enjoy going to smokeless restaurants. However, I'm not able to discern the motives of the people who supported the ban; in that respect, we are apparently different. Because of this lack of clairvoyance, I am unable to reason, as you do, that ban supporters are more interested in forcing their worldview on others than in air quality of public venues. Moreover, I am incapable of determining whether they believe that smoking is an immoral choice rather than just an unwise or unhealthy one. So I have ultimately stopped short of concluding that supporters of the smoking ban are lying when they say they are concerned with public health.

Of course, I'm also not an arrogant ass.

Your pathetic servant,
Michael M. Simpson

WORST EXCUSE FOR PAPER

Dear Editor,

OK, let me get this straight: In the first month of 2010, *The Austin Chronicle* sees fit to run a 7,000-word cover story on Moby Grape's first album ["Naked If I Want To," Music, Jan. 8], which came out 43 years ago, for no apparent reason other than its having been penned by the paper's intolerable bloviating old hippie of an editor, one Louis "Let Me Tell You a Little About Myself" Black. I'm sorry, but with two or three exceptions (the siblings Moser, Mick Vann, Claudia Alarcón), the staff of your rag puts out by far the worst excuse for an "alternative" weekly city newspaper I've ever come across in my life (and I've come across quite a few). Austin is supposed to be a progressive, cutting-edge town; too bad it doesn't have a whole lot of journalists to match its highly promoted self-image. Sorry, but it's true.

Wes Eichenwald

'CHRONICLE' HYPOCRITICAL?

Dear Mr. King,

I was surprised to see an article in the *Chronicle* that was in favor of a corporation's right to limit the speech of its employees when that speech is damaging to the bottom line ["What Would John Galt Do ... About Global Warming? Deny It.," News, Jan. 15]. Of course, Mackey's speech does not agree with your political ideology, so perhaps it shouldn't be so strange. Normally, I would expect more ethical consistency from a paid journalist.

I also found it jarring that you seem to equate a belief in anthropogenic global warming with environmentalism. While I admit that this is not an uncommon mistake, it is still troubling. Many people have worked very hard to change our minds and poli-

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cies concerning the environment. Under Mackey, Whole Foods has done a lot to change the way in which people eat, and this change has undoubtedly been a net positive for the environment as a whole. However, AGW is a hypothesis based on mathematical models that could literally be false in their assumptions. Mackey is right to dismiss "hysteria" about global warming. All hysteria ought to be dismissed; we should listen to reason.

It is possible to be an environmentalist and have reasonable doubts about AGW, particularly with the recent e-mail scandal in the pro-AGW camp (on which I believe Mackey was commenting). You should stop painting Mackey as a rabid right-wing nut and show him for what he likely is: a modern, Texas-style "liberalitarian" who is closer to the real hippie ethic than your paper would like to admit.

Sincerely,
Ian Blincoe

[Michael King responds: The story in question took no position on whether corporations should or should not limit the speech of employees - although calling CEO John Mackey an "employee" of Whole Foods is a bit of a stretch. The story reported on what the people directly involved were saying about the matter.]

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FREQUENTS NIGHTCLUBS ALL THE TIME

Dear Editor,

Re: "Anti-Smoking Laws Impose on Rights of Business Owners" ["Postmarks" online, Jan. 11]: "How many times, I wonder, have you frequented any nightclub in Austin within the last year?" In response to this question, Ms. Mueller, my answer is more than 150 times. I happen to work in Austin nightclubs, and I also routinely frequent Antone's, the Saxon Pub, and many others. For five years before I started working in them (October 2006), I also patronized local clubs anywhere from two to six nights a week (allow me to do the math for you: Since 2001 I've frequented Austin clubs at least 1,500 times), tolerating inconsiderate smoking on more than half those occasions – burned by countless cigarettes on countless dance floors.

Kristin Casey

FORMER CLUB OWNER

Dear Editor,

I began building a Downtown club just before the smoking issue came up and the ban had passed. My business plan was to cater to cigar smokers, who on average spend more on drinks, food, and tips. We had massive air-conditioning units for pulling out the smoke.

The ban eliminated my competitive distinction and after a few years of breaking even, I sold out. A surge of nonsmoking clientele never materialized. We were surrounded by other clubs that were blessed with the space to build large outdoor decks, and most of my targeted smoking customers simply migrated. They didn't smoke less, they simply did it somewhere else, and I lost hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Paul Silver

GONZALES NOT PROSECUTED

Dear Editor,

Re: "Does the Open Meetings Act Go Too Far?" [News, Jan. 8]: I would like to request a correction to a point made in this article. It indicates that Victor Gonzales was prosecuted. I was not prosecuted. A complaint was filed with the Williamson County D.A. alleging a violation of TOMA. An investigation was conducted, and the complaint was dismissed as not having any merit. There was never any indictment or prosecution. Just for the record. Thank you.

Victor Gonzales

[Editor's note: The Chronicle regrets the error. See the Oops in our Jan. 15 issue for more.]

'VINTAGE' STORY SWAP

Dear Editor,

Can I buy an amplifier on time? Yes, I have *Vintage* on CD – the greatest record ever made – "8:05" has always been my song, but "It's a Beautiful Day Today" and a whole bunch more are just some of the best songs ever put together ["Naked If I Want To," Music, Jan. 8].

Thanks, Louis – we really ought to get together for coffee with a couple shots ... and swap stories about my days with Liberation News Service and the *Washington Free Press* and all sorts of crazy things that have happened since.

Duggan Flanakin

MISHEARD BUT APPRECIATED

Dear Editor,

Louis, Louis, Louis. In reading "Naked If I Want To" [Music, Jan. 8], I didn't know whether to roar with laughter or cry. When one proclaims

they are who they are because of the works of a certain artist (or group of artists), it would help if one could actually quote lyrics correctly. "Naked, If I Want To" was certainly surreal and had idiosyncratic status, but "Can I stop by your work on the Fourth of July" zips it right out into the stratosphere. The actual lyrics are "Would you let me walk down your street naked if I want to/Can I pop fireworks on the Fourth of July?"

But before I laugh too loudly, I have to remember that I was the one who kept warbling loudly to the Rascals' "Groovin'": "Life could be ecstasy/ You and me and Leslie." I kept trying to figure out who Leslie was and what she/he had to do with anything. My own mother had to gently point out that the words were, "You and me endlessly."

Otherwise, thanks for remembering Moby Grape.

Rollyn Carlson

HAPPY TO BE PRESENT

Louis,

Re: "Page Two" [Dec. 25]: I love who you have become.

We all went through the "worst of times" which were really the best of times, looking back.

Now we are all just happy to be present. It's not so bad, is it?

I light that candle with you.

Kyle White

NEW PUNCTUATION TOOL!

Dear Editor,

I invented this new punctuation tool. I call it a paragraph, and it separates thought processes and makes large amounts of text more readable. Good news, the licensing to use this is very

cheap. Please contact me at your earliest convenience, and we can set up an easy payment plan. Your readers will love you.

Richard Henretta

LAWS IMPOSE ON RIGHTS

Dear Editor,

In response to the "Postmark" by Kristin Casey (published Jan. 8 regarding Austin Powell's article "Off the Record," Music, Jan. 1): So, Ms. Casey, you felt the need to retort to Mr. Powell's article, wherein he utilizes his power of free speech and shares his opinion regarding the demise of a business (Room 710) which has recently closed. Ms. Casey, your retort is unnecessary due to the fact that your position is already solidified – tobacco use is outlawed in enclosed places in the city of Austin. You and your minority have won through City Council vote – be happy about it. You make a ridiculous analogy of equating secondhand tobacco smoke to bleach and/or rat poison being sprayed into people's faces. The point that Mr. Powell is attempting to make is that business owners in our so-called "free democracy" should have the ability to choose their demographic. The technology for air filtration to the utmost level of exonerating the air of carcinogens within each hour has existed for 20 years. Legislation can, and could, be made to take into consideration that business owners have the right to run their businesses as they choose by providing filtration to a level pursuant to health standards chosen and legislated, especially concerning adult-oriented venues, such as nightclubs.

However, the reality is that an agenda has been decided by a minority who has found and utilized an effective way to push that agenda. I am in support of legislation that allows business owners to choose their demographic and how to best suit the needs of their patrons whilst still providing a healthy environment for their employees. This compromise exists, Ms. Casey, yet "self-centered" people such as yourself choose to continue to impose your own belief systems on the rest of your community. How many times, I wonder, have you frequented any nightclub in Austin within the last year? Bottom line is that business owners understand their patrons' needs and shouldn't have to conform to an agenda of people who have no intention of ever patronizing such an establishment. Kudos to the *Chronicle* for printing a free thinker's viewpoint such as Mr. Powell's!

Sincerely,
Lauren Mueller



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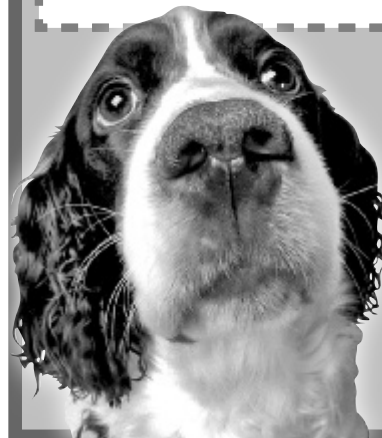
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news

Headlines

- ▶ The City Council holds a special called meeting today, Thursday, Jan. 21, to hear about a proposed economic incentives program to lure **Hanger Orthopedic Group** into relocating to Austin. A public hearing is set for the next regular City Council meeting, Jan. 28. For more, see "Point Austin," right. Mayor **Lee Leffingwell**, meanwhile, will be attending the U.S. Conference of Mayors in Washington, D.C.
- ▶ Hot issues from the Jan. 14 City Council meeting are still hanging fire, as the Planning Commission prepares to assemble a panel to further examine how density bonuses fit into the **Downtown Austin Plan**. See "City Hall Hustle," p.12.
- ▶ Beleaguered Criminal Appeals Judge **Sharon Keller** should not lose her seat for her conduct leading up to the 2007 execution of **Michael Richard**, a special judge has determined. See austinchronicle.com/newsdesk for more.
- ▶ Austin and Travis County commemorated the memory of **Martin Luther King Jr.** Monday, while the estimated death toll from Haiti's earthquakes swelled to a staggering 200,000. Donation and benefit info is available at austinchronicle.com/haiti.
- ▶ **Capital Metro** rolled out its revised bus schedules and new fare rates this week. Single rides will now be \$1, day passes \$2, and 31-day Metro Passes \$28. See a closer look at the Cap Metro changes on p.16 and at www.capmetro.org.
- ▶ Who knew? After it previously ignored her as a marginal candidate, broadcaster Belo Corp. invited Republican gubernatorial hopeful **Debra Medina** to participate in a Jan. 29 debate after new polling by Rasmussen Reports gave her 12% support among likely primary voters. The poll showed that neither Gov. **Rick Perry** nor Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchison** has enough support to avoid a run-off.
- ▶ Oh, the pain. Massachusetts voters elected Republican **Scott Brown**, who once posed nude for *Cosmopolitan*, to fill Sen. **Ted Kennedy**'s seat in an upset over anointed Dem **Martha Coakley**, and now Democrats in D.C. are trying to work out how they can pass health care reform with majorities of only 18 seats in the Senate and 78 in the House.
- ▶ Nice place to hang your hat for a spell. The LBJ School of Public Affairs has named **Robert L. Hutchings** as its new dean. The former U.S. National Intelligence Council chairman replaces James Steinberg, who left the dean's post to serve as the U.S. deputy secretary of state.
- ▶ High elbows in the **Round Rock GOP** primaries. Williamson County GOP founder **John Gordon** has failed in his attempt to get House staffer **Alyssa Eacono** thrown off the ballot in House District 52 on claims she isn't a resident in the district. They join former Texas State University System Assistant Vice Chancellor **Larry Gonzales** and former Texas Supreme Court clerk **Stephen Casey** in hoping to secure the nomination to challenge Democratic incumbent Rep. **Diana Maldonado** in November.
- ▶ Get out your handkerchiefs. **Cedar allergy** sufferers can expect a rough road ahead as the pollen count for cedar continues its upward climb this week and beyond, meteorologists warn.



JANA BIRCHUM

Thousands of people gathered Monday at the state Capitol to celebrate the legacy of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. with the annual march from the King statue on the UT campus to the Capitol, and on to the Huston-Tillotson campus for a daylong festival.

How Much for a Hanger?

Austin ponders the latest corporate incentive proposal

BY MICHAEL KING

I might be able to work up more enthusiasm, one way or another, over the pending city economic development deal with Hanger Orthopedic Group, if I thought that anything I or any other citizen might have to say about the matter at this point would have any impact. Thursday morning (Jan. 21) the City Council kicks off its brand new incentives review process with a public presentation on the Hanger deal, to be followed by the formal proposal and vote Jan. 28. In the meantime, you can review the agreement and the associated documents online and submit comments there as well, through Jan. 24 – though it's worth noting that among those documents, Hanger's "Business Information Form" was only submitted to the city Jan. 15, so we're already behind the curve.

Then there's the fact that Gov. Rick Perry announced Hanger's corporate relocation to Austin Jan. 12 and that the state has already committed \$1.5 million from Perry's Texas Enterprise Fund – Austin's contribution is a relatively paltry \$500,000 over 10 years – which, according to the governor, "will create \$4.7 million in capital investment and up to 250 jobs in Texas." Lest that fail to persuade you that the Hanger

deal is done, the company has already negotiated (though not yet signed, pending City Council action) a major office lease out at the Domain, and business folks back in Maryland are publicly lamenting the loss of a major local employer.

If all this weren't enough, on Sunday the *Statesman* weighed in with its inevitable "move on, nothing to see here" editorial, with the foreboding lead, "Barring an unexpected attack of economic myopia, the Austin City Council is expected to move toward approving incentives to lure Hanger Orthopedic Group to town." Council members can anticipate the *Statesman* response should their eyesight differ from that of the denizens of the Bat Cave.

Jobs for Sale

Despite the big rush, all in all the Hanger deal looks like a relatively good one for Austin. The company is a major one in orthotics and prosthetics, with 670 patient care centers nationwide and some 3,500 employees, of which 133 will now be based in Austin (another 20 or so are already here in a subsidiary); supporters eagerly sniff another hook for an

CONTINUED ON P.13

QUOTE of the WEEK



"Her conduct ... does not warrant removal from office, or even further reprimand beyond the public humiliation she has surely suffered."

– From the findings of a special judge assigned to determine whether Judge Sharon Keller should be ousted from her seat on the state Court of Criminal Appeals for her role in the execution of a Texas inmate

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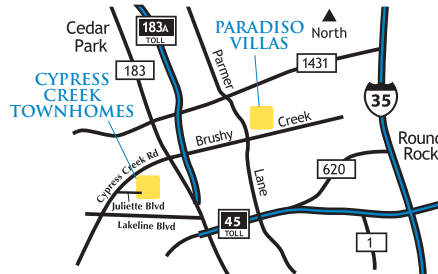
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► **AISS PLANS DUAL-LANGUAGE PROGRAM** After years of calls from parents and community groups to take bilingualism more seriously, **Austin Independent School District** will launch its first **dual-language program** this fall. Around 200 students, both native English speakers and English-language learners, will join a pilot program across four elementary campuses: Ridgetop in the central AISD Trustee District 5, held by board president Mark Williams; Perez in trustee Sam Guzman's south-eastern District 2; Becker in Lori Moya's south-central District 6; and Wooten in the northern District 3, held by Christine Brister. **Martha Garcia**, AISD's director of bilingual education, explained, "What we want to do is create children who are bilingual and biliterate." Both Becker and Ridgetop will be accepting additional students for the program and will accept transfer applications beginning Feb. 6. The program will cost an estimated \$150,000 per campus, including the hiring of a new director of dual-language services. Five other campuses – Blanton, Brentwood, Oak Hill, Odom, and Travis Heights – applied and will be considered for the second year of the project. "Elementary school is where you want to start," said Williams, "so it grows with the kids, and then you scale it wider as we become more effective." – *Richard Whittaker*

► **COUNCIL CONSIDERS FIRE/POLICE STAFFING ISSUES** Public safety issues simmered throughout Jan. 14's Austin City Council meeting, with items affecting police and firefighter staffing. Council approved creating a 20th commander position for Lt. **Wayne Demoss**, who was previously passed over for promotion by Police Chief **Art Acevedo** following allegations he had visited a Panamanian brothel while on vacation. Acevedo appointed another candidate to the position before a hearing examiner ruled Acevedo had improperly withheld the promotion, necessitating the additional commander position. Additionally, council directed the city manager to apply for a federal **Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response** grant. Four-person staffing on fire trucks is an industry safety standard, albeit one the fire department has struggled to meet in lean budget years. The SAFER grant application, due Jan. 15, was made "with the goal of securing the requisite funds to achieve full four person staffing once grant monies are accepted," according to the council resolution. The grant must now be federally approved and then accepted by the city; if the city does accept funds, they come with stipulations, including forgoing any layoffs. Ultimately, the grant is expected to result in 25 additional hires. – *W.D.*

► **WHEN PUSH COMES TO POLL** Republicans are touting a poll stating that, in a match-up for the Texas Governor's Mansion, either **Rick Perry** or **Kay Bailey Hutchison** would beat leading Dem contender **Bill White**. The Jan. 17 automated phone poll of 1,000 likely voters by **Rasmussen Reports** gives Perry a 10-point lead over White (50% to 40%) and stretches to 15 points for Hutchison's lead over White (52% to 37%). The main focus of the poll, said Rasmussen president and pollster **Scott Rasmussen**, "was about the Republican primary race" – that's why third-place GOPer Debra Medina was included, while Democrat Farouk Shami was not. Rasmussen has often been accused by watchdog groups like Media Matters for America of push-polling with leading questions. For example, 45% of respondents in this latest survey backed Perry's decision to not apply for federal Race to the Top education grants after the question cited his "concern about education guidelines from the federal government as a result of accepting the grant." Defending his methodology, Rasmussen said, "For the most part, it's people that don't like a particular question. More generally, they just don't pay attention to the details or they don't like the message that comes out of it." – *R.W.*

CURE-ING THE DENSITY BONUS GRIDLOCK

Planning Commission wants more time to sort out public benefits

BY WELLS DUNBAR

Even at City Hall, where parenthetical policy permutations are task-force-tweaked and stakeholder-scrutinized, the **Downtown Austin Plan's** lag time is a little stunning: City Council called for a plan in late 2005. It selected ROMA Design Group nearly a year later. And ... cut to last Thursday, Jan. 14, where one of the plan's most important components came before council – a density-bonus program. And as we approach the fifth year of planning for a plan, we won't be moving on that soon, either.

The delay came from the Planning Commission, which Jan. 13 recommended a four-month moratorium on adopting rules for denser building Downtown. Planning Chair **Dave Sullivan** is cognizant of the Downtown Plan's snail's-pace progress – nevertheless, he and the commission subcommittee involved in the issue (Sullivan, **Danette Chimenti**, **Mandy Dealey**, and **Jay Reddy**) felt some things merited a closer look. "Mandy's main concern, which I think we all share, is that this process could've been done better had there been a citizens advisory committee." Dealey, the vice chair of Planning and chair of the **Downtown Commission**, said: "We may at the end of all this come to the conclusion that what's on the table is as good as we can get. But there are enough people who seem to think it's not. I would just like the opportunity to have everybody in the room and just air it out." And with no major construction projects expected until 2012, according to co-planners HR&A Advisors Inc., "a four-month delay on a plan that we think will be actuated over 50 years is a small thing," says Sullivan. "For 2010, we have time to plan."

While there's room for debate over whether process concerns merit delay, more concrete issues also persist – like affordable-housing contributions. As described at the Jan. 14 meeting by **Jim Robertson**, city point man for the Downtown Plan, density bonuses – contributions and concessions from developers when the value of additional, city-approved density is large enough to share – "must benefit both the developer and the community to be effective." They include broad "gatekeeper" requirements, like minimal green building standards and pedestrian-friendly streets, but also affordable housing, or a fee in lieu thereof. The fees suggested, applicable to at least 50% of the additional density, were \$10 per square foot in highly desirable tracts, \$5 in less-developable tracts, and zero dollars for commercial developments such as hotel and office space.

But while few argue that hotels don't provide public benefits in economic impacts both direct (taxes) and indirect

(pumping money into the local economy), the question of whether they should be entirely exempt from other fees has long hovered on the edges of density discussions. And with mixed-use, the mantra of infill development – how to capture benefits from hybrids like the Hilton Austin, which holds hotel rooms and condos – must be resolved. Additionally, the \$5 and \$10 fees are a first; the city set similar fees for the University Neighborhood Overlay district, but at a much lower 50 cents. Personally, Sullivan wants to set it and see.

"Rather than haggle over whether they are exactly correct, which we will never know beforehand ... I would like to implement them and see what kind of performance we get."

But the design commission has an ulterior, if non-nefarious, reason for getting density right: resolving the **Central Urban Redevelopment**, or CURE, conundrum. Downtown developments seeking additional density have options: zoning that hews to optional, "interim" density fees recommended by the **Affordable Housing Task Force** or more permissive CURE zoning. To date, Robertson noted, the interim density-bonus program has never been used.

This issue was exemplified in the split 4-4 decision at the Planning Commission in November, regarding **Austin Hotel Holdings'** proposed "eco-luxury" hotel on Fifth Street. The project couldn't earn a recommendation, partially because in seeking CURE zoning and bypassing the interim density fees, AHH skated on hundreds of thousands of dollars in affordable-housing contributions. (Council approved the zoning request in December.) "What's at issue here," says Sullivan, "is replacing the [interim] density bonuses with the consultant-developed density bonuses and removing the option in CURE for more height or floor-to-area ratio. ... We hope that nobody would come through without offering some public benefits. It would take the issue of CURE right off the table." Council acquiesced to Planning's postponement request; the issue will return Jan. 28, as council's action required the Planning Commission to form its working group.

"It's been more like going to a lecture in college, instead of the labs you have where you get to talk about things," Dealey says of previous outreach on the program. But amid the talk about "process" – which can be code for those still sore their individual issues weren't affirmatively resolved – hopefully, the added time will help craft an equitable and intelligent cure for the density dilemma. ■

The cure for the common Tweets at www.twitter.com/cityhallhustle.



While there's room for debate over whether process concerns merit delay, more concrete issues persist – like affordable-housing contributions.

res publica FOR MORE DETAILS AND EVENTS, SEE COMMUNITY LISTINGS, P.54.

THURSDAY 21

BICYCLE ADVISORY COUNCIL convenes its monthly meeting to advise city staff on bicycling issues. 6:30pm. One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd., 203-7626. www.austineconetwork.com.

FRIDAY 22

YELLOW BIKE PROJECT BENEFIT Help pay for YBP's new headquarters opening soon. See Music Listings, p.74, for the lineup. 9pm. Red 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100. \$5-10. www.austinyellowbike.org.

SATURDAY 23

C-SPAN CIVICS BUS This traveling studio brings the world of public affairs to Austin; stop in for a tour. 10am-1pm. Faulk Central Library, 800 Guadalupe, 974-7400. Free. www.c-span.org/schoolbus.

SUNDAY 24

PICKIN' PARTY FOR PEACE Help brainstorm about spreading peace in Austin and beyond and help plan for the Million Musicians March for Peace. 2pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. www.instrumentsforpeace.org.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM: RIGHTING TEXAS' CIVIL WRONGS A talk by ACLU of Texas Executive Director **Terri Burke**. 11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover. www.austinuu.org.

MONDAY 25

IMAGINE AUSTIN MEETING Join arty types in creating an outside-the-box vision for Austin's future. 6pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 478-6222. www.cityofaustin.org/complan.

MEET A COMMUNITY GROUP This monthly speaker series brings you **Fair Food Austin**. 7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop. Free. www.fairfoodaustin.blogspot.com.

ST. JOHN/CORONADO HILLS BUILT ENVIRONMENT WORKSHOP Discuss how transportation fits into the vision for these communities. 6:30-8:30pm. Austin Firefighters Association, 7537 Cameron. www.cityofaustin.org/zoning/sj_ch.htm.

TUESDAY 26

COMMUNITY FORUM: AUSTIN REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER Learn about the ARIC, which, if approved by City Council, will serve as a "fusion center" allowing APD to share info with other law enforcement agencies. Texas Impact hosts. 7-8:30pm. St. John's United Methodist Church, 2140 Allandale, 472-3903. www.texasimpact.org.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN CITIZENS ADVISORY TASK FORCE meets to discuss the Community Inventory data-book and other things (see "Comp Plan," p.16). 6pm. Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Rd. www.cityofaustin.org/complan.

WEDNESDAY 27

COLORADO RIVER FOUNDATION OPEN HOUSE Learn about volunteer opportunities available to people who love Lady Bird Lake and Lake Austin. Call or e-mail to register. Noon. Redbud Center, 3601 Lake Austin Blvd. Rm. 225, 498-1587. Free. sarah@coloradoriver.org. www.coloradoriver.org.

NUECES BICYCLE BOULEVARD OPEN HOUSE Learn about the bikeway and share your two cents at the presentation and final commenting session. 6-8pm. Pease Elementary, 1106 Rio Grande. www.cityofaustin.org/publicworks/bicycle-public-input.htm.

Austin medical school. In general, these are high-paying jobs, with an annual average salary of \$97,000 before benefits (although that figure is skewed high by the big shots); more impressive are the 101 “staff level” jobs that reportedly average \$62,000. In return for these and related investment guarantees, the city will pay an annual cash grant of \$50,000 for 10 years, beginning next year.

All the documents call these “new full-time jobs,” although it remains uncertain just how many will be filled by Austinites, since presumably some of those suburban Marylanders will be perfectly happy to relocate to Northwest Hills. But council members have been assured by Hanger that the D.C.-area labor market is relatively strong enough to hold many employees there, and Mayor Leffingwell told the *Statesman* that “he expects most of the 133 jobs to be created initially would be filled locally.” There are no such guarantees in the agreement, and Hanger CEO Tom Kirk was reportedly less munificent-sounding in a recent conversation with representatives of Austin Interfaith.

That workers’ advocacy group has offered the most pointed questions about the pending deal. AI executive committee members Minerva Camarena Skeith and Louis Malfaro wrote recently in the *Statesman*, “City officials should not subsidize private companies unless those companies agree in writing to pay high wages and benefits, hire locally and provide career advancement for their workers.” AI is not currently opposing the deal, Malfaro told me, but it believes the city still needs to make certain that these “really basic questions” are fully addressed before the city agrees to economic incentives.

“There’s a lot about Hanger to like,” Malfaro said, “and I think they really want to be engaged in the community.” But he argued that city officials and the chamber of commerce are already overselling the deal even though, for example, Hanger administrators told AI the company is not guaranteeing any entry-level minimum salary. AI advocates an \$18-per-hour floor for any city-subsidized development – “Otherwise,” says Malfaro, “we end up providing secondary public subsidies

for families below the poverty line.” (The city’s economic development office says Hanger has reported the lowest-paying job at \$35,000, plus benefits, close to the \$37,000 AI marks as requisite in Austin for a family of four.)

Money to be Made

Certainly all these questions should be thoroughly aired in the public discussions this week, although Perry’s announcement and the general momentum have made Austin’s process appear superfluous. As these deals go, \$50,000 a year is frankly minimal – the truth is, the city will have already spent that much just considering the matter. Over the life of the agreement, attempting to consider all infrastructure burdens and related costs – although such calculations are notoriously wobbly – the city estimates “net benefits” of \$875,000.

Bill Spelman, the council member publicly most skeptical of corporate incentives, acknowledged that “the timing is screwed up” on this deal because it’s a corporate headquarters relocation that couldn’t readily be subject to the city’s timelines. “Let’s see how the process works this first time,” he said, “before we abandon it.” He said he doubted an

Austin withdrawal would kill the deal outright, but more likely, “We wouldn’t be asked again to take part in one of these [state] TEF projects.” Considering Perry’s record on handouts – he’s a staunch free marketer except when it comes to corporate welfare – that would be a mixed outcome. Certainly the symbolic value of good will to a new employer is not to be dismissed. Spelman says we should judge the matter, finally, on the overall costs and benefits to the city and whether the jobs are indeed worth paying for.

The ancillary local economic generation is also undeniable. And there is one other factor most folks will be too squeamish to mention. Over the last decade in our foreign wars, we’ve been manufacturing a customer base for prosthetics that should keep Hanger and its subsidiaries booming and innovating for quite some time.

There’s just nothing like a captive and growing market. ■

**As these deals go,
\$50,000 a year is
frankly minimal.**

GREEN TRADE SHOW WORKSHOP The Texas Green Network hosts this discussion on green trade show marketing – accompanied by an actual trade show. 5-8pm. Xtreme Xhibits, 9201 Metric. Free. rsvp@texasgreennetwork.org.

TEXAS OBSERVER LAUNCH PARTY Celebrating the new and improved *Observer*. 5-8pm. The Clive Bar, 609 Davis. Free. www.texasobserver.org.

THURSDAY 28

CLEAN AIR FORCE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE discusses the EPA’s recent proposal to strengthen health standards for smog. 9:30-11:30am. Austin Chamber of Commerce, 210 Barton Springs Rd. #400, 225-7780. www.cleanairforce.org.

HOMELESS COUNT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED See “Homeless Count Needs You,” p.20. Training:

2pm, count: 4-10pm. 782-8835. www.traviscountyhomelesscount.org.

LIVE UNITED FILM SERIES United Way Capital Area and KLRU present *It All Adds Up*, a documentary about a groundbreaking high school math program. RSVP at www.unitedwaycapitalarea.org. 6pm. Austin City Limits Studio 6A, CMB, UT campus. Free.

ONGOING

HAITI: HOW TO HELP See “Haiti Relief Guide,” p.58, to find out how you can help keep aid flowing to the survivors of last week’s earthquake in Haiti.

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD NOMINATIONS The Austin Climate Protection Program is accepting nominations of individuals, businesses, and organizations who deserve recognition for their green efforts. Deadline: March 1. www.coolaustin.org.

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Fed School Funding Texas out of the race

While legislatures and school districts in other states rush to comply with the application terms of the federal **Race to the Top** grant, Gov. **Rick Perry** is continuing his ongoing feud with the Obama administration by refusing to submit the state's application – despite months of preparation by the **Texas Education Agency**. Perry's political opponents call his decision to reject a projected \$700 million misguided; on the other hand, educator groups that opposed the application are concerned that Perry rejected the cash for the wrong reasons.

The competitive grants are funded out of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, better known as the federal stimulus fund. Prior to Perry's decision, there was a total of \$4.3 billion available nationally, and this week President Barack Obama added another \$1.35 billion for the next financial year.

Susan Patterson, Austin Independent School District's ARRA Title 1 Part A grant coordinator, explained, "The Race to the Top money was an opportunity that came down from the federal level to the state, and it had to be applied for from the governor's office." Because Texas stayed out of nationwide collaborative programs that would add points to the application, there was an increasing consensus that even if it were submitted, Texas' proposal would have been among the weakest.

However, just as Perry rejected \$555 million in unemployment insurance cash but took the other \$16 billion on offer, his decision to junk this application does not mean that Texas education gets no economic stimulus cash. AISD has already received \$23 million in Title 1 ARRA money for campuses with economically disadvantaged students and \$17 million for programs covered by the Individuals With Disabilities Education Act. In addition, Patterson said: "We are going to be pursuing an Investing in Innovation grant. This is a large competitive grant that is nothing to do with the state or the TEA and is really about scaling up and implementing very well-researched and proven effective practices in education."

Even with those applications pending, House Higher Education Committee member Rep. **Donna Howard**, D-Austin, criticized Perry and Education Commissioner **Robert Scott** for denying districts the Race to the Top cash. She said: "I'm disappointed, for sure. ... These funds were for innovation, which a lot of superintendents were asking for." She also criticized their decision to portray collaborative programs like the Common Core State Standards Initiative as steps toward a national curriculum, rather than becoming actively involved in their definition. U.S. Education Secretary Arne Duncan has said that the standards would never be mandatory in any case, but Howard argued that Texas should still work with other states. She

said, "Even if we have been the leader, which we have been in a lot of areas, that doesn't happen in a vacuum."

In his Jan. 13 statement backing Perry's decision to cancel the application, Scott said, "We've had enough. We've had enough top-down management. We've had enough bureaucratic speak and dictating what's going on in our schools." But that's a reversal of Scott's original position. On March 2, 2009, he testified to the House Select Committee on Federal Economic Stabilization Funding that, while as a state employee he was technically neutral on the ARRA, "I'm encouraged about this because these are the things we've been working on for the last few years," such as college and career readiness, charter schools, and incentive pay. As for any supposed strings attached, he told the committee that the compliance terms of the initial round of stabilization funds were a positive component and called it "money trying to drive behavior. ... This is focused on some really high goals." Committee Chairman Jim Dunnam, D-Waco, recalled that "throughout the spring, virtually every time TEA Commissioner Robert Scott came to testify in front of my committee, he talked about Race to the Top. It's hard to understand why, after the TEA spent 800 hours preparing the application, Perry wouldn't even bother to send it in."

Perry and Scott do have the nominal support of two of the state's largest teachers' unions. Both the **Texas Classroom Teachers Association** and the Texas chapter of **American Federation of Teachers** opposed the application because they believe Race to the Top places too much emphasis on testing and punishing teachers. They argued that the proposed standards would take the state back to the punitive state accountability standards in place before the Legislature passed House Bill 3 in 2009. Still, Texas AFT President **Linda Bridges** discounted Perry's concerns about the Common Core Standards Initiative and said common national standards for writing and mathematics could be agreed upon easily. Her members' biggest concern was that by publicly opposing the application, they might be perceived as backing all of Perry's criticisms. She said, "We discussed it long and hard."

One of Perry's concerns that's widely echoed is about what will happen in 2011, when ARRA funds run out. However, AISD is working to make sure it doesn't fall off what Patterson called "the funding cliff." She said: "In two years, we'll have really good evidence about what works and what doesn't, so we can roll it into our local budget or sustain funding through other avenues. That's been comforting for me." — *Richard Whittaker*



Perry

JANA BIRCHHEAD

Conservatives Take Another Swing at Social Studies



LEAH LOUISE

The debate went on and on and on ... so long, in fact, that ultimately nothing was decided.

Members of the **State Board of Education** last week heard from the public and argued among themselves about revisions to **social studies curriculum standards** for Texas public schoolchildren, and it was every bit as inane and infuriating as the previous battle over science standards – once again featuring the educational establishment fighting against loud hyperconservatives who seem to think they know more than professionals who have dedicated their lives to studying their respective disciplines. The board's self-appointed moralists managed to push through several amendments to the standards, though the lengthy debate foiled its effort to deliver a first-round vote on the overall curriculum. That vote was put off until March, and the final vote originally scheduled for then was moved to May.

As we've previously reported, the seven-member arch-conservative bloc (on the elected board of 15) has pushed hard for a bigger emphasis on the role of religion in our nation's history, which critics see as part of the bigger push by the religious right to further the notion that America's founders intended for the United States to be a Christian nation. The bloc has sought to override the recommendations of academic writing teams in favor of board-appointed "experts," some of whom are simply self-anointed "historians."

This time around, there was also a push from the tea-party crowd making tinfoil-hat charges of socialism in our educational system and calling for the teaching of "American exceptionalism." One sign at a rally outside the meeting read: "Stop Leftist Revision. The American Dream Dies When our History is forgotten!"

There were too many highlights to recount here (the archived video at www.tea.state.tx.us makes for hours of head-slapping fun), but among them:

- One Bonny Brogdon testified that she moved from Arizona to Texas because it "has yet to be changed by a liberal agenda." She objected to language referring to citizenship in a global society because, "I am hypersensitive to

any type of global anything. ... I have a problem with teaching our children that we have responsibilities to a global society when we don't have commensurate rights within that society."

- Bryan dentist **Don McLeroy** – whose chairmanship of the board was rejected by the Texas Senate last spring but who still represents District 9 – unsuccessfully objected to an examination of the cultural influence of certain artistic movements, including hip-hop, which he wanted removed and replaced by country music, apparently because hip-hop has a "negative" influence. (Perhaps McLeroy has never heard any cheating or drinking songs.)

- At another point, McLeroy introduced – and successfully passed – an amendment to insert language basically saying that **Joseph McCarthy's** infamous red-baiting in the 1950s was vindicated by history.

The **Texas Freedom Network**, an activist organization dedicated to countering the influence of the religious right in Texas, complained afterward that the revisions passed last week "gut a year's worth of work by teachers and scholars who drafted new curriculum standards for Texas public schools." TFN said the board passed "a variety of proposals that would promote partisan political positions ... removed a specific requirement that students learn about the efforts of women and ethnic minorities to gain equal rights," and "adopted a standard that specifically promotes the views of conservative icons such as Phyllis Schlafly, the Contract With America, the Heritage Foundation, the Moral Majority and the National Rifle Association, while deliberately ignoring progressive political figures," among its more egregious actions.

"When partisan politicians take a wrecking ball to the work of teachers and scholars, you get a document that looks more like a party platform than a social studies curriculum," said TFN President **Kathy Miller** in a press release. "The video archive of this week's meeting would be a great primer for parents and lawmakers on how politics is undermining the education of Texas schoolchildren." — *Lee Nichols*

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Comp Plan Time to speak up

At the request of the **Citizens Advisory Task Force** for the **Austin Comprehensive Plan**, Austinites have more time to participate in the plan's first phase: defining a vision for Austin's future. Citizens now have through March 1 to complete the initial **Imagine Austin** survey at www.imagineaustin.net; they also can pick up or download a **Meeting in a Box** kit through Feb. 19 and return their group's responses by March 1. Both the survey and the meetings solicit input on Austin's strengths and weaknesses and ideas for improvement. Other surveys and input opportunities, which will delve into the substantive issues, will continue throughout 2010.

To ensure broad representation, city staff are particularly seeking responses from Austinites who do *not* fit the profile that has predominated to date: college-educated Anglos with a relatively high income who live in Central Austin. (Surprise, surprise!) Anyone who can provide outreach or Meeting in a Box facilitation to more diverse community members should contact city planner Matt Dugan at matthew.dugan@ci.austin.tx.us or 974-7665.

During the at-times contentious Jan. 12 meeting of the **Citizens Advisory Task Force**, the group became mired in "old business" items – issues related to achieving more diverse and greater public participation and group organization and subcommittees. A lengthy lecture on **Open Meetings**

Act restrictions and proper agenda posting also bogged down progress; a number of task force members protested the rules' chilling effect on fulfilling their charge as community ambassadors.

To catch up, the task force will hold a supplemental meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 26, 6pm, at Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Rd., in the first floor conference room. That meeting will tackle the preliminary planning implications of the **Community Inventory**, a 400-page data book on all things Austin, laboriously compiled by city staff and rich in information on demographics, employment, land use and zoning, housing, neighborhoods, transportation, parks, urban design, the environment, and other topics.

Sparks have flown at past task force meetings, so this one should be interesting as well. Several council members – probably just short of a quorum – and Assistant City Manager **Sue Edwards** all plan to be in attendance. Council Member **Sheryl Cole** also said she's putting task force issues, including the Open Meetings Act restrictions, on the agenda for a

Comprehensive Planning and Transportation Committee subcommittee meeting on Feb. 1, 2pm, at City Hall. Both in advance and at that meeting, said Cole, "We welcome comments and suggestions for improvements from task force members and the community." – *Katherine Gregor*

Cap Metro Changes Bus Routes, Hikes Fares

Routes

New fixed-route schedule adjustments went into effect Jan. 17 – most were minor, but a few decreased service to save Capital Metro money.

- One route was added: 271, serving the Del Valle area.
- One route was eliminated: 202 (Battle Bend), due to low performance (less than 10 passengers per hour on weekdays). Cap Metro says on a typical day, 202 served only 31 passengers.
- Route 1 (North Lamar/South Congress) increased service slightly.
- Routes 3 (Burnet/Manchaca) and 10 (South First/Red River) decreased 5-6am service from 20 minutes to 30.
- Route 300 (Govalle) decreased 5-6am service from 25 minutes to 30.
- Three University of Texas shuttle routes (Forty Acres, East Campus, and West Campus) decreased service slightly on Fridays, when ridership drops off by about 30%.
- Two UT routes (Cameron Road and Wickersham Lane) cut service by about half.

Fares

These new rates took effect Jan. 18.

Single-Ride/Day Passes	New	Increase
Bus single-ride adult	\$1.00	33%
Bus ride reduced (student, military)	\$0.50	43%
Bus day pass	\$2.00	33%
Express bus single-ride adult	\$2.50	67%
Express ride reduced	\$1.25	67%
Express day pass	\$5.00	67%
MetroAccess single-ride	\$1.20	71%
Seniors, disabled, Medicare holders	Free*	0%
Multiride Passes		
Bus – 31-day	\$28	56%
Bus – 31-day reduced	\$14	56%
Bus – seven-day	\$8	14%
Express 31-day	\$63	75%
Express 31-day reduced	\$31.50	75%
Stored-value card (\$15 value)	\$12	0%
MetroAccess – monthly	\$35	56%
MetroAccess – 10-ride	\$12	71%
RideShare – in service area	\$60	33%

**To receive the free fares, riders must have a valid Capital Metro-issued ID, which is valid for two years and costs \$5. Seniors are defined as persons 65 and older.*

Nonprofit Offers Free Tax Assistance

Austin-based **Foundation Communities** spends most of the year creating affordable housing communities for low-income residents. But for a few months of each year, the nonprofit shifts deep into tax mode, providing free income-tax preparation for low- to moderate-income families drawing \$50,000 a year or less annual income and individuals making \$25,000 or less.

The group kicked off its tax season Wednesday morning with the grand opening of its new Community Financial Center – a former massage school-turned-tax center with Foundation Communities' acquisition and renovation – at 2600 W. Stassney, near West Gate Boulevard. The

new office will serve as the flagship of Foundation Communities' eight tax centers in the Austin area and will also provide financial coaching and information about a "cash for college" program for eligible applicants.

A growing demand for assistance from people who can't afford an accountant led to the creation of the services, said **Walter Moreau**, executive director of the nonprofit. "This year we expect to do about 20,000 tax returns and over \$25 million in refunds," he said. The nonprofit is trying to spread the word about changes in the tax code that could benefit many working families – such as unemployment benefits (the first

\$2,400 is tax-free), deductions for some new vehicle purchases, credits for education expenses, and credits on energy-saving home improvements. About 500 trained, IRS-certified volunteers provide the tax-prep service; Moreau said their professional backgrounds run the gamut from accounting to banking to real estate. Some 150 of them are University of Texas business school students with intensive training.

In addition to the Stassney Lane site, area residents can receive free tax assistance at the following

locations: South Rural Community Center, 3518 FM 973 S., Del Valle; Goodwill Community Center, 1015 Norwood Park; Workforce Solutions, 6505 Airport; Dolores Catholic Church, 1111 Montopolis; East Austin Neighborhood Center, 211 Comal; Bastrop Public Library, 1100 Church St., Bastrop; and Allen R. Baca Center, 301 Bagdad Ave., Bldg. 2, Round Rock. For hours, bus lines to the centers, and other info, see www.foundcom.org or call 211 or 447-2026.

– *Amy Smith*

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Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Bill White opened his Austin campaign office Jan. 16 on West 13th Street.

JANA BIRCHUM



THE PRIMARY CANDIDATES

There were several late filings for the March 2 primaries that didn't make it into our Jan. 8 chart. This updated list of contested races includes those of the Libertarian Party of Texas (which selects nominees in a series of conventions). Contested primaries are in italics.

STATEWIDE

Governor

D: Bill White, Farouk Shami, Star Locke, Felix Alvarado, Alma Ludivina Aguado, Bill Dear, Clement Glenn

R: Rick Perry*, Kay Bailey Hutchison, Debra Medina

L: Jeff Daiell, Steve Nichols, M.J. "Smitty" Smith, Edward Tidwell, Katherine Youngblood Glass

Lieutenant Governor

D: Ronnie Earle, Marc Katz, Linda Chavez-Thompson

R: David Dewhurst*

L: Scott Jameson, Todd Minor

Agriculture Commissioner

D: Hank Gilbert, Kinky Friedman

R: Todd Staples*

Land Commissioner

D: Hector Uribe, Bill Burton

R: Jerry Patterson*

Supreme Court Place 3

D: Jim Sharp

R: Jeff Brown, Rick Green, Debra Lehmann, Jim Moseley, Rebecca Simmons, Rick Strange

L: William Strange

Supreme Court Place 9

D: Blake Bailey

R: Eva Guzman*, Rose Vela

L: Jack Armstrong

Railroad Commission

D: Jeff Weems

R: Victor Carrillo*, David Porter

* incumbent

CONGRESSIONAL

Congressional District 10

D: Ted Ankrum

R: Michael McCaul*, Joe Petronis, Rick Martin

L: Jeremiah "JP" Perkins

CD 21

D: Lainey Melnick

R: Lamar Smith*, Stephen Schoppe

L: James Arthur Stroh

CD 25

D: Lloyd Doggett*

R: Donna Campbell, George Morovich

L: Cory W. Bruner, Jim Stutsman

3RD COURT OF APPEALS

Place 4

R: Scott Field, Melissa Goodwin

JUDICIAL RACES (CONTESTED)

147th District Court

D: Cliff Brown, Bill Gammon

201st District Court

D: Jan Patterson, Amy Clark Meachum

299th District Court

D: Leonard Martinez, Mindy Montford, Eve Schatelowitz Alcantar, Karen Sage

331st District Court

D: David Crain, Keith Lauerman

County Court at Law 3

D: John Lipscombe, Olga Seelig

TEXAS LEGISLATURE

Senate District 14

D: Kirk Watson*

R: Mary Lou Serafine

L: Kent Phillips, Ron Bennett, Sid Atkinson Jr.

SD 25

R: Jeff Wentworth*

L: Arthur Maxwell Thomas IV

House District 46

D: Dawanna Dukes*

L: George E. Emery

HD 47

D: Valinda Bolton*

R: Holly Turner, Paul Workman, David Sewell

L: Joe Edgar, Kris Bailey

HD 48

D: Donna Howard*

R: Dan Neil

L: Ben Easton

HD 49

D: Elliott Naishtat*

L: Nathan Kleffman, Norman Horn

HD 50

D: Mark Strama*

R: Ryan Lambert, Patrick McGuinness

L: Emily Cowan

HD 51

D: Eddie Rodriguez*

R: Marilyn Jackson

L: Arthur DiBianca

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE (CONTESTED)

Precinct 1

D: Daniel Bradford, Yvonne M. Williams

Precinct 2

D: Fidel "Ace" Acevedo, Karin Crump

Precinct 3

D: Susan Steeg*

R: Michael Barré, Madeleine Connor

Precinct 5

D: Richard Glasheen, Herb Evans*

TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT

County Judge

D: Sam Biscoe*

R: Mike McNamara

Commissioner, Precinct 2

D: Sarah Eckhardt*

R: David Buttross

L: Matthew Finkel

Commissioner, Precinct 4

D: Margaret Gómez*, Raul Alvarez

L: David Dreesen

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Campaign Finance Reports Looking into the crystal ball

Pundits and campaign professionals are looking to the first round of **campaign finance reports** for the 2010 primaries and general elections as the great predictor of election success. The reports cover the six months from July to December 2009, but with so many late filers and switched races, it's still unclear which candidates have the cash to be serious contenders.

In House District 47, all three Republican challengers to Democratic incumbent Rep. **Valinda Bolton** kick-started their campaigns with personal loans, but developer **Paul Workman** easily won the first lap of the fundraising race. Down in HD 50, since Democratic Rep. **Mark Strama's** two potential Republican challengers, **Patrick McGuinness** and **Ryan Lambert**, only filed their initial treasurer's reports Jan. 4, neither has to file until the 30-day reports are due.

As for the primary-free Republicans, there's less immediate pressure to fill the coffers. With only \$2,625 cash on hand, **Dan Neil** lags far behind incumbent Rep. Democrat **Donna Howard's** reserves of \$138,199. Similarly, **Marilyn Jackson** has only \$550 on hand to take on Rep. **Eddie Rodriguez** in November. However, as a board member of the GOPAC-TX Republican fundraising machine, Neil may have easy access to big donors come November. State Senate

hopeful **Mary Lou Serafine** will probably be looking for similar largesse: With nothing raised to date, Sen. **Kirk Watson's** \$1.4 million is a high target for her to match.

Cash is in rich supply in the Republican governor's race. Incumbent Gov. **Rick Perry** wins the fundraising race, but lead challenger Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchison** has a bigger war chest. And **Debra Medina's** high media profile didn't transfer into big donations.

On the Democratic side, former Houston Mayor **Bill White** hammered lead opponent **Farouk Shami**, who has burned through both the \$3 million he loaned his campaign and the \$2.5 million for his exploratory committee. While White's \$5.5 million war chest leaves him well behind the leading Republicans, his campaign has stressed the \$2.5 million he raised in the month after he jumped from the low-profile U.S. Senate race to the high-profile governor's race.

The Democratic race for lieutenant governor is the mystery of the cycle. Surprisingly, Austin deli owner **Marc Katz** raised more money than former Travis County D.A. **Ronnie Earle**, although Katz's total was boosted by a \$5,200 donation to himself. That leaves Texas AFL-CIO mainstay **Linda Chavez-Thompson** as the dark horse: Like McGuinness and Lambert, she won't have to reveal her finances until Feb. 1.

— Richard Whittaker

WHO'S GOT THE CASH

HOUSE DISTRICT 47 (R)	Cash Raised	Cash on Hand	Outstanding Loans
Paul Workman	\$72,914	\$68,272	\$15,000
David Sewell	\$11,450	\$11,097	\$10,000
Holly White Turner	\$3,223	\$2,325	\$70,000

GOVERNOR

Kay Bailey Hutchison (R)	\$6.1 million	\$12.3 million	\$0
Rick Perry (R)	\$7.1 million	\$11.6 million	\$0
Debra Medina (R)	\$191,005	\$57,645	\$0
Bill White (D)	\$6.2 million	\$5.5 million	\$0
Farouk Shami (D)	\$57,071	\$6,120	\$3 million

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR (D)

Ronnie Earle	\$1,681	\$28,097	\$0
Marc Katz	\$6,950	\$8,700	\$0
Linda Chavez-Thompson			(no report filed)

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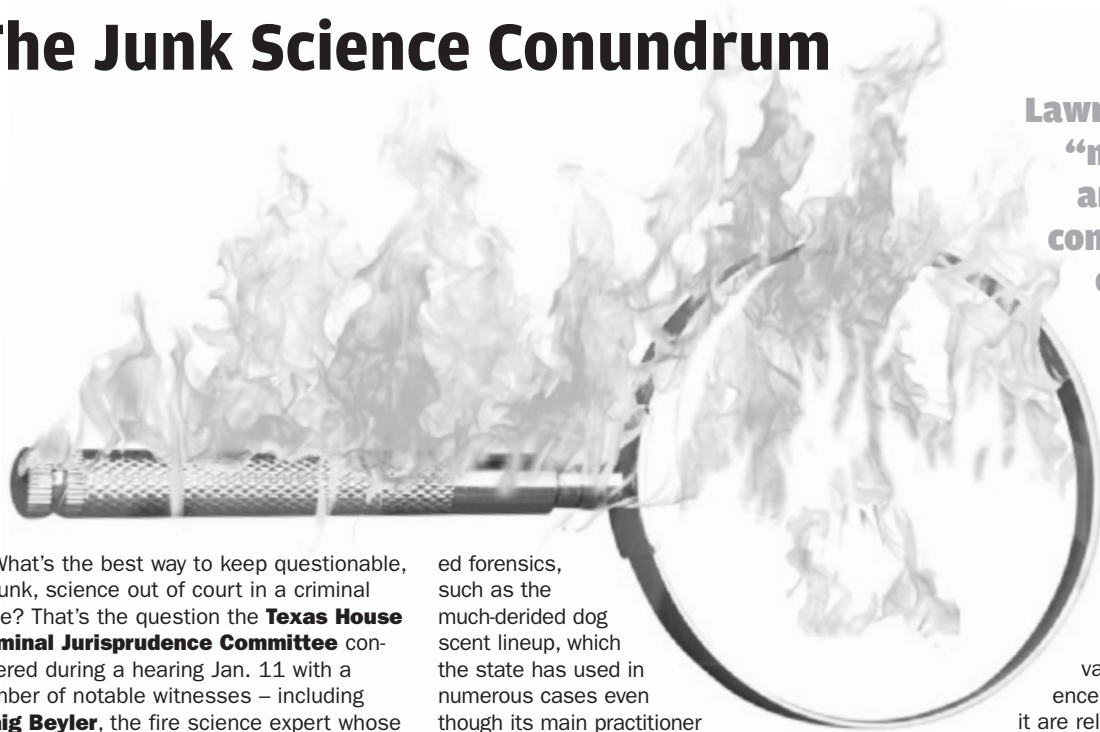
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The Junk Science Conundrum



What's the best way to keep questionable, or junk, science out of court in a criminal case? That's the question the **Texas House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee** considered during a hearing Jan. 11 with a number of notable witnesses – including **Craig Beyler**, the fire science expert whose opinion in the case of **Cameron Todd Willingham** put Texas forensics in the spotlight, and **John Bradley**, the Williamson County district attorney who late last year took over as chair of the state's **Forensic Science Commission**.

The topic is not among the five interim charges given to the committee by Speaker **Joe Straus**, but as the number of exonerations continues to climb and as high-profile cases, like the Willingham case, continue to dog the system, questions about its fundamental fairness persist. "I've had to take kind of a deep breath and wonder if we're doing this in the best way that we can," commented Rep. **Pete Gallego**, D-Alpine, who chairs the committee.

The hearing touched on whether the rules governing the admissibility of evidence in a criminal trial are sufficient to deal with untest-

ed forensics, such as the much-derided dog scent lineup, which the state has used in numerous cases even though its main practitioner says there's no need for formal training or scientific protocols when conducting such a lineup. (The **Innocence Project of Texas** issued a report on scent lineup evidence in September and has asked the state Forensic Science Commission to investigate its use in the state.) The real question, said Gallego, is how to "minimize errors and maximize the level of confidence" that we have in our system of criminal justice.

Of course, there's disagreement on how to accomplish these reforms. UT Law professor **Olin Wellborn**, who teaches aspiring lawyers about evidence and took part in drafting the state's rules of evidence, said he saw merit in amending Texas' rules to require courts to determine whether a particular science – anything from DNA to dog – has achieved "general acceptance" by the practitioners in the relevant field; Bradley countered that Texas' rules as they stand – which

Lawmakers want to "minimize errors and maximize ... confidence" in the criminal justice system.

– Rep. Pete Gallego

essentially require a judge to determine whether the particular piece of evidence is relevant and whether the science and the expert delivering it are reliable – are quite enough.

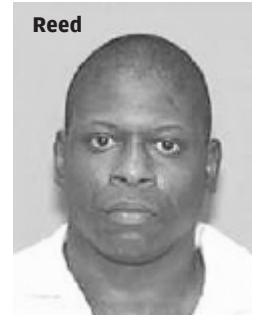
Indeed, Bradley told the committee that if the acceptability test (the so-called "Frye test") were applicable in Texas courts, it is unlikely that DNA evidence would've been allowed in courts as early as it was, in the late Eighties, because it was still fledgling and controversial. Bradley's point may have been dramatic, but the logic is dubious. The Frye test is in use in a minority of states, but those with a majority of the population, Wellborn pointed out; one of those states is California, where DNA evidence has been admissible for at least two decades. **Jeff Blackburn**, IPOT general counsel, pointed out that if the state had on the books some rule regarding acceptability, scent-lineup evidence would never have been allowed in Texas courtrooms. There has to be some way to keep junk out of the courtroom, he said. "I think we can do better than that."

– Jordan Smith

Rodney Reed Case Back in Court

The legal procedural drama that is the **Rodney Reed** death penalty case is back in federal court. On Dec. 22, 2009, lawyers for Reed filed a whopping 158-page brief in federal district court, laying out all the reasons Reed deserves a new day in court.

Reed was convicted and sentenced to death for the 1996 murder in Bastrop of 19-year-old **Stacey Stites**. The state said that Reed, while on foot, somehow overcame Stites as she drove to work for an early morning shift at H-E-B and that semen DNA found in Stites proves the state's case. Reed's defenders say the DNA evidence is only proof that the two were intimate and that in fact Reed was having a consensual relationship with Stites. A far more likely suspect in her murder, they say, is **Jimmy Fennell**, a former Georgetown police officer to whom Stites was engaged. Fennell is currently serving a 10-year prison sentence for the kidnapping and sexual assault of a woman while on duty and responding to a call for police service.



Reed

The Reed case has been bounced back and forth between state and federal court since the late Nineties. When new evidence came to light about Fennell's alleged history of violence toward women, the case was removed from federal court and sent back to the Court of Criminal Appeals. To date, however, the CCA, Texas' highest criminal court, has denied Reed relief. "We're back where we were in 2002," said Reed attorney **Bryce Benjet**. Now, however, all of Reed's claims for relief are being presented in one appeal, as opposed to the piecemeal approach the CCA required. Benjet said he hopes that the federal court now will grant Reed an evidentiary hearing. "What we really want is an opportunity to put on live evidence about these claims that the state has refused to hear," he said. The state's response to Reed's latest filing is due in February. – J.S.

Homeless Count Needs You

An annual effort to count the homeless in Austin and Travis County is in need of volunteers. Conducted by the **Ending Community Homelessness Coalition**, a consortium of social service agencies and local governments, an accurate count is important to procuring federal **Housing and Urban Development** funds, which go toward low-income housing and other important services for the homeless. The count, which must be completed in one day, groups volunteers into teams "to survey streets, parks, campsites, bridges, underpasses, and other public spaces," says City Council Member Laura Morrison. The project takes place Thursday, Jan. 28, 4-10pm, and at press time ECHO was still short of the 300 volunteers needed. To learn more and sign up, visit www.traviscountyhomelescount.org.



JANA BIRCHUM

– Wells Dunbar

Accolades for 'Austin Chronicle' Reporters

Jordan Smith and **Richard Whittaker** have once again brought honor to the *Chronicle* for their reporting and writing for the News department. Smith is the recipient of the 2010 **John Jay Prize for Excellence in Criminal Justice Reporting** (single-story category) for "Imaginary Fiends: Believing the Children," her reinvestigation of the Fran's Day Care child abuse prosecution, published in the March 27, 2009 issue. And Whittaker is the recipient of the **Silver Apple Media Award** (print category) by the **Texas Classroom Teachers Association** for his series last summer and fall reporting on the state-ordered closing or "repurposing" of Pearce Middle School.

The John Jay Prize – sometimes called the Pulitzer for criminal justice journalism – is in its fifth year and is awarded by the **Center on Media, Crime and Justice** at the John Jay College of Criminal Justice within the City University of New York. Past winners have included *The Wall Street Journal*, the *Seattle-Post Intelligencer*, and the *San Jose Mercury News*. It's a double win for Smith, as she had previously been selected as one of the John Jay Center's

21 Reporting Fellows to attend the fifth annual **H.F. Guggenheim Symposium on Crime in America**, Feb. 1-2, where she will now also accept her John Jay Prize for Excellence. The conference brings together journalists, criminal justice practitioners, legislators, and academics from around the country; the fellows are selected based on their journalistic accomplishments and, more specifically, to support a story proposal for future publication. "Our annual awards represent the only formal national recognition of superior criminal justice reporting," said Jeremy Travis, president of John Jay College. "This year's winners join our honor roll of journalists whose work has had a dramatic impact on their communities and the criminal justice system."

TCTA Silver Apple awards, presented since 1983, are judged according to how well the stories "promote understanding of teachers and education in Texas public schools" and are "informative, timely, objective, fair and accurate." TCTA will honor award winners in February in Fort Worth during the association's annual convention.

– Michael King

the hightower report

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

GLOBAL GAME THAT NEVER ENDS

Hey, boys and girls, let's play "Name That Country!" I'll give you a few clues, then the first one of you to guess the country's name wins a prize. Ready? Let's go!

This particular country is one that few Americans have known anything about until recently, when Washington began to escalate our military involvement in it. It's an extremely impoverished nation that's at war with itself. The country has long been a refuge for jihadists, especially in its rugged mountainous region. Fractious tribal leaders are the real power, with the weak central government essentially restricted to the capital city, having little public support and battling armed insurgents. The president is vain and incompetent, and his government is corrupt and repressive – yet our government is backing him. So now, name that country. Afghanistan, you say? Wrong! It's Yemen.

Yemen? Yes, boys and girls, it's time to look at our world atlas again to see where America's tax dollars and troops are headed next.

Located in the Middle East on Saudi Arabia's southern border, Yemen is a mess, much like Afghanistan. Adding to its problems is a small but growing al Qaeda group of about 200 members, which is why Washington is once more thumping the war drums, saying our forces must get involved there. Already, our leaders have anted up \$70 million for the coming Yemen war, claiming that the strategy there is the same as it is in Afghanistan: train and arm Yemen's own weak security forces, build up the central government, try to get it to focus on fighting al Qaeda, and provide nation-building resources to address the country's desperate economic and social problems.

So, boys and girls, if you guessed Yemen, your prize is another awful war! What nation will be next? Somalia? Indonesia? It's your guess in this global game that never ends.

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – visit www.jimhightower.com. You can hear his radio commentaries on KOOP Radio, 91.7FM, weekdays at 10:58am and 12:58pm.

A NEW NAME FOR OCCUPATION

It's official. MNF-I is no longer. It has become USF-I.

Almost no one in America noticed. And almost no one in Iraq cared. MNF-I was the military acronym for Multi-National Force Iraq – more commonly referred to by the grandiose phrase invented by Bush, Cheney, & Co.: "The Coalition of the Willing."

Some coalition. It essentially consisted of 130,000 or so U.S. troops, about 11,000 Brits, and a smattering of others from such countries as El Salvador, Kazakhstan, and Estonia. In truth, George W.'s "coalition" was never anything but a thin PR cover for his unilateral invasion of a nation that had done us no harm and posed no threat to us.

Over the years, even the pretense of a coalition disappeared, as country after country withdrew their token contributions. Since last summer, America has been the Lone Ranger in Iraq, so a new spin was invented, transforming MNF-I into USF-I, or United States Force Iraq. At a dog and pony show in Baghdad on January first, the demise of multinational support was formally hailed by our military chieftains as a tremendous advance, marking "a new era in Operation Iraqi Freedom."

Iraqis themselves are less effusive about the progress that's been made. Sectarian hatreds have resurfaced, horrific bombings are on the rise, and parliament is so fractured by ethnic, religious, and regional disputes that it has not even been able to schedule the national election that was supposed to be held this month.

Meanwhile, we still have 130,000 troops there, costing us \$12 billion a month. As we enter the eighth year of this misbegotten war, America's blood and treasure have not bought us any of the love the Bushites promised we'd see. Indeed, whether MNF-I or USF-I, our ongoing military presence is referred to as "the occupation forces" by most Iraqis.



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Can't Get There From Here



While suburban rail spends and stumbles, Cap Metro's transit-dependent riders wait at the end of the line

BY LEE NICHOLS

There's something to be said for having a captive customer base. Remember Lily Tomlin playing Ernestine the Telephone Operator in the old *Saturday Night Live* skit? "We don't care. We don't have to. We're the phone company."

The management of Capital Metro, as well as its board of directors, insists it doesn't share Ernestine's sentiment. But for people who truly depend on public transit for their basic transportation needs, good intentions are hardly enough – and it's a fact that Cap Metro doesn't have to worry much about losing that business to another entity. As a quasi-governmental monopoly company, the agency bears a certain resemblance to AT&T before the feds mandated competition in that industry. Don't like changes that Cap Metro makes? As Ernestine snorted: "Why don't you try using two Dixie cups with a string?"

Of course, Cap Metro operates a transit agency, not a phone company. But if you're poor, handicapped, or otherwise don't have access to an automobile, Ernestine's suggestion is about as good as any.

Sure, those citizens do have avenues to complain. The Capital Metro board is composed of either elected officials or people appointed by elected officials. But lately, the board has voted to raise fares, trim bus routes, change policies regarding services for the handicapped, and halve the yearly funding to upgrade the accessibility of bus stops – all while pouring more than \$100 million into a new commuter train, the opening of which is two years behind schedule. Is this any way to treat your most loyal customers?

Obstacle Course

"The less frequently a bus comes or the fewer routes there are, the fewer opportunities you have to be able to travel quickly," says Jennifer McPhail, an organizer with ADAPT of

Texas, an activist group dedicated to removing obstacles for individuals with disabilities. McPhail lives near Oltorf and Pleasant Valley, and she's in a wheelchair. "As it is right now, if I want to go see my family that lives in North Austin on the edge of Williamson County, it takes about four hours. That's one way. I got so frustrated, and so did my family, that they said, 'Never mind, we'll come pick you up.'"

Many people on the bus or other Cap Metro vehicles are not there by choice. These folks are called the "transit-dependent." They either can't drive themselves or for whatever reason – choice or poverty – don't have access to a motor vehicle. According to a 2008 customer service survey, 27% of Cap Metro riders do not have access to a vehicle. On some routes, that number is higher than half the riders – topped out by the No. 350 Airport Boulevard bus, at 67%.

I am not one of these riders. If I realize the bus won't get me where I want to go, it's a mere annoyance. If I'm lucky and circumstances allow, I just ride my bike instead. Or I get in my car and bitch about air pollution, traffic, and the price of gasoline and Downtown parking. And I move on with my life.

For McPhail, there's no moving on. It's not an inconvenience – it's a barrier. When Capital Metro cuts back its service, it makes a life already filled with hardship that much harder. Getting to the job or the grocery store becomes more difficult. But transportation is more than that – getting around is crucial to the simple act of being a human being and part of the world. "I can get to Dallas quicker on a Greyhound," she continues. "Is it an acceptable service? No. ... I'm not making any plans to spend the holidays or go see [my nieces and nephews] play soccer."

With the downturn in the economy, Cap Metro insists those cuts are necessary. As has been previously detailed in these pages and elsewhere, Cap Metro has financial problems.

Jennifer McPhail (below and left) attempting to get to a bus stop.



JOHN ANDERSON

Cap Metro's particular crisis is complex: Like many other governmental entities and other transit agencies, a big part of it is a downturn in sales tax revenues. But it's also partly due, by Cap Metro's own admission, to financial mismanagement, including burning up an approximately \$200 million reserve since 2002.

That makes the budgetary measures all the more galling to McPhail, one cut in particular: reduced funding to make bus stops more accessible. In May 2008, Cap Metro staff made a shocking presentation to the board: Of the bus system's more than 3,000 stops, two-thirds do not meet updated requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act for full accessibility. In fiscal year 2009, progress was made – 130 stops were brought up to current ADA requirements – but that pace will likely slow in 2010.

"The board last year committed to us that they would spend \$3 million every year for the next five years to address bus stop accessibility problems, but then this year they cut it down to \$1.5 million, and some of that is going to be what they call 'amenities,' so it's even less than \$1.5 [million]. And if that level of commitment remains, it will take 10 years before we can access all the bus stops in their inventory. That's too long." ("Amenities" can include benches, shelters, trash cans, and other items in addition to accessibility upgrades. Capital Metro says it expects that \$1.25 million will be spent directly on accessibility in fiscal year 2010.)

What constitutes an inaccessible stop varies. In almost all cases, the stop lacks a 5-foot-by-8-foot concrete pad; more extreme problems can also include a lack of full connectivity with nearby sidewalk or streets, or perhaps there are no sidewalks with which to connect (which also brings the city of Austin or other municipalities into the discussion; more on that below). I went looking for such stops, and it didn't take long to find them. Within walking distance of my house, on Burnet Road, I found a stop with a pad and bench, but it was separated from the street by a drainage ditch (a pain, I might add, even for fully mobile customers).

A little farther up, I was stunned to find a 2.1-mile stretch of Burnet Road – from

Highway 183 north to where the street dead-ends at MoPac – where 12 of 14 stops were simply on grass, in some cases in ditches, or in one case, separated from the sidewalk by a mud pit.

Such conditions are more than an inconvenience for McPhail. She showed me a video of her attempt to get to one such stop, and it's harrowing. She drives her motorized wheelchair into the street, sharing a lane with oncoming, fast-moving traffic, and it's hard not to cringe as each car approaches. "I resent having to risk my life to do everyday things," she says. "It's been a problem throughout Cap Metro's existence, and you can kind of live with it and be patient if people are making a real, sincere effort to provide you access, but this isn't a sincere effort. No one can tell you the exact amount that's being spent on accessibility – so how sincere is that?"

Cap Metro says it can't quantify how many passengers have been injured or killed due to accessibility problems, because it does not track incidents according to that criterion.

MetroAccess

To be fair, McPhail does have another choice in these situations: MetroAccess, the paratransit service, which will deliver her to locations within Cap Metro's service area. But McPhail doesn't want to use it. First, it's not convenient, requiring reservations by 5pm the day prior. And more importantly for McPhail, it violates ADAPT's core mission: integration of the handicapped into society. "ADAPT is supportive of paratransit for those who need it, but it's not really meant as the form of transportation for people with disabilities," McPhail says. "We've always worked for integration of the entire system so that it makes it better for the people who can't ride the bus."

It's a philosophy that she says benefits both the taxpayer and the disabled community. "Paratransit costs about \$40 per trip, as opposed to a ride on mainline transit, which is about two bucks a trip, maybe \$2.50," McPhail says. That's the total cost of the trip – and on MetroAccess, under the new rates, only \$1.20 of that is covered by fares (or less, if the customer uses a multiride pass). The disabled pay no fare on the bus, but the cost differential to Joe and Jane Taxpayer is obvious.

And the benefit to people with disabilities goes beyond dollars and cents, says McPhail.

"People just assume it's okay to force people onto MetroAccess, but it's really not an acceptable answer to the problem," she says. "Not just because it's too expensive but because it segregates people with disabilities from the rest of the community. I've met a lot of my neighbors because we've sat at the bus stop waiting on a bus together. ... It's like a little community gathering. ... You meet a lot of people that way, you forge relationships, and there's a great deal of beauty and purpose in that service. I've seen kids in my neighborhood grow up, and now they have kids of their own."

You Don't Need to Go There

But if you do use MetroAccess, you're feeling the squeeze, too. First off, that \$1.20 single-trip fare is a hike from the previous 70 cents. The bigger issue for some MetroAccess users, however, is the new 30-minute pickup window. Riders must call in their requests a day prior, before 5pm. Cap Metro then schedules an actual pickup time, which can be anywhere from one hour before to an hour after your request. Previously, Cap Metro was supposed to show up no later than 15 minutes after promised pickup time, and if it showed up early, the rider was not required to be ready to go. Under the new policy, Cap Metro can arrive up to 15 minutes early or late, and riders are expected to be ready to move anywhere within that time frame. Riders complained in a public meeting last fall that this expanded time frame is just one more drain on their time already disproportionately eaten up by transportation needs.

"That's not as bad if you're at home, but if you're at the mall or anyplace you'd be coming home from. ... If you're at a place that doesn't have seating, you can't just stand there 30 minutes until ... your ride shows up," says Diane Bomar-Aleman, who chairs Cap Metro's Access Advisory Committee and who is visually impaired.

"Here's another thing that's scary: If you can't get to a bus stop, they're [now] saying, 'Okay, we'll give you service to your nearest transit center,' instead of giving a full point-to-point ride, Bomar-Aleman says. "So picture having a 30-minute window of when they might pick you up, and then all they do is take you over to the transit center, and then you get on the bus.

"The point is, riding the bus isn't just the exercise in and of itself – it's where you're going on the bus that's the difficult part. It's where you're getting off. For me, for instance, there are no pedestrian walkways across

parking lots. And so when you get off somewhere that's not Downtown – Lakeline Mall is a good example, because they don't even pull into the mall. Or now they want us to be able to name the places we can't get to on the bus and explain why, and then they will go and investigate and determine if they think we actually could get there on the bus and give us what they call trip-by-trip eligibility. ... If they think you could get there on the bus, you're denied the trip."

Bomar-Aleman also complains that Cap Metro is making it harder to get certified for MetroAccess eligibility. "The application for service hasn't changed, the law hasn't changed, the way people are filling it out hasn't changed, but now they're denying people based on the same answers that have been given for the past 20 years for recertification. People that had the same disability two years ago now are being denied eligibility. This is going on big time right now. There are a lot of appeals being scheduled, but there are a lot of people who just won't schedule appeals [for themselves]. Or they're only approving service for May through August, when they think that it's hot. But in Texas it can be over 100 degrees in April. ... [Capital Metro] is trying to make the service so difficult to use that people just won't use it."

And these changes are on top of a general reduction in service earlier this decade, Bomar-Aleman says. The ADA only requires MetroAccess to provide service to locations within three-quarters of a mile of a bus stop. That makes sense in dense places with lots of transit stations, like Manhattan or Washington, D.C., Bomar-Aleman says, because that effectively covers the whole city. "But they expected [lawmakers] would use common sense," when ADA was enacted, Bomar-Aleman says. "They would use that as a starting point." MetroAccess, then called Special Transit

CONTINUED ON P.24

Of the bus system's more than 3,000 stops, two-thirds do not meet updated requirements of the Americans With Disabilities Act for full accessibility.



Inaccessible stop on Burnet Road

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AUTO LOANS	MONEY MARKET ACCOUNTS
<p>3.59%* 3.69%* 3.89%*</p> <p>60 MONTHS 66 MONTHS 72 MONTHS</p> <p>NEW, USED OR REFINANCE</p>	<p>1.26%**** 1.36%**** 1.51%****</p> <p>\$25,000 TO \$74,999 \$75,000 TO \$124,999 \$125,000 AND ABOVE</p> <p>MINIMUM DAILY BALANCE OF \$2000 IS REQUIRED</p>
CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT ¹	CERTIFICATE OF DEPOSIT ²
<p>1.61%**** 1.86%**** 2.17%****</p> <p>6 MONTHS 12 MONTHS 24 MONTHS</p> <p>REGULAR ¹MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF \$1000 REQUIRED</p>	<p>1.71%**** 1.96%**** 2.27%****</p> <p>6 MONTHS 12 MONTHS 24 MONTHS</p> <p>JUMBO ²MINIMUM DEPOSIT OF \$95000 REQUIRED</p>

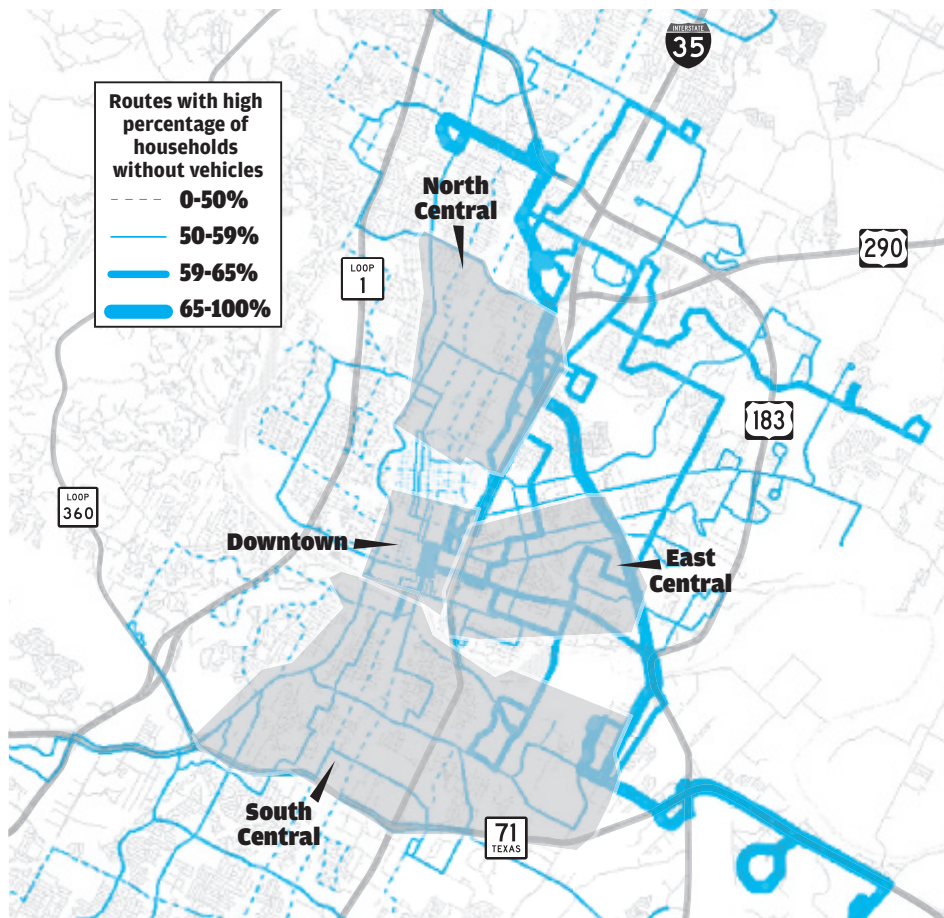
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Bus-Dependent Neighborhoods

Route	Avg. Daily Boardings	Households Without Vehicles
350 - Airport Blvd.	2,491	67%
4 - Montopolis	1,472	63%
15 - Red River	2,744	61%
300 - Govalle	6,342	60%
320 - St. Johns	1,842	60%
37 - Colony Park	2,694	60%
17 - Johnston	3,514	59%
26 - Riverside	2,248	59%

This map shows the approximate percentage of riders coming from carless households on Capital Metro's routes, with the thickest lines representing the highest levels of riders without other transportation. The zones overlaid on the map show Cap Metro's priority areas for upgrading stops with accessibility problems, as well as for installing other amenities. (Data is from 2005 and 2007; some route names, numbers, and alignments have changed since then.)

Services, covered a far greater area than just along bus routes, she says. "But around 2002, about the time [recently retired Cap Metro CEO] Fred Gilliam came in, they started restricting. Keep in mind that ADA had already been in effect 11 years, but they used ADA as an excuse to cut back on what they already had, which was better than what ADA required. They can say they're following ADA, but they're misusing the law. The point of the law was to enhance the lives and opportunities of people with disabilities, not [to be used] as an excuse to restrict what already existed.

"They are limiting people with disabilities to do just what the bus does, only that small area that the bus covers," Bomar-Aleman says. Reflecting the position of ADAPT's McPhail, she continues, "So being excluded from anything outside of that ... for instance, they used to go to the Oasis. People have different views on what transit should cover. A lot of people who don't use it think of it as setting trip priorities. 'So what if people don't get to go to the Oasis, or another place that's just for recreation, that it should only be used for necessities. But to be fully included in society, people have to be fully included in everything. What's the point of living or working or anything if all you can do is get to your medical appointments? You can't have full inclusion without transportation. If you can't get there, you can't be included in it."

The Cincinnati Solution

And then there's the transit-dependent group least likely to show up at Cap Metro board meetings to complain: the poor. Instead,

they're more likely to be represented by social service providers and advocates, such as Texas RioGrande Legal Aid.

In 2008, the single-trip bus fare crept up from 50 cents to 75. Now it's up to \$1, and other fares have made similar increases. That might not seem like much to most riders, and Cap Metro can make a good case that fares were kept at 50 cents for far too long, lagging well behind its transit-industry peers. Cap Metro currently has one of the lowest fare recovery rates (the percentage of expenses paid by the riders themselves) in the nation. But that's little consolation to the cash-strapped.

"The origin and destination studies Capital Metro has provided show that a majority of low-income and minority riders buy [the] 31-day pass," says D'Ann Johnson of Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. When the single-trip fare went up to 75 cents, the 31-day pass climbed from \$10 to \$18. Now it's \$28.

"We know that increase has a significant impact on people," Johnson says. In fact, it means the transit-dependent poor have seen their travel expenses go up almost \$200 per year. "That's for people on fixed incomes. And they aren't choice riders. People at the lower income scale are already making choices between medicine and transportation or food and transportation. If you have less money, those are still choices you're going to have to make."

Cap Metro argues that it has no choice but to raise fares in this time of lowered revenue, especially since it still distributes a number of free or reduced-fare passes to many social service agencies around town.

Management thinks it may have a solution to both the hits the agency takes on the discounts as well as the squeeze put on the poor. The agency wants to form a nonprofit organization to meet the needs of transit-dependent customers, which could seek outside funding. The idea isn't out of the blue - it's been tried in the Cincinnati area as a program called Everybody Rides Metro, and by all accounts we've seen, it's regarded as a success.

But as previously reported in the *Chronicle*, the reception by some Central Texas charitable organizations has been negative at worst and befuddled at best (see "Nonprofits Not Impressed by Cap Metro Proposal," Nov. 6, 2009). Both board members and management have publicly stated that Cap Metro is a transportation company, not a social service agency. But Johnson and others see it as Cap Metro trying to duck out of its direct obligation to the needy.

"They're a public entity," says Katie Navine, chair of the Basic Needs Coalition of Central Texas. "We're not sure why this isn't part of their mission, to work with their low-income customers. Would another public entity say, 'Oh, I just don't want to deal with this problem'? Could the city say, 'Oh, well, I don't want to deal with this particular population; I think I'll spin this off'? ... Capital Metro is the entity that deals with transportation issues."

Just Ain't Fare

I sat down with Cap Metro top officials for a wide-ranging interview on the issues of the transit-dependent, and their answers almost always came back to the same theme: poverty. Not of their riders, but the agency.

On the reduction in funding for upgrading bus stop accessibility: "Our sales tax is down pretty dramatically," says interim president and CEO Doug Allen, who took over in October when Gilliam stepped down. Cap Metro receives a one-cent sales tax within its service area, which accounts for 72% of its revenues in the 2010 fiscal year budget. "With that sales tax," Allen notes, "we have to operate all our services, and then we also use it to do improvements like the bus stops. When the sales tax went down dramatically, we had to make some tough decisions in all areas. ... It's not a matter of wanting to do it; it's a matter of what kind of resources we have."

Cap Metro also complains that it needs help making the stops accessible. That two-mile stretch of Burnet Road not only lacks concrete pads, it lacks sidewalks to get to the pads - and sidewalks need to come from the city of Austin. "Even if we put a pad there, it's not going to be accessible," says John-Michael Cortez, Cap Metro's community outreach specialist. "We should put a pad in, and I think we have a plan to try to upgrade these stops, but it can't be our responsibility alone to make the whole city accessible."

"We actually do coordinate with [Cap Metro] pretty closely," responded Sara Hartley, spokeswoman for Austin's Public Works Department. "We're trying to build an entire network of ADA-compliant sidewalks throughout the city, but obviously, that's a massive undertaking. Any time we can coordinate with new construction from either Capital Metro in a transit area or put something in knowing something like that is coming, then of course we're going to coordinate that."

Michael Curtis of the city's Neighborhood Connectivity Division says that in fiscal year 2010, his department expects to spend about \$4 million on making existing sidewalks ADA-compliant and another \$2 million on new sidewalks, which together should result in about seven miles of sidewalks. "And that's just out of my program," Curtis says. "If other departments are engaged in a street reconstruction project, they must put in compliant sidewalks, and that will probably account for another \$5 million."

As for complaints that the stops were due to be compliant in 1995, Allen says all Cap Metro stops actually are compliant with the law as it stood at that time, but the two-thirds now considered inaccessible fail to meet the 2006 ADA update. Those stops were grandfathered, although Allen says Cap Metro is still committed to upgrading them. (Actually, that's not quite accurate - in a Jan. 13 presentation to the board, a week after our conversation, John Hodges of Cap Metro's Facilities Design and Construction Department reported that 93 stops are not in compliance with ADA at all, and never were.)

On slimming MetroAccess to the three-quarter-mile service: "It gets back to the resource allocation issue," says Allen. "There's [only] so much money available to the agency, and we have to prioritize the best use of funds. ... To allow us to continue to provide that service, we had to make some adjustments to



(L-r) Capital Metro's Chief Financial Officer Randy Hume, community involvement coordinator John-Michael Cortez, and interim president and CEO Doug Allen

stay within the ADA requirements. These trips can become very expensive, so we want to do the ADA requirements, but we have to make sure that's what we're doing and not going too drastically beyond that, because when we do, we have to take resources away from some other program, like bus stop accessibility or the ride share program."

That doesn't sit well with critics of the agency such as Bomar-Aleman and McPhail, who feel that at least one program never gets its funds cut: "The thing that bothers me the most is how much they cut the [MetroAccess] service area right after the train referendum passed," says Bomar-Aleman. (Voters approved the building of the new – and still not operational – MetroRail commuter line in 2004.) "They'll say it's a coincidence,

but why is it that they can support and encourage people who can drive and already have express buses coming in from Leander and the suburbs and they can put a bunch of money into a train that's just a commuter train, and at the same time cut the services of people who have no other choice?"

"We made a commitment," counters Allen. "We worked with the community, went through a pretty extensive outreach, and went to the voters, and the voters approved the rail project. Once you commit to doing that rail project, you have to complete it. You can't stop it. You have to finish the stations and those things. ... It's just not practical to say, 'Let's stop this a few years until our finances come back around.'" And there were rail cut-backs, says Chief Financial Officer Randy Hume. "If things hadn't been so bad, we'd have purchased more vehicles," he says.

"Going down the road of pitting one against the other is simply not something that I care to get involved in," says Austin Mayor Pro Tem Mike Martinez, one of only three holdovers on a Cap Metro board of directors that was restructured, beginning this year, by state law. "As a policymaker and as a leader and as a

board member, I don't have the luxury of saying, 'I'm only going to focus on this.'"

As for the nonprofit to help the poor: "How do we get our passes into the hands of people who really need it but do it in a way that's more fiscally responsible?" asks Allen. "We're still putting a lot of money in it," says Cortez, Cap Metro's point man on the idea. "We're going out and chasing down money from outside the community to put into this fund."

"If we weren't doing this, we'd probably have to contract the program," says Hume. "This is a way to actually expand it to serve more people. ... Cincinnati did this, and they're serving more people than before." (Indeed, sources I spoke with in Cincinnati, both inside and outside Everybody Rides Metro, expressed surprise that Cap Metro's version has encountered opposition.)

Overall, as Allen puts it, Cap Metro is in a bit of a "damned if they do, damned if they don't" position. "A year ago," he says, "there was a lot of justified criticism of the agency of not having their finances in shape and not paying attention to the bottom dollar. Just about everything we've talked about just now has related to getting back to a more fiscally prudent way of doing business, while being compassionate and doing what we can to keep making improvements to bus stops, while making passes available to people with low incomes; so it's a balancing act. ... People don't like to have change made, but it's necessary."

Meanwhile, folks like McPhail will continue rolling their wheelchairs into the Cap Metro board room in East Austin and insisting it's not enough. If history holds, she and other advocates will receive a hearing, but changes will not be radical.

"They're polite, but that doesn't keep you safe," McPhail laments. "I'd rather they do their job and dislike me than to be polite to me and be personable and leave me in oncoming traffic." ■

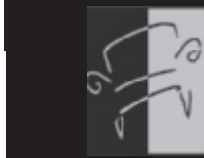
For bus route changes and fare increases, see "Cap Metro Changes Bus Routes, Hikes Fares," p.16.

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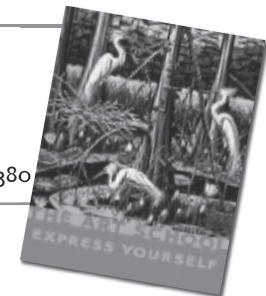
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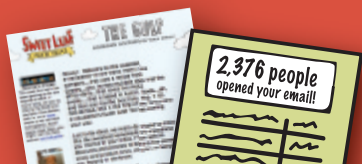


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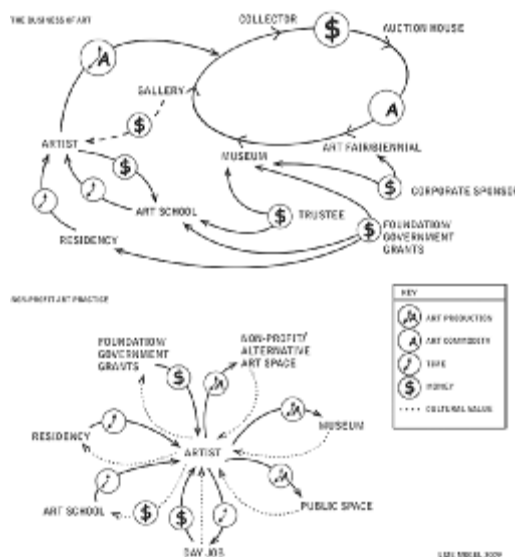
ART WORK

Why don't we think being an artist is a 'real job'?

"We can see how the collapse of the economy is affecting everyone. Something must be done. Let's talk. No, it can't wait. Things are bad. We have to work things out. We can only do it together. What do we know? What have others tried? What is possible? How do we talk about it? What are the wildest possibilities? What are the pragmatic steps? What can you do? What can we do?"

– Temporary Services,
"This Is Our Real Job"

You may recall Temporary Services invading Austin back in late 2008 to explore the points at which Austin punk and Barbara Jordan met (in ideas and spirit, at least) ("testsite 08.5 ~ Temporary Services," Nov. 14, 2008). Well, in recent months, as the country has staggered through the Great Recession, the Chicago-based art collective has been sounding the call for "a national conversation about art, labor, and economics." Through a newspaper/website, *Art Work* (www.artandwork.us), it's giving artists, writers, critics, activists, and others an ongoing forum for sharing their thoughts, ideas, and personal experiences about the state of the economy, its impact on the creation of art, and what artists can do and are doing to improve their lot. (Just last month, Austin punkmeister/artist Tim Kerr contributed a brief essay in the "Personal Economy" series.) In addition, Temporary Services has been reaching out to communities in which they've shown work to incite some in-the-flesh dialogue. They contacted Glasstire and *Chronicle* contributor Kate Watson, who was



the curator at testsite when they did their project there, and she is assembling local visual arts leaders to tackle the topics of art, labor, and the economy in a two-hour event this Friday, Jan. 22, at 8pm, at Domy Books, 913 E. Cesar Chavez. Part of the evening will include verbal and visual documentation of Austin artists at their day jobs, revealing what they do to support their true work. Short presentations on artists' business models will be followed by a discussion moderated by Watson and ... *might be good* editor Claire Ruud, with Katie Geha of SOFA Gallery, Russell Etchen of Domy Books, Sean Gaulager of Co-Lab, and others.

The following day, Brett Bloom of Temporary Services will be leading an event in Houston, and a caravan of Austin artists will drive down that morning not just to take part but also to take advantage of an opportunity to meet up with some of their counterparts in Houston and start sharing information with them about what they do and solutions to problems affecting Texas artists. To join the vanpool to the Saturday Free School for the Arts session with Brett Bloom on Saturday, Jan. 23, 3pm, at Skydive, 3400 Montrose Blvd. #907, Houston, contact Kate Watson at kate@katherineawatson.com.

– Robert Faires



Sharon Blackwell
fires it up.

EAST AUSTIN STUDIO THEFT Fire arts cooperative gets seriously burned

You hate to see artists have the tools they use to make art stolen from them under any circumstances, but the theft from the artists at 2511-C E. Sixth hits especially hard because it affects many more people than the owners. In addition to their use for the artists' own work, these tools were also being used cooperatively for an ongoing metal arts meet-up group in which anyone who was interested could learn how to weld and work with different kinds of metals and generally share information, techniques, the workspace, and equipment. And sometime around the first of the year, a lot of that equipment

was ripped off. Sharon Blackwell, a metal artist who has been organizing the meetings for two years now, lost a pneumatic air compressor, a wire feed welder, electric metal shears, a rotary tool kit, a bench grinder, flap wheel grinders, pliers, a weed-whacker, and more. In addition, a plasma cutter, a metal saw, a jigsaw, a wood table saw, an oxyacetylene torch, a grinder with stone wheels, a wire feed welder, propane torches, a wood sanding machine, a box of cutting discs for metal, metal drills, and more were stolen from the four tenants who shared the studio with her. All four are moving out, mostly because of the burglary

and the financial burden of replacing the equipment. (Sadly, only one person had insurance.) Still, Blackwell will continue to rent the studio – she's found five glassblowers to move in next month – and will continue to run the group with a slight name change: It's now the "fire arts meet-up group." The police have taken prints, but as of press time, no progress has been reported on the case. If you have any information on the theft or can help the group in any way, contact Blackwell at 444-3831 or greathome2@aol.com. For information about the fire arts meet-up group, visit www.metalart.meetup.com/23.

– R.F.

'SELKIE PROJECT' Comfortable in their skins

"Is there anything or anyone that could make you just get up and leave to pursue it, without even a thought to saying goodbye to your current life?"

– Megan M. Reilly



A selkie occupies two worlds. You saw *The Secret of Roan Inish*; you know those Celtic creatures who rise from the sea, slip off their seal-selves like skin, and become lovely women (or seductive men – and if you ever require one of the latter, they say, weep seven tears into the green-black sea [but be reasonable: it's not going to work in the soup-brown Gulf]). If you hide her seal skin, the selkie must stay with you forever – unless she finds it, whereupon she will abandon husband and children to disappear under the rough black waves.

That impulse back to the sea – what Austin theatrical designer Megan M. Reilly calls "the idea of wanting something so much that returning to it is almost instinctual" – is at the heart of *Selkie Project: gestation*. Divergence Vocal Theater has swum up from Houston with a creature of many worlds – in this case, the worlds of opera, theatre, dance, video, sculpture – which you can experience this Saturday as part of Creative Research Laboratory's "Ideas of Mountains" exhibition.

Misha Penton, Divergence artistic director, partnered with Reilly, her "creative twin," to develop the performance piece. A self-described "mythology and folklore freak," Penton had a "very loose idea of doing a 'sea show,' and I've had a thing for the selkie stories for a long time," and Reilly "knew just what I was talking about."

Reilly says that Penton's "sea piece" concept recalled for her "the haunting installation *Another Place* by Antony Gormley, that kind of panoramic loneliness felt when staring at the sea." Asked what the piece is

about, Penton replies, "Longing, loss, desire, fear, loneliness, desertion, abandonment, terrible beauty." Around the time they were exploring these potent ideas, CRL put out an open call, and the *Selkie Project* was born.

Reilly is constructing an installation environment from "fabric, paint, sculptural techniques, creative typography, three projectors with media/film, and a few surprises." In it, Penton, a mezzo-soprano, will sing music that ranges from a Benjamin Britten nocturne to original work commissioned from James Norman and Elliot Cooper Cole; actors will speak Penton's dreamy, poetic text; and the always-compelling Austin dancer/choreographer Caroline Sutton Clark will perform. Although Saturday's is the only performance, the installation will remain throughout the exhibition.

Penton and Reilly have tagged this initial iteration of the project a "gestation," but they plan to develop it further. Penton says: "I'll be choosing more vocal repertoire for the piece and using additional original compositions and also writing more theatrical text. We have tentative plans to produce the work in Houston in late spring, and some other opportunities to present it are cooking."

But no guarantee you'll see it in Austin again, so come to the edge of the sea with Divergence Vocal Theater this weekend. The skin you save may be your own.

– Katherine Catmull

Selkie Project: gestation will be performed at the opening reception for "Ideas of Mountains" Saturday, Jan. 23, 7pm, at Creative Research Laboratory in Flatbed World Headquarters, 2832 E. MLK. "Ideas of Mountains" continues through Feb. 6. For more information, visit uts.cc.utexas.edu/~crlab.

In the Game

For her first museum work, Jade Walker steps up to the plate and swings big

BY ROBERT FAIRES

When you step into the space holding the large installation that Jade Walker has created for the Austin Museum of Art, there's no question where you are. The crunch of artificial turf under your feet, the bleachers filling the room: This is a stadium, and by virtue of the fact that you're looking up at the stands, you're on the field. In the game. Where the action is.

It's a place that the creator of this imposing, ambitious work should know something about. In Austin's visual arts scene, she's as deep in the action as it gets. Since making her way to Austin in 2002 to pursue graduate studies in sculpture at the University of Texas, Walker has taught art courses to children at AMOA's Art School. For six years, she's been teaching three-dimensional design to university students in the UT Department of Art & Art History. Since 2006, she's been the director of Creative Research Laboratory, the off-campus contemporary art gallery run by the department; 16 months ago, she was also named the curator for the gallery in the AT&T

Executive Education and Conference Center at UT; and this year, she's taking on the position of director of the new Visual Arts Center in the art department. On top of all that, she's been extremely busy as an artist, with her signature sculptures of found objects, fabric, and thread showing up in the annual faculty exhibitions at CRL and People's Gallery exhibitions at City Hall, the juried "New American Talent" exhibition in 2008 and Texas Biennial in 2009, and the solo installation "Trophy Room" at Domy Books this past September. At the risk of belaboring the sports metaphor, that much activity qualifies Walker as a starter for the local team. Certainly, AMOA saw her that way when it tapped Walker to be the first person to exhibit in its "New Works" series, which spotlights innovative local artists.

"We knew we wanted an artist who would experiment and transform the gallery," says AMOA assistant curator Andrea Mellard, and "we thought of Jade. We'd been watching her work shift in scale from small wall installations to human-sized floor sculptures and ceiling installations. We thought that she was ready to try a room-sized installation in a museum. Her work is also engaging formally, visually, and conceptually. Austin is known for a strong craft community, and while Jade has an M.F.A. and doesn't consider her work craft, we thought her use of textiles, DIY practice, and stitch-work would be exciting to that audience. Mostly, we wanted to choose an artist taking a leap in a new direction, and we thought Jade was ready to accomplish that."

Mellard called on Walker at her studio to broach the subject of her possibly taking on a "New Works" project: "I posed the question, 'If you could do anything in that room, what would you do?' Often, emerging artists have parameters to work within, like making work that fits into an allotted space in a group show or that will sell in a commercial gallery. I want this to be a place for experiment and play."

That's just what Walker was primed to do: "I was very interested in working on a large installation. There were no real parameters on the exhibition, and this was what really excited me about the opportunity."

As Mellard notes, Walker had been in the process of expanding her work, in terms of both the size of the individual sculptures and the space in which they were presented, and AMOA's invitation would really allow her to get big with it. She wanted to make work of a size that would command the space, confront the audience. "This exhibition afforded me the chance to completely take over a large space and push my skill set in terms of handling scale," she says. "It was necessary to have the staff and installation crew to make this piece happen." For Walker, "New Works" was the



Jade Walker

JOHN ANDERSON

artistic equivalent of – okay, *one* more sports metaphor – the minor leaguer with dreams of the majors getting called up to the show.

In the AMOA project, Walker chose to take advantage of the opportunity not only to play with scale but to dig more deeply into a subject that had become a focus of her work: sports. While her previous art had been rooted in the human body, specifically in how it is affected by disease, aging, and physical abnormalities, it didn't include the strain and trauma that can be inflicted through athletics, mostly because Walker had little personal knowledge of or experience with sports.

"It was not until I read an excerpt from Michael Sokolove's text *Warrior Girls* in *The New York Times* that I homed in and started thinking about the ailments to the body caused by the drive in athletics," she says. "I found this text particularly interesting because it addresses young women's athletics. Gender issues in the arts run parallel with women's athletics. This led to discussions with female athletes, as well as investigating spaces that contain or glorify this intense passion. I am attracted to the way female athletes push the limits of the body while also feeling that this is not necessary and wondering how this will affect our future feminist efforts."

Walker took a swing at the topic with "Trophy Room," her site-specific installation at Domy Books. She carpeted the floor of the 11-foot-by-11-foot room with green artificial turf and swathed the walls with sky-blue fabric that rippled and puckered over indistinguishable shapes, bulges, and small ledges. Perched on each ledge was a small piece of sports equipment – a football, a bowling pin, a golf club head – with pink and tan fabric sewed over it. The work managed to evoke in this tightly enclosed space a sense of the outdoors where these sporting activities take place, and the fabric suggested the flesh with which we touch and grasp and play with these objects, almost as if skin had grown over them from all that contact and someone had carefully, tenderly sealed these playthings inside it. Walker

had created an immersive setting for the viewer in establishing a relationship between our bodies and athletics, but she thought that, in the words of Mellard, "there was more to flesh out of the subject for her AMOA piece."

As curator for Walker's "New Works" project, Mellard assisted her in the fleshing out. "I contacted a friend who is a sports historian, and he gave Jade and me a reading list – books on women's sports history, documentary photographs of stadiums and sporting events, et cetera, and contacts for a sports historian at UT. We talked about artists' work relating to sports that might inspire her, particularly a group show called 'Mixed Signals' about masculinity and sports. I was mostly a sounding board for Jade as the project developed. Once she had a pretty clear idea of what she wanted to do, I encouraged her, asked questions, and helped solve logistical problems. We had four more studio visits, when I'd come see the progress of the sculptures and give her feedback."

It was assistance that Walker found invaluable. "Andrea visited my studio a number of times. We corresponded often throughout the process. She also was very involved in helping with print pieces and solving mistakes that came up during the installation process. When they delivered green instead of orange turf while I was out of town for work, she found a way to get the mistake remedied within days. The encouragement from Andrea to think big and to make the piece exactly what I imagined – with no compromises – was also important. I told her this was the first 'large-scale' piece that came out to be exactly what was in my mind and in my sketches."

What came out of Walker's mind was a full-size section of bleachers, like you might find behind a backstop at Krieg Fields or a Little League ballpark, but completely covered in pale-beige fabric with a ruffled skirt around its base. Where the spectators sit are an assortment of different seats and cushions, on which are set abstract sculptures made from sports equipment, colored fabric, plastics, and

CONTINUED ON P.30



Spectator Sport

For the first "New Works" exhibition, "we knew we wanted an artist who would experiment and transform the gallery," says AMOA assistant curator Andrea Mellard, and "we thought of Jade."

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fur, some of them tied with ribbons or sewn with thread. Most don't look remotely human, yet we make the connection with them as such through the way these objects occupy the seats that we would at a sporting event and the recognizable fragments of items we use that poke through the enveloping, binding cloth: a barbell, a showerhead, the rubber tip of a crutch, a hot-water bottle, a boxing glove. Because some of them appear worn or used, they convey a sense of damage sustained on the field of play, the thread suggesting sutures to bind their wounds, the cloth their protective bandaging. Given that the artist has purposely placed us on the field – you can't take a step without being reminded of it by that skeezy scrunch of the bright-orange plastic turf – we're left to consider what it means to still be in the game (whatever game that is) and what injuries we might yet incur that would consign us to the stands beside these wounded "players." Walker's choices of certain fabrics and decorations and the protuberances of a distinctly sexual nature that she's added to some of the objects bring gender into the game and provoke questions about just who gets to play when it comes to sports, who's left to watch, and what that means. With *Spectator Sport*, the artist has succeeded in filling up the "New Works" exhibition space not just with the commanding physical structure but with ideas and questions that linger long after you've stepped away from the field. No wonder Walker is pleased.

She isn't alone. "I'm thrilled with *Spectator Sport* as our first 'New Works' project," says Mellard. "The room glows with color, the carpet crunches under footsteps. The overwhelming scale of the bleachers draped in fabric and seated with abstract figures confronts you like they are watching you on the field. Longer looking surprises you by revealing all the found materi-

als Jade recycled, covered, painted, wrapped, and turned into art. Jade's installation works on several levels: Schoolchildren love playing 'eye spy,' M.F.A. art students appreciate her connections to feminist art history, UT athletics fans are surprised to find contemporary art about sports, and tourists have never seen anything like it. It's exactly the kind of cutting-edge new work I hoped to see in that space."

The public reception to the work pleases Walker, too: "The response to the work has felt superpositive. My favorite responses were from children the night of the opening and the preview night. Their interpretations are always innocent and honest, and I have found their delight in the work inspirational."

Inspirational. A quality that's common to narratives about sports – the athlete who trains, who perseveres, who triumphs, sometimes against injury, personal tragedy, seemingly insurmountable odds – and Walker's work with the subject seems to be informing what she hopes to do as an artist, a teacher, and a curator. "In thinking about my aspirations not only as a part of the Austin arts community but specifically in each of my roles, I keep thinking of a word that is so overused: inspire," she says. "I want to arouse viewers with my work as an artist. I want students to think about new ideas as we engage in conversation, and I want to challenge the community as I program the Visual Arts Center. The Visual Arts Center will be an instigator – a place for process and risk. Qualities applicable to the Visual Arts Center may include being immediate, flexible, vital, welcoming, all-encompassing, experimental, educational, open, evolving, collaborative, collective, explosive, and challenging."

Sounds like Jade Walker plans to be in the game for a long time to come. ■

"New Works: Jade Walker" runs through Jan. 31 at the Austin Museum of Art – Downtown, 823 Congress. Jade Walker talks about the inspiration and process for making her installation *Spectator Sport* Thursday, Jan. 21, 7pm, at AMOA. For more information, call 495-9224 or visit www.amoa.org.



Spectator Sport (detail)



David Benoit
1/22



Big Bad Voodoo Daddy
1/29



The Travelin' McCoury's
1/30



Jerry Jeff Walker
2/5



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Juggling Fire

Stroke survivor Alex Lemon chronicles the hard times in his memoir, 'Happy'

BY MICHAEL KING

The title of Alex Lemon's new memoir – *Happy* – is somewhat a sleight of hand. "Happy" was one of Lemon's several nicknames at Macalester College in Minnesota, where in 1997 he was a bright young freshman and a star athlete – vital, callow, reckless. But his coming-of-age journey is interrupted by a mysterious disability that turns out to be bleeding in his brain, and his narrative turns from college partying and manic adventures to physical and mental devastation and high-risk surgery, followed by his long struggle back to ordinary life and a deeper sense of self-discovery, and yes, happiness. Recent Texas immigrant Lemon – he spent his college and graduate years in Minnesota and now teaches at Texas Christian University – is the author of two previous books of poems: *Mosquito* (2006) and *Hallelujah Blackout* (2008); in press is a third volume of poetry, *Fancy Beasts*. He spoke to the *Chronicle* last week from his new home in Fort Worth.

Austin Chronicle: What was the impetus for the book?

Alex Lemon: It started because of assignments in graduate school, at the University of Minnesota, where I got my M.F.A. I had always journaled and written, and written about the experience, but when I started to have to write about it for an assignment – thinking about craft, thinking about the aesthetics of a piece of literature, not just emoting, journal-wise – my prose writing, my nonfiction, began to evolve into something that had more substance. ...

I feel like prose and poetry can both get to the same spot emotionally; they can both cut to the bone. But the way they do it is radically different. I felt like I needed the landscape of the full page of prose to really understand and appreciate and kind of masticate, to chew on those things that had happened – to really kind of embrace the messiness of all of the shit that happened to me.

AC: What's your sense of yourself in this book, having come through that experience?

AL: It wasn't cathartic in the sense that I transcended and moved beyond all of that



Alex Lemon



darkness. Writing it and spending so much time with all that material both as a writer and as someone who had lived that stuff – I'm not sure I came any closer to understanding it – but writing it allowed me to handle the material and to face it in a way that, instead of it crouching in the shadows, I could face it. It allowed me to juggle fire. Instead of flinching away from fire, it allowed me to juggle fire.

AC: I assume you're still dealing with the lingering effects of your condition.

AL: My situation now is that my day-to-day baseline is that I live with a visual disability. I have nystagmus and diplopia – bouncing eyes and double vision. I have paresthesia and neuralgia, so sometimes my face or my hand is numb. My vestibular system is off, so my gait, I kind of fall to my right a bit. I have chronic pain in my lower back and my legs. ...

It's present. I think I would be kind of shrouded or cloaked in it anyway, but every day I'm dealing with a part of it, whether it's not being able to see my students in the third row of class, or kind of stumbling around the house every now and then.

But there's also the hope: Even though it doesn't have the kind of sugarcoated, saccharine happy ending of a lot of books, the hope is that I've learned how to deal with a lot of things. I live this really amazing and charmed life in so many ways.

AC: How do you mean that?

AL: I found out that I love literature and writing, I found out that I love teaching, and all that was really a surprise to me. I was a political science major as an undergraduate, and I'd always journaled and written but never took it seriously. I hint at it in the book, that a lot of my behaviors were reactions to my mom's kind of fringe-ish life, the fringe-ish way I was raised. So I sunk myself into those hypermasculine things: I was good at sports, I was good at partying, I was good at

having girls, getting girls, and all of that was really just ignoring how much I wanted to be an artist and how much [I wanted] to be thinking about the arts or books or music, via my mom and my stepfather and the house I grew up in.

AC: This changeover must have been a great blow to that athlete you portray in the early chapters.

AL: Oh, yeah. I think that was one of the major difficulties. I chose to write in the first person present tense from the perspective of that young man, so I had to really embody this person that in a lot of ways I resent. I don't like a lot of things that I've done. I'm not happy how I mistreated people at times, or lied, or whatever – a lot of those things. So it was a huge and horrible thing to lose, really to lose your body. As a young man who really lived in my body, because my mind was a scary place, because it was a place where I thought about things. So I lived this kind of bacchanal existence, because then I wouldn't have to think about all of this horrible trauma. ...

The book is less about medical trauma and addiction or some things than it is about masculinity and mental illness and the love that happens between a mother and a son. ...

AC: Talk a little bit about that relationship.

AL: The book is an homage to her. ... So many memoirs are about how kids hate their parents, and this is a love story. She was a saint, because I was really a bastard in a lot of ways. I was insanely frustrated to be 21 years old and to be like a baby, and have to be taken care of, when I wanted to be – I wanted to be a man, and I wanted to be normal, and I wanted all of those things that were impossible for me. She put up with all my bullshit. We have come together – I talk to her nearly every day, and we have an amazing, amazing relationship. I feel so lucky to have somebody so vibrant in my life, and to have been shaped by this really amazing person. ■

Events at BookPeople



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Every month, BookPeople features one event we are particularly excited for and highlights a local organization we love to support. January's Event of the Month is for Brian Hart and his new book *Then Came the Evening*. Hart's debut novel is sure to be on year end "Best Of" lists, and is the story of a strained and damaged family, all trying to connect with one another in some way. A portion of the proceeds from this event will go towards the Michener Center for Writers, from which Hart graduated.

STEVEN WEINBERG
LAKE VIEWS
Sunday, January 24 3 PM
Harvard University Press



Just as Henry David Thoreau "traveled a great deal in Concord," Nobel Prize-winning physicist Steven Weinberg sees much of the world from the window of his study overlooking Lake Austin. In *Lake Views* Weinberg, considered by many to be the preeminent theoretical physicist alive today, continues the wide-ranging reflections on topics ranging from problems of cosmology to assorted world issues—military, political, and religious.

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Emile Gaboriau:
Monsieur Lecoq: Black Coat Press, June 1, 2009

André Gide said of Gaboriau in his Journal entry for March 4, 1943: "I read without stopping the first volume of *Monsieur Lecoq* of Gaboriau. A forerunner of all detective novels: those of Conan Doyle are only cheap wine compared to his."

Available online at Amazon and Barnes and Noble, also look for **Emile Gaboriau: File No. 113, Distinction Press, January 1, 2010.**

Sherlock Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's famous creation, was not the first well-known detective. Conan Doyle's predecessor was the Frenchman, Emile Gaboriau. The character of Sherlock Holmes was modeled after that of Gaboriau's famous Monsieur Lecoq. The character of Monsieur Lecoq was itself derived from a real criminal turned policeman, François Vidocq, the creator of the French National Police. Monsieur Lecoq never moves in high governmental and intellectual circles. Like Holmes, Lecoq is a master of disguise, a talent Conan Doyle borrows for Sherlock Holmes.

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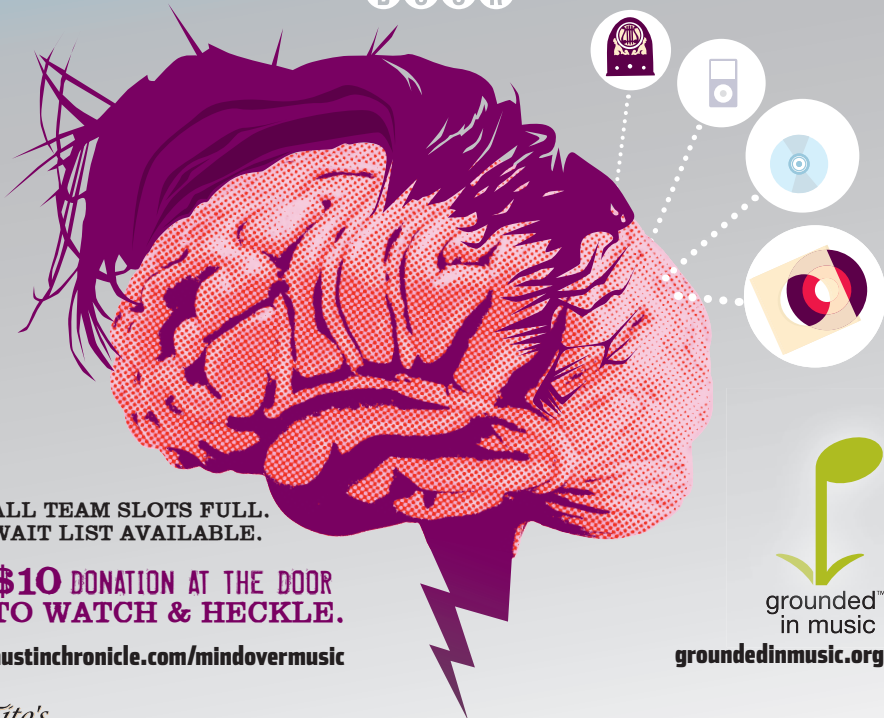
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after a fashion BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

MEA CULPA Okay, week before last, I was so excited about writing about plus-sized jewelry that I forgot all about tying up my story about my search for fireplace tools. The upshot was that seven hours and 15 stores later, we still never found any (yes, we tried all the obvious places and a few that were a stretch). I'm trying to figure out how to make the tools myself – you know, hot-glue some finials on the end of a broom, shovel, and pipe; get a color-coordinated wastebasket from Target; and, voila! Fireplace tools! (Or maybe just order them online.)

THEM These **Jon and Kate Gosselin** people are totally mysterious to me. I've never seen their show (**Jon & Kate Plus Apes**, I think it's called ... or maybe it's **Jon & Kate Plus Eight**). Apparently they have eight children who will probably wither away and die now that their show's been canceled). Furthermore, I had never even *heard* of them at *all* until the scandal in which he dumped his wife to date professional women – you know, *hostesses* and *bikini models* and that sort of thing. Meanwhile, the simpleminded Jon is heaped with scorn for his philandering ways, and Kate has cast herself as the wronged woman. But she makes it very easy for you to forget that she still has eight children. Jon-Jon has gone from bad to worse, from one low-end girlfriend to another, accompanied by much rancor. Recently, Jon Gosselin's luxury New York apartment was

sliced to ribbons by a vandal who is widely presumed to be Jon's *first* ex-girlfriend, who allegedly left a signed note affixed to the dresser with a rather ominously intimidating knife. The intruder destroyed Gosselin's furniture, drapes, upholstery, and wardrobe (including his tragically large collection of **Ed Hardy** clothes). Other damages included a 100-year-old **Ming vase** that had been broken. A tragedy, indeed, but let's you and I discuss this. A 100-year-old Ming vase? Meaning a Ming vase from the early 1900s? Let's do some simple arithmetic, shall we? The Ming Dynasty was over with by 1644. Jon's Ming vase is from, say, 1910. Do you think perhaps that the marking actually read **Ming of Santa Monica Inc.**? I'll bet he paid every bit of \$17.50 for that treasure. But back to the practically widowed Kate Gosselin; she did what every fleeting reality starlet tries to do: reinvent herself. It's a smart plan. Kate turned herself over to New York hairdresser **Ted Gibson** (www.tedgibsonbeauty.com) for her makeover. Ted Gibson, whom we've mentioned before in this column, is from somewhere in the **Belton-Temple-Killeen metroplex**. But that's not what's important. What's important is that he is without question a true top celebrity hairdresser, with salons in New York and Washington (\$950 for a haircut, anyone? *Bueller?*). At what was this package of hair treatments valued? The cut, color, extensions,



Last week's kickoff party for the 2010 Hill Country Ride for AIDS (April 24) reminds us that it is time to get involved: www.hillcountryride.org.

and styling ran a mere \$7,000. The good news is that she only has to spend that much money three or four times a year.

SCENTS AND SCENTS-IBILITY At a party last week, I was wearing the new **Dolce & Gabbana** fragrance called **The One**. I'm sure you've seen the half-naked **Matthew McConaughey** strolling languidly through the ads, but let me tell you from having been in the position to have my arm around him that he is someone you may *not* want to smell like. It doesn't really mean that The One smells like **No. 2**, but now you know why there's no **Chanel No. 1** and **Chanel No. 2**. Can't you just see the ad campaign? "Chanel No. 1: Because everything else smells like No. 2."

OUT The exhibition of art by **Bill Narum** at the **South Austin Museum of Popular Culture** opened with an amazing turnout of fans and friends who loved him and his style. Don't miss it... The kickoff party for the **Hill Country Ride for AIDS** was Thursday; time to get involved! Saturday was the **Merry Merry Martini Mixer for Equality Texas**. Great work from both on behalf of all of us. Thank you, **Douglas Plummer!**... And the **Golden Globes**. We'll have to discuss that *next* week, but why did everyone seem so crooked (as **Mandy Mercier** said)? Tune in next Thursday!

Write to our Style Avatar with your related events, news, and hautey bits: style@austinchronicle.com or PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765 or 458-6910 (fax).

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PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON

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Restaurateur Hiep Nguyen and his family left Rockport, Texas, for better educational opportunities in Austin a few years back, but his extended family ties along the Gulf Coast make it possible for Nguyen to serve very fresh seafood at his Austin restaurant. The

eatery is tucked into a suburban strip center along busy Wells Branch Parkway, and the ambience is part sports bar (three big flat-screen TVs), part bayou kitsch, and all casual. The Nguyen family makes guests feel right at home. We ate between a quiet family and a big group of working guys talking sports while they slurped down raw oysters and sucked crawfish heads. Everybody was happy.

The menu is simple and straightforward – Gulf seafood boiled, fried, or as ingredients in authentic versions of Cajun/creole specialties. On a couple of lunch visits, we managed to try items from every portion of the menu and were pleased with them all. Prices on **boiled crawfish** vary with the season and whether or not the mudbugs are fresh (almost always) or previously frozen (they're very up-front about this when it happens). The kitchen here offers a choice of mild, regular, or spicy liquid for its boiling pot of crawfish, shrimp, or crabs and throws in corn, red potatoes, mushrooms, and slices of andouille sausage for lagniappe. The servers cover the tables with paper before the peeling starts and provide buckets for shells and used paper towels. We found the regular boiling liquid redolent of garlic, smoke, and cayenne and made short work of peeling a couple of pounds of very tasty crawfish (\$9.90). I thoroughly enjoyed a **soft-shell crab po'boy** (\$7.95), and my friend pronounced her half-dozen hand-breaded **fried oysters** (75 cents a piece à la carte) plump and delicious. The **crawfish étouffée** (\$7.99) and **shrimp-and-andouille jambalaya** (\$7.99) I took home for dinner were authentic and flavorful renditions of those hearty bayou classics. Nguyen gives all the credit to his Louisiana-born chef. We suggest you let the good times roll you to the Crawfish Shack, and you won't be disappointed. – V.B.W.

TRIO Wine Bar Happy Hours

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Happy hours: Monday-Saturday, 5-8pm

Every once in a while, we stumble on a place where the food is inventive, the wine list is inspired, and the service is of the highest professional conduct. Unfortunately, finding all these traits in one place is rare and usually costly.

TRIO, the restaurant at the Four Seasons, fits the bill. Imagine our delight when we heard that the wine bar at the front of TRIO was having a sale. If you stop in between 5 and 8pm, there are about a dozen food items (many from the regular restaurant menu), all for half price. And while food for half price at happy hour isn't so amazing, how often is it of the quality the kitchen staff produces at TRIO?

We went one hungry night with the goal of trying most if not all of the food on the menu. After all, we expected the dishes to be scaled down to the size of mini tapas to compensate for the low prices. Wrong. These are full-scale dishes, generous in quantity and quality, just like the same dishes on the restaurant's appetizer menu.

We started with **truffle macaroni and cheese** (\$7 regularly, \$3.50 at happy hour), which was creamy and perfectly textured, with just the perfect amount of aromatic truffle oil. So many restaurants overpower their truffled creations, it's nice to find one where the aromas don't appear until the fork is right at your mouth.

The **pork belly** (\$12/\$6) is cooked flawlessly, with a crisp layer of meat and plenty of richness from the layers of fat. TRIO uses foods that are in season, and one of our favorites is a standard from Spain that we never expected to see stateside: a plate of **grilled Padrón peppers** with sea salt (\$6/\$3). These complexly flavored peppers have Scoville ratings that vary between bell peppers and the Fat Man atomic bomb, but the chefs



were successful in picking out the hot ones so that all we had was a pleasant munch.

One of the great joys of TRIO is getting recommendations from its award-winning **sommelier Mark Sayre**. For the TRIO happy hours, Sayre handpicks about three dozen of the best wines from his extensive list and offers them by the glass and half off. We had four wines: a mineral-heavy **Muscadet** (\$11/\$5.50), a perfumed **Soave Classico** (\$12/\$6), a dry **Carneros Merlot** (\$15/\$7.50), and a

Grenache blend from **Priorat** (\$14/\$7). The list changes all the time, so I recommend you ask Sayre for wine recommendations. He's one of the best in the business.

Care to guess the price for our entire meal of five dishes (we also had the **baked Gulf oysters** and the **smoked shrimp croquettes**) and four wines?

\$52.52. Wow! I've paid more than that for bad Tex-Mex. This is a happy hour that is highly recommended. – Wes Marshall

Event Menu Jan. 23-28

- ▶ The **Austin Farmers' Market** (www.austinfarmersmarket.org) commemorates its move to Republic Square Park (422 Guadalupe) with a Market in the Park relaunch party. Festivities include live music, cooking demos, food tastings, games, and plenty of family fun. Saturday, Jan. 23, 9am-1pm.
- ▶ Enjoy a winter wine mixer and the chance to help choose a new wine for the list at **Hill Country Pasta House** (3519 FM 620 N., 266-9445, www.hillcountrypasta.com) with food and wine pairings and live music from the Lucky Strikes. \$30 per person. Saturday, Jan. 23, 5pm.
- ▶ **Farm to Table** invites you to experience a fascinating array of local art, music, food, beer, wine, and spirits at a happy hour benefiting the **HOPE Farmers Market** (414 Waller). \$10 donation suggested. Thursday, Jan. 28, 6-9pm.

- ▶ **Travis Poling** will sign copies of *Beer Across Texas: A Guide to the Brews and Brewmasters of the Lone Star State* (Maverick Publishing, \$12.95), and the folks from **St. Arnold** will serve beer samples at **BookPeople** (603 N. Lamar). See "Beer Flights," Nov. 27, 2009, for more about the book. Thursday, Jan. 28, 7pm. – V.B.W.

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food-o-file

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

A capacity crowd of pie lovers packed the fellowship hall of the historic **Sweet Home Missionary Baptist Church** in the Clarksville neighborhood Saturday afternoon to celebrate the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s birthday and build community through pie. The second annual **ServeaDream Dream Pie Social** raised \$1,600 for the gracious old church's restoration fund with a silent pie auction. Guests enjoyed stirring music and speeches followed by a pie-making demonstration with donated pies, coffee, and Blue Bell ice cream. Congratulations to the following contest winners: last year's winner **Emma Little** took the prize for cream pie with Frozen Peanut Butter Pie with burnt-sugar bacon. Jeffrey's pastry chef **Sarah Jordan** won the fruit category with banofi (banana, toffee, and walnut) pie, Greezy Wheels frontman **Cleve Hattersley** took the chocolate division with a Fredericksburg fudge pie, and singer-songwriter **Leeann Atherton** swept the nut category and the overall Dream Pie prize with her **Plain Ole' Pecan Pie**. All the winners took home custom certificates and prizes donated by **Faraday's Kitchen Store** (1501-A RR 620 N., 266-5666, www.faradayskitchenstore.com)... As the news of the terrible devastation in **Haiti** spread around the world, some local businesses and restaurants announced plans for impromptu fundraising events during this past weekend – we'll do our best to keep events listed online even if they can't make the paper's deadlines, because we know Austinites are always on the lookout for ways to help out... **Victoria Lynden's** (Cissi's Market & Wine Bar) new venture is **Town Market** (43 Rainey, 499-8696) on the ground floor of the Legacy on the Lake condominiums. Town offers a selection of staple groceries, local packaged foods, fresh-brewed Kohana coffee, fresh pastries, soups, salads, sandwiches, beer, and wine every day. The market also provides delivery service within the building... The fourth **Torchy's Tacos** (4301 W. William Cannon, 514-0767, www.torchystacos.com) is such a big hit in Southwest Austin, owner Michael Rypka plans to expand the outdoor seating with a big patio in the next couple of months and has already opened a fifth location at 4211 Spicewood Springs, in a building vacated by the Burger House... **Carlos Rivero's** restaurant group is playing fruit basket turnover with a couple of its popular concepts by moving the full Tex-Mex menu and bar of **El Chile Cafe y Cantina** (1025 Barton Springs Rd., 609-8923) to a cozy space near the Long Center and Zilker Park and reinstating **El Chilito's** quick/casual, build-your-own tacos and burritos menu Downtown (918 Congress, 291-3120). Once the liquor licenses are all worked out, El Chilito will serve only beer and wine (think micheladas and sangria) while El Chile will offer a full bar (custom cocktails on a rooftop patio overlooking Lady Bird Lake)... **Jack Allen's Kitchen** (7720 Hwy. 71 W., 852-8338, www.jackallenskitchen.com) offers a \$12.99 à la carte brunch starting this Sunday from 11am to 3pm... Longtime Austin restaurateur and sometimes political candidate **Marc Katz** celebrated 30 years in business at Katz's Deli & Bar (618 W. Sixth, 472-2037, www.katzsneverkloses.com) on Saturday, Jan. 16, by serving complimentary Champagne to his customers. Mazel tov!

From Beer to Infinity

A gold star for Black Star Co-op

BY LEE NICHOLS

When I first heard their plans, I thought they were crazy. I still think they might be.

But with the securing of an actual physical location late last year, those idealistic nuts at Black Star Co-op Pub & Brewery have taken a major step toward proving me wrong and establishing the nation's first-ever cooperatively run brewpub.

"This week, it's become much more real, just because we've moved up here, so we're actually looking at it every day," said Black Star founder Steven Yarak in December at the co-op's new office at Midtown Commons, the new mixed-used development at Crestview Station (Airport and North Lamar). We were chatting just a few days after an event unveiling the site to its approximately 1,200 members and the media – and hopefully, just a few months before its June grand opening.

"I still have the same level of confidence, it's just that the kind of work we're doing has shifted," Yarak said. "There's so much inertia now that the kinds of work we have to focus on are more specific. Just grow the membership, raise the preferred shares, get the contracts negotiated. It's more about execution than planning."

"I think after the unveiling event," added head brewer Jeff Young, "it turned from this thing where I was wondering: 'Is this going to happen? How is this going to happen?' to 'Oh my gosh, we better do this well! This is definitely happening!'"

In case you've missed it – and if you have, then you're probably not an Austin craft beer lover – bold plans have been brewing since 2006 to open a new brewpub in town. It's not the brewpub part that's bold – restaurants and bars making their own beer have been coming and going in Austin since Texas first legalized the practice in 1993 – it's the "member-owned" part. The idea first took root in Yarak's

head in late 2005 and has been growing quickly ever since. (The "Black Star" name comes via the flag of the nation of Ghana – the College Station-raised Yarak's father teaches African history to Aggies.)

"The idea that I originally had was to have a beer bar that was owned by the regulars," said Yarak. "I took this idea and did a little bit of organizing to the homebrew club on the Zealots list [an e-mail listserv of local make-your-own types] and a couple of fliers in coffee shops and Wheatsville. And then at the very first meeting, which was January of '06, Jeff was there, and he said: 'Hey, I'm a trained brewer – professionally trained – I'm here to look for a brewpub project. If you want this to be really community-oriented, we should have our own house beers as well.'"

"Also at that meeting was Johnny Livesay, who was then on the board of Wheatsville, who said, 'Hey, here's the Texas cooperative statute, so here's the legal avenue to get the framework of what you're describing.' So that was really the genesis, and it was just total serendipity that all three of us were in one place at one time, because if it hadn't come up that way, we'd have never come together in quite the same way."

But why a co-op? Cooperatively run businesses are a difficult undertaking, especially competing in the retail world, where for-profit businesses don't have to mess with democracy and can make snap decisions through a more efficient command-and-control model. Austin's Wheatsville Food Co-op seems like a famous and firmly established business today, but in its early years, it had to be sustained with numerous fundraisers.



Jeff Young, Karinne Thornblom, and Steven Yarak of Black Star Co-op Pub & Brewery

Neither Yarak nor Young seems to worry about such clunkiness at Black Star. For starters, they have a loyal fan base already built; they smartly grew the membership through monthly beer socials – events that outgrew their own backyards, then moved to a space behind MonkeyWrench Books, and eventually exploded to fill up Kenny Dorham's Backyard, the large outdoor performance space in East Austin next to the Victory Grill.

Plus, the co-op idea just seems to fit with their concept of what a pub is all about. "In a pub, you have a natural gathering space in a community, built on a business model of repeat customers," said Yarak. "You have a model in which this community is putting their resources into it, and yet a lot of times you have this disconnected or absentee ownership of it, and so the resources of your community really are being funneled out of it. So my vision there was, let's just close the loop. Let's make it so that's being reinvested back into the community in a variety of ways, whether it be better jobs for the work force or investment in expansion or improvement of

the current assets you have or refunding excess [profits] back to the membership."

"And on the brewing side of things, when I left Alabama to come here looking for some sort of brewing job, I had all those similar ideas, but for brewing it's kind of like a lot of breweries have absentee brewers," said Young, who fled the restrictive laws of his home state (homebrewing is illegal in Alabama, although some homebrew shops operate openly there). "They basically make a product behind closed doors and ship it out to the shelves, and that's very impersonal. So you take it to the next level and you have a brewpub, which is a little more personal because it happens on-site, but once you add the co-op factor, you're really making the beers for your owners. You have a much more intimate connection with the owners."

But how can it work? Well, it won't be quite the hippie free-for-all that one might envision. There will be structure – there is already a nine-member board of directors, selected by the membership, setting policy and guidance for Black Star. But the day-to-day operations will be handled by a staff, aka the "Workers' Assembly," which currently stands at just three: Yarak, Young, and Karinne Thornblom, a Texas State grad who founded Clementine Coffee Bar (which eventually became Thunderbird under different ownership).

Eventually, that staff will grow to about 15 full-time equivalents, including chefs Michael Holland and Johnny Livesay. The menu will be "local and seasonal pub fare," said Yarak. "Simple, rustic food that's one cut above eating at home, not going for, like, the fine-dining aspect, but not just burgers and baskets, either."

Although they've moved beyond the members-as-labor idea that some co-ops idealize, that doesn't mean volunteer contributions aren't welcome. "The skill set of the cooperative" has already come into the mix, Young says. "That floor plan," he says, pointing to the layout sketches in their office, "came about

Black Star's Beer Menu

Descriptions excerpted from the Black Star website, www.blackstar.coop.

RATIONAL BEERS

High Esteem: "[A]kin to a pale ale with a few twists. A touch of rye, a dash of honey, and generous dry hopping."

Double Dee: "Rich and malty ... toasty and nutty with a hint of raisins."

Vulcan: "[A]n aggressive rye ale made with a boat-load of hops."

Recalcitrant Dockhand: "complex maltiness with notes of molasses, vanilla, and roasted coffee."

IRRATIONAL BEERS

Waterloo: "[R]efreshingly and slightly sour (think lemonade) wheat ale made with the addition of fresh Texas Peaches ... brewed in the early summer when the peach harvest comes in."

Cul Sec: "A spicy beer ... features tart and refreshing flavors. A touch of extra hops gives citrus notes."

Rover: "A golden ale fermented with Belgian yeast... made with oodles of local wildflower honey added in the fermenter."

Moontower: "[F]eatures liberal use of rich and roasted malts, and is aged in darkly charred oak."

INFINITE BEERS

Aleph Null: "Wheat wine aged with grapes in a syrah barrel with a secondary fermentation with a Belgian strain of yeast."

Epsilon: "Scotch ale made with peated malt and aged in a whiskey barrel."



because we had a design team of architects and graphic designers from the co-op that we got together and they volunteered their time.”

Similarly, former board member Debbie Cerda joined not only because she’s a home-brewer and founder of the Austin Women’s Beer League but also thought she could help the organization deal with governmental bureaucracy – a good skill anytime the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission is involved.

“I felt that with my day job working for a state agency, and actually working with state regulations, I could sympathize with dealing with the regulatory community,” the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality employee said. “So I felt I could bring that to the table, as well as years of experience working with nonprofits.”

Okay, if you’ve read this far, you probably are one of the aforementioned craft brew nuts – and by now you’re probably pulling your hair out and screaming: “What about the beer? Enough about the mechanics; get to the beer!”

Well, I’ve already gotten to the beer – and it was tasty. With help from members, Young has created a 10-brew menu of house beers for regular rotation (see “Black Star’s Beer Menu,” p.38). He let me sample a couple, the High Esteem and the Double Dee.

The former is what they expect to be their flagship, what they call their most “conventional” beer. That description didn’t inspire much confidence in me – I expected a watered-down lager; many brewpubs keep one on their menus for those who just can’t get beyond their light beer comfort zone. Instead, I was rewarded with a pale ale-type drink punctuated with flavorful dry-hopping and, Young notes, a touch of rye and a dash of honey. If this is their mainstream brew, then they’re expecting an adventurous mainstream.

The Double Dee was a nice foil to the High Esteem and perfect for the chilly day we tried it, a dark brew with a nice dose of malt, a nutty taste, and, Young points out, “a hint of raisins.”

The beer menu will be divided into distinct halves – in a nod to his math-major background, Young calls them the “Rational” and “Irrational” beers, as in the concept of rational and irrational numbers. “The Rational beers satisfy more of the year-round beers that you’re more accustomed to,” Young said. “A hoppy beer; a light, crisp beer; or a darker, malty beer. Generally a little bit lower alcohol.

“The Irrational beers are the ones that are more seasonal; they might be higher alcohol; they might have a Belgian characteristic.”

Irrational numbers, for you nonmathematicians (like me), are numbers that can’t be

expressed as a fraction – pi being a well-known example. “Basically, the reason I started thinking of them as irrational is because the flavors that you taste are not constructed from the ingredients that you put in there – the yeast, the barley, the hops. When you put all these together in one of the Irrational beers, you usually get something more than the individual ingredients. You don’t put plums in a Belgian beer, but a lot of times you taste plums, or banana.”

Young also plans an “Infinite” series, barrel-aged brews often with high alcohol and intense flavors – “our most ridiculously expensive beers,” he says, including Aleph Null (yes, more math), a wheat wine made with Hill Country grapes.

As said, Young had help – like any good co-op. And like any good brewpub, he’ll sometimes rotate beers into the lineup, using member input. “I’m really excited to get members involved in the creation of the beers, so it basically starts with them and ends with them,” Young said. “Two of the ideas we’re working with now – one is, basically, once or twice a year, getting the owners together in some kind of forum where we have basically a brainstorming session.

We just come up with a beer. It could be appropriate for the season, or somebody might want some sort of fruit beer, and we basically just sit around for a while and try to come up with a beer that the co-op wants to drink. So I’ll take that, put in my format, brew it, and when they come back, they can sit down at the bar and say, ‘Hey, this is one of the beers that I made.’ Or if we have a new beer come out, we’ll have a tasting panel and invite out some of the member-owners and get their feedback on those beers, and in the next iteration, make some changes.

“And we’ve already done those two things on a much smaller scale. That’s how we now have 10 beers – they’re all the product of the member-owners. Now we’ll just beef it up a bit and do it for more owners.”

Sitting in their temporary office and looking out at where the pub eventually will be, it’s easy to believe that this thing will actually work. Yarak and Young certainly do. “I never lacked for confidence,” Yarak says. “The first three years or so, the first year especially, were mostly about figuring out what it entailed and how to go about it – because you can’t just take a book off the shelf for something that’s never been done before.” ■

“After the unveiling event, it turned from this thing where I was wondering: ‘Is this going to happen? How is this going to happen?’ to ‘Oh my gosh, we better do this well! This is definitely happening!’”
– head brewer Jeff Young

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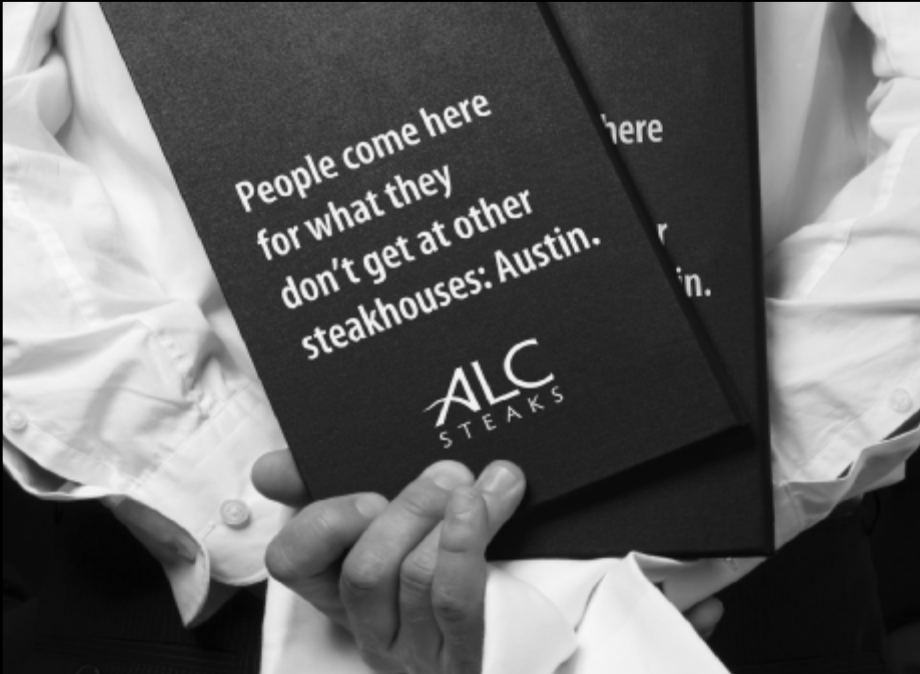
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'Battle' Prep

BY BELINDA ACOSTA



Esai Morales (l) and Eric Stoltz star in *Caprica*, a prequel series to *Battlestar Galactica*, premiering Jan. 22.

When the rebooted *Battlestar Galactica* first set sail, I missed the boat. "TV Eye" readers who were *Battlestar* fans would write from time to time, nudging, nagging, imploring me to check it out. I always meant to. But as with many things, before I knew it, another year had gone by and *Battlestar* was eventually moved to the list of those series I intend to watch on DVD some long weekend in the future. That long weekend may come sooner than I think. Having watched the two-hour pilot episode of *Caprica*, the prequel series to *Battlestar* that premieres this week, not only am I enormously curious about *Caprica* and its layered world, I'm enormously curious to know if *Battlestar* fans will like or loathe *Caprica*, if they'll think it's worthy.

This is what I like – no, make that, *adore* – about this new series. First and foremost, you can come to it cold. You don't have to have seen every, or even any, episode of *Battlestar* to appreciate it, though I suspect, as with other cult series, longtime fans are rewarded for their allegiance with references that may pass unnoticed to us *Battlestar* virgins.

Caprica is a show with tradition, nuance, and a thoughtfully conceived backstory, as well as a clear path to where it's heading (I get the distinct impression the creators of *Caprica* are working from an authentic and exhaustive series bible – no pulling ideas from thin air here). But what I most like about *Caprica* is that it has a strong moral compass. I may not always agree with it or even take it as seriously as the series and its characters do, but it always piques my curiosity and imagination. It's a bag of marbles to me: simple, elegant, and worth examining closely, again and again.

Set in the future, but 58 years prior to when *Battlestar* takes place, *Caprica* has a feel that is at once familiar but not quite of this world. (Being shot in Canada helps.) The robotic butlers, computerized houses, and those darn kids, deeply wired into the technology the adults believe they have a firm grip on, also reminds us that we're not exactly in the present, but not so very far from this future, either.

Eric Stoltz and **Esai Morales** star in the series. Stoltz plays Daniel Graystone, a famous computer engineering genius whose corporation is pioneering the development of artificial intelligence. Morales stars as Joseph Adama, a powerful criminal

defense attorney and William Adama's father. (William will grow up to be **Edward James Olmos'** Adm. Adama in *Battlestar Galactica*.) William clearly has serious daddy issues, but it's not his story we're immediately drawn to. Like Joseph Adama, Graystone is a father, too. His headstrong teenage daughter Zoe (**Alessandra Torresani**) is acting out, creating hair-pulling tension at home with his wife, Amanda (**Paula Malcomson**). He takes it in stride, treating it as textbook teenage behavior, but Zoe's rebelliousness extends beyond her adolescent foot-stomping. It isn't until her untimely death that he discovers that among other things, his daughter is also a computer genius. Zoe has tinkered with virtual reality technology and advanced it beyond his imagination to create a perfect avatar. When tragedy also strikes the Adama family, Graystone and Adama's paths

tv
eye

cross. Recognizing the pain the other feels, they eventually embark on a journey that will change the course of mankind. And this is ultimately what makes *Caprica* so satisfying. Steeped in human emotion, it takes flight when it manages to approach loftier subjects: What is faith? What is the soul? What does it mean to be alive? What drives the will to live? What does it mean to die? Doing so without chest-beating melodrama is a definite plus.

Individually, Stoltz and Morales are strong. Together, they are fascinating. Their stoic male silence is so rich and full and painfully real, I almost wish no one else were in the series. That wish vanishes with the appearance of **Polly Walker** (*Rome*), as the headmistress of the school Zoe and her friends attend. As the surviving friend following Zoe's death, Lacy (**Magda Apanowicz**) is appropriately shell-shocked and troubled. Lacy pales in every way to Zoe, but like this well-conceived series, there is only room for her to grow.

Caprica premieres Friday, Jan. 22, at 8pm on the SyFy network.

As always, stay tuned.

Follow TV Eye on Twitter: @ChronicleTVEye.

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screens

MAKING MEDIA-WATCHING A LITTLE LESS WONKY

UT's online journal FlowTV seeks a balance between accessible and academic

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

When it comes to entertainment media, the constellation is vast. Gossip-laden magazines like *National Enquirer* and half-hour infotainment shows like *TMZ* and *Entertainment Tonight* appear at one end of the map. Then there are information-driven sources like *Entertainment Weekly* or *Paste*, where style is just as important as substance. Hard information about behind-the-scenes machinations can be found in trade publications like *Variety* and *The Hollywood Reporter*. And when you turn to the Internet, the choices grow exponentially: The gamut runs from AccessHollywood.com and Drudge Report to Ain't It Cool News to the Huffington Post and Salon. But when it comes to a more scholarly, critical look at what's happening in TV and media, the choices get murkier – not because there aren't choices out there but because, like the media landscape, which is changing as we speak, the idea of what makes good media criticism is also undergoing a transformation. That shift is what drove a few Radio-Television-Film graduate students at the University of Texas at Austin in 2004 when they launched an online journal called Flow (now called FlowTV) with an aim to “provide a space where researchers, teachers, students, and the public can read about and discuss the changing landscape of contemporary media at the speed that media moves.”

“At the speed that media moves” is the key phrase here. In traditional academic publishing, a lengthy vetting process, which may include



JANA BIRCHUM

Jacqueline Vickery (l) and Alex Cho of FlowTV

peer reviews, a commenting phase, rewriting, and editing, usually happens at the speed of paint drying. And when it comes to scholarly journals, they're not exactly light, beach-blanket reading. Or, as assistant professor Michael Kackman, a faculty advisor at FlowTV, put it, “Scholarly writing sometimes fades into the Miss Othmar voice from *Peanuts*.”

“FlowTV is purposefully written in a voice that is a blend between scholarly writing and popular writing,” current FlowTV coordinating editor and RTF graduate student Alex Cho wrote to me in an e-mail. “Pieces are short (about 1300 words) and non-jargony in an effort to encourage readability. ... We think of FlowTV as a space where anyone who is interested in going beyond reportage – to think about what media means – can access a large variety of informed critical perspectives.”

“And the variety is one of our selling points. We've had articles on everything from *Twilight* fan girls, to the politics of cell phone towers camouflaged as trees, to international relations and Korean talk shows, to Sarah Palin Internet porn.”

The title of the online publication reflects its academic roots. A concept first introduced by British cultural studies scholar Raymond Williams, “flow” refers to the need to examine the entire process of how television reaches viewers, moving beyond an examination of its specific parts, and how ultimately, all media is interconnected.

“I think FlowTV took the media academic circle by surprise,” Cho said. “It had momentum from the beginning

and has only continued to grow.” While similar ventures exist, none seem as persistent and timely as FlowTV. “It's a labor of love,” Cho said of the job he shares with Jacqueline Vickery, along with a long roster of graduate editors who help assemble the biweekly online journal.

“Fan forums get all the attention,” he continued, “but viewers of all sorts operate in an environment in which the boundaries between public forums, blogs, professional media journalism, and scholarly criticism have become very porous. That's a good thing. It means there are many avenues for people to seek out meaningful criticism, discussions, and debate about our media environment.”

Whether *TMZ* or *Access Hollywood* fans will seek FlowTV for their media information fix is debatable. But the fact that with a few keystrokes a thoughtful discussion once ensconced in the ivory tower is available to the public at large speaks to the possibility of a more informed media consumer.

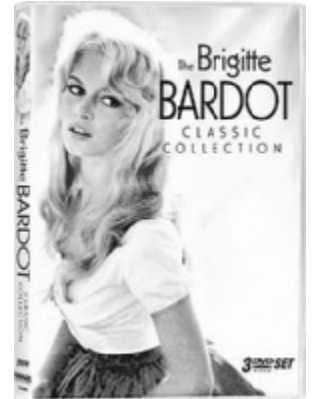
In addition to its online presence, FlowTV hosts a conference every two years. The event is typically free and open to a general audience, drawing a wide range of media watchers. Later in the spring, a new anthology, *FlowTV: Television in the Age of Media Convergence*, will be published by Routledge, featuring 14 essays by FlowTV-affiliated writers. ■

For more info, visit www.flowtv.org.

The Brigitte Bardot Classic Collection: PLUCKING THE DAISY; THE NIGHT HEAVEN FELL; DON JUAN (OR IF DON JUAN WERE A WOMAN)

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“At some moment in the career of all great stars there is the miracle of a role which seems made for them. For Brigitte it was Juliette in ... *And God Created Woman*. She had already made 16 films. Her seventeenth made her a star.” So boasts the film's director, Roger Vadim (1928-2000), in *Bardot Deneuve Fonda*, subtitled “My Life With the Three Most Beautiful Women in the World.” That same year, 1956, God's Parisian bombshell also starred in *Plucking the Daisy* (*En Effeuillant la Marguerite*), scripted by Vadim. The before-and-after effect is appropriately titillating. Leading off a three-film/3-DVD set that doesn't include ... *And God Created Woman* (the Criterion DVD remains the standard for Bardot's breakthrough), *Plucking the Daisy* can offer only black-and-white cinematography in contrast to God's sumptuous seaside Eastmancolor(s), and yet it still manages almost as much skin. An alternate title for *Daisy* in the U.S. was *Mademoiselle Striptease* – Bardot enters a striptease contest for cash to replace the Balzac first edition she sold out from under her brother – and given the morality code of classic American films, nudity in French black and whites never fails to shock. That *Daisy*'s first glimpse of Bardot



dvd watch

is from behind, then in a tight sweater, signals the filmmakers' onscreen glee with their raw materials. Before Jennifer Lopez's caboose came Bardot's, center screen, climbing over walls, crawling underneath museum ropes, and tantalizingly close to bare in the striptease contest, though the see-through sheer she dons after the contest defines the term consolation prize, never mind her being groped on her bed in one scene. Written and directed by Vadim, *The Night Heaven Fell* (1958) trades *Daisy*'s light slapstick for color Spanish melodrama. Ursula, straight from the convent, arrives into a Buñuelian house of mystery and dysfunction; promptly falls for Irish-born Stephen Boyd, the first choice for James Bond in *Dr. No* (today Matt Damon would play Boyd); then finds herself on the lam with her man and his murder charge. Bardot in white underwear at a table with her legs up can still be drooled over on postcards today. Vadim's *Don Juan (or If Don Juan Were a Woman)* (1973), Bardot's final feature before retirement at the age of 39, might well be the most entertaining title here in the completely indulgent post-New Wave style of 1970s French film. Puffy of face, long blond hair framing smoky hazel eyes, Bardot's ruination of man includes sumptuous sets (her submarine), Vadim's trademark gratuitous nudity, and a god-awful American rock score. Bardot in a frightful Supremes wig next to a stunning Jane Birkin probably got her manager fired, but when she lets her hair down for an extended love scene between the two, it's even hotter than Bardot and Jeanne Moreau at a machine gun in saloon dresses for *Viva Maria!* (1965). “She took to lovemaking with extraordinary intensity,” writes Vadim of his ex-wife. “She was completely physical and, at the same time, the most emotional woman I have ever met.”

— Raoul Hernandez



FERAL CINEMA RELEASED INTO THE WILD

You may know him as the Meanest Critic in America™ but the *Chronicle*'s Marc Savlov actually has a lot of love to give – especially to underseen cult and fringe films. Starting Jan. 21, he'll host a new monthly program called Feral Cinema alongside fellow series architects Charles Lieurance of I Luv Video (hey, happy 25th, guys!) and Andy Gately of the Austin Underground Film Society. Expect a sort of multimedia viewing party with cheap drinks. First up: *Who Is KK Downey?*, the 2008 Canadian festival film inspired by the hip-lit-con-artist JT LeRoy.

— Kimberley Jones

Feral Cinema kicks off Thursday, Jan. 21, 8pm at the United States Art Authority. Admission is \$5. For more info, visit www.feralcinema.com.

Plastic Platoon

Paul Hanley and Kieran Healy on their 10-year tour of duty to make a stop-motion Vietnam epic starring action figures

BY MARC SAVLOV

"It's silly talking about how many years we will have to spend in the jungles of Vietnam when we could pave the whole country and put parking stripes on it and still be home for Christmas."

— Ronald Reagan interview, *Fresno Bee*, Oct. 10, 1965

So we lost that one for the Gipper, sure, but in artistic – and specifically cinematic – terms, the Vietnam War was a huge win for our side. Nearly four decades since the fall of Saigon, more critically successful and culturally influential films have been made about Vietnam than any other war in history. And not only that: We even ended up getting our all-American pavement 'n' parking stripes emblazoned atop what were once the claymored dirt alleyways of Saigon, which are now the bustling, capitalist-thronged (and thoroughly well-paved) streets of Ho Chi Minh City.

Still, Vietnam remains something of a taboo subject to – no pun intended – mine for humor when it comes to filmic re-enactments. War is hell, and hell is rough terrain for comedy if you're not Dante Alighieri or Joseph Heller. Robert Altman's stridently anti-war ensemble epic *M*A*S*H* (and the ensuing television series) was set during the Korean War, Barry Levinson's *Good Morning, Vietnam* is as much a showcase for Robin Williams as it is a Vietnam pic, and while Spalding Gray's Jonathan Demme-directed *Swimming to Cambodia* is often hilarious, it's also, ultimately, a monologist's footnote to film about the actual events.

Vietnam ≠ big yuks. Until now, that is.

Enter Paul Hanley and Kieran R. Healy's epic tale of small-scale blood, guts, and action figures, *Viva the Nam*, the first DIY, feature-length, stop-motion Vietnam comedy ever made. Director Hanley and director of photography/editor/sound designer Healy have made a 12-frames-per-second, 104-minute statement on America's Southeast Asian imbroglio: awash in period detail; jittery, you-are-there camerawork; and enough misguided period pathos to earn a place in the Halls of Montezuma or a beachhead on the shores of Tripoli.

And because it took the two of them – with assistance from Lee Sparks in the miniatures department and a handful of friends, including sometime *Chronicle* contributor Spencer Parsons, handling voice talent – a full 10

years to complete, *Viva the Nam* is likely the last independently financed stop-motion comic commentary on the 'Nam you'll see anytime soon. War is hell, but re-creating it at 1/6th scale, and then making it *funny*, is a journey into the heart of – pun intended – dorkness that even the well-financed folks at the Cartoon Network's *Robot Chicken* would be hard-pressed to pull off on what Hanley unceremoniously describes as a budget "that cost about as much as a good used car."

□

Viva the Nam begins with a phone call and a flashback to a simpler time. Retired Marine and embittered Vietnam vet Joe Holmes calls his son, Pvt. Joe Holmes Jr., currently serving in Baghdad, to warn him of his fate: Every single branch of the Holmes family tree has lost a man to war. *Watch your ass, kid*, he cautions, *and hang on to that lucky medallion I gave you.*

"It's not just that we can't afford the rights to the Doors, but we also can't afford to pay people to play music that sounds like the Doors."
– Kieran Healy on the self-financed, super-low-budget, stop-motion action film *Viva the Nam*

Flash back to 1969 and a younger, more idealistic Joe Sr., who bears a striking if unlicensed resemblance to a certain Lucasfilm scoundrel and hotshot space cowboy whose name, for copyright reasons, shall go unmentioned here. Joe Holmes is tuning in, turning on, and dropping out at Andy Warhol's Factory, mingling, Forrest Gump-like, with cameoing characters that run the gamut from obscurely filmic (*Beyond the Valley of the Dolls*' Z-Man makes a brief appearance, as does

Lon Chaney Sr., in his unmistakable *London After Midnight* garb) to more flesh-and-blood (but plastic) icons like Hunter S. Thompson, who gets into a drug-addled dustup with Charles Manson, and Lou Reed ("What're you doing here?" Holmes asks the velveteen undergrounder. "I'm waiting for the Man, man," is Reed's droll reply).

It's at the Factory that Holmes receives a telegram – ostensibly from the Helping Hand Acceptance Corporation, one of Hanley's many cinematic in-jokes, this one referencing *Repo Man*, that soon enough finds him drafted into the U.S. Marine Corps, barely surviving a basic training overseen by a small, plastic R. Lee Erney.

Once in-country, Holmes is attached to the "Bastard Squad," a genre-enthusiast's wet dream of racial and cinematic stereotyping, and begins his 1/6th-scale descent into a jarringly realistic world of the quick, the dead, and the very small. Explosions and appro-



Paul Hanley with the stars of *Viva the Nam*

riately inappropriate comic hijinks ensue, chief among them an inspired sequence of bloodthirsty, "Get some!" GI slaughter set to equally maniacal sounds of the Trashmen's classic "Surfin' Bird"; a drunken, rousing rendition of Sam the Sham & the Pharaohs' "Woolly Bully," complete with absurdist subtitles; and a spot-on, black-and-white recreation of old-school military training films starring – who else? – Big Duke Wayne. Real, reel, or patently surreal, if it was in the 'Nam, chances are you'll see some twisted variation of it in *Viva the Nam*.

□

"We started this film thinking it would be a kind of calling card for our talents," says Hanley, "and now, 10 years later, it's like its own end product. It was a case of 'Here, check out what we did, and then hire us,' which is ironic because, you know, now I don't think I'll ever work in the film industry again. After 10 years of working on *Viva the Nam*, it's just not what I'm interested in doing anymore. I'm into writing comics now because it's a natural outlet for the kinds of stories I write, which are in some ways just like *Viva the Nam*: They're big, epic things."

Adds Healy, from his new digs in New York City where he works as an editor on the reality television show *LA Ink*: "We didn't use toys to be coy or send some kind of message or anything like that. We used toys because that was the best way to tell the story, cheaply. Our buddy Lee Sparks, who was the number three guy on the movie, wanted us to insert jokes self-referencing the fact that these actors were actually toys, but that wasn't really what we were after. The best compliments I've had on the movie so far have come from people who say, 'I forgot I was watching toys after 10 minutes!'"

Hanley looks a good 10 years younger than his current 33 and speaks about war, movies, and related supercoolness with the breathless (and voluminous) surety of a natural-born film geek, riffing on everything from the greatness of Donald Sutherland's role of Oddball

in 1970's *Three Kings* template *Kelly's Heroes* to the virtual impossibility of securing music clearances for the various and sundry period temp-tracks on *Viva the Nam*'s soundtrack. (The Doors are, after all, tough to get by phone these days.)

He also readily cops to the fact that because so many of the action figures in the film are recognizable from their real-world, real-life counterparts, and due to the fact that he and Healy were generally too busy working on the intricacies of filming the project to actually secure the rights to any of the action figures used in the production, that too could lead to some difficulties securing any kind of distribution or DVD release. "What I really need, badly," he says, "is an agent."

Admittedly, working with 1/6th-scale dolls has had an influence on him: "Because of *Viva the Nam*, I've gotten into the hobby of these 1/6th-scale military figures, and you'd be amazed at what's available out there. I've got a 1/6th-scale Telly Savalas as Big Joe from *Kelly's Heroes*.

"There's a huge market for both movie-related action figures and just regular World War II figures in Japan for some reason. I'm pretty sure they're not licensed, so they sell them under names like 'Reilly's Heroes' to avoid copyright infringement," Hanley continues. "It's a really bizarre toy market they've got over there, but that's how we were able to get so many celebrity faces in the movie – they're not licensed figures; they're just knockoff likenesses from the gray market in Japan. Figures like, say, the character of Sgt. Salt in *our* movie was actually a James Coburn in *Cross of Iron* knockoff figure, if you can believe it.

"Before we did *Viva the Nam*, Kieran and I did a stop-motion short called *War American Style* [which can be viewed in full on YouTube], where we *really* went nuts with the action-figure cameos. Steve McQueen and his catcher's mitt from *The Great Escape* is in there, Charles Bronson, Telly Savalas, Lee Marvin. We had all the POWs from all the POW movies in one POW camp together at one point."

Viva the Nam's atypical gestation, which began in 2000 with Hanley and Healy, college buddies from the University of Texas' Department of Radio-Television-Film, deciding to combine their respective skills, can be broken down into four distinct parts:

2000-2002: Getting their bearings, doing research, and generating ideas. Explains Healy: "Essentially Paul would write a treatment, and then we built a set and started shooting on it. After a bit we realized that the treatment Paul wrote would take hours and hours to watch, so we scaled it down. That's right: The final cut of *Viva the Nam* is a scaled-down version of what we had actually planned to do."

2003-2006: Healy continues: "Paul and I hammered out a story from beginning to end and began shooting it for real five to six nights a week, sometimes overnight, on top of a normal day job. We shot on a Canon Scoopic 16M, which is an old camera that was primarily used for shooting newsreel B-camera [and was first introduced to the public in April 1973]. We chose that particular camera because it had a single-frame feature for doing stop-motion and because it had a nice zoom lens with a macro on it which allowed us to get in real close and distort the perspective to make everything look bigger than it actually was."

2006-2007: "Paul sat down and wrote the physical script so that we'll have the lines that people will speak, and we began to gather friends and relatives to help us with the voice work."

2007-Present: "Editing and sound design. I discovered why there is a reason for multiple people editing, sound design, and sound editing: It's hard and it takes a long time to get right. On top of that, during this time I moved to NYC to start working in television, so Paul and I began to collaborate over the Internet. I would upload segments of the movie, and he would give me notes on what worked and what didn't."

Ultimately, the film was finished (albeit with a rough sound mix) in time for inclusion in the third GI Joe Stop-Motion Film Festival, a popular touring festival that the duo had worked with in the past. Unfortunately, this time the relationship soured (the filmmakers are mum on the exact reasons), and *Viva the Nam* was left to

fend for itself. Not that Hanley and Healy are complaining.

"We're basically touring the film around in the hopes that somebody will see the film and decide to help us out," says Healy, "both in terms of distribution and securing music rights. Neither Paul nor I are musicians, so we can't do the music, and because the film is completely self-financed, we're out of funds. It's not just that we can't afford the rights to the Doors, but we also can't afford to pay people to play music that sounds like the Doors. So we're kind of looking for that person who will see the film and say: 'You know what, guys? Here's what I can do for you.'"

Consider the epic proportions of the whole undertaking, which involved two hours and 45 minutes of raw, unedited, stop-motion footage and incorporated, according to Hanley, "somewhere between 75,000 and 150,000 individual character or camera movements." (The exact number of single-frame movements in the film is unknown, because many of the sequences were "two-framed.") That's not to mention the time spent, as Hanley says, "rebuilding sets from shot to shot as we changed angles."

Suffice to say, the illusion is exacting, the level of detail impressive (Hanley grabbed some Korean newspapers from a grocery in North Austin and then hand-drew "Vietnamese" signage to place in the background of key shots), and the artifice, while totally artificial, remains engrossingly realistic.

"When we started making the film," says

Healy, "stop-motion was very much a dying art form and was in the process of being almost completely replaced by CGI. But I think people are missing that tactile feel that stop-motion provides. CGI is weightless – it's all about being able to do virtually anything with the camera that you want to. With stop-motion, it's all about the limits that are imposed upon you by the format, and those limits kind of force you to be a little more creative. Not that CGI is uncreative, but stop-motion is *real*. Whatever you see up on the screen physically happened in the real world. And I think a lot of people miss that."

Viva the Nam's world premiere takes place Wednesday, Jan. 27, 7pm, at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz. For more info, visit www.originalalamo.com.



Paul Hanley (top) circa 2005 on the set of *Viva the Nam*



For Paul Hanley's Top 10 Crazy-Ass 'Nam Movies and Kieran R. Healy's Five Top-Drawer War Movies, see austinchronicle.com/screens.

IN CONTEXT: JAZZ IN AUSTIN



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This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division.



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The Chronicle's Raoul Hernandez joins Joe and Katherine every Monday on Good Day Austin.


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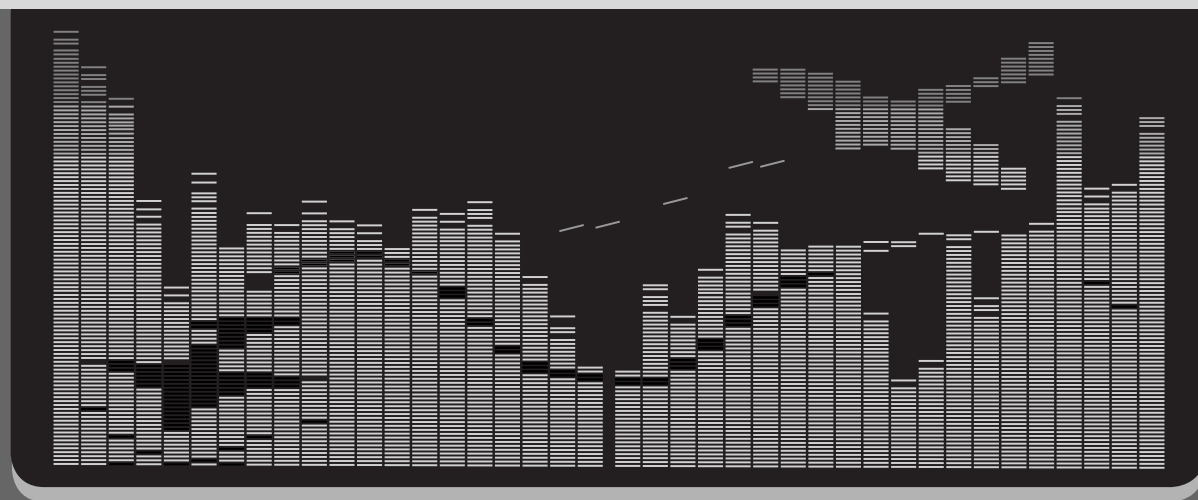
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The competition begins



January 28



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Prizes courtesy of *The Austin Chronicle* and Music Lab

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austinchronicle.com/soundwars

music



Children Running Through

"Who's your favorite singer?" **Patty Griffin** innocently asked a small group of kids huddled inside **Grounded in Music's** new recording studio in South Austin on Tuesday. Their response? **Trae** and **Lil Wayne**. Nevertheless, Griffin and **Jack Ingram** (see "Wedding Vows," Nov. 4, 2005), who headline a benefit for the local nonprofit tonight (Thursday, Jan. 21) at the **Paramount Theatre**, had a rapt audience for their brief tutorial that concluded with a stark rendition of Ingram's "Seeing Stars." **Grounded in Music**, which was founded in the summer of 2007 and has become the signature music program for the **Boys & Girls Clubs of the Capital Area**, helps provide instruments and training to kids and hosts 10-week courses on hip-hop, songwriting, and studio production. "Our real mission is not necessarily to crank out the next big thing," says co-founder **Joe Stallone**, who hopes to expand the program to other cities, "but to provide that initial spark for these underprivileged kids to turn to music." For an interview with Griffin, see austinchronicle.com/earache.

PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON



School's out: Patty Griffin and Jack Ingram talk shop at the **Grounded in Music** studio.

OFF THE RECORD
MUSIC NEWS by Austin Powell

Dead Club Crawl

Long before **Plush** became Red River's haven for hip-hop and electronica, the corner of Seventh and Red River was home to the **Blue Flamingo**, a punk/crack/drag queen dive that the *Chronicle* once referred to as "the stankiest, most low-down joint to ever qualify for a TABC liquor license." "It was sort of like the **CBGB's** of the mid-Nineties' Austin garage-punk scene," recalls **Yuppie Pricks' Robert Timbrook**, who moonlights in the **Buzzcocks** cover band the **Orgasm Addicts**. "It was all pretty seedy and DIY, the kind of place where if you got 30 people in there it seemed packed." Inspired by a similar engagement centered around Houston's **Axiom** in 2007, Timbrook is helping to organize a **Blue Flamingo** tribute in

April that's tentatively scheduled as a two-night stand split between **Emo's** and **Plush**. Thus far confirmed are scene mainstays the **Chumps**, **Gomez**, the **Crack Pipes**, the **Dead End Cruisers**, the **Shindigs**, **Fuckemos**, the **Johnny Motard Experience**, and the **Paranoids**, Timbrook's punk outfit with **Scott Adair** and event co-coordinator (and *Chronicle* proofer) **Mark Fagan**. "The scene just kind of picked up and moved elsewhere," Timbrook says of the **Blue Flamingo**, which closed in 1998 following disputes with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission and between owners **Ron Blackett** and the infamous **Miss Laura Moses**. "This should be some sort of closing chapter."

Random Play

● **Shearwater** frontman **Jonathan Meiburg** has assembled a remarkable 75-page full-color dossier (that's French for fancy file folder) to accompany the band's latest, *The Golden Archipelago*, due Feb. 23 on **Matador**. The deadline to order the limited-edition collection from the online funding outlet



Kickstarter, through which the group has already raised more than \$8,000 from 136 backers, is Jan. 31. "Back when I was doing field research, I kept finding other stories that fascinated me as much as the work I was doing," writes Meiburg (see "Transcendentalism," May 12, 2006), who assembled the collection over the past 13 years. "I kept gathering this stuff, hoping I could use it someday. Some stories are too good to let slip through your fingers, even if you're not looking for them."

● Where was **Ryan Bingham** when his "The Weary Kind" won Best Original Song at the **Golden Globes** on Sunday? According to one insider, the local bronco buster (see "The Cowboy Song," June 5, 2009) was buying drinks at the bar. **Jeff Bridges** acknowledged the late co-music-supervisor **Stephen Bruton** from the podium and again on *Live! With Regis and Kelly*. The expanded edition of the **Crazy Heart** soundtrack, which features the previously unreleased Bruton instrumental "Somebody Else," was released Tuesday, Jan. 19.

● Holy **Psychedelic Horseshit**: **Timmy Hefner** (see "A Gathering of Tribes," May 22, 2009) has the initial lineup for his annual four-day punk circus **Chaos in Tejas**, May 27-30, and it's a doozy: Australia's **X**, Japanese crust punks **Bastard**, Denton's the **Marked Men**, the **Subhumans**, and **Ty Segall**, along with locals **Iron Age**, the **Hex Dispensers**, and **Woven Bones**, among countless others.

● Contrary to OTR's report last week, **Grooveline Horns** have been backing **Jason Mraz** since 2005's *Mr. A-Z*. Along with the **Neville Brothers** and **Zeale**, Mraz makes a cameo on Grooveline's forthcoming debut and is bringing the local brass section with him for a special performance for **Bhumibol Adulyadej**, the king of Thailand, this summer.

● Local rockabilly kingpin **Nick Curran**, a former member of the **Fabulous Thunderbirds** and ringer for **Ronnie Dawson**, has been diagnosed with cancer of the tongue. While the prognosis looks good, Curran has postponed his current tour for two months to undergo treatment. His new jukebox rattler, *Reform School Girl*, drops on Feb. 16.

● **C3 Presents** ranked No. 10 among promoters in the annual year-end issue of **Billboard**, with a 2009 gross of close to \$60 million, nearly half of which came from **Lollapalooza** and the **Austin City Limits Music Festival**, which garnered \$14 million and \$13.5 million in sales, respectively. Improving on all fronts from 2008, the local enterprise produced 954 shows (192 of them sell-outs) for a total attendance of 1,331,068 out of a possible 1.8 million.

● The second edition of the *Chronicle's* **Sound Wars** competition is under way. Registration for local bands closes on Feb. 2. Complete details at austinchronicle.com/soundwars.

Received in Bitterness



The Sour Notes

JOHN ANDERSON

In bowling terms, the **Sour Notes** just notched a turkey: three significant, successive releases in just over a year. Latest LP *It's Not Gonna Be Pretty* rules the roost — dense, sincere indie pop for the Garden State generation. "I'm not afraid to say that this album will be the best record I'll ever put out," admits singer-songwriter **Jared Boulanger**. "That's kind of disheartening to say, but we've gotten progressively louder and thicker in the sound and faster paced. It's like everything that we tried to do previously came together on this album." Originally envisioned as a solo vehicle, the **Sour Notes** has ripened quickly since Boulanger moved to Austin from Houston in 2008, coinciding with the release of the band's debut EP, *The Meat of the Fruit*. The quartet just finished a two-week East Coast tour that was filmed for a documentary, and a third full-length is already in the can, though Boulanger plans to hold off on its release for a while in hopes of gaining some more national attention. "I like to think that I'm writing little pop song scores to movies," relates Boulanger, who shares a house with multi-instrumentalist **Chris Page**. "Most of the songs are themed after specific movies in the Criterion Collection. I get totally wrapped up in the feeling of what I'm watching and let that dictate the music." The **Sour Notes** light up **Mohawk** on Thursday, Jan. 28, with contemporaries the **Demigs** and **Zest of Yore**.

Slanted & Enchanted

Matador Records' Gerard Cosloy curates a 'Casual Victim Pile' on Red River

BY AUSTIN POWELL



Blue Flamingo on Red River during South by Southwest 1994.

Casual Victim Pile now marks the culmination of his four-year tenure in Austin.

"There was a particular moment in 2008, probably after seeing Dikes of Holland play too many shows in front of too tiny of crowds," explains Cosloy. "I had this gnawing feeling that someone needed to take a snapshot of this before it isn't here anymore."

Crooked Rain, Crooked Rain

The desire to track history in revolutions per minute traces back to Cosloy's first-ever release, 1984's *Bands That Could Be God*. The self-issued compilation served as a sampler for the hardcore bands making the rounds at Boston dive Chet's Last Call, most notably Deep Wound, which later evolved into Dinosaur Jr., along with Moving Targets, Sorry, and the Outpatients.

"I'm not a producer; anyone can tell you that," Cosloy concedes. "I don't go into the studio with bands and tutor them on how to change the chorus to this or that. I've always been more attracted by the idea of being a curator."

Raised some 30 minutes outside of Boston in Wayland, Mass., "a sleepy suburban town," Cosloy discovered punk rock through *The Demi Monde*, a Saturday afternoon program hosted by Oedipus on MIT's 10-watt radio station that spun early singles from Television,

CONTINUED ON P.50

The yellow warning tape still hangs in tatters from the neighboring fence post: Fire Line Do Not Cross. What's left in the barren South Austin lot resembles an archaeological dig site after a flood. Puddles have formed in the trenches left by the tractors used to haul out the debris. Scraps of countless vinyl records – irreplaceable rock & roll relics – are littered like shrapnel, the warped grooves fossilizing in the dirt.

Gerard Cosloy, co-owner of Matador Records, one of the most influential indie labels of the past two decades, won't speak on the record about the 3am blaze on Aug. 11 that destroyed his near-century-old two-story home on Lindell Avenue, except to express his gratitude for the communal support that surfaced in its wake. He and his roommate lost everything, including a pet ferret and a portable storage space sheltering old guitars and personal belongings. The Austin Fire Department never determined the cause of the fire, damage from which was estimated at \$500,000.

Matador's release of *Casual Victim Pile* on Tuesday isn't the phoenix rising from these ashes, but rather the emergence of a Black Swan Event – a phenomenal and unexpected occurrence. In this case that's a 19-band compilation of mostly local teenage kicks and handshake drugs that has the potential to elevate the local garage-punk scene to a national level. The album was initiated well before the accident, but the fire transformed its scope. Five additional bands were asked to take part, turning the collection from a single to double LP that needed new art once the original was destroyed last summer.

"I was having a hard time feeling comfortable about a sequence and the record as a whole," recalls Cosloy over coffee at Rio Rita, which dedicated a Love & a 45 DJ night to him after the disaster. "Afterwards, I felt a lot more motivated to get it done. I know this is going to sound like a huge cliché, but you never know when you're not going to be around to finish something, so you might as well do it now."

"The Teeners breaking up was a big gunshot going off in my head, too. If I sat on this thing too long, there could be six broken-up bands. It'd be a real shame if my procrastination ten-

dencies and ability to overanalyze things ultimately rendered the record irrelevant 'cause it came out too late."

That's a familiar concern in the music business – here today, gone later today – and Cosloy's no stranger to the industry. He's the Jerry Wexler of indie rock, an indispensable tastemaker with New York confidence and casual Austin humility. Over Matador's 350 albums, he's played an integral role in the careers of Pavement, Yo La Tengo, Cat Power, and Belle and Sebastian, not to mention Spoon, which he signed to the label after catching a performance at the

***Casual Victim Pile* represents the most exciting and provocative sound in Austin right now – a new rank and file of DIY bands sweating it out in the clubs and turning three chords into priceless punk artifacts.**

Quarantine the Past

"In the early days of Matador, I will openly admit that we did not have our shit together. We had a lot of trouble keeping normal office hours. We were teetering on the brink of bankruptcy every week."

"We could not keep up with the demand for Pavement's *Slanted and Enchanted*. We couldn't just press a couple thousand. It was an 'Album of the Month' in *Spin* before it was even manufactured. We had to find some way of making 10- or 12,000 copies right away with zero money in the bank, so we fell behind on rent. We didn't have a warehouse; we had one little office in a building on lower Broadway."

"The day we got the shipment of the finished copies, which had already been delayed

for two months because we were trying to raise the funds to get them, the building super and the New York City sheriff showed up and locked us out the office for non-payment of rent. ...

"It was one of the most embarrassing things that could possibly happen."

"They're putting a condemned sign on the door of the office while [Matador founder] Chris [Lombardi] is at the bank trying to get a realty check to bring to the office in time, a total emergency."

"I won't leave the office. If I do, they're going to close the door and lock it, and we've got these 15,000 Pavement records that everyone's waiting for. The sheriff is like, 'You

have to leave. If you don't leave, we're going to arrest you.'

"I tell him, 'Well, you're going to have to arrest me. I can't leave this stuff unattended. This is a huge thing.' My favorite memory of it is this guy saying, 'Look kid, if you don't leave, you're going to get arrested; it's going to go on your record. Good luck getting into college.'

"This was like 1992. 'How old do you think I am? I don't have to worry about getting into college. If that's the biggest thing I have to worry about, put the cuffs on me right now.'

"Literally just as the guy starts drilling to put the new locks on, Chris shows up Superman-style with the check. Another bullet dodged."

– A.P.

MUSIC POLL BALLOT

After 29 years, you know the drill: This is your chance to duct-tape the critics' mouths shut and speak up about Austin music. Not sure whom to vote for? Turn on the radio, drop by the local record store, or head to the clubs. Your favorite band is probably playing.

AUSTIN BAND OF THE YEAR: _____

AUSTIN MUSICIAN OF THE YEAR: _____

AUSTIN SONG OF THE YEAR: _____

AUSTIN ALBUM OF THE YEAR: _____

BEST NEW AUSTIN BAND: _____

Best Performing Bands

ROCK: _____

PUNK: _____

METAL: _____

INDUSTRIAL/GOTH: _____

HIP-HOP/DJ: _____

INDIE: _____

JAZZ: _____

BLUES: _____

INSTRUMENTAL: _____

EXPERIMENTAL: _____

COUNTRY/BUEGRASS: _____

ROOTS ROCK: _____

FOLK: _____

LATIN TRADITIONAL: _____

LATIN ROCK: _____

WORLD MUSIC: _____

COVER BAND: _____

U18 (MAJORITY OF MEMBERS UNDER 18): _____

NONE OF THE ABOVE: _____

Best Austin Musicians (BAND IF APPLICABLE)

FEMALE VOCALS: _____

MALE VOCALS: _____

ELECTRIC GUITAR: _____

ACOUSTIC GUITAR: _____

BASS: _____

DRUMS/PERCUSSION: _____

KEYBOARDS: _____

MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT: _____

SONGWRITER: _____

PRODUCER (PRODUCER NAME, ALBUM TITLE): _____

Related Categories

NEW CLUB: _____

LIVE MUSIC VENUE: _____

ACOUSTIC VENUE: _____

ALL-AGES VENUE: _____

RECORD STORE: _____

RADIO STATION: _____

RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION): _____

RADIO PERSONALITY (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION): _____

LOCAL LABEL: _____

Texas Music Hall of Fame Nominations

Is Biscuit in the Hall of Fame? What about Roky and Willie? Previous winners are listed on the Web at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll/fame. (The answer is yes.) Please circle one or fill in the blank*:

Ponty Bone

Blaze Foley

Sarah Brown

Bad Mutha Goose

Brannen Temple

Cherubs

Denny Freeman

Shiva's Headband

David Garza

Arc Angels

Bruce Robison

Sixteen Deluxe

Alex Coke

OTHER NOMINEE*: _____

Who are these people, and why should you vote for them? Visit the poll ballot online at austinchronicle.com/musicpoll for more information!

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The Austin Chronicle

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Patti Smith, the Ramones, and Wire. “At that moment in time, it definitely felt like a big line in the sand had been drawn,” nods Cosloy.

There’s no doubting which side he chose. A year after the Sex Pistols stormed Randy’s Rodeo in San Antonio, Cosloy started *Conflict*, a mimeographed zine, while he was still in high school. A decade later, Pavement guitarist/singer Scott Kannberg sent the publication a copy of the band’s *Slay Tracks* EP for review. Cosloy was also a DJ for Boston’s WMFU, promoted some shows in the area, and covered the scene for the *Village Voice* and *Boston Rock*, for which he once asked Black Flag why they didn’t stop the violence at their shows. Chuck Dukowski’s response was, “Do we have a right to act as leaders, to tell people how to act?”

A noted experimental musician, Cosloy toured with both New York’s Dustdevils and punk icon GG Allin and founded Air Traffic Controllers, a turbulent, local improv jetliner that continues today with a revolving cast of drummers that includes King Coffey of the Butthole Surfers and Naw Dude’s J.J. Ruiz. The band’s recordings are reserved solely for Parallelism, Cosloy’s boutique experimental label.

After briefly enrolling at UMass-Amherst, Cosloy was hired by Dutch East India Trading owner Barry Tenenbaum to manage Long Island, N.Y.’s Homestead Records, which distributed *Conflict*. He was only 18 at the time.

“For a good chunk of it, it was a one-man operation,” summarizes Cosloy, author of the sports blog *Can’t Stop the Bleeding*. “There was a slave-labor aspect to it, but I don’t know anybody else on Earth that would have allowed me to do that with no experience, even if it wasn’t a particularly well-financed record company. I have a debt of gratitude, but it was a tough time.

“Homestead was a lesson that a lot of great things can happen whenever you’re able to put out whatever you want, but that you maybe shouldn’t put out everything you want ‘cause you end up putting out too many records and run out of time to do everything.”

Over the next six years, Cosloy lifted Homestead to the ranks of Touch & Go Records and Greg Ginn’s SST Records (see “Rise Above,” Aug. 21, 2009), releasing seminal works by Sonic Youth, Big Black, Dinosaur Jr., and Austin-bred outfit Nice Strong Arm, along with proto-grunge touchstones from Green River and U-Men. After Paul Smith’s Blast First label parted ways with Daniel Johnston following his infamous meltdown in New York City – an event intensely detailed in the 2005 documentary *The Devil and Daniel Johnston* – Homestead reissued the iconic artist’s essential tapes, 1983’s *Yip/Jump Music* and 1985’s *Hi, How Are You?*



“While I had tremendous sympathy for Daniel’s situation at the time and wanted him to get whatever care he needed, that wasn’t my job,” stresses Cosloy, rejecting the claim of some that a business relationship with the manic, one-time local songwriter was inherently exploitative. “Artists are people. It’s not like manufacturing Campbell’s soup or Nike shoes. All kinds of things happen in their real lives. The bottom line is that those records are brilliant. He deserved to have those records come out, and people deserved to hear them.”

Clear for takeoff: Air Traffic Controllers’ Gerard Cosloy and Butthole Surfers drummer King Coffey at the Carousel Lounge, SXSW 2008

Wowie Zowie

The history of Matador Records can’t be separated from that of Homestead. Founder Chris Lombardi served on Dutch East’s sales staff, while co-owner Patrick Amory succeeded Cosloy as domestic buyer at Dutch East. Released a year after partnering with Lombardi, Cosloy’s 1991 Matador compilation, *New York Eye & Ear Control* – not to be confused with Albert Ayler’s free jazz soundtrack of the same name – was originally earmarked as a Homestead release before he resigned in 1990.

“From day one we were doing things in a way that was far more ambitious than Homestead despite the fact that it was a completely new project and we had no dough,” reminisces Cosloy, who, before relocating locally, worked for an extended period out of Europe. “But we believed in it. I think there was this sense that if we could express that confidence to the rest of the world other people would get it.”

Matador has charted an unparalleled and indefinable path through music: the gritty Delta blues of R.L. Burnside, Liz Phair’s confessional watershed *Exile in Guyville*, and the tireless brilliance of Yo La Tengo, to name three greatest hits. In the process, the label established itself not through any one

Cosloy’s the Jerry Wexler of indie rock, an indispensable tastemaker with New York confidence and casual Austin humility.

be another banner year for Matador. The long-awaited Pavement reunion kicks off in March, coinciding with a greatest hits compilation. The label also recently acquired Dean Bein’s True Panther Sounds imprint, the roster for which includes breakthrough bleach-pop duo Girls – headlining the Parish next Saturday – as well as Rainbow Bridge and Standing Nudes.

Closer to home, *The Golden Archipelago*, the sixth album from Austin’s exquisite Shearwater, drops next month, while local bleary-eyed pop romantics Harlem, the only band whose song on *Casual Victim Pile* was previously released, follows with its formal label bow, *Hippies*, due April 6.

“I wouldn’t say we’re back to the bad old days of the early Eighties for independent music, but we’re definitely getting used to a different sort of economy of scale,” Cosloy comments. “I feel sometimes like we have to work twice as hard and spend twice as much money to sell half as many records that we would have been satisfied with a decade ago.

“I feel grateful that a lot of the things we started off doing are mostly still intact. Either we’re into it or we’re not. [In 2009], we got to put out records by Yo La Tengo, Sonic Youth,

CASUAL VICTIM PILE: AUSTIN 2010 (Matador)

Austin 2010: Sounds both apocalyptic and Olympic, doesn’t it? Our city’s in an awkward place, on the long walk between skyward progress and preserving the past. Perhaps sensing a quake before it happens, Matador Records co-owner and local dweller Gerard Cosloy knows there’s no better time than the present. *Casual Victim Pile*, as he stresses in the liner notes, isn’t meant to be a definitive cultural document, but rather the findings of many archaeological digs along Red River over the last couple years. Entering the thunderdome are 17 locals and a couple Denton groups of the Beerland variety, heavy on decades of punk-drunk love. You hear ghosts of Matador (and Homestead) records past here, like Tre Orsi’s Dinosaur Jr.-ish “The Engineer,” Follow That Bird!’s tightly wound “The Ghosts That Wake You,” or straight-up Sonic Youth paean “Hoboken Snow,” by Kingdom of Suicide Lovers. New Matador roster boys Harlem reprise “Beautiful & Very Smart” from last year’s *Free Drugs*, and Dikes of Holland’s “Little City Girl” demands a full-length album from them this year. Then there’s the three-minutes-or-less contingent: the blackout flail of the Stuffies’ “No One’s Gonna Miss You” and Wild America’s “Drink It Dry” are pure Austin, while the No No No Hopes’ “Nobody’s Fool” and Teeners’ (R.I.P.) “Nazis on Film” could be Raul’s-era roilers. There’s not a dud in the *Pile*.

★★★★

– Audra Schroeder

particular scene, movement, or sound, but instead as a standard of quality.

Since merging with UK’s Beggars Group in 2002 – owner Martin Mills purchased a 50% stake in the company, and the two entities now share a marketing and sales department in New York – Matador has only expanded its scope. The label helped lead the vinyl resurgence via its Buy Early Get Now campaign, offering immediate digital downloads and other incentives with LP purchases.

Despite the grievous death of rising punk Jay Reatard last week, 2010 should

and Mission of Burma. In my head, that’s ridiculous – probably my three favorite bands ever, period.

“Sometimes things take a while, and there’s all sorts of revisionist history that takes place. I remember when we first signed Spoon, the public and press alike were not particularly supportive of the band. Fast forward more than a decade and they’re one of the more iconic, universally beloved bands on the circuit. It was hard to imagine that happening within our first 12 months of working with them.”

Brighten the Corners

Casual Victim Pile is an anagram for “Live Music Capital,” which gives some insight into Cosloy’s contrarian streak and dark humor. (“Kind Belcher Boils,” a cryptic code for “Kill Bob Schneider,” was also considered but was discarded due to legal concerns.) To wit, his idea of an all-star band is Austin’s Love Collector, formerly known as the Modern Fuckers, which features past/present members of the Ape-Shits, Sex Advice, Lost Controls, and the Shitty Beach Boys.

“I realize that none of these bands are household names, but I’d be very surprised if at least five or six of these bands don’t go on to make a national record for another label in the course of the next year,” predicts Cosloy, who started culling submissions in late 2008. “The bands on *Casual Victim Pile* are far more organized and professional than the ones I worked with a quarter-century ago. Hopefully everyone associated will reap some sort of benefit, whether it’s a month from now or 10 years from now.”

The compilation, which features two Denton acts (Tre Orsi and Bad Sports), documents the depths of Austin’s underground rock scene in the tradition of Ward-9’s *Cottage Cheese From the Lips of Death* in 1983 and Trance Syndicate’s *Love and Napalm* collection a decade later. That said, the spirit of *Casual Victim Pile* more closely resembles that of 1979 local sampler *Live at Raul’s* in the way it bottles the garage-punk movement fermenting at Beerland. Over the past few years, the Red River bunker has been ground zero for acts as diverse as the Strange Boys, Manikin, the Hex Dispensers, and the Crack Pipes, all of whom are accounted for in a list of 21 additional recommended bands in the liner notes.

Given that five of the contributors are making their recorded debut on the compilation, it’s almost as if Dikes of Holland’s No Wave tremors and the blitzkrieg pop of the Flesh Lights previously existed only within the club’s narrow cinder-block confines. The album cover art even hovers over the corner of Red River and Seventh Street, where

Cosloy held his 45th birthday bash with the Golden Boys and Dated last month and detonates the release of *CVP* with a three-night stand Feb. 4-6, featuring all of the compilation’s contributors, with the noted exception of Tre Orsi and the Teeners.

“That’s not the worst way of putting it,” counters Cosloy in regard to the Raul’s reference. “The record is definitely not meant to be the Beerland class photo. If a large percentage of the bands are playing there a lot and not other places, I think that’s something for the other clubs to address. ...

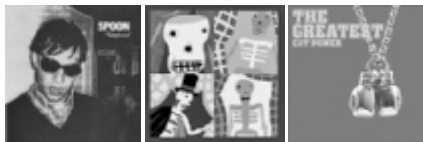
“It’s not a hardcore comp or a punk comp. It’s not really any one thing. You would have a very hard time taking a band like Wild America and Kingdom of Suicide Lovers and saying, ‘Yeah, that’s them—that’s the Austin sound.’ It’s not.”

Yet taken as a whole, from the grimy tribalism of Woven Bones and the No No No Hopes’ hardcore taunting to Elvis’ confrontational theatrics and the siren quake of Follow That Bird!, *Casual Victim Pile* represents the most exciting and provocative sound in Austin right now, a new rank and file of DIY bands sweating it out in the clubs and turning three chords into priceless punk

artifacts. Any doubters should heed Cosloy’s advice in the liner notes:

“Corrections and suggestions for the cassette-only Vol. II can be sent to our 304 Hudson St. address (or left on my lawn, whichever is more convenient).” ■

Casual Victim Pile scrums three nights at Beerland, Thursday-Saturday, Feb. 4-6.



20 Essential Matador Records

Teenage Fanclub

A Catholic Education (1990)

Pavement *Slanted & Enchanted* (1992)

Liz Phair *Exile in Guyville* (1993)

Yo La Tengo *Painful* (1993)

Pavement

Crooked Rain, Crooked Rain (1994)

R.L. Burnside

A Ass Pocket of Whiskey (1996)

The Jon Spencer Blues Explosion

Now I Got Worry (1996)

Spoon *Telephono* (1996)

Belle & Sebastian

If You’re Feeling Sinister (1998)

Jad Fair & Yo La Tengo

Strange But True (1998)

Boards of Canada

Music Has the Right to Children (1998)

Nightmares on Wax

Carboot Soul (1999)

The New Pornographers

Mass Romantic (2000)

Arab Strap *The Red Thread* (2001)

Interpol

Turn on the Bright Lights (2002)

Guided By Voices

The Best of Guided By Voices: Human Amusement at Hourly Rates (2003)

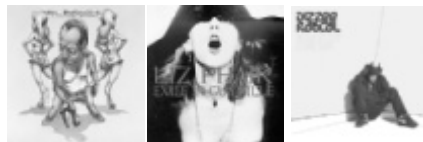
Dizzee Rascal *Boy in da Corner* (2004)

Cat Power *The Greatest* (2006)

Fucked Up

The Chemistry of Common Life (2008)

Sonic Youth *The Eternal* (2009)



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SPOON

Transference (Merge)

Onetime local underdogs Spoon were recently calculated by Metacritic to be the most critically acclaimed band of the last decade on the strength of four indisputably great albums – *Girls Can Tell* (2001), *Kill the Moonlight* (2002), *Gimme Fiction* (2005), *Ga Ga Ga Ga Ga* (2007) – each one reacting to and building upon what came before it. Following the breakout commercial and chart success of its pristine predecessor, *Transference* takes a slight retreat as Spoon's first self-produced album. While even the band's most marketable material has been spiked with acute studio experimentation – the background chatter and double-tracked vocals in “Don't You Evah” for example – left to their own devices, those details dominate the band's seventh album, style consistently disguising a lack of structure and self-sustaining songs, which separates the LP from its most obvious comparison point, 1998's *A Series of Sneaks*. “Is Love Forever?” bears a classic Spoon stamp, Jim Eno's percussive bounce locked with taut, staccato guitar and frontman Britt Daniel's robotic echo-chamber vocals, but never builds beyond that. Likewise, opener “Before Destruction” gets lost in a demo stage, the peripheral sonic details unable to bring the bigger picture into focus. Five-minute “The Mystery Zone” could pass for an extended DFA remix, slowly developing behind a spacious, swaggering bassline and space-needle guitar break – ghosts lingering in its keyboard accents – but the effect gets negated by a truncated ending. There are notable exceptions: the shimmering disconnect of the downtrodden “Who Makes Your Money,” the glorious Krautrock build of “I Saw the Light,” and the surprisingly delicate piano lullaby “Goodnight Laura.” “Written in Reverse” should be earmarked for a future hits compilation, shattering-glass piano and guitar capturing Daniel at his most jaded and cool, effortlessly shifting from his cocksure falsetto and cryptic beat poetry to a full-throttle scream, while the 30-gallon tank and midnight streak of “Got Nuffin,” the lone holdover from last year's EP of the same name – recorded at Brooklyn's Rare Book Room – still burns with white heat. *Transference* is a good album, just not in league with what's become par.

★★★ – Austin Powell

SUNSET

Gold Dissolves to Gray (Autobus)

The Glowing City (2008) lifted Sunset into a new sphere, moving the project from Bill Baird's intriguingly manic but often solipsistic Beck-isms to a vision that encompasses more of the full band. Accordingly, *Gold Dissolves to Gray* offers a realization of the band behind Baird while still surfacing the former Sound Team bassist's unique subtleties and psych-pop elusiveness, the limited-edition vinyl flirting with Harry Nilsson's *Pandemonium Shadow Show* in spirit if not always sound. Shifting between ethereal daydreams (opener “Sunshine Hair,” “Gold Dissolves to Gray”) and gleeful genre spins (ragtime bounce of “Garden of Eden,” string-band roll of “Hill Country Smog”), Sunset remains an ever-evolving and suavely unpredictable outfit. “Rivers of Babylon” juxtaposes piano with a contemplative vocal hum, and “Green Truck” wheezes wildly synthetic, but Baird remains at his best on such tunes as “Our Dreams Did Weave a Shade,” melding his calm wistfulness into an easy and infectious pop flow.

★★★ – Doug Freeman

DJ JESTER THE FILIPINO FIST

The Inside Story

In the seven years since San Antonian-turned-Austinite mixmaster Jester released debut disc *River Walk Riots*, the



Recording Industry Association of America has, in no particular order, launched multiple lawsuits against the record-downloading public, watched its sales figures plummet from an all-time high in the 1980s, and become the victim of counterlawsuits and boycotts by an enraged, cash-strapped, and increasingly P2P-happy consumer populace. Tough tamales, guys. In the interim, ad hoc mash-uppers Girl Talk, Car Stereo (Wars), and their MacBooking legions have effectively neutered the bloated and corporatized behemoths of yore, leveling the funkability field and ushering in a new era of groove. Jester's newest is an impeccably mixed 40 minutes of hi-pro flow that, true to form, ranges far and wide, kicking off with the Violent Femmes before a seamless transition into the Who's “Eminence Front,” Zeppelin's “Good Times, Bad Times,” and the Cure's “Lullaby.” From there on out it's a relatively chill peripatetic sojourn that mix-matches everyone from Yacht (“Psychic City”) to Lord Finesse (“Return of the Funky Man”) before finally spinning down via Beck (“High 5”), Backstreet Boys (“I Want It That Way”), and Prince's “Purple Rain” guitar skronk.

★★★ – Marc Savlov

ARSON OPTICS

Plant the Seed (Word Power)

Raised in West Lake but born in Pittsburgh, Pa., and currently operating out of Los Angeles, Arson Optics (né Aaron Krueger) fell in with locals Mirage and the Melodicscience crew at age 16 and – with the exception of 2008's



decidedly Houstonian *Lion Heart* and collaborations with candy painter Cory Mo – has rarely strayed from the 78723 style. On the self-produced *Plant the Seed*, AO incorporates a heavy dose of instrumental soul samples (“Reach Out,” “Hold Your Ground,” “Eye of the Beholder”) with his Chamillionaire-style flow, mixing blunted ballads including “Playin in the Clouds” with the one-man playground hustle of “Tell Me How You Like It” (“All those that follow show time like Apollo”). ATX dark horse KaiZen's laid-back stylings set the bar on the slumming “On That Corner,” but Optics has done plenty to *Plant the Seed* on solid soil.

★★★ – Chase Hoffberger

YELLOWFEVER (Wild World)

Following a series of self-released EPs with a full-length debut on the Vivian Girls' label isn't a bad place to land. Austin trio YellowFever definitely has the same reference points and aesthetics as the Brooklyn gals, like those delightful minor-key harmonies tempered with more shape and structure, less amorphous reverb. If YellowFever's songs were furniture, they'd be IKEA: efficient, easy to put together, and don't take up a lot of space. Older songs “Ratcatcher,” “Psychedelic,” and “Donald,” although essentially just a spare bassline/guitar riff and drums, still manage to get stuck in your head, and newer songs “Joe Brown” and “Culver City” spend a little more time on pop composition. In the end, you feel sated – it's a solid, metronomic collection – but it'd be nice to hear YellowFever amp it up a bit.

★★★ – Audra Schroeder



S.A., esse

HICKOIDS

The Hairy Chafin' EP (Saustex)

TEXAS MUSIC EXTRAVAGANZA

The San Antonio Sound

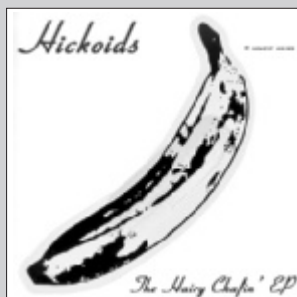
LARRY LANGE & HIS LONELY KNIGHTS

San Antonio Serenade (My Tee Fine)

Just when you thought the Hickoids were putting their tattered boots up and relaxin' following the reissue of *Waltz a Crossdress Texas*, they uncork the five-song *Hairy Chafin' EP*. It's irresistible hokum from the Lone Star State's finest purveyor of hard corn-punk, lifting the Velvet Underground's ubiquitous banana cover for art. Peel it slowly, and pop goes the ear. “Cool Arrow” is core axis Jeff Smith/Davy Jones' tip of the shredded straw hat to Augie Meyers, pure San Antonio Chicano rock. Meyers is prominently featured in the *Texas Music Extravaganza*, filmed last year at Leon Springs Dancehall in San Antonio with a dazzling cast of performers playing tribute to the music he and Doug Sahn made. It's an impressive lineup, starring Shawn Sahn, Flaco Jimenez, Raul Malo, Vato Valley Boys, BCH with Byron Berline, the Krayolas, and Adam Aguilar. The extravaganza redefines contemporary Tex-Mex not only through Sahn's and Meyer's music (“She's About a Mover,” “Dinero”) but by the musicians they influenced (Raul Malo's “All

You Ever Do Is Bring Me Down”) and the songs that taught them (“Volver, Volver” à la Flaco). The DVD dances with visual flair, and the soundtrack preserves it. Larry Lange & His Lonely Knights are an Austin outfit expanding their Highway 90 swamp pop and paradise-by-the-dashboard-light belly-rubbers south to Bexar County. *San Antonio Serenade* gets on disc the sound Lange and his compadres have created in reviving classic Chicano soul S.A.-style, favorites known no farther than the shadow of the Alamo itself (Doc & Sal's “Laughing to Keep From Crying,” Spider & the Playboys' “Tell Me Darling”), plus contemporary offerings (Oscar Martinez's “Whatsa Matter Con You,” Jerry Butler's “Never Gonna Give You Up”). The Knights' secret weapon is Joanna Ramirez, whose rendering of “Poquita Fe” makes it a weeper of the first order. Whatever's gotten into the water of San Antonio, keep it there.

(Hickoids) ★★★ (Texas Music Extravaganza; Larry Lange) ★★★ – Margaret Moser



LEAD STORY

Big-time traffickers who smuggle illegal immigrants into the U.S. from Mexico rely on GPS devices to evade the border patrol, but starting in June, border-jumpers who travel on their own can have protection, too. Three University of California-San Diego faculty members have designed inexpensive cell phones with special software to locate water, churches, and medical facilities in the treacherous Southwest desert (while avoiding law enforcement) and will give the devices to Mexican charities. The phones, which will also feature “welcome to the U.S.” poetry, are expected to save the lives of many of the hundreds who die each year on their dangerous journeys, but illegal-immigration protesters are demanding that the academics be arrested for assisting in crimes.

THE CONTINUING CRISIS

A man identified in China's *Chongqing Evening News* in November as Mr. Zhang, 32, admitted he is competitive with his wife and “never wants to lose an argument,” but inevitably his contentiousness leaves him with “bruises and scars all over,” because Mrs. Zhang is a kung fu master. After negotiations led by Mrs. Zhang's parents, she agreed by contract to limit any beatings to no more than once a week, with a parent-administered penalty for exceeding that.

American Jonathan Littell was awarded the 2009 Bad Sex in Fiction Award by Britain's prestigious *Literary Review*, having written passages like these in his novel *The Kindly Ones*: “I came suddenly, a jolt that emptied my head like a spoon scraping the inside of a soft-boiled egg.” Later in the novel, a woman's genitalia resembles “a Gorgon's head ... a motionless Cyclops whose single eye never blinks. ... If only I could still get hard, I thought, I could use my prick like a stake hardened in the fire, and blind this Polyphemus who made me Nobody. But my cock remained inert, I seemed turned to stone.”

In December, a court in Istanbul, Turkey, found 39 people guilty of trying to overthrow the government after a trial that lasted, on and off, for 28 years. More than 1,000 defendants had been rounded up after challenging a 1980 military coup. The original trial lasted 10 years, but the case languished in an appeals court for 13 years while judges awaited 100 folders of evidence that had somehow gone missing. The 39 were given life sentences but were immediately released based on time already served. The European Union has urged that Turkey upgrade its judicial system as a precondition for membership.

Intelligent Design: As with all copulating species, female Muscovy ducks battle male Muscovy ducks over which controls fertilization. Patricia Brennan of Yale, writing in a recent *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*, found that the female Muscovy avoids forced sex by having evolved a clockwise-spiraled corkscrew vagina that foils male intruders (but

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



ROY TOMPKINS

The Kirklees (West Yorkshire, England) Environmental Services department cited farmer Ronald Norcliffe, 65, in 2008 for inadequate lighting in his barn, which inspectors said failed to meet the “psychological needs” of his one cow and her calf. In his formal appeal, heard in October 2009, Norcliffe noted (unsuccessfully) that he has had a clean record as a farmer for 30 years and that in fact, he still lives fine without electricity in his own house. After his defeat, Norcliffe's lawyer sighed, “I still have no idea how much lighting is appropriate for a cow.”

relaxing it for preferred mates, so that they don't get stuck in vaginal cul-de-sacs). Brennan's team worked with high-speed video and mock-up glass tubing of the respective organs.

NEWS THAT SOUNDS LIKE A JOKE

Plastic surgeon Mark Weinberger, who skipped town in Merrillville, Ind., in 2004 to avoid mounting malpractice lawsuits and Medicare fraud charges, was finally cornered living in a tent on the southern slopes of Italy's Mont Blanc in December. As authorities approached to arrest him, Weinberger grabbed a knife and plunged it into his neck, but, perhaps owing to his rusty skills (or incompetence, if the malpractice claims are accurate), missed the major artery and was captured.

The Great Yarmouth Sea Life Centre in Norfolk, England, lowered the water level in its giant aquarium for Christmas because the big turtles (which are herbivores) were scheduled to receive their annual holiday treat of brussels sprouts. Officials know from experience that if they fail to lower the water level, the gas bubbles from the

powerful turtle emissions will lift the water high enough to trigger the emergency tank-flooding buzzers.

JUST CAN'T STOP MYSELF!

In November, Oprah Winfrey's mother, Vernita Lee, and the luxury fashion store Valentina Inc. announced a settlement of the latter's lawsuit over Lee's \$155,547 outstanding tab. On a previous tab of \$174,285 in 2002, Lee had agreed to make periodic repayments, but the store apparently allowed her to open another account, and as the new balance swelled, Lee sued, claiming the store should not have re-extended credit to her.

In December, pedophile Theodore Sypnier (the first-ever *New Yorker* to turn 100 years old while behind bars) was released from prison even though he continues to deny that he has done anything wrong. He was sent once again to a halfway house near Walden, N.Y., run by the Rev. Terry King, who took Sypnier in twice before and warns that Sypnier is still highly dangerous. “As a father,” said King, “I would not want my child anywhere near him.” Noting that Sypnier con-

tinues to reject counseling, King said, “He's been adamant that, ‘I'm 100, and I'm not gonna change.’”

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

Failed to Keep a Low Profile: 1) A news summary of traffic stops on Christmas Eve in Alice Springs, Australia, noted that 11 people were charged with DUI, including one man who was spotted driving despite his car's hood being broken in the raised position and having smashed through his windshield. The driver maneuvered down the street by craning his neck out the side window. 2) Two weeks earlier, in Trumbull, Conn., police arrested Christopher Frazao, 27, after watching him drive despite a windshield full of snow (except for a small opening he could peer through). A search of the car revealed marijuana and other drugs, as well as items believed to have been stolen in recent burglaries.

HAVING FUN NOW!

On the heels of the “balloon boy” fiasco in which a superambitious father exploited his child to win a reality TV job, Jim Dunn of North Vancouver, British Columbia, submitted a demo reel to reality-show producers featuring him and his entire family turned into gasoline-soaked fireballs. Dunn, one of Canada's leading film stuntmen, and his wife and three kids, ages 15, 12, and 9, have all performed as stunt doubles (though it was the first fire for the youngest, who was 7 when the video was shot), and abundant safety precautions were taken (with no resulting complications). In his career, Dunn has suffered six leg fractures and a cracked skull and needed two bowel resections.

A 'NEWS OF THE WEIRD' CLASSIC (APRIL 1993)

Psychology professor Russell Carney of Missouri State University told the Associated Press in August 1992 that he had developed a technique for improving memory and told the reporter how he could facilitate the recall, say, that a particular painting was done by Degas in 1865. First, think of an object that sounds like “Degas” (day-GAH), for example, “dagger,” and then memorize the last two digits of the year by learning the sentence “Twin new moons rose low, just clearing four pine saplings,” in which the first word begins with a “T” and stands for “1,” the second, “N,” stands for “2,” and so on. Thus, 1865 becomes “65,” which becomes “just” “low,” which could translate to “J-L,” which could be “jelly,” which would produce a “jelly dagger,” to which the subject tries to find a resemblance, somewhere, in the Degas painting. Simple as that!

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at
www.newssoftheweird.blogspot.com
(or www.newssoftheweird.com).

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.

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INTELLIGENT CONVERSATIONS WITH WOMEN Austin Women in Technology brings sharp conversation and cutting-edge ideas to the fore as Susan Meredith of Human Excel discusses sustainable energy and human power. 5:30pm. Ventana, 11400 Burnet Rd. #2100, 339-3850. \$45 (\$35, members). www.austinwomenintech.org.

SAFARI SOIREE BRIDAL SHOWCASE Peruse what Austin has to offer for those whose nuptials are impending. Do some one-stop shopping or get ideas for food, flowers, photography, and more. 5:30-8:30pm. The Allan House, 1104 San Antonio St., 478-8653. Free. www.allanhouse.com/upcoming.php.

AU40 NOMINATIONS WRAP Austin Under 40 Awards Committee wraps up the nomination process with a happy hour schmoozefest consisting of complimentary appetizers and drink specials. Come and find out who the hot young things are this year. 6-9pm. The Driskill Hotel, 604 Brazos, 474-5911. Free. www.austinunder40.org.

LGBT ALLIANCE Head on down to the Boards & Commissions conference room to join over 40 LGBT groups and movers and shapers in guiding Austin's rainbow future. 6-8pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second. Free. political@hrcaustin.org, austin.hrc.org.

BICYCLE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING This monthly public meeting gathers to set priorities and advise city staff on bicycling issues. 6:30pm. One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd., 203-7626. www.austineconetwork.com.

HOW TO BUY A GREEN HOME Local green builders and city of Austin representatives will be on hand to tell you what makes certain homes greener than others. An online reservation must be made to attend. 6:30pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. Free. www.greenhomeworkshop.com.

ONENESS BLESSING Anyone need a shift in consciousness without all those cultlike trappings? The Oneness people have you covered. Thursdays, 7:30pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. Donations welcome. www.onenessmovementaustin.com.

QUEERFER THREEFER The 3\$ Bills ("The Queerest Thing in Improv") appear in this "three-for-one" round-up du comedy. Note totally queer price. 8pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 443-3688. \$3.

(GRRL POWER) SOUL POWER Let Lisa Marshall's rapturous vox wrap you up in heaven. Check out her Thursday residency now through February - now with new and improved 9pm start time (for us workin' folk). 9pm. T.C.'s Lounge, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200. www.lisamarshallmusic.com.

LOVE: EXCITING AND NEW! Come on board! This is Gay Place, your cruise director; fasten your cocktails and get ready to take to the high seas in this farcical jaunt: *The Love Boat ... Twisted!*, presented by our delightfully tweaked darlings at Austin Cabaret Theatre. Thu.-Fri., Jan. 21-22, *Captain's dinner*, 7pm; show, 8:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 453-2287. \$37; limited half-price tickets available: \$18.50. www.austincabaret.org.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) **Who Is KK Downey?** @ United States Art Authority, 8pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) **Lissie** Central Presbyterian Church **Patty Griffin** Paramount Theatre

THURSDAY, JAN. 21 TO THURSDAY, JAN. 28

calendar

AUSTINCHRONICLE.COM/COMMUNITY

BY JAMES RENOVITCH

this week's
community
listings

FRIDAY 22

ROSE'S BUFFET & FIND FRED Fit for a queen - who may no longer be "fit" after this indulgence. Then stay for Find Fred. Kind of like *Where's Waldo?* but with color-coded name tags. Fridays, 5:30pm. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823.

OUT YOUTH'S 20 FOR 20 Laugh your ass off and celebrate 20 years of Austin's beloved queer and questioning youth drop-in center with Mocha Jean Herrup, Alli Rolison, Lisa Geduldig, and the Stone Family - kind of like the Von Trapp Family but with nicer curtains. 9pm. Rusty Spurs, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002. \$20. www.outyouth.org.

YELLOW BIKE PROJECT BENEFIT Help pay for YBP's new headquarters that should be opening soon. In return you get to rock out. See our Music Listings, p.74, for a complete lineup. 9pm. Red 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100. \$5-10. www.austinyellowbike.org.

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOURS offer nooks-and-cranies walking tours that spotlight the dead to bring Austin's history and geography to life. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. 853-9826. www.austinghosttours.com.

STUCK ON GEE-DOT Generic Ensemble Company takes a stab at Mr. Beckett's (im)patient play. Local perf arter kt shorb directs and holds the terrible silence at bay. E-mail for specific location. Fri.-Sun., Jan. 22-24 and Thu.-Sat., Jan 28-30. \$10, except pay-what-you-can at the Jan. 28 show. www.genericensemblecompany.blogspot.com.

LOVE: EXCITING AND NEW! (See Thursday, 1/21.)

THEATRE (See Arts Listings.) **Little Stolen Moments** New Movement Theater

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) **King of BeGGars** @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid **Mars Attacks!** @ Paramount, 9:30pm **The Fifth Element** @ Paramount, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) **MothFight!**, **Low Red Center** Monarch Event Center **The Entrance Band** Mohawk **Yellow Bike Project Fundraiser** Red 7

SATURDAY 23

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET features fresh organic produce, meats, and cheeses straight from surrounding Texas farms, plus live music every week. Soon to move to the shady environs of the park from the lot next to it. Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.

SCIENCE & FAITH SEMINAR The Center for Ministry Effectiveness and Educational Leadership at Baylor University hosts this daylong event that aims to reconcile the sometimes opposing forces of science and Christianity. 9am-4:30pm. First Baptist Church of Austin, 901 Trinity, 476-2625. \$35. www.fbcaustin.org.

TREE TALK Before this daylong event is through, you'll be planting healthy and site-appropriate trees that will flourish or perhaps invite the neighboring birds to your yard. Go to www.wildflower.org/ttw for a complete schedule of workshops. 9am-5:30pm. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 232-0100. Free.

COMPOST SEMINAR Tiffany Ingram of Austin Zero Waste Alliance gets your dream of home composting off the ground. 9:30am. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 970-3405. Free. www.zilkerparkgarden.org.

RECOMMENDED
YOUNG ONES
GAY PLACES

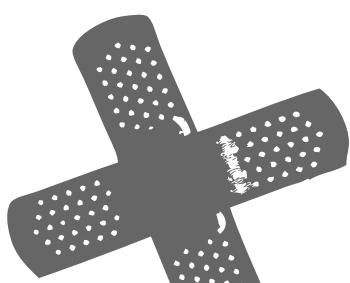
BY KATE X MESSER

gayplace

COME TOGETHER Oh, you've heard us chirp about this before: The community is only as strong as its most slippery links, and holding those links together is crucial to moving our big gay agenda (um, survival?) forward. Now some will argue that "community" is the wrong way to approach the vastly diverse and gelatinously quivering mass that is all of the letters of the LGBTQI, etc. alphabet soup. Some might even argue that some reps of certain letters have nothing in common with the others, save for that pesky outlaw sexuality thang. Well, all's I know is that we need each other. Our rainbow of fruit flavors is made up of strata, while separate and varied, all similarly quali-

fied to speak to the common issues of marginalia. So how to bring it all together? **HRC-Austin's Tim Hanson**, along with counselor/straight ally **Annabelle Arteaga**, is taking a crack at it tonight, hosting the **LGBT Community Alliance**, an assemblage of more than 40 LGBT groups, power brokers, and community quakers. All the stalwarts (**AIDS Services of Austin**, **ALLGO**, **Equality Texas**, **Out Youth**, etc.), sassy connectors (**Foodies**, **Q Boyz**, **Midtowne Spa**, etc.), smarty pants (**UT**, **Texas State**), allies (**PFLAG**, **Atticus**, etc.), club kids (**Rusty**, **Sister's**, **Bout Time**, etc.), big names (**Bettie**, **Randi**, **Spelman**, etc.), as well as some li'l ones (yours truly) will be there. How about you? (See Thursday.)

Send gay bits to
gayplace@
austinchronicle.com.
Visit
austinchronicle.com/
gayplaceblog.



| L - R: HAITI RELIEF GUIDE (SEE P.58) | THE AUSTIN TOROS (SPORTS, P.59) | AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART (ARTS, P.60) | A TOWN CALLED PANIC (FILM, P.64) | ANVIL (MUSIC, P.74)



Help End
Sexual & Domestic Violence
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Enjoy a dose of humor and musical madness. These former Congressional staffers serve up their brilliant, wickedly funny parodies of popular American songs with political humor that rivals *Saturday Night Live*. Get ready for some non-partisan bashing of Republicans, Democrats and Independents.

JANUARY 29
TheLongCenter.org | 512.474.LONG (5664)
Tickets also available at the 3M Box Office at the Long Center. Groups 15+ call 457-5161.

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BY GERALD E. MCLEOD *daytrips*

The fishing house at Easy Street Marina on Lake Travis takes a little of the pain off of drowning a few worms. The roof and walls of the floating tin building provide protection from the elements without taking all of the sport out of fishing.

It's still cold in the winter and hot in the summer at the lake, but at least there is shade and a wind break in the fishing dock. This fishing hole is better than a muddy bank, but you still have to get lucky to keep from going home empty-handed.

In the Sandy Creek cove on the north end of the lake, the harbor and fishing dock never went completely dry during last summer's drought. With the rising lake levels, the fishing is improving and the boats are beginning to move around.

"The fishing this winter has been great," says Matt Anders, the dockmaster for the marina. "We had a guy take an ice chest full of fish out of here the other day."

The secret to the fishing house's success was discovered last summer when the lake level dropped to record lows. Seeping out of the bluff next to the marina is a spring that supplies the fish with fresh, oxygenated water. "The spring never stopped running last summer," Anders says. The lake began rising last October and has come up 20 feet, but it still has 25 feet to go to reach the pool level of 681 feet above mean sea level.

The marina is at a scenic bend in the arm of the lake just south of Jonestown. Inside the fishing hut, anglers lean their poles against the railing around two large holes in the floor. Some lounge on the benches while others bring their own lawn chairs and refreshments. At \$5 a person, the admission fee will likely be cheaper than the day's bait. You will also need a state fishing license.

"Most people come out in the mornings," Anders says. The lights on the water attract fish, making the evenings popular, too. The fishing reports from the marina in early January included good quantities of bass, striper, and crappie. "Somebody caught a 10-pound catfish the other evening," he says.

Formerly called the Dutchman's Landing, the site has been a marina for more than 50 years. Besides being a full-service boat-docking facility, the marina also rents ski boats, pontoon boats, and a party barge. This is the home of the *Flagship Texas* charter ship. In addition to offering chartered cruises, the multideck party boat hosts three-hour dinner cruises during the summer. The marina also has a four-bedroom rental house with a pool table, full kitchen, and great view.

Easy Street Marina is off of FM 1431, just south of Jonestown. The fishing house is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. For more information, call 512/267-4289 or point your browser to www.easystreetmarina.com.

968th in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

outoftown

STUDIO CONCERT SERIES continues with two nights of live taping for a DVD release with Kate Campbell and her band. These studio shows have extremely limited seating, and reservations open Feb. 1. If you're lucky, there might still be space available for the Feb. 11 and March 11 shows. *Blue Rock Artist Ranch and Studio, Wimberley*. \$30 donation.

SPRING CREEK BLUEGRASS CLUB SHOW & JAM presents an evening of music and food at a campground in the woods with hiking trails, ponds, and RV hookups. Sat., Jan. 23, 6-9pm. *Coushatta Recreation Ranch, Bellville*, 979/877-9526. www.coushatta.com.

GULF COAST MUSIC HALL OF FAME SHOW celebrates the music of local legend Janis Joplin and other Southeast Texas musicians with the induction of Marcia Ball onto the list of Texans who have contributed to the musical tapestry of the Gulf Coast. Sat., Jan. 23. *Bob Bowers Civic Center, Port Arthur*, 409/548-4444. www.museumofthegulfcoast.org.

ARCHERY CLASS for all ages teaches the basics of using the bow and arrow. One-hour sessions limited to four participants. Reservations required. Sat., Jan. 23 & Feb. 13, 1-5pm. *Lockhart State Park, Lockhart*, 512/398-3479. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/lockhart.

VINTNER DINNER SERIES pairs a different winery's offerings each Saturday evening with a six-course meal that highlights the unique character of the wines being featured. Reservations required. Saturdays, Jan. 23-March 6. *Blair House, Wimberley*, 512/847-1111. \$62. www.blairhouseinn.com.

BUTCHERING & CURING was a part of farm life, and the staff shows visitors the fundamentals of preserving meat. Sat.-Sun., Jan. 23-24. *Barrington Living History Farm, Washington-on-the-Brazos SHS, Washington County*, 936/878-2214. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/washington_on_the_brazos.

STARTING AN EMBROIDERY BUSINESS This has the faint smell of an embroidery machine sales pitch, but we imagine you'll learn a few things in the process. 10am-1pm. *Singer Northwest Sewing Center, 5448 Burnet*, 459-3961. www.nwsewingcenter.com.

EQUALITY PROJECT TRAINING Let Equality Texas, HRC-Austin, and Atticus Circle train you up right to fight the good fight. 10am. *Texas Capitol Extension, Rm E2.002*. Free. political@hrcaustin.org, austin.hrc.org.

78704 ARTISAN MARKET has art and gifts hand-crafted by local artisans. Saturdays & Sundays, 11am-6pm. Corner of South Congress & Gibson, 914-3403. www.weare78704.com.

MONARCH MUSIC SWAP Bring your music collectibles to swap or sell. Gear, records, artwork, and more are encouraged. Drinks, food, DJ'd jams, and raffles add the exchanging vibe. Noon-7pm. *Monarch Event Center, 6406 N. I-35 #3100*, 371-1711. Free. www.themonarchtexas.com.

MR. JOHNNY & SHARON CONCERT This interactive show will have the kids singing, dancing, and playing along with the band. 1pm. *Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr.*, 989-3188. Free. www.wblibrary.org.

PAPIER-MÂCHÉ WORKSHOP Learn to use recycled materials to create usable art. This winter's theme is bowls. Saturdays through Feb. 27, 2pm. *Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St.*, 478-6222. \$5 per class. www.maccaustin.org.

EVERYTHING ABOUT A DAY (ALMOST) The students of Zach's Performing Arts School present this comedy depicting the trials and tribulations of a day for the average kid. For ages 5 and older. Saturdays through Feb. 6, 3 & 6pm; Sundays through Jan. 31, 2 & 4pm. *Zach Theatre's Whisenhunt Stage, 1510 Toomey*, 476-0541. \$13 (\$11, kids). www.zachtheatre.org.

NAKED YOGA FOR MEN Ongoing and open to all men, but it's endorsed by the Gay Place because gay men teach it, and gay men are encouraged to attend. Let it all hang out, baby. (Ask about the clothing-optional co-ed alternative.) Sundays, 10:30am; Mondays, 7:45pm; Wednesdays, 8:30pm; Saturdays, 10am. *NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress*, 750-8211. \$12. nudeyoga@texas.net, www.austinnakedyoga.com.

SUNSET VALLEY FARMERS MARKET Saturdays, 9am-1pm. *Toney Burger Center, 3200 Jones Rd.*, 280-1976. Free. www.sunsetvalleyfarmersmarket.org.

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOURS (See Friday.)

STUCK ON GEE-DOT (See Friday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Flatbed Press

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Aliens @ Alamo Ritz, 3:30pm
Mars Attacks! @ Paramount, 7pm
Running the Sahara @ Alamo Ritz, 1pm
The Fifth Element @ Paramount, 9:10pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

By Any Means Necessary, Course of Ruin, Prey for Sleep Encore
Bear Claw 10-inch Release *United States Art Authority*
Eric Tessmer CD Release *Antone's*
The Cribs, Adam Green *The Parish*
Aesop Rock *Mohawk*

SUNDAY 24

MEDITATION CLASSES Sundays, 9:30-11am. *Chittamani Buddhist Center, 1918 Bissel*, 916-4444. \$10. www.meditationinaustin.org.

HOPE FARMERS MARKET This weekly gathering is part farmers' market, part community meeting, and part arts exchange. Browse the local produce options while learning about local organizations, signing up for wellness opportunities, or participating in a free yoga class. Sundays, 11am-3pm. *Pine Street Station, 414 Waller*, 699-6077. www.hopefarmersmarket.org.

TAPESTRY OF JEWISH LEARNING features 24 classes led by experts, academics, and area clergy. 11am-6pm. *Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart*, 735-8030. \$25. www.shalomaustin.org/tapestry.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM This week, the executive director of the ACLU of Texas discusses Righting Texas' Civil Wrongs. Sundays, 11:30am. *First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover*, 452-6168. Free. www.austinuu.org.

BUDDHIST CLASSES & MEDITATION Expand your heart, calm your mind, and soothe your wallet. Classes are open to the public. Sundays, noon-2pm. *Land of Compassion & Wisdom, 2601 Penny #230*, 921-6901. Free (donations appreciated). www.austinfpm.com.

TEEN IMPROV AUDITIONS Start channeling your class-clowning abilities into something other than making your teachers' lives hell. New Movement Theater and Austin Children's Theater are looking for kids between the ages of 13 and 16 to start an improv group. Call or go online for more info. Noon. *New Movement Theater, 1819 Rosewood*, 788-2669. www.newmovementtheater.com.

FLYING THEATER MACHINE Parents and their 4- to 10-year-olds work together and add ingredients to the off-the-cuff recipe. Bring your suggestions to keep the improv coming. Sundays, 2pm. *The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress*, 971-3311. \$5. www.flyingtheatermachine.com.

MODERN TIMES: THE IRON HORSE GALLOPS IN Call to reserve your seat for this portion of the Neill-Cochran House's speaker series addressing the forgotten historical period of the 1870s. 2pm. *Neill-Cochran House Museum, 2310 San Gabriel*, 478-2335. \$10. www.nchmuseum.org.

OCTAVITAS Bring an instrument or just your voice and celebrate the Puerto Rican Christmas season (Las Navidades) with traditional songs and dances. You didn't take your decorations down already, did you? 2pm. *Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Culture Center, 507-B Pressler*, 251-8122. Free. www.prfdance.org.

PICKIN' PARTY FOR PEACE Instruments for Peace and the Austin Center for Peace and Justice invite the public to gather and enjoy music while brainstorming about spreading peace through Austin and the world. Plans will also be made for the Million Musicians March for Peace. 2pm. *Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary*, 447-9473. richbowden@aol.com, www.instrumentsforpeace.org.

DIRTY SALLY'S NIGHT Relive Austin gay bars past! To honor the old girl's nickel beer memories, OCH offers 50-cent beer on the patio (because the TABC might have something to say about a nickel). Then what? Well, you get down on your knees and crawl all the way home — just like the good ol' days. Sundays, 5pm. *Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth*, 320-8823.

CAMP FIRE SKATE NIGHT Learn about the many youth development programs that Camp Fire USA has to offer while taking a turn around the rink. A station will also be available to make valentines for veterans. 5:30pm. *Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann*, 349-2111. \$5. www.campfiresabalcones.org/news_and_events.

BILINGUAL STORYTIME This six-week series of stories from the mind of Carmen Lomas Garza is presented in English and Spanish with songs, activities, and, of course, storytelling. Wednesdays, 6pm; Sundays, 3 & 4pm. *Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado*, 472-2499. \$6.50 (free on Sundays). www.austinkids.org.

PRISM: UT LGBT CATHOLICS Explore what it means to be Catholic and gay, or even gay-friendly. Nonjudgmental, safe, and accepting: 100% open-hearted fellowship. 6pm. *University Catholic Center, 2010 University Ave.*, 476-7351. prism@longhorncatholic.org, www.utcatholic.org.

RED RIBBON DINNER Show some big love to ASA while showing off your mature palate for wine (by Glazer's) and cuisinastic delights. 7pm. *wink restaurant, 1014 N. Lamar Ste. E*, 406-6157. \$125. www.asaustin.org.

STRESS & MEDITATION LECTURE Dr. Thom Knoles, an expert on Vedic meditation, discusses how to combat stress and tap into your creative potential. 7pm. *Clear Springs Studio, 605 Copeland*, 415-3733. Free. www.thomknoles.com.

78704 ARTISAN MARKET (See Saturday.)

EVERYTHING ABOUT A DAY (ALMOST) (See Saturday.)

NAKED YOGA FOR MEN (See Saturday.)

STUCK ON GEE-DOT (See Friday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Birdhouse Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Aliens @ Alamo Ritz, 3:30pm
Soul on Screen: Best of Soul Night With Peter Lucas @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

MONDAY 25

★ IMAGINE AUSTIN MEETING The Cultural Arts Division of the Economic Growth and Redevelopment Services Office and the CreateAustin Cultural Plan Community Leadership Team invites arty types to discuss how they envision the Austin of the future. See "Comp Plan," News, p.16, for more info. 6pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 478-6222. www.cityofaustin.org/compplan.

LEGAL CLINIC Free legal advice from Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. Most Mondays & Wednesdays, 6pm. Mondays: Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell. Wednesdays: Webb Middle School, 601 E. St. Johns, 374-2700. Free. www.trla.org.

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TREE Learn to choose the proper leafy friend for your yard and Austin's climate. 6:30pm. North Village Library, 2505 Steck, 974-9960. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library/leafforall.htm.

SPIRITUALITY IN MOVIES Bring dinner to eat during the movie on the large screen followed by a discussion of the spiritual and theological issues explored in the film. 6:30pm. First English Lutheran Church, 3001 Whitis, 478-1933. Free. www.felcaustin.org.

ST. JOHN/CORONADO HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING Get involved in these public planning sessions. The fate of your neighborhood depends on it. 6:30pm. Austin Firefighters Association, 7537 Cameron. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/zoning/sj_ch.htm.

👑 LONE STAR LAMBDS GLBT square dancing in Austin? Heck yeah and yeeeee-haw! Nothing square about this group. Every week. Get in on the ground floor, do-si-do. 7pm. Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 200 W. Anderson, 418-1629. info@lonestarlambdas.org, www.lonestarlambdas.org.

MEET A COMMUNITY GROUP SPEAKER SERIES This month features Fair Food Austin, which works to end human rights abuses in the U.S. agricultural industry. 7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.fairfoodaustin.blogspot.com.

👑 VALKYRIES HAVE THAT SPECIAL TOUCH Austin's women reps in the Texas Rugby Union are calling for newbs. Training with brand new head coach begins in a few weeks. See website for details. Monday and Wednesday practices, 7-9pm, beginning Jan. 25. Burnet Middle School, 8401 Hathaway, 841-8289. recruiting@austinvalkyries.com, www.austinvalkyries.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash 2010 @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm
The Other Side of Immigration @ Jones Auditorium, St. Edward's University, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Anvil Emo's
Jonathan Richman Cactus Cafe

TUESDAY 26

BIRDING TUESDAYS mean two hours of trail-walking and bird-watching with the Travis Audubon Society. Bring your binoculars. 8am. Walnut Creek Park, 12138 N. Lamar, 300-BIRD. Free. www.travisaudubon.org.

★ COMPREHENSIVE PLAN PUBLIC MEETING Mayor Lee Leffingwell and other big players in city policy present the 400-page Community Inventory and discuss how it will be used to plan the future of Austin. 6pm. Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs Rd. www.imagineaustin.net.

AUSTIN REGIONAL INTELLIGENCE CENTER FORUM Learn about the ARIC, which, if approved by City Council, will serve as a "fusion center" allowing the Austin Police Department to share information with other law enforcement agencies. Texas Impact hosts. 7-8:30pm. St. John's United Methodist Church, 2140 Allandale, 472-3903.



COURTESY OF ANDY AND SALLY WASOWSKI

TREE TALK (SEE SATURDAY)

INTERFAITH CONVERSATIONS Austin Area Interreligious Ministries presents this series focusing on the human virtues that faiths try to instill. This week, the topic is religious tolerance and the integration of minority faiths in the Austin community. 6pm. First United Methodist Church, 1201 Lavaca, 386-9145. Free. www.aaimaustin.org.

👑 KOOP = QUEER Tweak your knobs (or Heath and Stephen's): 91.7FM. It's *OutCast*, for and about the Central Texas LGBT population. You might even hear a Gay Placer on the air now and again ... or every week. Tuesdays, 6-7pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org, www.outcastaustin.com.

🐱 MOTHER-DAUGHTER BOOK CLUB Mothers (any age) and daughters (ages 7 to 12) read the same books and get together once a month to discuss. Women of the word, unite. Last Tuesdays, 6:30pm. Wells Branch Community Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. Free. www.wblibrary.org.

QUILTING ART PRESENTATION Spike Gillespie discusses the work of contemporary quilters, from the heavy-metal-inspired art of Boo Davis to Jane Burch Cochran's beaded folk quilts. 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar, 472-2785. Free. www.bookwoman.com.

WINE FOR THE PEOPLE Every other week, the Whip In offers a class in being classy for a less-than-classy budget. Sample four wines while Rae Wilson teaches you about the region where the grapes are grown. Go online to reserve your seat. Second and fourth Tuesdays, 7pm. Whip In, 1950 S. I-35, 442-5337. \$10. wineforthepeople@gmail.com, www.whipin.com.

👑 KARAOKE WITH MARGARET Margaret's one damn fine KJ. North Austin's fave neighborhood gay bar may not offer cash to the best crooners (like some other bars), but someone might offer you \$\$ to stop singing. Tuesdays, 9pm. 'Bout Time, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339. www.bouttimeaustin.com.

👑 TUESDAYS TOGETHER This month's last-Tuesday-of-every-month event for Human Rights Campaign will feature a call up for table captains for the big spring gala. Tuesday, 6pm. Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 289-2198. www.hrc.org/austin.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Aliens @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm
Laila's Birthday @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Jonathan Richman Cactus Cafe



C-SPAN CIVICS BUS (SEE SATURDAY)

WEDNESDAY 27

★ BILINGUAL BEGINNERS COMPUTER LAB Learn the basics of computing including surfing the Internet, setting up an e-mail account, and using Word to help you create a résumé. No sign-up is necessary. Wednesdays, 10am-noon. Terrazas Library, 1105 E. Cesar Chavez, 974-3625. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

COLORADO RIVER FOUNDATION OPEN HOUSE Call or e-mail to register and learn about the many volunteer opportunities available to people who love Lady Bird Lake and Lake Austin. Noon. Redbud Center, 3601 Lake Austin Blvd. Rm. 225, 498-1587. Free. sarah@coloradoriver.org, www.coloradoriver.org.

GREEN TRADE SHOW & WORKSHOP Learn something about green businesses before meeting members of the Texas Green Network at the trade show. 5-8pm. Xtreme Xhibits, 9201 Metric. Free. rsvp@texasgreennetwork.org, www.texasgreennetwork.org.

NECTAR GRAND OPENING PARTY Fair Trade clothing and other items will be on sale with all of the profits going to humanitarian services here in Austin and around the world. 5-9pm. Nectar Thrift Boutique, 1006 S. Eighth, 415-2028. www.nectaraustin.com.

TEXAS OBSERVER LAUNCH PARTY Celebrate the launch of the new and improved Observer, now with new content, new fonts, and a new website. Raise a glass to this stalwart for progressive Texans. 5-8pm. The Clive Bar, 609 Davis, 477-0746. Free. www.texasobserver.org.

★ BAD TO THE BONE COOK-OFF Three of Texas' greatest chefs battle it out as they try to stump one another with ingredient challenges. Taste a sample and be the judge along with a panel of experts. After the pans have cooled, it's time to turn up the heat onstage with live music from Charanga Cakewalk. Ticket sales benefit the Sustainable Food Center. 6pm. Stubbs, 801 Red River, 480-8341. \$35. www.stubbsaustin.com.

QUÉ ME CUENTAS Brush up on your Spanish through discussion and reading. Forty percent proficiency is preferred, but the group will help you get there if need be. Wednesdays, 6pm. Faulk Central Library, 800 Guadalupe, 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

CITYSIT It might seem strange to pay for this, but you can sit still (20 minutes) and then talk about it with other fans of quiet time for another 40 minutes. 7pm. Brazos Lofts, 411 Brazos #108, 327-7223. \$9 (\$7, advance). www.citysit.com.

👑 'BOUT TIME FOR VOLLEYBALL! Team play on Wednesday and Sunday nights, and pickup games every day. 'Bout Time, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339. www.bouttimeaustin.com.

👑 DRAG BINGO Saffire T. Stone presents all the plumage and pageantry of chicken shit bingo, but without the, you know. Every other Wednesday. Jo's Coffee, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800.

👑 SISTER SHOWGIRLS ON THE EDGE What a capital idea! The Capital City Showgirls dauntlessly flaunt it with special guests every week. This week, Chicago's Naysha Lopez. DJ Kimikaze spins happy hour. Wednesdays, 11pm; happy hour, 6-10pm. Sister's Edge II, 113 San Jacinto, 457-8010.



QUILTING ART PRESENTATION (SEE TUESDAY)

LEGAL CLINIC (See Monday.)

👑 NAKED YOGA FOR MEN (See Saturday.)
👑 VALKYRIES HAVE THAT SPECIAL TOUCH (See Monday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Aliens @ Alamo Ritz, 8:40pm
Viva the Nam @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Anti-Flag Red 7
Jay Farrar, Ben Gibbard Antone's
Jonathan Richman Continental Club

THURSDAY 28

CLEAN AIR FORCE TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE discusses the latest proposal. 9:30-11:30am. Chamber of Commerce, 111 Congress, 225-7780. www.cleairforce.org.

DIVERSITY EXCHANGE LECTURE SERIES The Rev. Valerie J. Bridgeman presents a cultural reading of the book of Ecclesiastes. 1:30pm. Agard-Lovinggood Bldg., Huston-Tillotson University. Free.

HOMELESS COUNT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED ECHO, a coalition of local organizations working to end homelessness, needs help tallying local homeless in parks, campsites, or other public spaces. Training will be provided for the teams of volunteers before hitting the streets. Go online to sign up now. Thu., Jan. 28, 4pm. 782-8835. austinhomlesscount@gmail.com, www.traviscountyhomelesscount.org.

👑 VIVA MONTE CARLO KICK-OFF Prepare for ASA's classic faux gambling event with a new twist: Viva Las Vegas goes to Monte Carlo. The menu includes "tarts," and "mini pressed Cubans." We're almost sure both of those are food. 5:30-7:30pm. The Belmont, 305 W. Sixth, 406-6157. \$15. www.asaustin.org.

LIVE UNITED FILM SERIES United Way Capital Area and your local PBS station present *It All Adds Up*, which documents the successes of a groundbreaking math program for high school kids. Afterward, local experts will discuss the topics raised in the film. Go online to RSVP. 6pm. Austin City Limits Studio 6A, CMB (on the UT campus). Free. www.unitedwaycapitalarea.org.

ONENESS BLESSING (See Thursday, 1/21.)

👑 (GRRL POWER) SOUL POWER (See Thursday, 1/21.)

👑 STUCK ON GEE-DOT (See Friday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Natural Selection @ Alamo Lake Creek, 7:30pm
Szyzygy @ Austin Film Studios Screening Room, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
A Giant Dog Beerland
Fiery Furnaces The Parish
Jonathan Richman Continental Club

AMERICARES has been providing medical and humanitarian aid to Haiti since 1984, so its staff members know their way around. For every dollar you donate, AmeriCares can provide \$35 worth of aid. www.americares.org.

CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES Catholic Charities of Central Texas recommends donating to the national organization, Catholic Relief Services, at www.crs.org or *Catholic Relief Services c/o Haiti Earthquake, PO Box 17090, Baltimore, MD 21203*.

CHILDREN OF ALL NATIONS continues to fund an orphanage in Haiti and needs your money now more than ever to help evacuate the children to a safer location. Go to www.gwca.org/donate/general-donation/donate.php to make a donation.

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY needs funds to do what it does best, build shelter for those in need. Go to www.habitat.org for more info and donation instructions.

HAITI EMERGENCY RESPONSE FUND – an international humanitarian aid group that works with impoverished women and families – has launched the Haiti Emergency Response Fund with the goal of raising \$10 million for immediate and long-term aid. Donate at www.care.org.

HELP US HELP HAITI When Joe Ely asks for your help, you come. And just like that Ely has a lineup consisting of Shawn Colvin, the Flatlanders, Guy Forsyth, Ray Wylie Hubbard, the Gourds, Asleep at the Wheel, and many more. *Sun., Jan. 24, 6pm. Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces, 263-4146. www.ely.com.*

PARTNERS IN HEALTH works to provide health care services in impoverished areas around the world and has been in Haiti for 25 years. Donations can be made at www.standwithhaiti.org.

PROJECT HOPE is delivering medical supplies, medicine, and volunteers to Haiti. Donate via the website: www.projecthope.org.

RED CROSS The city of Austin recommends sending donations to the Central Texas Red Cross at www.redcross.org. You can even text in your donation by sending the message "Haiti" to 90999 to send \$10. 800/RED-CROSS.

RICHARD DAWKINS FOUNDATION Just when you think atheists are a bunch of hyperintellectual windbags, they show you they really care. Donate via the website, and Richard Dawkins will personally handle the PayPal fees, which means 100% of your donation goes to Doctors Without Borders and the International Red Cross. givingaid.richarddawkins.net.

SOLES4SOULS is accepting new and gently worn shoes – especially work boots, tennis shoes, walking shoes, and children's footwear – at *Total Relief Footwear in the Woodland Shopping Center, 13492 U.S. Hwy. 183 N. #250. A \$2 donation with each drop-off is appreciated for shipping costs; call 996-0002 or visit www.totalrelieffootwear.com for more info.*

VINO VINO FOR HAITI Kat Edmonson and other local musicians draw a crowd while VINO VINO donates 50% of its sales to Partners in Health, which has been working in Haiti for years and needs your help now more than ever. You can also donate to PIH directly by going to www.standwithhaiti.org/haiti. *Tue., Jan. 26, 7-10pm. VINO VINO, 4119 Guadalupe, 465-9282.*

WHITE HOUSE EARTHQUAKE RELIEF In case you forgot that the government can, in fact, do the right thing, see what the White House says about the crisis in Haiti. Former presidents Bush (Jr.) and Clinton are accepting funds via www.clintonbushhaitifund.org, or you can text "quake" to 20222 to donate \$10 to the cause. www.whitehouse.gov/haitiearthquake.

YÉLE HAITI If you prefer your donation to have a bit of star power, Wyclef Jean's organization (www.yele.org) gives you that without losing any of your donation's effect. You can also text "yele" to 501501 to donate \$5.

UNDERGARMENT DRIVE The Soul Movement Church and the

Original 4 Kingz Inc. have teamed up to collect new, packaged undergarments. If you can't make it during the drop-off times, call to arrange a pickup. *Sunday, Jan 24 & 31, 10:30-11:15am & noon-1pm. Khabele Studio, 701 W. Seventh, 745-9800. www.bigboychurch.com.*

HOPE FOR HAITI FUNDRAISER Bring your own chair and settle in for live music all afternoon from the likes of Los Texas Wranglers, Akina Adderley, about:blank, Margo Valiante, and Ryan Young. *Sat., Jan. 23, 1-4pm. Catholic Charities of Central Texas, 1817 E. Sixth. \$5. www.austindiocese.org.*

Haiti Relief Guide

now ...

AISS SCHOOL YEAR SURVEY Parents and staff are invited to share their thoughts on the upcoming school years. Semester length? Staff holidays? The survey is available through *Jan. 29. www.austinsisd.org.*

BARTON SPRINGS INTERPRETIVE PLAN SURVEY The Parks and Recreation Department needs your input to get a better idea of the use patterns at Barton Springs Pool. If you don't participate, you can't complain if PARD decides to install heaters in the pool. sabina.mora@ci.austin.tx.us, www.surveymonkey.com/s/kgsrwb.

BRADFORD FOR JUSTICE He's walked the blocks and got the sigs: Daniel Bradford's officially on the ballot. Now, let's help our man get to the JP seat in Precinct 1. 275-6773. www.bradfordforjustice.com.

CITIZEN SERVICE ABOVE SELF HONORS The Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation is looking for nominations of ordinary Americans who become extraordinary through their indomitable courage and selflessness. Go to www.citizenserviceaboveselfhonors.org for the nomination form.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN SURVEY The city of Austin wants to know what you love and hate about our fair town. Don't hold anything back; that would be counterproductive. It's not just a complaining contest though; offer suggestions for the future. Go to www.imagineaustin.net/survey.htm to participate.

ECKANKAR CENTER WORKSHOPS The Eckankar Center of Austin hosts seminars and discussions of all things spiritual. Connect with the divine, interpret your dreams, conquer fear, master change, and more at one of its myriad free gatherings. Call or go online for complete schedule. *Austin Eckankar, 223 W. Anderson Ste. 206-B, 453-0331. www.eckankar-texas.org.*

ENVIRONMENTAL AWARD NOMINATIONS The Austin Climate Protection Program is accepting nominations of individuals, businesses, and organizations who deserve recognition for their green efforts. Go online for nominee criteria, and fill out the submission form before *March 1. www.coolaustin.org.*

FAMILY ELDERCARE VOLUNTEERS NEEDED Help a disabled adult or elderly person as a bill payer or guardian advocate. Go online to check for an orientation session that fits your schedule. *Family Eldercare, 2210 Hancock, 483-3582. www.familyeldercare.org.*

FAMILYLAB provides a hands-on, experimental art experience for kids and parents. You can play and make your own take-home art projects. *During regular museum hours. AMOA, 823 Congress, 495-9224. \$5 (free, children under 12). www.amoa.org.*

FREE ADMISSION TO WILDFLOWER CENTER all this month. That includes the gardens, exhibition, and store. 232-0100. www.wildflower.org.

GRANNY PANTY SHOWS YOU HOW Every Friday check YouTube for a fresh installment of the finest correspondence course you will ever take: *Granny Panty's Charm & Etiquette School for Strippers*. It's a peek-a-boo hell yeah, each week, right there in your box. *Free. www.flickr.com/photos/granny_panty, www.youtube.com/GrannyPantyBurlesque.*

HUMAN POTENTIAL CENTER This South Austin non-profit has oodles of classes and workshops – from yoga and Reiki to art classes and dream interpreta-

tion – just waiting to maximize your potential. Check the website for more info. *Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.*

INTERNATIONAL POETRY FESTIVAL is calling for submissions for its youth poetry anthology from kids in grades K-12. Deadline: *Feb. 1. aipya@sbcglobal.net.*

KIDSACTING SPRING REGISTRATION Young theatre buffs (ages 3 to 18) should sign up now for the spring semester. Classes include acting, theatrical design, musical theatre, and more. 836-5437. www.kidsactingstudio.com.

LAND GRANTS OF THE TEXAS REVOLUTION The latest exhibit, "A Hero's Reward," displays artifacts and historical documents that illuminate how soldiers of different races and backgrounds were compensated for their participation in Texas' struggle for independence. *Capitol Visitors Center, 112 E. 11th, 305-8400. Free. www.texascapitolvisitorscenter.com.*

NATURAL HEALTH CENTER has workshops in locations all over town, most of which are free of charge. Learn to balance hormones and alleviate allergies and migraines the natural way. Call for upcoming courses. 892-3366. www.naturalhealthaustin.com.

PERMACULTURE DESIGN COURSE This series will teach you how to create sustainable human environments through gardening, green building, activism, alternative business models, and more. See www.permie.us for further details. Early registration is required. *Saturdays, Jan. 30-April 3, 9am-5pm. 619-5363. \$600. austinperm@permie.us.*

POINT FOUNDATION LGBT SCHOLARSHIPS Hey students! Apply to the nation's largest scholarship-granting org for LGBT students of merit. *Applications available now. Deadline: Fri., Feb. 12. www.pointfoundation.org.*

SHOTS FOR TOTS Bring your immunization record and proof of Medicaid coverage (if applicable) and ensure that your kid's shots are up to snuff. Appointments must be made Mondays-Fridays. Saturdays are first-come first-served from 9am-1pm. No one will be turned away due to inability to pay. *St. John Community Center, 7500 Blessing; Far South Health Clinic, 405 W. Stassney; Rosewood-Zaragoza Neighborhood Center, 2800 Webberville, 972-5520. \$10. www.cityofaustin.org/health/shots.htm.*

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING CENTRAL TEXAS FOOD DRIVE Visit one of 57 participating H-E-B or Randal's grocery stores to participate in this benefit for the **Capital Area Food Bank** either by making a cash donation or by purchasing a prepackaged bag of food for donation to someone in need. See www.souperbowl.org for participating locations. *Through Feb. 7.*

& later

CANCER CONNECTION VOLUNTEER TRAINING is for cancer survivors and their loved ones who are interested in providing emotional support to patients currently battling the disease. Apply online at www.thecancerconnection.org. *Fri., Feb. 12, 5:45-9pm; Sat., Feb. 13, 8:45am-4pm. 342-0233. \$25 (scholarships available).*

CHRISTEENE DUMPS IT A new EP! A new CD! A new pee-pee! A new dawn! Let Christeene in your life. And let opener Gretchen Phillips' Disco Plague lubricate you good and loose for proper insertion. *Fri., Jan. 29, 9pm. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. www.facebook.com/Christeene.*

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY Learn about the many functions and operating procedures of the Austin Police Department. The next session starts *March 2*. For more information or an application, visit the APD website, www.cityofaustin.org/police. 974-5941. dennis.farris@ci.austin.tx.us.

CREATIVE WRITING WORKSHOPS Middle and high school students create poetry, prose, or a play under the tutelage of a professional writer culminating with the publication of a workshop publication. *Saturdays, starting Feb. 13. Westlake United Methodist Church, 1460 Red Bud Trail, 538-1305. \$500. giuseppe.taurino@badgerdog.org, www.badgerdog.org.*

GARDENING FOR WILDLIFE WORKSHOP Listen to the pros as they teach you to transform your yard into a habitat for all manner of woodland creatures. Register by *Feb. 5. Sat., Feb. 13, 9am. Austin Nature & Science Center, 301 Nature Center, 327-8181. \$10 (\$15, couple). www.keepeaustinwild.com.*

HILL CO. RIDE, YO Now's the time to get your pedal-pushin' posse, papi, to raise dough for services for those affected by HIV/AIDS through our beloved Interfaith Care Alliance. Do it. Then you can watch your team's name on the big board as that dollar figure soars! *Sat., April 24. 371-RIDE. www.hillcountryride.org, www.interfaithcarealliance.org.*

LORI MCCracken BRINGS IT TO A-TOWN Here comes a big voice from the Big D, bringing her own tunes as well as tribute covers to her faves, and the Emerald City gets to boast and host her A-Tex debut. *Fri., Feb. 5, 9pm. Rusty Spurs, 405 E. Seventh, 482-9002.*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 5 issue is Monday, Jan. 25.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX, 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

Kate X Messer (Gay Place):
gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

Mark Fagan (Sports):
gameplans@austinchronicle.com.

James Renovitch (everything else):
calendar@austinchronicle.com.

For FAQs and an online submission form, go to austinchronicle.com/commform.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor, 454-5766 or brenner@austinchronicle.com.

sports

BY MARK FAGAN

listings

Got a sporting event you'd like to see listed in *The Austin Chronicle*? Submit your sporty happening online at austinchronicle.com/commform.



Alonzo Gee

AUSTIN TOROS

Since the Longhorns, Cowboys, and Texans football seasons are over with, it's time to focus some sports-watching attention on basketball. And what better place to start than our own Austin Toros? With the UT basketball team garnering its first-ever No. 1 ranking, which it lost in a 62-71 defeat to Kansas State last Monday night, it might be easy to overlook our li'l D-League franchise that is quietly nurturing NBA careers Downtown at the Austin Convention Center. But it would be a mistake to let them get lost in the wash. As the San Antonio Spurs D-League affiliate, the Toros are the beneficiary of a quality organization known for wisely assessing and growing top-notch talent. The player to watch currently

is **Malik Hairston**, who was recently assigned to Austin after having played in 21 games with the Spurs (albeit with scant minutes on the court). Hairston scored 31 points in the Toros' 121-113 victory over the Erie Bayhawks at the Convention Center on Tuesday. He was joined on the roster by 6-foot-11-inch, 275-pound (according to the Toros website) center **Roderick Riley**, who has been sitting out all season due to injury. Catch these guys in the capital city before they head back down I-35 to San Antonio. Vs. Los Angeles: *Thu.-Fri., Jan. 28-29, 7:30pm. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 236-8333. \$8-23 (more for courtside seats, check website for discounts).* www.nba.com/dleague/austin.

BY NICK BARBARO Soccer watch

The **Austin Aztex** 2010 schedule should be out this week; everyone's just waiting for the **USSF Division II** to give its final OK. The season will run from April through September, with home games at **House Park** (if the Austin Independent School District gets the locker rooms finished). That's soon, folks; there will be more news in the next couple of weeks about rosters, players, exhibition games, etc. Feb. 5 is the deadline to register for the Aztex's 2010 **Open Tryouts**, coming up Feb. 13-14; go to www.austinaztex.com.

No surprises in the group stage of the **African Nations Cup** (well, not since Togo's bullet-riddled exit, anyway). The six teams thus far into the final eight are the four World Cup qualifiers – Ivory Coast, Ghana, Nigeria, and Algeria – plus defending champ Egypt and host Angola. With the **2010 World Cup** coming up in a few months in nearby **South Africa**, there's been more international attention than usual on this year's ANC – just as there are higher expectations, perhaps, of some of the African teams. So far, the action on the field in Angola has not disappointed.

THE HOME TEAMS

AUSTIN RUGBY FOOTBALL CLUB Due to field conditions last weekend, the season kick off was pushed back to this Saturday. The Golds vs. UT Grads: *Sat., Jan. 23, 2pm. Burr Field.* www.austinrugby.com.

★ **AUSTIN TOROS** See recommended listing above. Vs. Los Angeles: *Thu.-Fri., Jan. 28-29, 7:30pm. Austin Convention Center.*

TEXAS STARS welcome the divisional rival Milwaukee Admirals to town. *Tue., Jan. 26, 7:30pm. Cedar Park Center, 2100 Avenue of the Stars, Cedar Park, 512/GO-STARS. \$9-50.* www.texasstarshockey.com.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Tennis Vs. Rice: *Sat., Jan. 23, noon. Penick-Allison Tennis Center, 1701 Trinity.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Iowa State: *Sat., Jan. 23, 1pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$5-16.* **Men's Basketball** Vs. Texas Tech: *Wed., Jan. 27, 8pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$7-45.* www.texasports.com.

★ **HOUSTON ASTROS CARAVAN LUNCHEON** Astros faithful won't want to miss the luncheon where they'll have a chance to rub shoulders with such Houston greats as Jeff Bagwell, Jim Deshaies, Matt Lindstrom, Bud Norris, and Hall of Fame announcer Milo Hamilton. An autograph session follows for

paid attendees. *Tue., Jan. 26, 11am. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock, 512/ 255-2255. \$40.* www.roundrockexpress.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Texas Lutheran: *Sat., Jan. 23, 3pm. \$3-5.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Texas Lutheran: *Sat., Jan. 23, 1pm. Concordia Fieldhouse, 11400 Concordia University Dr., 313-4503. \$3-5.* athletics.concordia.edu.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball Vs. DePauw University: *Fri., Jan. 22, 6pm. Corbin J. Robertson Center.* **Swimming** Vs. University of Incarnate Word: *Sat., Jan. 23, noon. Corbin J. Robertson Center.* www.southwesternpirates.com.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Texas A&M-International: *Sat., Jan. 23, 4:30pm.* **Women's Basketball** Vs. Texas A&M-International: *Sat., Jan. 23, 2pm.* www.stedwards.edu/athletics.

TEXAS STATE Women's Basketball Vs. Lamar: *Sat., Jan. 23, 4pm.* **Men's Basketball** Vs. UTSA: *Wed., Jan. 27, 7pm. Strahan Coliseum, San Marcos.* www.txstatebobcats.com.

HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Jarvis Christian College: *Mon., Jan. 25, 7:30pm.*

RECREATION & FITNESS

GOLF LESSONS Learn the fundamentals in small self-paced classes. Call Scott for info or to register. 389-2250. *Thirteen hours of instruction for \$90.*

TEXAS OUTDOORS WOMAN NETWORK is open to ladies of any age who are interested in outdoor fun. Ashley Matthews will talk about kayaking in Greece. *Tue., Jan. 26, 6:30pm. Terrazas Branch Library, 1105 E. Cesar Chavez.* www.townaustin.org.

AUSTIN WILDCATS is a preparatory basketball program for boys and girls and will be holding tryouts for girls grades four through eight and boys grades seven and eight from the Austin, Hays, Dripping Springs, and Lake Travis areas. *Sun., Jan. 24, 8am. Covington Middle School, 3700 Convict Hill Rd.* www.austinwildcatsbasketball.org.

MARTIAL ARTS OPEN HOUSE Free classes for kids (10am) and adults (11am). *Sat., Jan. 23. Traditional Martial Arts, 1503 Morgan, 535-4404.* www.traditionalmartialartsacademy.com.

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS Learn more about Austin's most active outdoors and social club. *Mon., Jan. 25, 6:30pm. Opal Divine's at Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress, 383-1191.* Free. www.hillcountryoutdoors.com.

3V3 LIVE WINTER NATIONALS SOCCER TOUR Teams from across the nation won their regional events for a chance to participate in the nationals here in Round Rock. Top three finishers in each division take home a trophy. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 23-24. Old Settlers Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock.* www.sportscapitaloftexas.com.

NATIONAL CHAMPS ALUMNI CLINIC The Williamson Co. YMCA teams with UT alumni baseball players for this baseball clinic open to boys and girls grades one through eight. All proceeds benefit YMCA's Strong Kids Campaign. *Sat., Jan. 23, 1-4pm. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock. \$65 (\$40, YMCA members).* www.ymcagwc.org.

RUNTEX OPEN HOUSE BENEFITING THE ARC OF THE CAPITAL AREA

Drop by and check out some running-related art while noshing on some healthy snacks and beverages. Don't forget to buy some raffle tickets and a custom-designed T-shirt. *Thu., Jan. 28, 5:30-7pm. RunTex, 4615 Lamar, 795-6802.* www.runtex.com.

WINTER OLYMPICS FOR KIDS Kids kindergarten and up can take part in a winter clothes relay race, build a marshmallow snowman, and enjoy other fun winter-weather-related events. *Wed., Jan. 27, 4-6pm. Round Rock Public Library, 216 E. Main, Round Rock. Free.* www.roundrocktexas.gov/library.

RUNS, WALKS, RIDES

★ **3M HALF MARATHON & RELAY** Runners will enjoy this fast, downhill race, the city's third-longest distance run. Participate as an individual or form a two-person relay team. Proceeds benefit Any Baby Can of Austin. *Sun., Jan. 24, 6:45am. Starting line is near the 9500 block of Stonelake Blvd., close to Baby Acapulco's, 984-7223.* www.3mhalfmarathon.com.

BIG CHILL ADVENTURE RACE is open to 20 two-person teams who are up for 2-4 miles of paddling, 10-15 miles of biking, and 3-5 miles of trekking. Canoes provided, but racers must bring their own bikes and CamelBaks. Beginners welcome. Also advanced and longer routes to choose from. Register now. *Sat., Jan. 23, 8am. Lake Bastrop, 512/576-5388.* www.toocoolracing.com.

UPCOMING

★ **HARLEM GLOBETROTTERS** Childhood is not complete until your kiddo has experienced the joy of a Harlem Globetrotters game featuring the all-star antics of Flight Time Lang and Big Easy Lofton (who recently appeared on *The Amazing Race*) among others. They are funny, athletic, and never fail to amuse with their basketball-playing hijinks. *Fri., Jan. 29, 7pm. The Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 477-6060. \$15, \$21, \$32, \$53 vip, \$115 magic circle.* www.uterwincenter.com.

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arts listings



Eurydice

City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 474-8497
Through Jan. 30

Running time : 1 hr, 30 min,

Eurydice is what one would call an uplifting tragedy. Granted, everybody is dead at the end. (No surprise if you showed up that day in lit class.) Sure, something even sadder than death

eventually overcomes them in Sarah Ruhl's retelling, directed by Karen Jambon for Different Stages.

But see, it's uplifting. At every step, even the saddest ones, the play returns to the things that make us cling to life: family, love, marriage, memories, even sad memories.

According to the Greek legend, Orpheus (Bastion Carboni) loses his bride, Eurydice (Nicole Swahn), right after their wedding. He is so distraught that he travels to the underworld (where the ancient Greek kept their dead) and makes a bargain with the Lord of the Underworld (Marc Balester): If he can walk all the way back to the land of the living without turning back to see if Eurydice is really with him, then he can have his wife back.

Ruhl shows us Eurydice's experiences instead. It's a beautiful tale, aided by a great performance from Swahn. Eurydice is a pretty girl, smart but easily distracted, tone-deaf but sensitive. Once in the underworld, she battles to regain the memories that connect her to the world of the living, with the help of her deceased father (Norman Blumensaadt).

There is much about this production that works and a little bit that doesn't. Overall, the balance says: "Go see this play! It will make you feel great things!" It's only that with a few differences, this is one of those shows that might have leapfrogged into ranking as one of the best of the past several months. Had the first scene shown better the chemistry between Orpheus and Eurydice, for instance, then it might be even more powerful to witness his journey to the underworld to retrieve her. Had Orpheus and Eurydice had the same passion and intensity at the beginning that we see when they lock eyes in the underworld, the first 15 minutes would not have stuttered.

The production succeeds in telling a beautiful story. Content Love Knowles' sound design adds atmosphere and feeling. While not quite every scene reaches its potential, the cast has no weak links. The Chorus of Stones is fun to watch, particularly the ladies and the gray bustles of their costumes (designed by Lauren Matesic). Already I've used the word "beautiful" twice, but standing back a pace, that's the best way to describe this show: beautiful. — Elizabeth Cobbe

theatre

OPENING

AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE: THE LOVE BOAT, TWISTED Come aboard this wacky and Hawaiian-shirted variety show that pays homage to (but also skewers the cheesy gimmicks of) what may not have been TV actor Gavin McLeod's finest hours. Anchors, oy vey! *Thu.-Fri., Jan. 21-22, 8:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 453-2287. \$37. www.thelongcenter.org.*

MISALLIANCE This fast-paced George Bernard Shaw comedy features a whirlwind of characters from different social classes and professions: an underwear magnate, an ambassador, a Polish acrobat, and a socialist clerk, careening off one another during the course of one afternoon at an English country estate. Don Toner directs a stellar cast in this Austin Playhouse mainstage production. *Jan. 22-Feb. 21. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$26-35 (half-price, students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

LITTLE STOLEN MOMENTS The hottest trio of music, dance, and comedy since Charlie's Angels accidentally ate that ergot at a Daft Punk concert, **Little Stolen Moments** brings its fierce funk and frenzy to the New Movement Theater for only \$5 a show, just to blow you away for the weekend. Recommended, baby. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 22-23, 8pm. New Movement Theater, 1819 Rosewood. \$5. www.newmovementtheater.com.*

STUCK ON GEEDOT This inaugural production by the Generic Ensemble Company is an all-women-of-color adaptation of Samuel Beckett's *Waiting for Godot*. Set in a deserted house, DeeDee and GohGoh are two queer youth who are waiting for Geedot, She Who Fixes Things. Directed by kt shorb. *Thu.-Sun., Jan. 22-30, 8pm. LemonPeel Lounge, 2906 Glen Rae. \$10. www.genericensemblecompany.blogspot.com.*

SELKIE PROJECT: GESTATION This event is actually part of the "Ideas of Mountains" exhibition at Creative Research Laboratory, but, by all that's holy in Roan Inish, we're giving it a distinct listing here, too: Divergence Vocal Theater creates a cross-disciplinary installation environment of multimedia, performance, opera, and new music theatre to explore the myth of a half-seal, half-human creature who beckons all to her watery world. Directed by Misha Penton and Megan M. Reilly. For more, see "Selkie Project," p.27. *Sat., Jan. 23, 7pm. Flatbed Press, 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. Free. www.divergencevocaltheater.org.*

THE FLAMING IDIOTS Oh, now *here's* a glorious reunion — sort of like Peaches and Herb and more Herb, y'know? The three brainy acrobats (Pyro, Gyro, and Walter, by stage name) who conjure shows of pure entertainment are reunited and returning (it's been years!) to Zach Theatre with their manic tumbling and impressive antics. They're more Conan O'Brien than Cory Grandpa, more Shando than Shecky, and, ladies and gentlemen, that's just the gray: These fellers could keep their yaps shut the whole night and their mad juggling skills alone would give you your ticket's worth of joy. Yeah: We like them a lot. Highly recommended. *Jan. 28-March 7. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Zach Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. \$20-45. www.zachscott.com.*

CLOSING

SURFIN' UFO The Electronic Planet Ensemble, who brought you last season's *Spaceman:Dada:Robot*, presents this latest video-enhanced, live-music spectacle, with **Sergio Samayoa** on guitar, **Chad Salvata** on keyboards, **Rachel Fuhrer** on drums, and **David Jewell** providing the verbal volleys about the gnarlier side of Planet X, 2012, crop circles, Roswell, ancient astronauts, UFO sightings, and alien abductions. "The Anunnaki are knocking at your door, and one of them looks just like Brigitte Bardot." Bonus: UFO mail-art show in the lobby. *Through Jan. 24. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30. www.electronicplanetensemble.com.*

ABUELITA DE BATMAN ProyectoTeatro, Austin's only all-Spanish theatre company, presents this dark-humored Alejandro Licón play with English surtitles. *Through Jan. 24. Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Boyd Vance Theatre at the Carver Museum, 1165 Angelina, 374-4994. \$10-12. www.proyectoteatro.com.*

ONGOING

NUNSENSE II Up in Georgetown, the Palace Theatre's cast of 2007's *Nunsense* returns in this habit-kicking sequel penned by Dan Goggins. Directed by Ron Watson. *Through Feb. 7. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Georgetown Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Ave., 512/869-7469. \$22 (\$20, seniors; \$12, students, military; \$8, ages 15 and younger). www.georgetownpalace.com.*



AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE PRESENTS ITS SHIPBOARD SEND-UP, *THE LOVE BOAT, TWISTED*, AT THE LONG CENTER THIS WEEKEND.

DEATHTRAP Ira Levin's classic thriller about two writers playing a deadly cat-and-mouse is brought to the stage by the Way Off Broadway Community Players out Leander way. *Through Jan. 30. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sun., Jan. 24, 3pm. 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy., Leander, 512/259-5878. www.wobcp.org.*

OEDIPUS REX Japhy Fernandes and his irrepressible Austin Drama Club present this classic Greek tragedy, directed by Erin Jo. As ever, e-mail for location and details. *Through Jan. 30. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. japhyfernandes@live.com.*

ENDGAME Samuel Beckett's one-act about family, servitude, love, and inevitable decay is the inaugural production from Palindrome Theatre, directed by Kate Eminger. *Through Jan. 31. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 786-1939. \$20 (\$15, students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

EURYDICE This is Sarah Ruhl's acclaimed adaptation of the Orpheus myth as a modern dramatic comedy, brought to the lighted boards by the Different Stages company under the direction of Karen Jambon. Lord of the Underworld? Check. Chorus of Stones? Good to go. Timeless love story? But of course! See review, left. *Through Jan. 30. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. City Theatre, 3823-D Airport, 474-8497. \$15-30. www.citytheatre.austin.org.*

LA FENICE: SUITORS AND TUTORS The Austin Commedia Society, known for its enthusiastic modern interpretation of the influential style of commedia dell'arte, has been reborn (with four of the original members) as La Fenice, and here's the troupe's first production: an original scenario directed by Dr. Gian Giacomo Colli and featuring live music by Doryan Rice of the Barebones Orchestra. *Through Jan. 30. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Club de Ville, 900 Red River, 539-0358. \$5-15. www.lafeniceaustin.org.*

AUDITIONS

B-SIDES FROM THE A-LIST The ACC drama department is producing a show of short plays from the Theatre of the Absurd — Ionesco! Beckett! Albee! Pinter! — for April, and they need performers. E-mail for details and appointment. *Thu., Jan. 28, 6-9pm. ACC Mainstage Theatre, 1212 Rio Grande. aadair@austinctc.edu.*

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 5 issue is Monday, Jan. 25.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

Send submissions to the attention of the appropriate writer (see roster below). Mail to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail:

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy, visual arts.
brenner@austinchronicle.com.

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Ric Williams, litera. litera@austinchronicle.com.

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, Listings editor.
brenner@austinchronicle.com.

FRONTIERFEST 2010

The 17th annual festival of theatre is under way at (of course) Hyde Park Theatre with the Short Fringe schedule of five short shows per night and now also the Long Fringe with full-length productions throughout the month of January. Check the Hyde Park website, www.hydeparktheatre.com, for news and details, yes, but also see here for this week's entertainments:

SHORT FRINGE

at Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd

Thu., Jan. 21, 8pm: I've Got You Under My Skin by Kate Motzenbacher; **H** by Kristen Kosmas, performed by Steve Moore; **Stoners and Self-Appointed Saints** by Annie La Ganga; **Circled in Red** by Aslan Hollier; **T** by Cindy Vining; **Single Being** by Tom Truss.

Fri., Jan. 22, 8pm: Crossing the Line by Jessica Arnold; **Here, Nigger** by Roger Reeves; **Prep** by Susan Busa & George Ayres; **The Glamping Trip** by David Lee Hess, Lisa Jackson, and John Ratliff.

Sat., Jan. 23, 8pm: Best of the Week

Tue., Jan. 26, 8pm: The Wafer by Sandra Fountain; **Damned Avalanche** by Jenny Carlson & Patrick Knisely; **Spinning the Bottle** by Krissi Reeves; **I drove I said I did** by Natalie George; **Music Was the Air She Breathed** by Steven Laing.

Wed., Jan. 27, 8pm: Battle by Cry Havoc; **Seamstress** by Kenneth Wayne Bradley; **Autorama** W. Joe Hoppe and David Jewell; **Histrionics** by Julie Akers; **You and What Sketch Show?** by Matt Derman, Steve Donovan, Charles Formichella, Cortnie Jones, and Brian Engravalle.

Thu., Jan. 28, 8pm: Blue by Aslan Hollier; **The Sex of Joy** by Joy Loveall; **Johns and Spirits** by Jude Hinojosa; **Improvised Mamet** by Confidence Men; **Parents/Kids Dance Party** by Michelle Flanagan.

LONG FRINGE

at Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Lady M (Melissa Rodriguez) Gruoch Comegain is a Scottish noblewoman happily married with a child. What happens to transform her into the fiend-like Lady Macbeth? Directed by Matthew Braylon Haynes. **Sat., Jan. 23, 5:15pm; Mon., Jan. 25, 9:15pm; Thu., Jan. 28, 7pm.**

Some Other Day (Ben Schave & Caitlin Reilly) Schave and Reilly's take on the inevitable: death and weather. With their absurd blend of physical comedy and dance, the clowns take 'em on. **Wed., Jan. 27, 9:15pm; Sat., Jan. 30, 2:15pm; Sun., Jan. 31, 8:15pm.**

Dance Carousel (Spank Dance Company) Forty one-minute dances: four each created by local choreographers Ellen Bartel, Tom Benton, Yvonne Ferruffino, Nikki Jonston, Meredith Knight, Lisa Kobdich, Sumi Komo, Maia McCoy, Rosalyn Nasky, and Janna Rock. **Sat., Jan. 23, 3:15pm; Fri., Jan. 29, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 31, noon.**

Bohemian Cowboy (Raymond King Shurtz) An authentic portrayal of a theatre artist, a bohemian, and a cowboy still searching for the West and for his father who walked into the Nevada desert and vanished. **Thu., Jan. 21, 9:15pm; Sun., Jan. 24, 8:15pm; Wed., Jan. 27, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 30, noon.**

Things in Life (Ben Prager) Three-time Best of Fest winner Prager reprises his comic monologues that portray with unblinking realism "ordinary" Americans. Directed by Wynne West. **Sat., Jan. 23, 1pm; Mon., Jan. 25, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 30, 8:30pm; Sun., Jan. 31, 3:45pm.**

An Evening With Chastity and Alan Jr. (Alan Metoskie & Zoe Schwartz) In this comedic musical revue, famous country & western duo Alan Jr. and Chastity Gambler find their commitment to each other and to their show tested. **Sat., Jan. 23, 7:15pm; Sun., Jan. 24, 2:15pm.**

I Can't Believe It's Not Funny: The Best of Midnight Society Presents (Midnight Society) A full hour of the best sketch comedy Austin has to offer, with troupe members Lance Gilstrap, Michael Jastroch, Joel Keith, Delaney Liming, Andy Petruzzo, Nick Ramirez, Kyle Sweeney, Jericho Thorp, and Michael Williams. **Sun., Jan. 24, 6:15pm; Thu., Jan. 28, 9pm; Sun., Jan. 31, 2pm.**

Hotel Morocco (Aaron Black) Having lost his dad, girlfriend, and job, Adam is stuck as the overnight bellman at Hotel Morocco, a Times Square tourist trap. And now the owners want [insert ambiguous pronoun here] dead? Directed by Shannon Davis. **Fri., Jan. 22, 9:15pm; Sun., Jan. 24, noon; Tue., Jan. 26, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 30, 6:15pm.**

LONG FRINGE

at the Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

Habit (Robert Minschew) Timothy is down to his last five cigarettes. Moving to a new home, however, dredges up his past with his wife, Jane, and complicates the task of quitting. Directed by Josh Nanninga. **Sat., Jan. 23, 6:30pm; Sun., Jan. 24, 8:30pm; Sun., Jan. 31, 3:30pm.**

One Man's Music: A Monologue With Song (Vince Bell) Based on his new autobiography, Bell tells a tale about Texas music, the singer-songwriter tradition, and a personal journey (rehabilitation from a car wreck) that ends triumphantly. **Sat., Jan. 23, 8pm; Mon., Jan. 25, 7pm; Tue., Jan. 26, 9pm; Sat., Jan. 30, 2:15pm.**

A Man, a Magic, a Music (Melvin Brown) A journey through black music from the Fifties to the Nineties in story, song, tap, clogging, comedy, and character. With music by Ray Charles, Sam Cooke, Otis Redding, and more. **Fri., Jan. 22, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 24, 4:15pm; Mon., Jan. 25, 8:45pm; Sat., Jan. 30, 10:15pm.**

American Volunteers (City on a Hill? Productions) John M. Meyers' play follows a squad of special operations rangers as they patrol the Afghanistan-Pakistan border and the conflicts that arise as they pursue life, liberty, or happiness. **Thu., Jan. 21, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 23, 9:45pm; Sat., Jan. 30, noon.**

Allice! (Chaotic Theatre Company) James Jackson Leach's play depicts a girl's descent into madness. On her journey she meets characters with sinister smiles and outrageous personalities. **Sat., Jan. 23, noon; Thu., Jan. 28, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 31, 5pm.**

Love Me (Philip Kreyche) Oskar still can't get over the love who left him several years ago. So to avoid reality and save himself, he orders a mannequin made in her image. But his fantasy is becoming a nightmare. **Sat., Jan. 23, 2pm; Wed., Jan. 27, 9pm; Sat., Jan. 30, 6pm.**

The Mommy Confessions (Rhonda Kulhanek) Kulhanek's one-woman show features 13 characters struggling to survive their maternal lives, from a "memaw" who talks to Jesus to a former beauty queen to an unwed mother-to-be. **Fri., Jan. 22, 9:15pm; Sat., Jan. 23, 4:15pm; Sun., Jan. 31, 7pm.**

Dying City (Capital T Theatre) Christopher Shinn's unsettling new play seeks the truth of war in a quiet, transfixing tale of grief and violence, set in the shadow of the Iraq war. **Tue., Jan. 19, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 24, 2pm; Thu., Jan. 28, 9pm; Fri., Jan. 29, 7pm.**

Feelgood Hits of the 70s (Pommelhorse) Two roommates. On a couch. Drinking Tab. No subtext. No growth. No future. It's *Waiting for Godot* meets Richard Linklater. Written and performed by Sam L. Landman and Matthew Glover. **Wed., Jan. 27, 7pm; Fri., Jan. 29, 9:15pm; Sat., Jan. 30, 8:15pm; Sun., Jan. 31, 1:30pm.**

Looking for Love in All the Wrong Cafes, Strip Clubs, and Black Box Performance Spaces (Kevin Draine/The Bitter Poet) The Bitter Poet performs his darkly humorous, satirical, guitar-driven poems about searching for true love and the contortionists you meet along the way. **Thu., Jan. 21, 9:15pm; Sun., Jan. 24, 6:30pm; Tue., Jan. 26, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 30, 4pm.**

BRING YOUR OWN VENUE In This House (Everything Is You) (Salvage Vanguard Theatre & Eponymous Garden) A ghost story examining love, loss, and family. This workshop production is written by Sharon Bridgforth, Daniel Alexander Jones, Monika Bustamante, and Cyndi Williams and co-directed by Dustin Wills and Jenny Larson. **Jan. 21-24, Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat.-Sun., 5 & 8pm, at Eponymous Gardens, 1202 Garden.**

comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. Daily, 7pm-1am. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Cap City Open Mic Hey, it could be you up there slaying your friends and neighbors as they've slain you. **Sundays, 8pm. Free with college ID.**

Patrice O'Neal Big, black, and belly-bustingly hilarious, this veteran of the Montreal and Aspen comedy festivals, this regular from Fox's *The Jerry*, this popular comedy juggernaut rolls onto the Cap City stage for two nights of laughs. **Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm, Jan. 22-23.**

Maria Bamford and Her Austin Friends It's not enough that this comedian's been slaying crowds at Montreal and at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival; it's not enough that she so often brightens Comedy Central's diverse lineup; it's not enough that she's bringing her acclaimed stand-up back to Austin, is it? No, it's just not enough for you, you cynical, parsimonious reprobates. Maybe that's why Bamford's stacking the deck with some of the best local wits, too: To make this show even more irresistible. Recommended. **Wed.-Thu., Jan. 27-28, 8pm.**

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803-B Airport, 524-2807. www.coldtownetheater.com.

The Week in Coldness: The fierce improv artists of **Parallelogramphonograph** bring their inspired antics to the stage, abetted by the **Draft**. **Thu., 8pm. UpTowne** Sketch comedy, hometown. **Thu., 10pm. Eye for an iPhone** is a Second City-style sketch show led by the talented and happily hirsute **Dave Buckman**. **Fri., 8pm. Punchline** Stand-up comedy, ColdTowne style: Some of Austin's best. **Fri., 10pm. Boy Toy** presents a free show, featuring that improv classic, the Harold. **Sat., 7pm. Stool Pigeon** features that **Ashley Nugent** jump-starting the night with a thrice-told tale. **Sat., 8pm. Cage Match** Two improv teams go all lucha libre on each other for your grins and giggles. **Sat., 9pm. Stone Cold Improv** features the **ColdTowners** and **Venn Diaphragm**. **Sat., 10pm. The Late Night Show** sizzles with **Midnight Society** and **Unfurled**. **Sat., 11pm. ColdTowne All-Stars** is a free show with the, ah, all-stars of ColdTowne and **Unfurled**. **Sun., 7pm. Murphy and the Jam** is also free. **Sun., 8:30pm.**

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.estersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies Esther's popular jesters are starting the New Year off with their musical satire and lively vaudeville, Texas-style! The magic of Ray Anderson, topical satires on the news of the day, and musical production numbers, right there on Sixth Street. Reservations highly recommended. **Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.**

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.hideouttheatre.com.

Thursday: Oh, how **Threerfer Madness** brings you a trio of improv troupes! Oh, how they work without a script! **8pm. \$3.**

Friday: This Week Tonight brings fast and furious improv based on current headlines, slicing and dicing the latest scandals and more. **8pm. \$10. The Double Barrel** features two troupes of the devil-only-knows-what for your late-night amusement. **10pm. \$10.**

Saturday: Austin Secrets Every week, an improvisational exploration of the hidden things that define who we are, based on secrets sent in anonymously by your friends and neighbors – maybe by you. It's off the cuff and in your lives. And recommended. **8pm. \$10. Maestro** is a fierce, elimination-style battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience, sure to bring out the wackiest. **10pm. \$10.**

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelveteetroom.com.

Open Mic Night They're coming out of the alcohol-sodden woodwork to try and make you laugh, with your host **Michael Navarrete**. **Thursdays, 10pm.**

Jonathan Pace The winner of the coveted "Rooftop Rusty Nail" at 2008's Aspen Comedy Festival unleashes his uncanny comedy powers (and openers **Dale Alexander** and **Michael Navarrete**) on the Cheese Palace stage while the drunken revelers of Sixth Street stagger by outside. **Fri.-Sat., Jan. 22-23, 9:30 & 11:30pm.**

BUT WAIT - THERE'S MORE!

THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK Stand-up comedy – right there in the Hole, on the Drag, in the heart of collegiate Texas. **Tuesdays, 10pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe. \$5. www.myspace.com/austincomedytrainwreck.**

KICK BUTT COMEDY Open Mic Comedy Bring it or have it brought to you, clever citizen. **Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.**

AUDITIONS FOR TEEN COMEDY IMPROV TROUPE The New Movement and Austin Children's Theater are forming a young improvisers troupe. No previous experience needed. Seeking: fun and energetic kids (ages 13-16). See website for details. Auditions: **Sun., Jan. 24, noon-1:30pm. New Movement Theater, 1819 Rosewood, 788-2669. www.newmovementtheater.com.**

COMEDYSPORTZ Competitive improv? Yes, a vigorous battle between skilled improvisers – sort of like *Highlander*, but unscripted – and maestro **Les McGehee** and his talented friends bring it in full force each weekend to one of the sweetest little coffeehouses in the 78704. Also, variety shows! Live music! **Fridays and Saturdays, 7:30pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary.**

THE NEW MOVEMENT They've taught, and they've wrought, and they're ever so hawt, and now – finally – it's time for acclaimed instructors **Chris Trew** and **Tami Nelson** to take their brand of hijinks to their own New Movement stage with talented friends and disciples. Yes, a regular ongoing series of shows, right there in the theatre next to Nubian Queen Lola's, in inimitable Chris 'n' Tami style. This weekend's best bet: **Little Stolen Moments**. Next week: the burgerific antics of **McDonald's Corporate Comedy Crew**. See website for details. **Wed., 8 & 9:30pm; Thu., 10:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 9:30pm. New Movement Theater, 1819 Rosewood. www.newmovementtheater.com.**

Opens Next Week!

The Flaming Idiots



Reignited and It Feels So Good!

Enjoy outrageous, crackerjack juggling and hilarious hijinx. Great fun for all ages!

January 28-March 14

ZACH TICKETS 476-0541, x1
THEATRE or ZACHTHEATRE.ORG



‘David Bates Since 1982: From the Everyday to the Epic’

Austin Museum of Art - Downtown,
823 Congress,
www.amoa.org
Through Jan. 31

Those who love to be out in nature won't mind going inside the Austin Museum of Art to see "David Bates Since 1982: From the Everyday to the Epic." In large paintings such as *The Rookery*,

we're encompassed by the cacophony of the bird world. The swampy landscape is devoid of people, glorious and dangerous: A snake eyes a bird in the marshes, the trail of alligators swimming registers. But the sounds and riot of a burgeoning natural world hold sway. The life force of the swamp just explodes – there sits a frog, there a woodpecker pounding out its tune, water lilies bloom, egrets nest – yet it is all under a foreboding sky that one hardly notices.

We haven't seen much of Bates' art in Austin in a while, so it is great to see nearly three decades in the evolution of this Texas artist laid out in rooms that encapsulate chapters in his story. Organized by AMOA Director Dana Friis-Hansen, this core sample of Bates' work goes back 27 years and focuses on the faux-naive or folk-inspired paintings for which he is deservedly well-known, along with his forays into sculpture.

While Friis-Hansen has long admired Bates' work, one facet that drew him to organizing the show was the Katrina paintings. For Friis-Hansen, Bates is a "talented and interesting painter, but his current work is spectacular." The show is organized to introduce Bates' evolution from work that focused on the quotidian as subject matter – Gulf Coast scenes and paeans to people who influenced him, such as the folk artist William Edmondson or the painter's father – through to the Katrina series, which now carries an even larger resonance in the wake of Haiti's recent disaster. Friis-Hansen notes that with the Katrina paintings, Bates is "adding to the dialogue, not just following trends. It is about what art can tell us about experiencing the world."

In essence, for 30 years, Bates has been creating a personal cosmology that embodies the everyday and has grown to include the epic. Perhaps Bates wouldn't have done the Katrina series if he had not experienced losing his parents in old age. We see Bates'

father in a bookend experience: hale and hearty in *Woodcutter* and lost to the foggy throes of Alzheimer's in *W.M.* 1998-2001.

In *Woodcutter*, as in many of the paintings, the large scale fills our vision, placing us nowhere but there. The up-tilted, orangey-brown earth glows warm from sunlight we feel but don't see and jauntily presents the image to us like a bouquet. The woodcutter is surrounded by a view of the edge of woods, a cabin, and a pile of the day's labor. Tree rings in every imaginable form abound in the stack of logs the satisfied woodcutter has produced, and they seem to be there, along with the plaid shirt on the happy woodcutter, to create a riot of pattern that, though familiar, you haven't seen in nature quite that way before. Nor have you spied a shirt like that in any L.L. Bean catalog – its pattern reflecting the windows of a house more than a checkered work shirt. Yet Bates' patterns, throughout the show, are specific, familiar, and recognizable.

We see the artist's father again near the end of the show, just before the Katrina paintings, yet one would not connect this portrait with the woodcutter. The once strong and vibrant man is painted in grays and broken lines, the boundaries between his brain and the world completely eroded. He is there, and he is dissolving before our eyes.

Each of these paintings is a tree-ring time capsule in the artist's journey. The center of the exhibit shows Bates wrestling with what seems to be a dead end in his painting style – as in the sculpture *Man With Snake II*, which depicts a man wrestling with a lively snake. Bates turned to sculpture to crack his art open, and his paintings became richer, deeper, and more complex spatially. As I leave the show, I walk between *The Sculptor*, a painting of the folk artist William Edmondson carving his art as well as gravestones, and the life-affirming *Woodcutter*. It is easy but sobering to leave the show thinking that life, like art, is in the making.

– Madeline Irvine

ONE MORE NIGHT Because the thousand and one nights of Scheherazade weren't quite enough, here's the one that got away: Improvised tales of courageous heroes, sexy sultanas, genies, and other mythical beasts, performed by a fierce and clever Gnap! Theater Projects cast under the direction of Audrey Sansom. Recommended? Yes, and the door is open, Sesame! *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 22-Feb. 13, 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

SATURDAY NIGHT SPECIAL Two Gnap!tastic improv troupes, one after the other, for maximum compare-and-contrast opportunities of comedy styling and schools of prov-fu. This weekend, **Snackers** presents **Switcheroo!** and **Junk.** *Sat., Jan. 23, 10pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$10. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

dance

BIG RANGE DANCE FESTIVAL: CALL FOR CHOREOGRAPHERS The annual gathering of contemporary dance, movement-based performance art, and dance video that turns this city into an epicenter of creative kinesics – produced by Spank Dance Artistic Director Ellen Bartel – has four programs to choose from (and choreographers are compensated, yes). Out-of-towners are also welcome to apply. Deadline: *Jan. 30. www.bigrangeaustin.org.*

DANCE UMBRELLA: THE HEART OF AUSTIN brings together Austin's choreographers, dancers, technicians, and supporters (that's you) in an evening to gather information, share resources, and make connections. If you love dance and would like to support your local dance community, come join them. *Sun., Jan. 24, 5-7pm. American Legion, 2201 W. Cesar Chavez. 450-0456. Free. www.danceumbrella.com.*

PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE: OCTAVITAS 2010 Christmas never ends on the island of Puerto Rico. Or it will feel that way when you enjoy traditional dance and music performances by PRFDance's professional and junior companies and performing arts students. Bring an instrument, and sing along! *Sun., Jan. 24, 2-5pm. Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center, 701 Tillery. 251-8122. www.prfdance.org.*

DANCE CAROUSEL AT FRONTERAFEST You're right: We're not listing all the theatrical performances of FronteraFest in separate theatre listings (i.e., besides under the rubric of that fine festival), but we are listing *this* event separately here. We figure modern dance too often gets short shrift in modern culture; so this is an attempt at balancing that; you got a beef thereby, take it up with Brenner. Now: **Spank Dance Company** presents 40 one-minute dances: four each created by local choreographers Ellen Bartel, Tom Benton, Yvonne Ferrufino, Nikki Jonston, Meredith Knight, Lisa Kobdich, Sumi Komo, Maia McCoy, Rosalyn Nasky, and Janna Rock. Recommended. *Sat., Jan. 23, 3:15pm; Fri., Jan. 29, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 31, noon. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.spankdance.com.*

classical music

OPENING

AUSTIN FRIENDS OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC: MID-WINTER FESTIVAL Break out of the winter doldrums with fantastic music by talented local bands and a broad array of workshops. *Sat., Jan. 23, noon-10pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 476-3991. \$5-15. www.aftm.us.*

CHAPARRAL EURYTHMY CONCERT Norwegian guest artists Trond and Margrethe Solstad present eurythmy to music by Edvard Grieg and Frederic Chopin, with pianists Anthony Tobin and Willis Miller. Poetry of Frederick Turner and Olav Hauge. *Sun., Jan. 24, 4:30pm. Austin Waldorf School Performing Arts Center, 8700 South View. 288-6130. Free. www.chaparraleurythmy.org.*

TEXAS CHORAL CONSORT: MATTHEW HINSLEY Instrumental and vocal music from Brazil, Paraguay, Germany, Italy, Spain, and England, ranging from the Renaissance to the present, performed by classical guitarist and tenor Hinsley. *Sun., Jan. 24, 4pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 372-3233. Donations accepted. www.txconsort.org.*

TROUBADOUR: MATTHEW HINSLEY PERFORMING WORKS FOR CLASSICAL GUITAR AND VOICE *Sun., Jan. 24. Free will donation benefiting Texas Choral Consort. www.txconsort.org.*

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY: GERMAN TROMBONIST ABBIE CONANT AND COMPOSER WILLIAM OSBORNE Three days of original music, virtuoso performances, and engaging conversation about music and feminism with guest artists Conant and Osborne. Following a talk about the salon movements of Europe, the duo presents one of its music theatre works, "Street Scene for the Last Mad Soprano," where a singer, living in the dumpsters behind the Met, can no longer distinguish her life on the street from opera. *Thu., Jan. 26, 7pm. Alma Thomas Fine Arts Center. **Feminism in Performance** Panel discussion and Q&A with Abbie Conant, Kathleen Juhl, William Osborne, and Star Varner. *Wed., Jan. 27, 4pm. Alma Thomas Fine Arts Center. **Music for the End of Time** A concert-length tone poem in six movements for trombone, quadruphonics electronics. *Thu., Jan. 28, 7pm. Alma Thomas Fine Arts Center, Southwestern University, Georgetown. 512/863-1504. Free. www.southwestern.edu/sarofim.***

TEXAS PERFORMING ARTS: BERLIN PHILHARMONIC WIND QUINTET Can't get the entire philharmonic to town? Try this exuberant quintet of virtuosos, who'll perform music by Mozart, Reicha, Barber, and Carl Nielsen. *Wed., Jan. 27, 8pm. McCullough Theatre, UT campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 477-6060. \$36 (\$10, students). www.utpac.org.*

visual arts

EVENTS

PRINT + ADDICTION: THE AMAZING HANCOCK BROTHERS The ink-stained gang at Industry Screenprint Shop celebrates its first anniversary of Print + Addiction events with this beery, rockin' party featuring the work of design rebels John and Charles Hancock, the popular do-it-yourself 8-color press, and music by PopNoir Soundsystem. *Fri., Jan. 22, 6-10pm. 2503-B E. Sixth. www.hancockbrothers.com.*

INCREDIBLE ART SHOW: DOODLES! Doodles by Max McDermott, Don Jolly, Taylor Roderick, and Justin Prince (the painter of the I Luv Video murals). Doodles from wall to wall. Also, doodles! And vegetarian food catered by Max Roderick. *Sat., Jan. 23, 7pm. 3701 Werner. www.incredibleartshow.com.*

AMOA NEW WORKS ARTIST TALK: JADE WALKER The artist talks about the inspiration and process for making her installation, *Spectator Sport*. Recommended. *Thu., Jan. 21, 7pm. 823 Congress, 495-9224. \$5. www.amoa.org.*

ARTHOUSE LECTURE SERIES: HOU HANRU The director of exhibitions and public programs at San Francisco Art Institute – known for his examinations of postmodern issues of nomadic identity, hybridity, and artists living in diaspora – speaks at the Carver this night. *Tue., Jan. 26, 7pm. 1165 Angelina, 974-4926. www.arthousetexas.org.*

OPENING

CO-LAB: TRANSFER STATION Alyssa Taylor Wendt starts off a whole new year of Co-Lab activity via this "interactive experiment with information and metamorphosis." *Jan. 21-24. Thu.-Sat., noon-6pm; Sun., 6-8pm. 613 Allen, 300-8217. www.seangaulager.com/Co-Lab.*

RUSSELL COLLECTION: ALEXANDRA NECHITA The artist, now 24, began drawing at the age of 2 and by age 7 was painting with oils and acrylics. RSVP for reception. Reception: *Jan. 23-24. Sat., 6-8pm; Sun., 1-3pm. 1137 W. Sixth, 478-4440. www.russell-collection.com.*

CREATIVE RESEARCH LABORATORY: IDEAS OF MOUNTAINS This is a juried group show emphasizing wild, large-scale experimentation in site-specific installations, featuring UT students and alumni and other artists living and working in Austin. Andrew Long, Anthony Garza, Christa Mares, Teruko Nimura, Jesus Benavente, and Andrea Bonin, to name just a few. For more information, see "Selkie Project," p.27. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 23, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 6. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328. uts.cc.utexas.edu/~crlab.*

BIRDHOUSE GALLERY: LANCE MCMAHAN The artist's intriguing constructions and collages complicate the Birdhouse walls in an exhibition called "Monoliths and Artifacts." Recommended. Reception: *Sun., Jan. 24, 6-10pm. 1304 E. Cesar Chavez, 789-9242. www.birdhousegallery.com.*

CLOSING

CHILDHOOD: AN INTERNATIONAL PHOTO EXHIBITION The Texas Photographic Society presents an exhibition curated by actress Jamie Lee Curtis. *Through Jan. 28. Buttridge Gallery, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.cityofaustin.org/dougherty/gallery.htm.*

BAY 6 STUDIOS: J. HALEY “Mixed media drawings and paintings of stuff on stuff,” promises the artist. So many things. *Through Jan. 24. 5305 Bolm.*

ONGOING

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and “sculptural tattoos” by Joyce DiBona. *404 W. Milton, 851-2646. www.joycedibona.com.*

CECILIA LING: MY SECRET GARDEN Photography of natural aquatic scenes from Austin, France, China, and more. *Through Feb. 28. 360 Gallery, 6720 N. Cap. of TX Hwy, 346-6789. www.360galleryofaustin.org.*

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: CLOWNS AND PORTRAITS That’s right: As painted by Brooklyn-based artist Jim Torok. *Through March 13. 360 Nueces #50, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.*

CHAN CHAN: PHOTOS AND PAINTINGS OF CUBA The photography of Piercarlo Abate and the paintings of Luis Abreu show a side of Cuba that’s seldom seen. *81 San Marcos St. www.piercarloabate.com.*

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eyeccontactart.com.*

ART IN A NUTSHELL This is the gallery of Ismael Cavazos, creator of “The Old Man in the Peanut,” featuring his creations involving scribbles, drip paintings, rocks, inkblots, and clouds. And work by other artists, too. *2209 S. First, 436-6551. www.ismaelcavazos.com.*

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. *1219 W. Sixth.*

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.*

REAL GALLERY: JAN AND ORION KNOX The husband-and-wife team present their paintings and photography of the great outdoors. *Through Feb. 7. 101 W. Sixth, 775-0458. www.realgalleryaustin.com.*

DUMONT GALLERY Linda Dumont: cityscapes, abstracts, and portraits. Call for appointment. *906 E. Fifth. 698-1890. www.lindadumont.com.*

AUSTIN ART GARAGE Original art by local artists. *2200 S. Lamar, 351-5934. www.austinartgarage.com.*

AUSTIN ART SPACE A variety of local artists. *7739 Northcross Ste Q, 771-2868. www.austinartspace.com.*

ART ON 5TH: CITYSCAPES The urban acrylics of Alexandre Zerbe are featured in this near-Downtown gallery. *Through Jan. 30. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.*

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY Artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodríguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. *78 San Marcos, 457-0171. www.pablataboadastudio.com.*

AUSTIN ART GLASS offers functional and decorative glass art, classes, and more. *1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.*

AMO: DAVID BATES AND JADE WALKER The large and expressive oil paintings of David Bates – vivid scenes of nature, near-documentary images (based on broadcast video) of the devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina – are paired with new sculptures and installations by Austin’s own Jade Walker, she of UT’s Creative Research Laboratory. For more, see “In the Game,” p.28, and review, p.62. *Through Jan. 31. 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amo.org.*

BLANTON MUSEUM: THE PETROBELLI ALTAR-PIECE This work by Venetian master Paolo Veronese (1528-1588) was recently identified as a fragment of the head of Saint Michael, the central figure in the so-called Petrobelli altarpiece from 1565. *Through Feb. 7. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. *108 W. 43rd, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.*

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a South Austin home. Hours: *Saturdays and Sundays, noon-9pm, or by appointment. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keeapaustinweird.com.*

D BERMAN GALLERY: CHILL Cold, shmol: This exhibition features work by a gathering of artists who know how to warm up a venue with intricate visual beauty: Cynthia Camlin, Sara Frantz, Jennifer Maestre, Leslie Mutchler, Raychael Stine, Steve Wiman, and Sydney Yeager. *Through Feb. 6. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

L. NOWLIN GALLERY: LOLI KANTOR The Fort Worth-based photographer presents “There Was a Forest: Jewish Life in Eastern Europe Today,” featuring her documentary work portraying Holocaust survivors. *Through Feb. 27. 1202-A W. Sixth, 626-9301. www.lnowlingallery.com.*

MITCHIE’S FINE BLACK ART presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. *7801 N. Lamar Ste. B-148, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.*

MONARCH EVENT CENTER: NEW YEAR NEW SHOW The Monarch in Lincoln Village has new owners, did you know, and they aim to do right by the ATX and its cultural brilliance. Exhibit A: This inaugural art show featuring work by **Christa Palazzolo, Ryan Davis, and Dustin Michael Pevey.** *Through March 26. 6406 N. I-35 #3100, 371-1711. www.themonarchtexas.com.*

MUSEUM OF NATURAL & ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA A curator-led tour of this museum’s quirky and delightful “Impermanent Collection” is one of the hidden wonders of Austin. Tours: *Saturdays, 1-4pm. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org.*

OKAY MOUNTAIN: INTO THE LIGHT This is Christine Gray’s second solo exhibition at Okay Mountain, wherein the artist continues to explore the frenetic play between real and unreal created using sculptural arrangements as the basis for her paintings. Exhibition: *Through Feb. 13. 1312-B E. Cesar Chavez. www.okaymountain.com.*

REVERSE GALLERY OPENING Michael Bacon paints abstracts on the back of clear vinyl and his works are viewed through the untouched side; this is his new gallery. *612 Brazos #100, 592-0219. www.michaelabacon.com.*

SALVAGE VANGUARD: THE SUBTLE ARTS The Eponymous Garden presents this exhibition, assembled by Sterling Price-McKinney, showcasing works that evoke “the lost art of letter writing” and “the lost art of mourning” as practiced in Victorian times. *Through Jan. 30. 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

SOUTH AUSTIN MUSEUM OF POPULAR CULTURE: TRIBUTE TO BILL NARUM This is a terrific retrospective and a memorial exhibition of work by rock art giant and Armadillo World Headquarters stalwart Bill Narum. *Through Feb. 27. 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318. www.samopc.org.*

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: A GRAND AFFAIR A group show, with all works priced less than a grand, opens the new year at this acclaimed gallery. *Through Jan. 30. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: KIA NEILL The artist’s new “Terrain” transforms the W&TW gallery into a subterranean grotto, with synthetic rocks, geodes, and moss crawling across and growing out of the floor, with fabricated stalagmites and unusual geological forms surrounding visitors. Thinking about seeing it? We must say: Cave into the urge. *Through Feb. 27. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

YARD DOG: SOUTHERN FOLK ART Austin’s best bastion of folk art begins 2010 with a show of works by artists from Texas and the Deep South. *Through Feb. 5. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.*

SPACES

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. *701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.*

THUNDERBIRD COFFEE: EDWARD ROBIN CORONEL A menagerie of furry, feathered and costumed critters. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 30, 6-8pm. 2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900.*

PICTURING AMERICA FROM EAST TO WEST Photos of America and its art, in a periodically changing display. *Through May. Wells Branch Library, 15001 Wells Port Dr., 989-3188. www.wblibrary.org.*

EASTSIDE BOOKS Currently showing works by Patrick King, Ramon Lozano, and John Metcalf. *2415 E. Fifth. 472-2665. www.eastsidebooksaustin.com.*

HIDEOUT THEATRE: ART BY SIX Group show by Lanie McCormick, Ryan Paul, William Rosshirt, Neesha Thakkar, Ashley Ward, and Rebecca Joye. Reception with live music by Alexander Speed, Shelby Pollard, and more: *Sat., Jan. 23, 8-10pm. 617 Congress, 762-0022. www.hideouttheatre.com.*

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

STUDIO2GALLERY: CALL FOR ENTRIES This exhibition, juried by Mo Scollan for a March presentation, is open to all styles. Artwork submitted must have been executed within the last 3 years to be eligible. See website for details and application. Deadline: *Feb. 1. www.studio2gallery.com.*

litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

LOWELL MICK WHITE introduces us to a depressed criminal defense attorney whose absurd life is about to get more absurd after she loses her job in his thriller *That Demon Life.* *Wed., Jan. 27, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

BORDERLANDS COMMUNITY OF POETS features poets from the Austin Poetry Society’s 60th Anniversary issue, *Reflections.* Katherine Durham Oldmixon is the presenter. Featured poets are Deb Akers, Mary Ellen Branan, Elzy Cogswell, Ralph Hausser, Christa Pandey, Jason Carrs, Shubb Bala Schiesser. Hosted by Deb Akers. *Sun., Jan. 24, 4pm. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493. borderlandspoe@sbccglobal.net.*

STEVEN WEINBERG Austin’s own Nobel Prize-winning physicist offers wide-ranging reflections on problems of everything from cosmology to politics and religion in his collection of essays, *Lake Views.* Highly recommended. *Sun., Jan. 24, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

AMERICAN SHORT FICTION READING This evening of literary goodness features music from Frank Smith frontman Aaron Sinclair and readings by poet Farid Matuk, actress Maggie Wilhite, and fiction writer Michael Noll. *Sat., Jan. 23, 7-9pm. Space 12, 3121 E. 12th. www.americanshortfiction.org.*

SUSAN VIOLENTE dug into her family history and came up with *Innocent War*, a boy’s adventure that is mostly true. *Sat., Jan. 23, 2pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985. www.innocentwar.com.*

CLARKE STRAUGHAN charms us with *Romancing the Impossible*, his memoir of meeting the Beatles and Ava Gardner and dining with royals after hitting the road with fifty bucks in his pocket. *Sat., Jan. 23, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

THEY SPEAK YOUTH POETRY SLAM These young poets are as exciting and potent a group of performers as you will find anywhere in the world. Always recommended. Always. *Sat., Jan. 23, 4pm. The Independent at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 422-6653. \$5. www.tywc.org.*

BJ BURROW wants his zombie rights in his fantasy *The Changed.* *Fri., Jan. 22, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

BRIAN HART graduated from the Michener Center for Writers and won UT’s Keene Prize in 2006. He debuts his critically acclaimed first novel, *Then Came the Evening.* Highly recommended. *Thu., Jan. 21, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY features Bryce Milligan of Wings Press and Dorothy Ellis Barnett of the ACC Creative Writing Program with “Poetry in Composition: The Art of the Chapbook.” All are welcome. Recommended. *Sat., Jan. 23, 1:30-3:30pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 499-7480.*

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

POETRY WORKSHOP Join poets Barbara Youngblood Carr and Herman Nelson for the monthly Poetry Workshop. Bring 10 copies of an original poem for friendly critiquing. *Thu., Jan. 21, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985. store-locator.barnesandnoble.com.*

OPEN MICS

FRIDAY NIGHT MIC for poetry, music, drama, and stories. Hosted by Bear Man Poet. *Fridays, 8-10pm. JP’s Java, 2803 San Jacinto.*

GENUINE JOE *Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.*

THE HIDEOUT is hosted by Thom Moon 10 and features Jen Borland and her sweet collection of confessional intensity. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry). www.hideouttheatre.com.*

HOT MAMA’S OPEN MIC *Tuesdays, 7:30-9pm. Hot Mama’s Espresso Bar, 2401 E. Sixth, 476-MAMA. www.myspace.com/hotmamaspresso.*

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry and a rotating group of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, pommo theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast. *Wednesdays, 8pm. The Independent at 501 Studios, 501 N. I-35, 485-3001. \$5 (21 and older). www.austinslam.com.*

JAVA GARDEN is a new poetry venue for the second and fourth Sunday of each month. Hosted by Lee Leteef, bringing it to the Riverside. *Sun., Jan. 10, 6-8pm. Java Gardens, 1717 Pleasant Valley #280, 385-8858.*

SPOKEN & HEARD Bring words, make noise, bring yourself, make friends. ASL Sign Language interpreter available. Hosted by The Crew. *Sundays, 7-10pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425. www.kickbuttoffee.com.*

RUTA MAYA POETRY is one of the longest-running weekly open mics in Texas. Hosted by David Bates. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rmpoetryaustin.com.*

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! *On January 13, 2010, televangelist Pat Robertson was moved to say that the earthquake that hit Haiti on January 12, 2010, was due to Haitians making a pact with the devil 200 years ago to rid the island nation of French rule. Toussaint-Louverture led a revolt of Haitian slaves against the French in 1791. It was the only successful revolt of slaves in the history of the world. Nat Turner attempted a rebellion in 1831 in the state of Virginia, USA. He thought God had called him to free his fellow slaves who were habitually brutalized by their otherwise kindly masters. The rebellion was crushed ruthlessly and the oppressive American slave system became even more horrific. Clearly, Mr. Turner was mistaken as to why God had called him. One might conclude that he signed on with the wrong team. Remember, kids: Choose your supernatural agents wisely. And keep a copy of any pact you might sign. Your lawyer will thank you at the discovery stage of any ensuing litigation. Meanwhile, do what you can to help the real people of Haiti. Namaste. Do more than is necessary.*

POEM OF THE ISSUE

I turn off the television

leaving the priest and the woman bleeding stigmata

on white bedsheets with one less audience member.

I have bled almost every month for 37 years

and no one gave me my own television show.

(Forgive me of my sins, Father, for I have sinned).

Let us fall down on our knees

how holy are the stains we leave,

holy in their urgency calling out into the bleeding night.

nailed to hearts unanswered, permanent and loud.

– Darla McBryde, from “Stigmata”

film listings



The Maid

D: Sebastián Silva; with Catalina Saavedra, Claudia Celedón, Alejandro Goic, Andrea García-Huidobro, Mariana Loyola, Agustín Silva, Mercedes Villanueva, Anita Reeves. (NR, 93 min., subtitled)

There are plentiful narratives out there that depict the class resentments between maids and their employers. Usually, they end in an outburst of violent revenge committed by the downtrodden

servant class. Despite its title, the Chilean film *The Maid* is not one of these stories, though it shares many common elements. The behavior of Raquel (Saavedra), this film's titular maid, can't be thoroughly explained away by class analysis. Raquel's behavior is more inscrutable, more pathological, and more human than any dialectical formula can explicate. Winner of the 2009 Sundance Film Festival World Cinema Grand Jury Prize, *The Maid* is an intriguing psychological study that, more or less, leaves out the psychology and presents us with surface behavior. The film opens on Raquel's 41st birthday as the couple for whom she works and their four children clumsily present her with a cake and presents. She has worked for this family for something like 20 years, which also happens to be the age of the eldest child, Camila (García-Huidobro). Sullen, territorial, and constantly popping pain pills, Raquel, who has her own apartment in the big house, is unpleasant to be around. Yet it's also clear that there is nowhere else she would rather be. Her aloofness from the family members is only equaled by her total

involvement in their rhythms. Her appearance is frumpy and her hair and eyes a bit wild. When Pilar (Celedón), her employer, tries to counteract Raquel's discomfiting behavior by hiring a younger maid to provide extra assistance, Raquel maliciously sabotages the plan. Next, an older maid is brought in to lend a hand, and Raquel sends her quite literally up a wall and packing. The third maid, Lucy (Loyola), is different, however. Lucy responds to Raquel's pathological affronts with kindness and hugs, and at

this point the film goes in an unexpected direction. Saavedra's central performance is remarkable to observe. Not only is it free of vanity, it also shows the malleability of the human body as an outward indicator of inner sentiments. Silva films the drama with a handheld video camera that allows for greater intimacy, though not necessarily better images. His unsentimental portrait of Raquel doesn't render the character any less inscrutable, but he does manage to make the figure thoroughly human. — Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Arbor

new reviews

THE BOOK OF ELI D: Allen Hughes, Albert Hughes; with Denzel Washington, Gary Oldman, Mila Kunis, Ray Stevenson, Jennifer Beals, Evan Jones, Michael Gambon, Frances de la Tour, Tom Waits, Malcolm McDowell. (R, 118 min.)

Has it really been almost a decade since the Hughes Brothers released a film? Apparently, yes. The sibling team that exploded out of indieworld with 1993's *Menace II Society*, a lean and mean hollaback to John Singleton's *Boyz n the Hood*, haven't had a movie in theatres since 2001's artful clunker *From Hell*.

The Book of Eli is one more in an increasingly dire line of post-apocalypse films with none-too-optimistic messages embedded in them (e.g., *2012* = "Give up"; *The Road* = "We're all doomed"; and *Blindness* = "Give up because we're doomed and we're blind, to boot"). Like its titular protagonist (a deadly smooth Washington), *The Book of Eli* early on sets a course and never deviates from its core mission of being an action-packed, end-of-days road movie. A war has happened some 30 years prior and sucked the color out of the

sky, most of the people from the earth, and all the King James Bibles from the physical plane. The enigmatic Eli, stoic as a monk and with much in common with a certain Japanese swordsman, plods along the road with his precious cargo safely tucked away inside a dusty backpack. (Everything is dusty in this film.) His occasional encounters with other human beings prove less than encouraging — bandits, cannibals, and illiterates haunt the American interstate highway system — until he arrives at a dingy little wreck of a town overseen by Carnegie (Oldman looking, well, old), a teapot dictator with a yen for the Good Book. Carnegie knows the power of the written word, or, at least, the power of the religious icon, and he schemes to remove Eli's burden from him and thus remake himself as a ruler of men. Eli, understandably, is wary, watchful, and either blessed or damned, depending on your spiritual rigging. Dust ensues, but for all its grit and detritus, *The Book of Eli* is a well-polished movie. The Hughes Brothers, working with cinematographer Don Burgess (*Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines*), make a convincing case for dying quickly in the event of super bad shit happening everywhere. Even the entrance of Beals and Kunis (as Carnegie's blind lover/slave and her daughter, respectively) into this heretofore testosterone-charged film can't dent the overall feeling of bad mojo rising that hangs over the proceedings like a funereal pall. To their credit, and my everlasting relief, the Hughes Brothers have also rounded out their film with several wonderfully realized cameos from a handful of unexpected character actors, chief among them Waits, McDowell, and Gambon (the latter steals the whole show from *everybody*). Much has been made of the film's ending, vis-à-vis whether or not it's a pro- or anti-organized religion commentary of some sort. The Hughes Brothers, for two, say they just wanted to make a kick-ass piece of contemporary entertainment, and I, for one, believe them. — Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES

D: Tom Vaughan; with Brendan Fraser, Harrison Ford, Keri Russell, Jared Harris, Patrick Bauchau, Courtney B. Vance, Meredith Droeger, Diego Velazquez, Sam Hall. (PG, 105 min.)

It's unsurprising that the first movie released by the new film production outfit CBS Films is something that looks and tastes an awful lot like a TV movie of the week. A fatal juvenile disease, heroic parenting, a recalcitrant collaborator, a ticking clock, and near-insurmountable odds give *Extraordinary Measures* all the dramatic arcs necessary for this type of thing. Yet the very predictability of those arcs and their outcomes dampens that which, under other circumstances, would be invigorating and inspirational. We would all like to believe that we would act as heroically for our children as John and Aileen Crowley do. They are the parents of three children, two of whom suffer from Pompe disease, a form of muscle and organ deterioration that generally kills its victims before adolescence. John Crowley is an executive at Bristol-Myers whose star is on the rise when he casts his job aside to throw in his lot with Dr. Robert Stonehill (Ford, who is also serves as an executive producer), a researcher whose theories appear to have the best chance of

solving the disease's riddles. Together they form a new biotech company and set about the arduous process of bringing a new drug to the testing and market phases. Of course, Crowley has nowhere near the money needed to make the venture work, and Stonehill is an idiosyncratic talent who doesn't play well with others. The filmmakers are smart to keep the focus of this drama on the adults rather than the sick children, though there's still a bit too much of the Crowleys' perky eldest daughter, Megan (Droeger), who wants little more than for the "special medicine" to come in pink pill form. Everyone works tirelessly to race the clock and move the man-made obstacles littering their path to success. No parent is more selfless than Crowley; he represents the best hope for ourselves under similar conditions. However, the ideal world of this movie, which is inspired by real experiences recounted in a book by Geeta Anand, leaves out numerous practical details, foremost being how the Crowleys handle the stated \$40,000 of monthly medical fees which were previously picked up by insurance once the breadwinner leaves his corporate job. Practicalities such as these can be big impediments — even to the superheroically inclined. Most of the time, inspiration is simply not enough to get you through the hard times. — Marjorie Baumgarten

★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

LEGION

D: Scott Stewart; with Paul Bettany, Dennis Quaid, Tyrese Gibson, Adrienne Palicki, Doug Jones, Jon Tenney, Charles S. Dutton, Kevin Durand, Lucas Black, Kate Walsh, Willa Holland. (R, 105 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. God loses faith in humanity and sends a legion of angels to start the apocalypse. Strangers in a desert diner receive help from the Archangel Michael and become unlikely candidates for survival in this movie, which was not screened for press. — Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

NAMO VENKATESA D: Srinu Vytla; with Venkatesh, Trisha Krishnan, Brahmanandam. (NR)

Not reviewed at press time. This is a new Telegu-language romantic comedy. — Marjorie Baumgarten

Highland

★ **RED CLIFF** D: John Woo; with Tony Leung, Zhang Fengyi, Yong You, Chang Chen, Takeshi Kaneshiro, Chiling Lin, Zhao Wei, Hu Jun, Shidou Nakamura. (R, 148 min., subtitled)

Hollywood has not served Hong Kong action auteur Woo well since his move to the U.S. for 1993's Jean-Claude Van Damme movie *Hard Target*. That was just one year after the director's maximum opus *Hard-Boiled* delivered on its promise to become the most exciting thing in the history of the British crown colony's wildly popular (and lucrative) cops vs. gangsters genre. Woo's stateside time has been less than bracing, with only 1997's *Face/Off* coming anywhere near the holy-shit-did-I-just-see-that?! bullet-riddled ballet of Woo's better yesterdays. No one, of course, has ever accused Woo of

being unsentimental, either – raised a strict Catholic, virtually all of his films feature at least one shot of a covey of white doves flapping heavenward, and his cops and robbers are always closer at heart than either audience or character might think. *Red Cliff*, now the biggest box-office smash in Chinese history (sinking *Titanic*), is being buzzed as Woo's return to form, although it should be noted that what American audiences are seeing is a condensed version of Woo's original cut, down to slightly more than two-and-a-half hours from five. (Not so much, really, when you stop to consider that the 14th century novel the film is based on runs some 800,000 words.) In some respects it is a return to the ballistic ballets of Hong Kong-era Woo, only this time the projectiles are sheathed in quivers instead of shoulder holsters: Tens of thousands of arrows darken the sky as Woo's epic retelling of an ancient Chinese battle unfolds. So many are the tactical twists and strategy turns that shake the pillars of heaven throughout that I'm tempted to synopsise the whole thing as Dresden on the Yangtze and let you have at it, already. But the story, which involves the desire of the Han Dynasty's prime minister-turned-general Cao Cao (Zhang) to unite all of China, including the quarrelsome area run by the warlord Sun Quan (Chang, of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon*) down south. Having already routed the army of provincial leader Liu Bei (Yong), the greedy if bloodily efficient Cao Cao heads south with 1 million men to stamp out the now-united, 30,000-plus armies of Sun and Liu. That's all you need to know about the labyrinthine plot structure of *Red Cliff*, but the true stars of the film are Liu Bei's uncannily successful military strategist, Zhuge Liang (Kaneshiro), and the tactics he devises for the southern insurgency. These include (but are not limited to) astute meteorological forecasting, clever use of a tortoise, and whip-smart flanking movements. (Cao Cao, for his part, devises an early version of biological warfare and clandestine psychological operations.) Leung turns up as a southern viceroy, and so do those doves – or carrier pigeons as the case may be – but the real reason to see this behemoth of a battle is its epic scale. You may have the biggest flat-screen DLP monitor in the city, but *Red Cliff* will never look half as spectacular as it will on the big – and I mean really big – screen.

★★★ Dobie

– Marc Savlov

THE SPY NEXT DOOR D: Brian Levant; with Jackie Chan, Amber Valletta, George Lopez, Billy Ray Cyrus, Madeline Carroll, Will Shadley, Magnús Scheving, Alina Foley, Lucas Till. (PG, 92 min.)

There was a time when the arrival of a new Jackie Chan movie was an event to be celebrated, a film to be seen, and its own hybrid art form, combining incandescent star wattage and impossibly entertaining physicality – a thing to be marveled over, really. But that was last century, and the Chan we knew and loved, the Chan who contorted (and frequently fractured) his lithe, Peking Opera-trained body into a spellbinding, often comic, acrobatic exclamation point on the very tip of action cinema, has been missing for years now. The once-great Chan of *Police Story*, *Police Story 2*, and *City Hunter* (nobody's favorite, but a comic gem compared to his recent output) has all but vanished into a consistently forgettable rut of ridiculous, kid-friendly fare, including but not limited to the cookie-cutter *Rush Hour* franchise and bizarre string of misfires *The Suit*, *The Myth*, *The Medallion*, *The Tuxedo*, and now *The Spy Next Door*. But where is The Chan? True, he briefly returned to form with 2008's terrifically entertaining Shaw Brothers homage *The Forbidden Kingdom*, but that appears to have been a one-off bit of old-school revelry. Certainly the Chan of yore is nowhere to be found in *The Spy Next Door*, which casts the actor as Bob Ho (haw!), a deep-cover CIA spook with parenting issues. *Spy* recycles the most irritating and silly parts of recent Chan films and then adds both children and – the end has got to be nigh, seriously – Billy Ray Cyrus into the mix. The effect is unsettling, but the heart does ache and does break to see the gravitationally noncommittal martial artist and quick-witted comic genius pulling musty, moth-eaten pratfalls from his bag of tricks in lieu of actual kickassery. Chan is by (most, but not all) accounts 56 years old now, so it's reasonable to expect less manic vigor and potentially life-threatening stuntwork from the man, but nobody of Chan's legendary stature should ever have to play second banana to George Lopez, and certainly not in a film that was already made five years ago with Vin Diesel (see: *The Pacifier*).

– Marc Savlov

● Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

openings & ratings

Extraordinary Measures (PG)
Legion (R)
The Maid (NR)
Namo Venkatesa (NR)
Red Cliff (R)

To Save a Life (PG-13)
Tooth Fairy (PG)
A Town Called Panic (NR)
Veer (NR)

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be
★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless
★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots
★ Poor, without any saving graces
● La bomba

LANDMARK THEATRES

Dobie Theatre

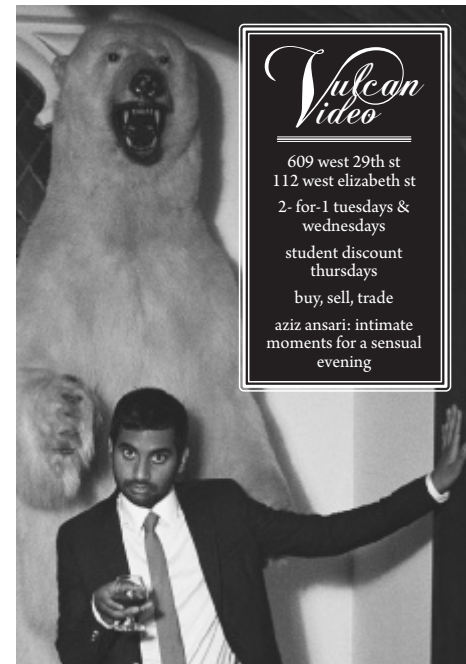
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DATES: January 22nd - 24th
TIMES: 22nd: 3:00pm - 10:00pm
23rd - 24th: 12:00pm - 10:00pm
ALSO January 29th - 31st



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Roger Ebert, CHICAGO SUN-TIMES
“★★★★”
Jeff Bridges, Maggie Gyllenhaal and first-time writer-director Scott Cooper hit all the right notes.

David Ansen, **Newsweek**
“Jeff Bridges is **PHENOMENAL.** He knows **Bad Blake** inside out and never hits a strained note.”

BEST ACTOR - JEFF BRIDGES
SCREEN ACTORS GUILD (Nominee)
LOS ANGELES FILM CRITICS ASSOCIATION (Winner)
NEW YORK FILM CRITICS ONLINE (Winner)

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ALAMO DRAFHOUSE SOUTH LAMAR ARBOR STADIUM 8 @ GREAT HILLS
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showtimes

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.
Action Pack: 1999 Sing-Along: Thu (1/28), 9:45pm
Big Screen Classics: *Aliens*: Sat-Sun, 9:30pm; Tue, 7:00pm; Wed, 8:40pm
Terror Tuesday: Day of the Animals: Tue, 10:20pm
Master Pancake: Forrest Gump: Fri, 7:00, 10:10; Sat, 7:00, 10:00
Weird Wednesday: Lunch Wagon: Wed, 12mid
Old School Quote-Along Keg Party: Thu (1/28), 7:00pm
Running the Sahara: Sat, 1:00pm
Music Monday: Soul Night III: Mon, 9:45pm
Soul on Screen: Best of Soul Night With Peter Lucas: Sun, 7:00pm
Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash 2010: Mon, 7:00pm
Action Pack Theater: Terminator 2: Judgment Day: Sun, 9:30pm
A Town Called Panic: Fri, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Sat, 1:10, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00; Sun, 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00; Mon-Tue, 4:30, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30; Wed, 4:30, 9:40, 10:30; Thu (1/28), 4:30, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
Viva the Nam: Wed, 7:00pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK
13729 Research, 219-5408.
***Avatar (3-D):** 12:00, 4:00, 8:00
***The Book of Eli:** 1:00, 4:10, 7:30, 10:35
Daybreakers: Fri-Wed, 9:45pm
It's Complicated: Fri-Wed, 12:20, 3:20, 6:45; Thu (1/28), 12:20, 3:20
***Legion:** 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10:10
TV at the Alamo: Lost, Tue, 9:45pm
***The Lovely Bones:** 12:10, 3:30, 7:00, 10:20
AFF: Natural Selection: Thu (1/28), 7:30pm
Sherlock Holmes: 1:15, 4:20, 7:45, 10:45
Up in the Air: 12:45, 4:30, 6:30, 9:30

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 707-8262.
***Avatar (3-D):** Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:35pm; Mon, 3:00, 7:00, 10:35pm; Tue, 11:10am, 3:00, 7:00, 9:45pm; Wed-Thu (1/28), 3:00, 7:00, 10:35
Crazy Heart: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00pm; Mon, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00pm; Tue, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00pm; Wed-Thu (1/28), 4:30, 7:30, 10:40
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus: Fri, 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 10:25; Sat, 12:50, 3:50, 7:05, 10:25; Sun, 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 10:25; Mon, 3:40, 7:05, 10:25; Tue, 12:30, 3:40, 7:05, 10:15; Wed-Thu (1/28), 3:40, 7:05, 10:25
AFF: Lala's Birthday: Tue, 7:00pm
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 12:25, 3:35, 7:10, 10:15; Sat, 12:30, 3:40, 7:10, 10:15; Sun, 12:25, 3:35, 7:10, 10:15; Mon, 3:35, 7:10, 10:15; Tue, 12:25, 3:35, 10:15; Wed-Thu (1/28), 3:35, 7:10, 10:15
A Single Man: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:10pm; Mon, 4:40, 7:35, 10:10pm; Tue, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:35, 10:35pm; Wed-Thu (1/28), 4:40, 7:35, 10:10
Up in the Air: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:40, 10:30pm; Mon, 4:35, 7:40, 10:30pm; Tue, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:40, 10:25pm; Wed-Thu (1/28), 4:35, 7:40, 10:30

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE
2700 W. Anderson, 459-7090. Tuesday matinee Baby Day shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old.
***Avatar (3-D):** Fri, 12:15, 2:50, 6:45, 10:30; Sat, 12:40, 2:50, 6:45, 10:30; Sun, 12:40, 2:50, 6:45, 9:45; Tue, 12:40, 3:00, 6:45, 9:45; Wed-Thu (1/28), 3:00, 6:45, 9:45
Daybreakers: Fri, 9:45pm; Sat, 4:30, 9:45; Sun-Tue, 4:30, 10:30; Wed, 4:30pm; Thu (1/28), 4:30, 10:30
Fantastic Mr. Fox: Sat-Sun, 11:00am
Kung-Fu Theatre: King of Beggars: Fri, 12mid
***The Lovely Bones:** Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 4:10, 7:30, 10:40pm; Mon, 4:10, 7:30, 10:40pm; Tue, 12:20, 4:10, 7:30, 10:40; Wed-Thu (1/28), 4:10, 7:30, 10:40
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 3:45, 7:00, 10:10; Mon, 3:45, 7:00; Tue, 1:00, 3:45, 7:00; Wed-Thu (1/28), 3:45, 7:00
VICE: White Lightning: Mon-Thu (1/28), 10:00pm

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS
9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.
Discounts daily before 6pm and all day Wednesdays.
Broken Embraces: 3:10, 9:35
Crazy Heart: 11:40am, 12:50, 2:20, 4:10, 5:00, 7:00, 7:40, 9:40, 10:20pm
The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus: 12:20, 4:00, 7:20, 10:10
The Maid: 12:00, 3:00, 7:10, 10:05
Nine: 12:10, 6:40
A Single Man: 11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25pm
Up in the Air: 12:30, 3:30, 7:30, 10:15
The Young Victoria: 12:40, 4:20, 6:50, 9:45

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall, MoPac & Highway 360, 888/AMC-4FUN. Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri-Sun, 10:55am, 1:20, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:20, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40
The Blind Side (closed captioned): Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10pm; Sun, 10:10am, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 4:10, 7:10, 10:10
The Book of Eli: Fri-Sat, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:30, 10:25pm; Sun, 10:45am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:45, 4:25, 7:30, 10:15
Extraordinary Measures: Fri-Sat, 11:50am, 2:35, 5:15, 7:55, 10:35pm; Sun, 11:50am, 2:35, 5:15, 7:55, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 2:35, 5:15, 7:55, 10:25
It's Complicated: Fri-Sat, 10:35am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15pm; Sun, 10:35am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:10
Leap Year: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 4:05, 6:45, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 4:05, 6:45, 9:20
Legion: Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 12:35, 3:10, 5:45, 8:20, 10:55pm; Sun, 10:05am, 12:35, 3:10, 5:45, 8:10, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 12:45, 3:10, 5:45, 8:10, 10:40
The Lovely Bones: Fri, Sat, 10:00am, 1:25, 4:35, 7:45, 10:45pm; Sun, 10:00am, 1:05, 4:15, 7:25, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:05, 4:15, 7:25, 10:30
The Princess and the Frog (closed captioned and descriptive video): 1:10pm
Sherlock Holmes: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 1:35, 4:45, 7:40, 10:40pm; Sun, 1:35, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:35, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35
The Spy Next Door: Fri-Sat, 10:25am, 12:50, 3:20, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30pm; Sun, 10:25am, 12:50, 3:20, 5:40, 8:05, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 12:50, 3:20, 5:40, 8:05, 10:20
To Save a Life: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
Tooth Fairy: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 2:05, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50

Up in the Air: Fri-Sat, 11:55am, 2:45, 5:30, 8:10, 10:50pm; Sun, 11:55am, 2:45, 5:30, 8:00, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 2:45, 5:30, 8:00, 10:45
Youth in Revolt: 1:40pm

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:10, 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:30
***Avatar (3-D):** Fri, 3:10, 6:40, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 3:10, 6:40, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 3:10, 6:40, 10:10
The Blind Side: 3:50, 9:45
***The Book of Eli:** Fri, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:10, 8:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:10, 8:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:10, 8:30, 10:00
Opera: Der Rosenkavalier: Wed, 6:30pm
Extraordinary Measures: Fri, 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15
It's Complicated: 12:50, 6:50
***Leap Year:** Fri, 4:20, 7:15, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 1:50, 4:20, 7:15, 9:55; Mon-Thu (1/28), 4:20, 7:15, 9:55
Legion: Fri, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
The Lovely Bones: 12:40, 3:40, 6:45, 9:50
The Princess and the Frog: Fri, 1:50pm; Sat-Sun, 11:10am; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:50pm
Sherlock Holmes: Fri, 1:40, 4:30, 7:50, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:50, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:40, 4:30, 7:50, 10:40
***The Spy Next Door:** Fri, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40; Wed, 2:10pm; Thu (1/28), 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40
Tooth Fairy: Fri, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 13
12812 Hill Country Blvd., 800/FANDANGO.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: The Squeakquel: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/28), 1:45, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15
***Avatar (3-D):** 12:40, 4:20, 8:00
The Blind Side: 6:55, 9:50
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A TOWN CALLED PANIC

D: Stéphane Aubier, Vincent Patar; with the voices of Patar, Aubier, Bruce Ellison, Jeanne Balibar, Nicolas Buisse. (NR, 75 min., subtitled)

A *Town Called Panic* is a nice place to visit, but I wouldn't want to live there. This whimsical, thoroughly Belgian import imagines a primary-colored world in which the tiny toy cowboy, Indian, and horse figures we all had as children (well, those of us who grew up in a pre-*Transformers* world) come alive and find themselves in all manner of goofy yet compelling adventures. The subtitled, French-language film has won a cult following already – not least because its creators have been steadily churning out variations on this same claymation horse/cowboy/Indian theme for almost a decade now, with occasional help from Britain's great Aardman Animations – and has picked up awards at both Sitges, the Spanish genre film fest, and at Austin's Fantastic Fest. That's as it should be: *A Town Called Panic* is nothing if not original (although you may have seen a snippet of it at the most recent Spike & Mike animation fest), combining as it does the autonomous magic inherent in stop-motion with a decidedly Belgian sense of the absurd. Fans of Belgian genre cinema, a niche group if ever there were one, will note and applaud the vocal participation of Benoît Poelvoorde, who was last seen stateside as the attention-starved psychopath in 1992's disturbing and brilliant *Man Bites Dog*. Regular audience members who inadvertently stumble into a *Town Called Panic* screening, however, are going to have one of two reactions. The first will almost certainly be in bewilderment: The childlike Cowboy (Aubier) and Indian (Ellison) share a house with the more mature Horse (Patar), and they all live happily in a clay-made toy-figure village. The second will depend on the viewer's animation patience. Even at a trim 75 minutes, *A Town Called Panic* feels overlong and colorfully overwhelming. It's one thing to watch Aubier and Patar's 10-minute episodes in a festival situation or while surfing the Web and quite another to spend more than an hour with these zany, nattering yokels (even if they do get into a really, really cool giant penguin robot at one point). The animation itself is superb, and the filmmakers long ago mastered the dreamy, stream-of-consciousness narrative tropes that work so well with stop-motion, but even with all that going for it, *A Town Called Panic* feels more like some exotic animated curiosity than a film to return to again and again.

– Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Ritz

VEER D: Anil Sharma; with Salman Khan, Mithun Chakraborty, Bianca Van Varenberg, Jackie Shroff. (NR, 168 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Veer is the name of an Indian man who courageously fights against the British Empire in this Bollywood epic. – Marjorie Baumgarten Tinseltown South

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SAT, JAN 23	A TOWN CALLED PANIC	110	400	620	840	1100
	RUNNING THE SAHARA Benefit				100	
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SUN, JAN 24	A TOWN CALLED PANIC	140	400	620	840	1100
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WED, JAN 27	A TOWN CALLED PANIC	430	530	800	1030	
	G.I. JOE STOP-MOTION: VIVA THE 'NAM!				700	
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	WEIRD WEDS LUNCH WAGON				MID	
THU, JAN 28	A TOWN CALLED PANIC	430	530	800	1030	
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UP IN THE AIR
(12:45 3:40) 6:30 9:30

SHERLOCK HOLMES
(1:15 4:20) 7:45 10:45

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Sun. - Thu. 12:30 1:00 3:45 4:15 7:00 7:30 10:15

LEGION (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30 11:45
Sun. - Thu. 12:30 2:45 5:00 7:15 9:30

TOOTH FAIRY (PG) Fri. & Sat. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15 11:30
Sun. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:00 9:15

EXTRAORDINARY MEASURES (PG) Fri. & Sat. 12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20 11:40
Sun. - Thu. 12:00 2:20 4:40 7:00 9:20

THE LOVELY BONES (PG-13) Fri. - Thu. 1:25 4:15 7:05 9:55

THE SPY NEXT DOOR (PG) Fri. & Sat. 12:25 2:40 4:55 7:10 9:25 11:30
Sun. - Thu. 12:25 2:40 4:55 7:10 9:25

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL (PG) Fri. - Thu. 12:35 2:50 5:05 7:20 9:35

NAMO VENKATESHA (NR) DBox Motion Chairs Fri. & Sat. 12:15 3:15 6:15 9:30
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ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS: THE SQUEAKQUEL

D: Betty Thomas; with Zachary Levi, David Cross, Jason Lee, Wendie Malick; with the voices of Justin Long, Matthew Gray Gubler, Jesse McCartney, Anna Faris, Christina Applegate, Amy Poehler. (PG, 88 min.)

It's a rare but not unheard-of event for a sequel to top its predecessor. This is not one of those sequels, however, and director Thomas, working from a script by returning screenwriter Jon Vitti and *Kung Fu Panda* scribe Jonathan Aibel, does little to improve on 2007's original "film/rebranding event." While *The Squeakquel* might be appreciated by filmgoers ages 10 or younger, the rest of us should be investing heavily in d-CON and working feverishly through the night to build a better rodent trap. This time out, the all-singing, all-dancing, all-CGI chipmunks – rebel with paws Alvin (Long), wise guy Simon (Gubler), and tubby emo vermin Theodore (McCartney) – wind up in a contrived "squeak-off" with a new trio of singing female chipmunks, cruelly dubbed the "Chipettes" by down-on-his-luck record exec Ian Hawk (Cross, returning from the original in search of a paycheck and not much else). Muskrat love, of a sort, is in the air. (12/25/2009) – Marc Savlov

★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

★ AVATAR D: James Cameron; with Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver, Stephen Lang, Michelle Rodriguez, Giovanni Ribisi, Joel David Moore, CCH Pounder, Wes Studi, Laz Alonso. (PG-13, 162 min.)

At 162 minutes and a cost of somewhere between \$250 million and \$300 million, Cameron's ne plus ultra of futuristic mechanized mayhem and seamless CGI trickery is both a cinematically spectacular slab of virtually nonstop action and an unmistakable diatribe against corporatized American imperialism. There are the usual muscled-up boys (and equally powerful girls) with big-bang toys, crying havoc and letting slip the dogs of war, to be sure, but at its heart this mammoth film is ... a chick flick. Despite a script that at times leaves its most interesting characters delivering some of the most banal lines in a Cameron film thus far, somehow it all holds together. As a purely visual experience, it's like nothing you've ever seen before: a lush, sexy, primal world created entirely by Cameron's legions of CGI masters. *Avatar* is thrilling, lovely, sad, and explosive in all the right ways. (12/18/2009) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, IMAX Theatre, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE BLIND SIDE

D: John Lee Hancock; with Sandra Bullock, Quinton Aaron, Tim McGraw, Kathy Bates, Jae Head, Lily Collins, Ray McKinnon, Kim Dickens. (PG-13, 126 min.)

Writer/director Hancock (*The Rookie*) overcomes most of the built-in problems inherent to inspirational sports dramas. Also in the film's plus column are two standout performances: Aaron, as the sweet-mannered but largely uncommunicative football player Michael (Aaron does some very subtle body work, using the way he carries his left as an emotional signpost), and Bullock, as the prickly, straight-talking Memphis socialite who welcomes Michael into her home and eventually makes him a part of the family. This is a dream role for Bullock – finally, a job that requires her to be adult, tart, and smart, all at once – and she makes good use of it. It's not an altogether convincing portrait, but it is an entertaining, even moving one, and the forcefulness of her presence goes a long way in pulling the film back from the brink of cuddliness. (11/20/2009) – Kimberley Jones

★★★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North



The Fifth Element

The Fifth Element (1997) D: Luc Besson; with Bruce Willis, Gary Oldman, Milla Jovovich, Ian Holm, Brian James, Chris Tucker, Lee Evans, Tommy "Tiny" Lister, Tricky, Luke Perry. (PG-13, 126 min.) **Winter Film Series: Double Bill.** Besson's smart editing and sly sense of humor keep this science-fiction epic from bogging down. Despite a grim storyline, the film never takes itself too seriously. (*) @Paramount, Friday, 7pm; Saturday, 9:10pm.

THE BOONDOCK SAINTS II: ALL SAINTS DAY

D: Troy Duffy; with Sean Patrick Flanery, Norman Reedus, Billy Connolly, Clifton Collins Jr., Julie Benz, Judd Nelson, David Della Rocco, Bob Marley, Brian Mahoney, David Ferry. (R, 118 min.)

Director Duffy's wickedly bloodthirsty and strangely humorous *The Boondock Saints* was a cult hit waiting to happen that somehow didn't. As a post-post-Tarantino hipster-shoot-'em-up, it seemed oddly dated back when it received a microrelease from Miramax before heading straight to video and developing a substantial following, in part due to the canny documentary *Overnight*, which chronicles the *Boondock* director's meteoric nonrise to and ego-fueled fall from indie cinema heaven. The original is all muzzle flash and zero smarts, but its loopy storyline, which has hard-drinking, harder-fighting Boston-Irish sibling vigilantes Connor and Murphy MacManus (Flanery and Reedus) laying waste to both the Italian and Russian mobs in modern-day Beantown, is delirious, brutish, testosterone-fueled un-fun. *All Saints Day*, from its dullish title on down to its final bullet, is the sort of outrageously bad filmmaking that defines the phrase "unnecessary sequel." Even fans of these blood-soaked bouncing Murphys might think twice before giving the downward-spiraling director a third chance. (12/04/2009) – Marc Savlov

★ Tinseltown South

★ BROKEN EMBRACES D: Pedro Almodóvar; with Penélope Cruz, Lluís Homar, Blanca Portillo, José Luis Gómez, Rubén Ochendiano, Tamar Novas, Ángela Molina, Rossy de Palma. (R, 127 min., subtitled)

Ever the lush and melodramatic filmmaker, Almodóvar appears to be adding a bit of narrative suspense to his storytelling in *Broken Embraces*. Starring his longtime muse Cruz, the film is about mad love and its consequences, but *Broken Embraces* is as much about the art of filmmaking as anything else. It takes place in the past and the present and features characters who assume different names as the story progresses. Although it's not particularly hard to follow, the story is convoluted, and the visuals are rich, color-drenched, and intricate. *Broken Embraces* is also thematically layered. At times, it looks as though the film might be the love child of Douglas Sirk and Alfred Hitchcock, with its dramatic broad strokes, iconic reds, and teasing narrative clues. In the third act, events pile on at an excessive rate and the subplots also come into greater play. The experience can be heady and delirium-provoking, but hey, that's cinema for you. (01/08/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Arbor, Tinseltown South

BROTHERS D: Jim Sheridan; with Jake Gyllenhaal, Natalie Portman, Tobey Maguire, Sam Shepard, Mare Winningham, Bailee Madison, Taylor Geare, Clifton Collins Jr. (R, 110 min.)

Inferior in practically every way to Danish director Susanne Bier's original *Brodre* – but now with more U2! – *Brothers* draws from two rampaging traditions, Greek tragedy and romantic melodrama, and renders both weirdly inert. Maguire plays the elder Cahill brother, Sam, a captain in the Marines; an attentive husband to his high school sweetheart, Grace (Portman); and a devoted father to two little girls. *Brothers*, in its most effective and engrossing stretches, examines the malleability of the roles the various Cahills are assigned, either by themselves or by others. All the actors do well enough, but they don't mesh at all – it's as if everyone's acting in his or her own movie – and there's simply no lived-in quality to the film. Sheridan and scripter David Benioff stick closely to the bullet points of the original but can't seem to translate the rich complexity of the characters and the choices they make. (12/11/2009) – Kimberley Jones

★★★ Tinseltown South

CHANCE PE DANCE D: Ken Ghosh; with Shahid Kapur, Genelia D'Souza, Satish Shah. (NR, 130 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. A struggling dancer lives out his dream of becoming professional in this Bollywood feature. (01/15/2010)

– Marjorie Baumgarten

Tinseltown South

★ CRAZY HEART D: Scott Cooper; with Jeff Bridges, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Robert Duvall, Jack Nation, Ryan Bingham, Colin Farrell. (R, 111 min.)

You'd never guess that *Crazy Heart* is the work of a first-time filmmaker, but it is, and while the story is as old and true as the broken-down country & western balladeer at the heart of it, nearly everything about Cooper's debut feels intimate and immediate and as emotionally raw as every country song that ever mattered. That's due almost entirely to Bridges' searing and sorrowful turn as the alcohol-basted and nicotine-stained C&W has-been Bad Blake. It's a performance that's magnificent in its road-weariness, and it's a measure of just how truly great an actor Bridges has matured into over the years. Backed (and haunted) by a blazingly fine soundtrack courtesy of T Bone Burnett and the late Stephen Bruton and a theme song (and screen appearance) by rising star Ryan Bingham, Bridges makes this sozzled and desperate ex-desperado – a cliché by any other name – as fresh and vital as one final shot at cowboy-poet redemption. (01/08/2010) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor



Syzygy

Syzygy Avant Cinema. Jennifer Lane will be on hand to present her experimental films "Fawn" (2003, 5 min.), "Use as Directed" (1999, 3 min.) and "begin again at zero" (1999, 6 min.). Complementing the program are some short classics from the early days of woman-identified experimental cinema. These are "My Name Is Oona" by Gunvor Nelson (1969, 10 min.), "Amanita" by Vic Atkinson (1974, 9 min.), "Sweet Dreams" by Freude Bartlett (1970, 3 min.), and "La Prisonnière" by René Laloux and Philippe Caza (1988, 7 min.). @Austin Film Studios Screening Room, Thursday (1/28), 7pm; \$6, \$4 AFS members.



White Lightnin'

White Lightnin' (2009) D: Dominic Murphy; with Edward Hogg, Carrie Fisher. (NR, 92 min.) **Vice Magazine Presents.** If you've ever seen Jacob Young's documentary series, *Dancing Outlaw*, which profiles the Appalachian clog dancer Jesco White, you're already familiar with the subject of *White Lightnin'*. This British film is inspired by White's tumultuous life story, and turns it into a hillbilly gothic. The film won the jury prize for Best First Feature at last year's Sundance Film Festival. *Vice* magazine will present special giveaways. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, Monday-Thursday (1/28), 10pm.

DAYBREAKERS D: Michael Spierig, Peter Spierig; with Ethan Hawke, Willem Dafoe, Claudia Karvan, Sam Neill, Michael Dorman, Isabel Lucas, Jay Laga'aia. (R, 98 min.)

The populace of *Daybreakers* are vampires in a topsy-turvy world where children bus to school at 2 in the morning and the local coffeehouse slings blood like java brew. But the vampire community is in crisis: With humans hunted to near extinction, there's a serious food shortage, which is why hematologist Edward Dalton (Hawke) labors round the clock to come up with a blood substitute. Edward is a mournful, moral-high-horse kind of guy who gets by on animal blood and hates the rah-rah militarism of his little brother, Frankie (Dorman). When a small enclave of human resistance rightly senses Edward is a sympathizer, he goes off the grid to help manufacture a cure to vampirism. It's a little bit silly – as is Dafoe's Kentucky-fried cowboy mechanic named Elvis – but silly is fun. In fact, one wishes it were sillier still; *Daybreakers* is an ingeniously conceived, designed, and dressed piece, but whither the sex and the humor, huh? (01/08/2010) – Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

★ FANTASTIC MR. FOX D: Wes Anderson; with the voices of George Clooney, Meryl Streep, Jason Schwartzman, Bill Murray, Wallace Wolodarsky, Eric Chase Anderson, Michael Gambon, Willem Dafoe. (PG, 87 min.)

Certainly the source material appears, at first glance, far afield of Anderson's usual lens-finder. But instead of bending to the will of the source, Roald Dahl's 1970 children's book about a turf war between farmers and foxes, Anderson has instead made it conform rather giddily to his own sensibilities. This is an animated film that happily has room for both an existentialist dread of death and a grinning joie de vivre. Clooney voices the titular Mr. Fox, a former thief made to go straight by his wife (Streep) when they give birth to a son, Ash (Schwartzman). But Mr. Fox is too visionary and, well, prankish to stay settled down, so he masterminds one last caper. *Fantastic Mr. Fox* is rendered in traditional stop-motion animation – a style nearly bygone in these digital days – and both the antiquity and the laboriousness of that process are perfectly suited to Anderson. There's a terrific amount of talent corralled here. (11/27/2009) – Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, Dobie

THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS

D: Terry Gilliam; with Heath Ledger, Christopher Plummer, Tom Waits, Lily Cole, Andrew Garfield, Verne Troyer, Johnny Depp, Colin Farrell, Jude Law. (PG-13, 122 min.)

Christopher Plummer is delightful as this movie's master magician and impresario of the rickety Imaginarium, a traveling road show that features a mirrorlike portal into one's unconscious, but the real Parnassus here is Gilliam. In what has almost become his signature m.o., Gilliam rescues his film

from the jaws of disaster – this time when his star Heath Ledger died abruptly midway through filming. Concocting a scenario that almost works seamlessly, three actors – Depp, Farrell, and Law – were enlisted to play different aspects of Tony, the name of Ledger's character who entices people to part with their money and trip through the Imaginarium. This "continuity snafu" is not what undermines *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus*. Instead, the problem resides with the story itself, or rather, the lack of story. Co-written with Charles McKeown, with whom Gilliam also wrote *Brazil* and *The Adventures of Baron Munchausen*, the scenario doesn't contain much activity beyond the initial setup. (01/08/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Dobie, Tinseltown South

IT'S COMPLICATED D: Nancy Meyers; with Meryl Streep, Alec Baldwin, Steve Martin, John Krasinski, Lake Bell, Caitlin Fitzgerald, Zoe Kazan, Hunter Parrish. (R, 118 min.)

The thing about *It's Complicated* is that it's not ... complicated. Writer-director Meyers has come to specialize in making wish-fulfillment fantasies for middle-aged women in which smart, professional, single, Caucasian women of a certain age have wonderful careers, picture-perfect homes, and love affairs aplenty. In *It's Complicated*, Streep plays Jane Adler, a Santa Barbara, Calif., restaurateur who is 10 years divorced from Jake (Baldwin) when they begin having an affair. Also present in Jane's life is Adam (Martin), the architect who is overseeing the planned expansion of her already perfect home. Many are the amusing and knowing moments in this comedy, yet the fabric of Meyers' fantasy is too gossamer to sustain the weight of their truths. Streep, who is usually so impressive, seems little more than ordinary in this work,

and Martin's unique talents are sadly wasted. Meyers has a good feel for contemporary comedy; it's reality, however, that slips through her grasp. (12/25/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Westgate

LEAP YEAR D: Anand Tucker; with Amy Adams, Matthew Goode, Adam Scott, John Lithgow, Noel O'Donovan, Kaitlin Olson. (PG, 97 min.)

Brit director Tucker's film is a soulless, Lifetime-lite flibbertigibbet of a movie. *Leap Year* is a desperately unfunny depiction of a Boston society-girl wannabe who, blanching and distressed in the face of yet another nonproposal from her cardiologist beau (Scott), secretly follows the ungroomed in question to Ye Auld Eire with plans to ensnare him on the titular date (according to some arcane leprechaun lore, it's doable in Dublin). Anna (Adams) is coiffed and costumed to resemble an uptown cross between *The Quiet Man*-era Maureen O'Hara and vintage Nicole Kidman, but the character is ill-flavored with a sort of ugly-American perkiness that sets your nerves on edge and makes you wonder in all seriousness if Tucker isn't employing some sort of wickedly dry, highly unobvious cultural critique on both the U.S. and Ireland. *Leap Year* is a perfect template for rom-com mediocrity, from its cookie-cutter script to the stupendously absent electricity between Adams and her coy Irish rover boy (Goode). (01/08/2010) – Marc Savlov

● Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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Laila's Birthday

Laila's Birthday (2008) D: Rashid Masharawi; with Mohammed Bakri, Areen Omari, Nour Zoubi. (NR, 71 min.) **Austin Film Society: Children of Abraham/Ibrahim 4 – Films of the Middle East and Beyond.** In Ramallah, a former Palestinian judge now works as a taxi driver, and throughout the course of his day we get to witness a cross-section of the population of this volatile town that is often in the news. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tuesday, 7pm.

THE LOVELY BONES D: Peter Jackson; with Saoirse Ronan, Mark Wahlberg, Rachel Weisz, Susan Sarandon, Stanley Tucci, Michael Imperioli, Rose McIver, Reece Ritchie, Carolyn Dando. (PG-13, 135 min.)

Jackson has moved on from Middle-earth but, apparently, not so his interest in fictional worlds. The alternate world in this film, which is based on the bestseller by Alice Sebold, is the netherworld – the place between life and death, Earth and heaven, the place where souls linger when they are not yet ready to part from life. The storyline is horrifyingly disturbing and by all rights should be a heart-tugger: In 1973, a 14-year-old girl is murdered by a serial killer, and although her body is never recovered, her corporeal presence lingers in the in-between world observing her family. A story about the unbreakable bonds between parents and children is diverted by Jackson into a story about the CGI wow factor of his in-between world. His images, however, are fairly prosaic and commonplace. Although the performances are all very good, they fail to connect emotionally with the audience. (01/15/2010) – Marjorie Baumgarten
 ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

NINE D: Rob Marshall; with Daniel Day-Lewis, Marion Cotillard, Penélope Cruz, Nicole Kidman, Judi Dench, Kate Hudson, Sophia Loren, Fergie, Ricky Tognazzi. (PG-13, 118 min.)

For a film director whom we're told is creatively blocked, Guido Contini (Day-Lewis) has a rich panorama of images cascading about his brain. Most of his images are of the women in his life dancing about elaborate stages in corsets. Marshall has gathered an impressive stable of on- and off-screen talent but never gets these various pieces to jell. It's a bold move to film a musical with cast members who, apart from Fergie and Cotillard, are not known to possess any singing or dancing skills. Each musical number gives the appearance of having been doctored to within an inch of its life with crazy pans, cuts, differing film stocks, jewel-bedecked costumes, and eye-catching movements constantly grabbing our focus. Day-Lewis also performs and dances two numbers obligingly, but the chinks in this great actor's performance arsenal show. Also, much of the film's music is instantly forgettable. (12/25/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten
 ★★ Arbor

PRECIOUS: BASED ON THE NOVEL 'PUSH' BY SAPPHERE

D: Lee Daniels; with Gabourey Sidibe, Mo'Nique, Paula Patton, Mariah Carey, Sherri Shepherd, Lenny Kravitz. (R, 109 min.)

Much like its title protagonist Precious – a sexually, emotionally, and physically abused 16-year-old African-American girl who is functionally illiterate, morbidly obese, and pregnant with her second child fathered by her own father – this film is a rough-hewn entity with unlikely odds for success.

Yet both the character and the movie overcome their handicaps to become the kind of success stories that the American mythmaking machinery loves to love. Claireece Precious Jones (Sidibe) and her mother, Mary (Mo'Nique), are women we rarely notice. But instead of looking the other way, this movie and the popular book on which it is based place them front and center. Newcomer Sidibe is a real find and not just a looming presence and narrative device. Daniels has also done a marvelous job of casting famous friends of his and getting heart-stirring, stripped-down performances from them all. Despite achieving such a remarkably raw and naturalistic tone, Daniels ups the ante with extreme melodramatic touches. (11/20/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten
 ★★★ Metropolitan

THE PRINCESS AND THE FROG

D: Ron Clements, John Musker; with the voices of Anika Noni Rose, Bruno Campos, Keith David, Michael-Leon Wooley, Jennifer Cody, Jim Cummings, Peter Bartlett, John Goodman, Jenifer Lewis, Terrence Howard, Oprah Winfrey. (G, 97 min.)

The Disney 2-D animators, who have been losing face, of late, to their CG and 3-D brethren, here stage a bold, vibrant, and altogether bloodless coup on all things Pixar, and whaddaya know? They win. (For now, anyway.) Set in Twenties-era New Orleans, this umpteenth version of what was originally a Brothers Grimm fairy tale makes the Crescent City a major character in and of itself while dusting off the old story of girl-meets-frog and tricking it up with all manner of raucous, jazzy hoodoo, voodoo, and bayou panache. Directors Clements and Musker are the guys behind *Aladdin* and *The Little Mermaid*, and they employ their keen senses of story, pacing, and killer comic rhythm to support a new twist (several, actually) on an old amphibian. Also, the film features a nearly all African-American cast. It's Disney's best traditionally animated outing in ages. (12/11/2009) – Marc Savlov
 ★★★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

SHERLOCK HOLMES D: Guy Ritchie; with Robert Downey Jr., Jude Law, Rachel McAdams, Mark Strong, Eddie Marsan, Kelly Reilly, James Fox, Hans Matheson, Geraldine James. (PG-13, 128 min.)

Ritchie has reinvented the chilly, brainiac character of Sherlock Holmes as a tortured genius, ladies' man (sort of), and occasional backroom brawler. As played by Downey Jr. (an inspired casting choice that works in the film's favor), this incarnation is a post-millennial man of action. With Watson (Law, another spot-on bit of casting) at his side, Holmes uncovers a satanic plot that takes him from the lowliest subterranean hellholes to the highest levels of Parliament. Ritchie manages to mostly restrain his more florid directorial flourishes while creating a CGI London so brightened and soot-heavy you can practically smell it. This is Downey Jr.'s film all the way, and while literary traditionalists and Baker Street Irregulars (of which I am one) may find this Holmes' penchant for face-crunching fisticuffs and back-alley chases a sad sop to the action-jaded audiences of the 21st century, the actor's more masculine interpretation of the character is never anything less than startling, fresh, and altogether entertaining. (12/25/2009) – Marc Savlov
 ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

Natural Selection

Natural Selection (1999) D: Mark Bristol; with David Carradine, Michael Bowen, Darren Burrows, Joe Unger, Bob Balaban. (NR, 90 min.) **Austin Film Festival Presents.** This locally shot black comedy examines the bizarre feedback loop that exists among celebrity psychopaths, the increasingly tabloidized mainstream news media, and, not least, our own bad selves. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Thursday (1/28), 7:30pm; \$4, AFF members free.



The Other Side of Immigration

The Other Side of Immigration (2009) D: Roy Germano. **Kozmetsky Center of Excellence in Global Finance.** This documentary by UT graduate student Germano examines undocumented immigration from the perspective of those in the small Mexican towns where people leave to go to work in the U.S. The film also provides insights about ways to better manage undocumented Mexican immigration (i.e., alternatives to border patrol). The music is by My Morning Jacket and Conor Oberst. A Q&A with the filmmaker will follow the screening. @Jones Auditorium, St. Edward's University, Monday, 7pm.

A SINGLE MAN D: Tom Ford; with Colin Firth, Julianne Moore, Matthew Goode, Nicholas Hoult, Jon Kortajarena, Ginnifer Goodwin, Paulette Lamori. (R, 99 min.)

George Falconer (Firth) is a middle-aged, British expat teaching at a southern California university in 1962. A closeted homosexual by cultural necessity, he's possessed of monumental outward conformity. On the face of it, the immaculately groomed and exceedingly dry George is preparing for yet another day in the classroom. But beneath that lies the real George, a heartsick shell of a man who is grieving the accidental death of his longtime companion Jim (Goode). Adapted from the novel by Christopher Isherwood, *A Single Man* is an exquisite and haunting feature debut from fashion designer/icon Tom Ford. It's a melancholy meditation on love and death and hidden lives, and Ford brings everything he has to the film, not least of which is his picture-perfect designer's eye for detail, composition, and the infinite subtleties of narrative shading. Everything fits perfectly, from titles to *fin*, but most of all Firth, who dons the role of George like a fine bespoke suit. Which, Ford being Ford, it surely was. (01/15/2010) – Marc Savlov
 ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor

3 IDIOTS D: Rajkumar Hirani; with Aamir Khan, Kareena Kapoor, Madhavan, Boman Irani, Sharman Joshi. (NR, 172 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. Two friends embark on a quest for their lost buddy in this new Bollywood comedy. (12/18/2009) – Marjorie Baumgarten
 Tinseltown South

Check Film Listings online for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!

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UP IN THE AIR D: Jason Reitman; with George Clooney, Vera Farmiga, Anna Kendrick, Jason Bateman, Amy Morton, Melanie Lynskey, J.K. Simmons, Sam Elliott, Danny McBride. (R, 109 min.)

Either by design or default, Reitman has customized a film perfectly in tune with these economically distressed, tetchy times, which may explain the near-universal hosannas with which *Up in the Air* has been met. Reitman sets the film in motion with an opening-credit sequence that highlights how America's vistas look from up above – apropos, considering that's where “career transition counselor” Ryan Bingham (Clooney) spends most of his time. Bingham, by choice, is a man without country or close ties, but very quickly two women (Farmiga and Kendrick) arrive in his life to shake up the status quo. Reitman's instincts, of both timing and tone, can feel just a hair off in the film's imperfect first and third acts. But the middle is terrific, especially in a lengthy, unassuming scene in which the three leads sit, sip drinks, and have a good chat: It marks one of the great celluloid pleasures of the year, so virtuosically written, performed, and filmed is it. (12/18/2009) – Kimberley Jones
 ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE YOUNG VICTORIA D: Jean-Marc Vallée; with Emily Blunt, Rupert Friend, Paul Bettany, Miranda Richardson, Jim Broadbent, Mark Strong, Thomas Kretschmann, Jesper Christensen, Harriet Walter. (PG, 100 min.)

How young is young Victoria? At the film's beginning, she's just 17, with all the sullenness you would expect from a shut-in future queen fending off attack from her *maman* and prospective suitors cherry-picked by two kings. Blunt convincingly portrays the Princess Victoria as bullied and slightly silly but, most of all, desperately alone. Scriptwriter Julian Fellowes makes admirable work of shorthanding the complicated lineages and motives and maneuverings. Director Vallée leans on candlelight for several key scenes, and the effect is not only gorgeous but also intimates the deepening attachment between Victoria and Albert – one that was mutually felt but not spoken about plainly. (Having just earned her independence, Victoria isn't keen on giving it up again so soon.) All told, *The Young Victoria* is a very well-made if not especially memorable picture, moving with all the grace and steadfastness of a waltz Victoria and Albert share, but absent any urgency or anything particularly exclamatory. (12/25/2009) – Kimberley Jones
 ★★★ Arbor, Metropolitan

YOUTH IN REVOLT D: Miguel Arteta; with Michael Cera, Portia Doubleday, Jean Smart, Zach Galifianakis, Mary Kay Place, Justin Long, Fred Willard, Ray Liotta, Steve Buscemi, Ari Graynor, Adhir Kalyan. (R, 90 min.)

Taken from C.D. Payne's early Nineties epistolary novel, *Youth in Revolt* chronicles the tortured life of Nick Twisp (Cera), a teen living mostly friendlessly in Oakland, Calif. Nick's life takes a turn for the better, however, when a family outing to a trailer park puts him in the path of Sheeni Saunders (Doubleday). She's sharp, educated, and cool to touch, at home in bikinis and Fifties shirtdresses. She drives Nick wild. Cera is fine here, and his range broadens some when Nick invents an alter ego named Francois – chain-smoking, troublemaking – because, as Nick puts it, “my one and only love wants me to be bad.” Gustin Nash's script consistently delivers on situational laughs, even if he never shades in the characters beyond mere pencil sketch. And given the edgy bent of director Arteta's stand-out earlier work (*The Good Girl*, *Chuck & Buck*), there's a surprising lack of bite to the film. (01/08/2010) – Kimberley Jones
 ★★★ Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

also playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

ASTRO BOY ★★★ Movies 8

NINJA ASSASSIN ● Movies 8

CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF MEATBALLS ★★★ Movies 8

PLANET 51 ★ Movies 8

COUPLES RETREAT ● Movies 8

THE ROAD ★★★ Tinseltown South

DISNEY'S A CHRISTMAS CAROL ★★ Movies 8, Millennium

THE TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON ★★ Gateway, Metropolitan

THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS ★★★ Movies 8

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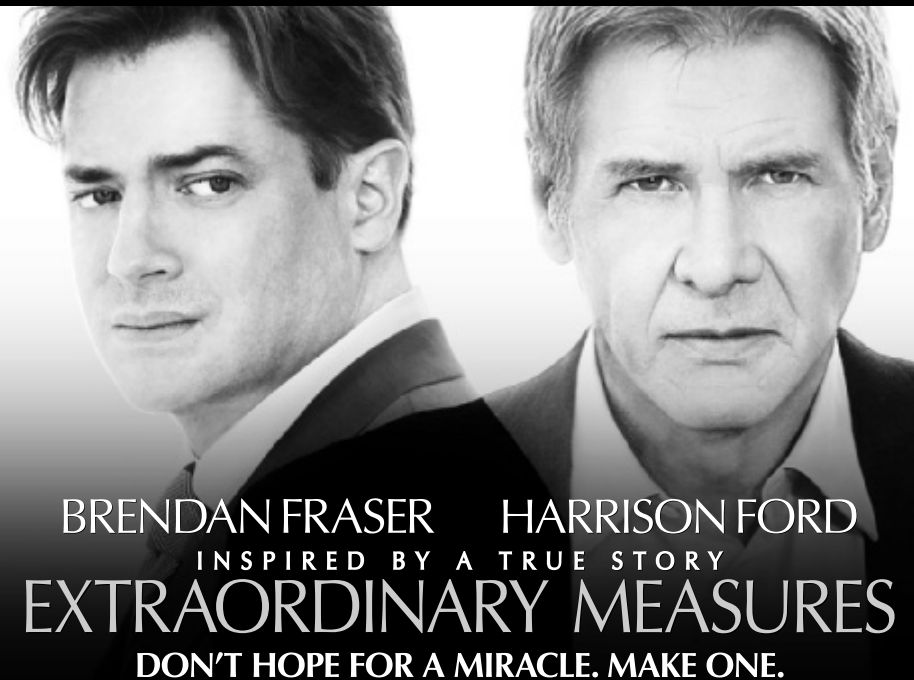


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special screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

THURSDAY 21

1999 Sing-Along Action Pack.
@Alamo Ritz, 10:40pm.

Frostbiter: Wrath of the Wendingo (1996)
D: Tom Chaney; with Ron Asheton, Lori Baker, Devlin Burton, John Bussard. (R, 90 min.) **Cult Thursday.** A couple of redneck hunters unknowingly release the evil creature known as the Wendingo. One of the hunters is played by Asheton (of Iggy & the Stooges fame). @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

Pulp Fiction Quote-Along (1994) D: Quentin Tarantino; with John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson, Uma Thurman, Bruce Willis. (R, 154 min.) **Action Pack.**
@Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

To Serve Man Dubstep Sci-Fi Screening
To Serve Man is a dubstep EP inspired by the classic *Twilight Zone* episode of the same name. Local dubstep DJ Lord Pyro will perform a live DJ mix/remix of his *To Serve Man* EP as well as dubstep tracks by others. The music will be paired with clips from classic Fifties science-fiction films and television shows.
@Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm.

SPACES

Who Is KK Downey? (2008) D: Darren Curtis and Pat Kiely; with Curtis, Kiely, Kristin Adams, Matt Silver, Dan Haber. (NR, 90 min.) **Feral Cinema.** This film by Montreal's Kidnapper comedy troupe is based on the "real-life" story of JT LeRoy, a pseudonym and persona concocted by another writer to create mystery. The short film "Tortured by Joy" (Henry Griffin, 2009) will also screen. @United States Art Authority, 8pm; \$5.

FRIDAY 22

Aayirathil Oruvan (2009)

D: K. Selvaraghavan; with Karthik Sivakumar, Reema Sen, Andrea, Parthiban, Prathap K. Pothan. (NR, 200 min.) In this Tamil-language film, an archaeologist discovers lost remnants of the Chola civilization that disappeared in India in 1279. @Tinseltown South, 3, 6:15, 9:30pm.

The Fifth Element (1997) See p.68.

Forrest Gump (1994) D: Robert Zemeckis; with Tom Hanks, Robin Wright, Gary Sinise, Mykelti Williamson, Sally Field. (PG-13, 142 min.) **Master Pancake.** Run, Forrest, run ... far away from these merry jokesters who are certain to put your life story through the wringer. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10:10pm.

King of Beggars (1992) D: Gordon Chan and David Lam; with Stephen Chow, Pak-cheung Chan, Lawrence Cheng, Man Cheung. (NR, 98 min.) **Kung-Fu Theatre.** Comic star Chow plays the legendary Chinese figure. The film also features director and fight choreographer supreme Yuen Woo-Ping in a cameo. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid; free.

Mars Attacks! (1996) D: Tim Burton; with Jack Nicholson, Glenn Close, Annette Bening, Pierce Brosnan, Danny Devito, Martin Short, Sarah Jessica Parker, Michael J. Fox, Rod Steiger, Tom Jones, Lukas Haas, Natalie Portman, Jim Brown, Lisa Marie, Sylvia Sydney. (PG-13, 105 min.) **Winter Film Series: Double Bill.** Burton's sci-fi spoof gleefully recounts the unspeakable horror that takes place when Martians attack the planet Earth. (*) @Paramount, 9:30pm.

SATURDAY 23

Aayirathil Oruvan (2009)

@Tinseltown South, 3, 6:15, 9:30pm.
(See Friday.)

Aliens (1986) D: James Cameron; with Sigourney Weaver, Bill Paxton, Paul Reiser, Michael Biehn, Carrie Henn, Lance Henriksen. (R, 137 min.) **Big Screen Classics.** Sigourney Weaver returns for more alien encounters in this sequel directed by Cameron, but this time she's determined to wipe out the critters for good. @Alamo Ritz, 3:30pm.

The Fifth Element (1997) See p.68.

Forrest Gump (1994) @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10pm.
(See Friday.)

Mars Attacks! (1996) @Paramount, 7pm.
(See Friday.)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)
D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.) Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, noon.

Running the Sahara (2008) D: James Moll; narrated by Matt Damon. (NR, 102 min.) In anticipation of the 3M Half-Marathon & Relay, this screening will benefit Communities in Schools. A "carbo load" brunch accompanies this documentary about running under harsh desert conditions. @Alamo Ritz, 1pm.

SUNDAY 24

Aayirathil Oruvan (2009)

@Tinseltown South, 3, 6, 9pm. (See Friday.)

Aliens (1986) @Alamo Ritz, 3:30pm.
(See Saturday.)

Pazhassi Raja (2009) D: T. Hariharan; with Mammooty, Sarath Kumar, Manoj K. Jayan, Padmapriya. (NR, 195 min.) This Malayalam-language film tells the story of the historical figure Pazhassi Raja, who used guerrilla warfare in India to foment revolt against the British rulers in the 19th century. @Highland, 6:15, 9:30pm.

Soul on Screen: Best of Soul Night With Peter Lucas Guest curator Lucas hosts an all-star Soul celebration featuring the best of his classic and rare performance footage. James Brown, Joe Tex, Lee Dorsey, Etta James, Otis Redding, Sam & Dave, Stevie Wonder, Ray Charles, and Ike & Tina Turner will all be doing their thing up on the big screen. Clapping, singing, and dancing are encouraged.
@Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Terminator 2: Judgment Day (1991)

D: James Cameron; with Arnold Schwarzenegger, Linda Hamilton, Edward Furlong, Robert Patrick. (R, 137 min.) **Action Pack Theater.** Expect big bangs on- and off-screen. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm.

MONDAY 25

Pazhassi Raja (2009) @Highland, 1:30, 4:30pm. (See Sunday.)

Sambho Siva Sambho (2010)

D: P. Samudrakhani; with Raviteja, Allari Naresh, Siva Balaji, Suneel, Priyamani. (NR, 148 min.) In this Telegu-language movie, three jobless Indian individuals risk everything to help two other jobless friends get married. @Tinseltown South, 4:45, 8:45pm.

Soul Night III Music Monday. Guest curator and host Peter Lucas focuses on performances of the late Sixties and early Seventies, with clips of Sly & the Family Stone, Ike & Tina Turner, Marvin Gaye, Curtis Mayfield, Stevie Wonder, and many others.
@Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm.

Super Happy Fun Monkey Bash 2010 The return of an annual favorite, the new compilation features a whole new array of Japanese television weirdness. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 5 issue is Monday, Jan. 25.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

Un Homme, Un Vrai (2003) D: Arnaud Larrieu and Jean-Marie Larrieu; with Mathieu Amalric, H el ene Fill eres, Pierre Pellet, Philippe S uner. (NR, 120 min.) **Cin ema Fran ais.** This is a romantic comedy about love at first sight that grows weary over the years. The screening will be followed by a brief discussion panel with invited speakers. @Dobie, 7pm; free.

White Lightnin' (2009) See p.68.

SPACES

Dirty Harry (1971) D: Don Siegel; with Clint Eastwood, Harry Guardino, Reni Santoni, John Larch, Andy Robinson. (R, 102 min.) **Movie Monday: Hairy Month.** Free. (*) @Cafe Mundi, 7:30pm.

The Other Side of Immigration (2009)
See p.70.

TUESDAY 26

Aliens (1986) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.
(See Saturday.)

Day of the Animals (1977) D: William Girdler; with Christopher George, Leslie Nielsen, Lynda Day George, Richard Jaeckel, Ruth Roman. (PG, 97 min.) **Terror Tuesday.** Hikers dropped off by helicopter discover that the destruction of the Earth's ozone layer has caused animals at high altitudes to run amok. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 10:20pm.

Laila's Birthday (2008) See p.70.

Lost TV @ the Alamo. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 9:45pm.

Sambho Siva Sambho (2010) @Tinseltown South, 4:45, 8:45pm. (See Monday.)

White Lightnin' (2009) See p.68.

WEDNESDAY 27

Aliens (1986) @Alamo Ritz, 8:40pm.
(See Saturday.)

Der Rosenkavalier (NR, 295 min.) **Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD.** Ren e Fleming stars in Richard Strauss' comic masterpiece of love and intrigue in 18th century Vienna. James Levine conducts. @Hill Country Galleria, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, CM Cedar Park, 6:30pm.

Lunch Wagon (1980) D: Ernest Pintoff; with Pamela Jean Bryant, Rosanne Katon, Candy Moore, Rick Podell, James Van Patten. (R, 88 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** Three women who run a lunch wagon face dangerous competition while also having fun. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid.

Sambho Siva Sambho (2010) @Tinseltown South, 4:45, 8:45pm. (See Monday.)

Viva the Nam (2010) D: Paul Hanley; with the voices of Hanley, Kieran R. Healy, Everett Aponte, Lee Sparks, Spencer Parsons. (NR, 90 min.) Ten years in the making, this feature-length stop-motion action comedy stars only action figures, and this is its world premiere. The film depicts the bizarre adventures of Pvt. Joe Holmes, a marine stationed in Vietnam from 1968 to 1969. The Austin filmmakers will be in attendance. For an interview with Hanley and Healy, see "Plastic Platoon," p.44. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

White Lightnin' (2009) See p.68.

offscreen

501 Studios: Soundstage + HD Theatre 501 Studios' soundstage in Downtown Austin now doubles as one of Texas' largest public theatres – with a Sony Qualia HD projector, a 28-foot screen, 180 (removable) seats, a vintage popcorn machine, and affordable rates. Need a venue for premieres, wrap parties, or concerts/plays/performances featuring projection? This could be the place. Also still available as a soundstage/green screen. 485-3000. www.501studios.com.

Austin FilmWorks: Feature Lab is now accepting registrations for its new class sequence, in which filmmaker Steve Mims requires students to produce two short films and play a key role in a class-produced feature-length film. See website for details. www.austinfilmworks.com.

Austin School of Film Classes An excellent slate of classes is available for your cinematic advancement at the Austin School of Film at the start of this new decade, with professional instruction in Final Cut Pro, DV and HD cameras, screenwriting essentials, introductions to Dreamweaver and Fetch, animation and lighting techniques, and more. See website for details. www.austinfilmsschool.org/classes.

ChannelAustin Classes Austin's digital-media center offers filmmakers professional, hands-on instruction in HD field equipment and studio production, plus affordable access to the latest high-end gear and software by Sony and Apple. Learn more on Mondays from 6 to 7pm. See website for details. 1143 Northwestern. www.channelaustin.org.

Dobie Theatre: Back-to-School Poster Sale Movie posters and other film-related items and swag: cheap, cheap, cheap! Jan. 22-31. Fri., 3-10pm; Sat.-Sun., noon-10pm. *Dobie Theatre, 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.* www.landmarktheatres.com.

Network Austin Mixer invites film- and entertainment-biz people to celebrate by schmoozing, networking, and doing what they do best: entertaining one another in a movie-happy crowd. This week's featured speaker is **Texas Film Commission Director Bob Hudgins.** Wed., Jan. 27, 7pm. *Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747.* Free. www.networkaustinxmixer.com.

Reel Women: Lighting Workshop with PJ Raval The award-winning filmmaker will share his secrets for getting the "right look" in this hands-on workshop. Sat., Jan. 30, 1-4pm. *Picture Box Studios, 701 Tillery.* \$40 (\$25, *Reel Women* members). www.reelwomen.org.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, which is available to the public on a rental basis. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, and a surround-sound system and supports Super-35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. It also has a break room suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

SXSW Seeking Volunteers Jobs range from festival production to conference activities including registration, information, trade show, technical support, and more. Day and night positions available. Volunteers must be able to work a minimum of 30 hours or 3 shifts during the event, depending on their crew type. Applications are available online, and crew selections will be made at the volunteer call. If you're unable to attend the call or just need more details, e-mail or call ASAP. Jan. 24-25. Sun., 2-5pm; Mon., 6-9pm. *Hilton Hotel, 500 E. Fourth.* 467-7979. volunteer@sxsw.com.

SXSW Seeks HD Shooters and Final Cut Editors South by Southwest Film, Music and Interactive is in need of experienced volunteers for its production and post-production teams March 12-21. The HD production teams will be documenting the festival's panels, keynotes, red carpet premieres, and music showcases. Volunteers in the program will be compensated with a platinum SXSW badge. Shooters with their own HD cameras are preferred. Editors need to be proficient with Final Cut. Production internships at SXSW are also available for more ambitious applicants. Production interns have more responsibilities including managing media, scheduling volunteers, and working with staff on production workflow. Submit r esum e, demo reel, or a link to your work to: newmedia@sxsw.com.

The Screenplay Workshop: Registration Still Open for Winter Classes Fundamentals Saturdays, Jan. 23-Feb. 20, 1:30-4pm. \$225. **Master Class Saturdays, Jan. 23-March 27, 1:30-4pm.** \$395. **Introductory Script Consultation** A 1½-hour private consultation on your screenplay or screenplay ideas. \$70. **Private Instruction and Story Consultation** Five sessions, 90 minutes per session. \$370. All classes taught by professional screenwriters. See website for details. www.thescreenplayworkshop.org.

THURSDAY 28

1999 Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm. (See Thursday, 1/21.)

Natural Selection (1999) See p.70.

Old School Quote-Along Keg Party (2003)
D: Todd Phillips; with Will Ferrell, Vince Vaughn, Luke Wilson. (R, 91 min.) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Sambho Siva Sambho (2010) @Tinseltown South, 4:45, 8:45pm. (See Monday.)

White Lightnin' (2009) See p.68.

SPACES

"It All Adds Up" D: Sue Marx, Allyson Rockwell and Bob Berg. **United Way of Capital Area and KLRU-TV: Live United Film Series.** The film profiles the teachers and students of Wayne State University's "Math Corps," a groundbreaking organization that partners struggling middle and high school students with collegians. A moderated discussion with community leaders and issue experts will follow, and information on volunteer opportunities will be available. @Austin City Limits Studio 6A, 6pm; free but please RSVP at www.unitedwaycapitalarea.org.

Syzygy See p.68.

Teen Wolf (1985) D: Rod Daniel; with Michael J. Fox, James Hampton, Jay Tarses. (PG, 91 min.) Free. @Rounders Pizzeria, 7pm.

imax

Avatar (2009) D: James Cameron; with Sam Worthington, Zoe Saldana, Sigourney Weaver, Stephen Lang, Michelle Rodriguez, Giovanni Ribisi, Joel David Moore, CCH Pounder, Wes Studi, Laz Alonso. (PG-13, 162 min.) (*) Thu. (1/21)-Thu. (1/28), 12:30, 3:45, 7, 10:15pm.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.) Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as the state is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips. Thu. (1/21)-Sat., 10am; Mon.-Thu. (1/28), 10am.

The Alps (2007) D: Stephen Judson; narrated by Michael Gambon. (NR, 45 min.) John Harlin III attempts to climb the North Face of the Eiger, the site of his father's death 40 years earlier. The music is by rock band Queen. Thu. (1/21)-Sat., 11am; Mon.-Thu. (1/28), 11am.

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-John Anderson, THE WASHINGTON POST

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Saturday, Jan. 23, 7:15pm

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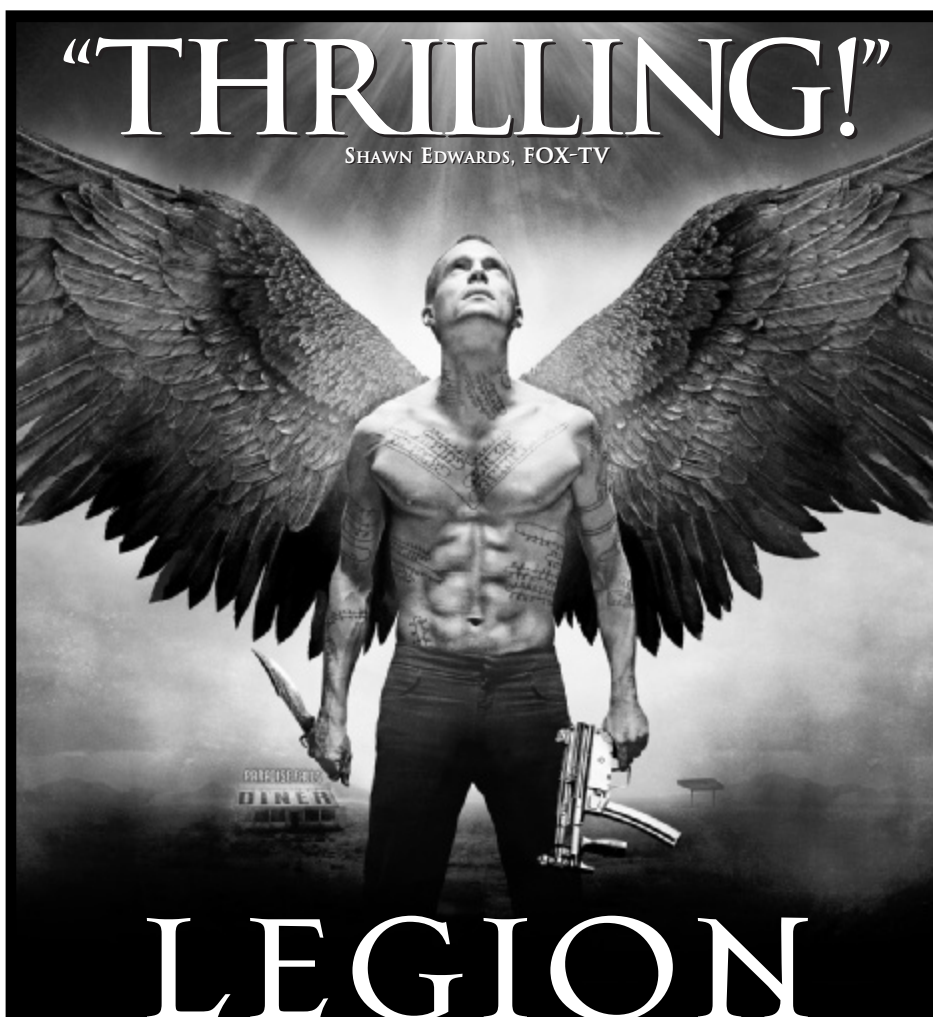


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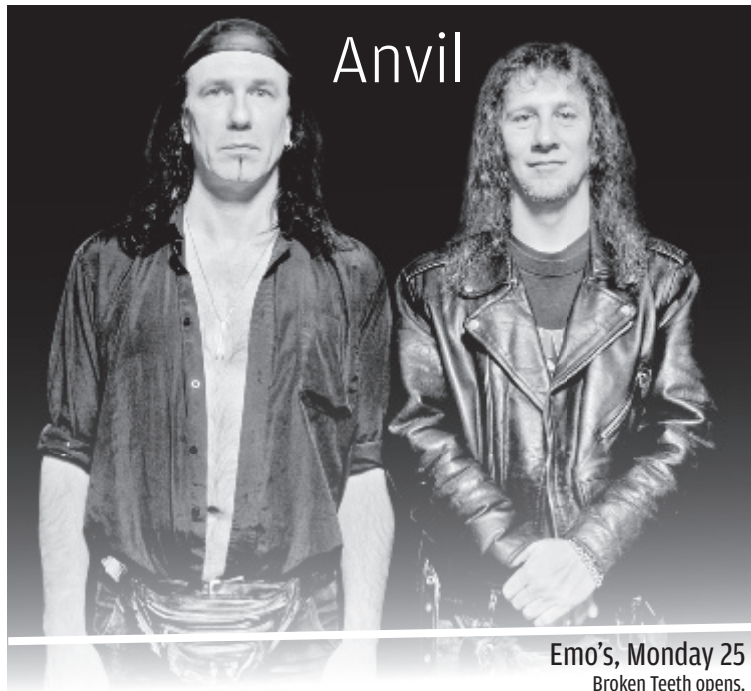
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EDITED BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

listings

Sixteen Deluxe digs into the vault at austinchronicle.com/earache.

Anvil

Emo's, Monday 22
Broken Teeth opens.

Steve Kudlow, aka Anvil guitarist/singer Lips, enters the pantheon of rock & roll not for all-time documentary *Anvil! The Story of Anvil* but rather for

his pathos, the pathos of all struggling career musicians. The success of the 2009 film has made his 1980s metal act with drummer Robb Reiner "famous ... we have agents, managers, a record company," but that's hardly the complete postscript. Talk to Lips for any length of time and his pathos spills out onto his sleeve.

"It's been wonderful," he exclaims of the Canadian friends' Cinderella story. "At the same time, it's a double-edged sword. I'm away from home. My wife is flipped out because she's got so many responsibilities that I'm not there to help her with

"When I was told I was going to do a movie I knew it would be what it's ending up to be, and I also knew what came with it. I'm going to be away from home. I'm not going to be home for my son.

I'm not going to be home for my wife. I'm not going to be there to cut the grass, to shovel the snow – to generally be there.

"Before this all happened, I told my son when he was seven, eight years old – we watched *The Osbournes* – I said, 'We're going to become like the Osbourne family. People are going to know us wherever we go. I'm not going to be home all the time. I'm going to be out playing, and you're not going to see me a lot.' Everything I warned him about is now transpiring, but it doesn't make it easier. All these things lay heavy on your woman at home – you're not there. These are the costs. It's not that I'm complaining. I'm just stating reality – state of mind." – Raoul Hernandez

Read the entire interview with Lips at austinchronicle.com/earache.

THE ENTRANCE BAND Mohawk, Friday 22

Valium blues is a good way to describe the music of Guy Blakeslee's Entrance Band. The L.A.-based trio's new self-titled LP on Ecstatic Peace takes the edge off a harsh trip, offering a magic carpet ride through Sixties psych and clouds of smoke. Drag City lady trio Lights conjures tribal punk spirits from its latest album, *Rites*. Smoke and Feathers opens.

– Audra Schroeder

BEAR CLAW 10-INCH RELEASE United States Art Authority, Saturday 23

Monofonus Press' one-sider series – vinyl releases with music on one side, art on the other – kicked off with Follow That Bird's killer jams last year. Next up is Bear Claw's self-titled, four acoustic daydreams for a rainy afternoon. Quartet Soft Healer, which also has an upcoming one-sider on the local multimedia label, seduces No Wave with sax and melodica, along with the post-what-eps sounds of Mutating Meltdown and Silent Diane. – Audra Schroeder

THE CRIBS, ADAM GREEN The Parish, Saturday 23

The Cribbs have come a long way since 2005's puppy *The New Fellas*. Adding Keith Richards to Morrissey's Mick Jagger – Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr – the UK fourpiece cut its 2009 Warner Bros. debut, *Ignore the Ignorant*, in Laurel Canyon, sonic birthplace of Sunset Strip song-pop. Libertines lite meets Marr's steel string cascades. Former Moldy Peach Adam Green opens with anti-folk from upcoming Rough Trade LP *Minor Love*. – Raoul Hernandez

JONATHAN RICHMAN Cactus Cafe, Monday 25 & Tuesday 26/Continental Club, Wednesday 27 & Thursday 28

Four nights in the mind of Jonathan Richman: It's both exciting and terrifying. The singer-guitarist has made a career of emotional songcraft since his days in the Modern Lovers. He was punk rock's soft spot, and in his solo career, he's continued to unload his feelings – though more acoustically – earnestly cataloging lesbian bars and the love lives of famous painters. – Audra Schroeder

JAY FARRAR, BEN GIBBARD Antone's, Wednesday 27

Though far from Jack Kerouac and Neal Cassady, Son Volt's Jay Farrar and Death Cab for Cutie's Ben Gibbard found creative synergy scoring Kerouac's Big Sur doc, *One Fast Move or I'm Gone*. Reworking the Beat's relentless prose into Americana, the duo distills the novel down to its dark and restless essence. Austin's Will Johnson, also collaborating with Farrar to record unpublished Woody Guthrie tunes, opens. – Doug Freeman

FIERY FURNACES The Parish, Thursday 28

The Friedberger siblings – Eleanor and Matthew – sure dig a concept album. From their 2003 debut, *Gallowsbird's Bark*, through 2006's *Bitter Tea*, they've embraced 1970s rock operatics, often leaving the listener frustrated or fascinated. Last year saw the release of both *I'm Going Away* (Thrill Jockey), the duo's sixth full-length, as well as cover album *Take Me Around Again*, where the Friedbergers redo ... songs from *I'm Going Away*. Kudos for keeping things weird. Drug Rug opens. – Audra Schroeder

soundcheck

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

MOTHFIGHT!, LOW RED CENTER *The Monarch, Friday 22*

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Red 7, Friday 22

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AESOP ROCK

Mohawk, Saturday 23

December's snow day do-over brings hip-hop's wise owl back to town.

BY ANY MEANS NECESSARY, COURSE OF RUIN, PREY FOR SLEEP

Encore, Saturday 23

Local throwdown in Red River's new heavy metal parking lot.

ERIC TESSMER CD RELEASE

Antone's, Saturday 23

The bluesman shines on *Green Diamond*. Tia Carrera and Amplified Heat bring the aces.

HELP US HELP HAITI

Austin Music Hall, Sunday 24

The Gourds, Joe Ely, and a chorus line of locals help out.

ANTI-FLAG

Red 7, Wednesday 27

Pittsburgh punks' latest *The People or the Gun* shoots holes "in this economy."

A GIANT DOG

Bearland, Thursday 28

Austin's Jefferson Airplane dive-bombs the garage. Simple Circuit opens.

in-stores

Friday: **Daniel Francis Doyle, Shitheads on Dynamite, Derek Rogers Band**, Trailer Space, 7pm

Saturday: The **Perilous Tide**, Trailer Space, 3pm; the **Perilous Tide**, End of an Ear, 6pm; the **Gary, Baby Robots, Paperthreat**, Trailer Space, 7pm

Monday: **Spoon**, Waterloo Records, 4pm

Wednesday: **Nature Boys, Wild America, Nightly Rituals**, Trailer Space, 7pm



| L - R: THE ENTRANCE BAND (FRI., 1/22) | THE CRIBS (SAT., 1/23) | JONATHAN RICHMAN (MON., 1/25-THU., 1/28) | FIERY FURNACES (THU., 1/28)

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 FRI. JAN 22, 7PM: FINGER PISTOL
 SAT. JAN 23, 7PM: BYRD & STREET
 SUN. JAN 24, 7PM: WILL DUNLAP'S JAM
 TUES. JAN 26, 7PM: KID'S NIGHT W/ BILL OLIVER
 WED. JAN 27, 7PM: PTARMIGAN

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MOUNTAIN
ROTTEN APPLE
GANG

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LATITUDE 30, 512 San Jacinto, 472-3335
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MOMO'S, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
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MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
NEWORLDELI, 4101 Guadalupe, 451-7170
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PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663
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SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060
SIX LOUNGE, 117 W. Fourth, 472-6662
SONNY'S VINTAGE, 2928 Guadalupe #104, 628-0670
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
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T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
TOM'S TABOOLEY, 2928 Guadalupe #102, 479-7337
TRAILER SPACE RECORDS & EVENTS CENTER, 1401-A Rosewood, 524-1445
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College Ave., 443-4200
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary St., San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
UNITED STATES ART AUTHORITY, 2906 Fruth
VINO VINO, 4119 Guadalupe, 465-9282
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
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 w/ DENNY FREEMAN & FROSTY
 • SUN 10PM
MIKE FLANIGIN
 WITH MIKE KELLER & KYLE THOMPSON
 8:30PM **JON DEE GRAHAM**
 • MONDAY // 10PM
BRUCE JAMES SOULTET
 • TUESDAY // 10PM
EPHRAIM OWENS EXPERIENCE
 • WEDNESDAY 10PM
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MONDAY JANUARY 25
 HAPPY HOUR Continental Graffiti
Oliver Giraud's

TUESDAY JANUARY 26
 10PM **CHAPARRAL**
 HAPPY HOUR 6:30 **TONI PRICE**

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27
 10:30PM **BARFIELD**
 TRUANT OF TX FUNK
 EARLY HAPPY HOUR 5:30-7:30
SHOTGUN PARTY

THURSDAY JANUARY 21
 HAPPY HOUR **PLANET CASPER**
 12:30AM **GLAMBILLY SAHM SAHM**
 COVERS **THE WAYMÖRES**

FRIDAY JANUARY 22
 10PM **THE LEGENDARY BLUE SPECIALISTS**
 HAPPY HOUR
SCOTT H. BIRAM

SATURDAY JANUARY 23
 10:45PM **WOODSBOSS**
 9:30PM **DARREN HOFF AND THE HARD TIMES**
 SAT JANUARY 23
REDD VOLKAERT
 MATINEE 3-7PM
MYSTIC KNIGHTS OF THE SEA
 w/ CHARLIE, JOHNNY X, SPEEDY & BUCK
 10:30PM **LOU ANN BARTON**
 SUNDAY JANUARY 24
 WITH **REDD VOLKAERT AND EARL POOLE BALL**

SUNDAY JANUARY 24
 11:30PM **JONATHAN RICHMAN**
 THUR JANUARY 28
 HAPPY HOUR **PLANET CASPER**
 TWO BIG SHOWS WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY
 11:30PM **JONATHAN RICHMAN**
 10:30PM **IZZY COX**
 FRIDAY JANUARY 29
 H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
 12AM **BRUCE ROBISON SHURMAN**
 SATURDAY JANUARY 30
 MATINEE 3-7PM **REDD VOLKAERT**
 12AM **DERAILERS**
 10PM **MOONHANGERS**

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DREW SMITH
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FREE SHOW!

AUSTIN'S OWN LAFAVORITE
JIMMY LAFAVE
 GUEST STAR • BETTY SOO
 8:30PM **FRI JAN 22**

THE LOVELY AND TALENTED
ELIZA GILKYSON
 GUEST STARS • BILLY BRIGHT & CHOJO JACQUES
 8:30PM **SAT JAN 23**

Two Big Nights!
MODERN LOVER'S
JONATHAN RICHMAN
 8PM **MON & TUE JAN 25 & 26**

TRAVELIN' TEXAS
SHAKE RUSSELL TRIO
 8:30PM **THUR JAN 28**

COME ONE, COME ALL
THE ASYLUM
STREET SPANKERS
 8:30PM **FRI JAN 29**

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 GUEST STAR
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 8PM **SAT JAN 30**

TEXAS TREASURES
WHEATFIELD
 8PM **MON FEB 1**

CD RELEASE SOIREE
REX FOSTER
 8:30PM **TUE FEB 2**

FRED EAGLESMITH
 GUEST STAR • THE GINN SISTERS
 8:30PM **WED FEB 3**

CHRIS KNIGHT
 8:30PM **THUR FEB 4**

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2.13 TERRI HENDRIX	2.19 LIL' CAP'N TRAVIS
2.14 CHRIS SMITHER	OTIS GIBBS
2.16 MIKE DOUGHTY	2.20 AUSTIN LOUNGE LIZARDS

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 HAPPY HOUR 6-9PM
LATIN AT HEART

FRIDAY 1/22
 HAPPY HOUR 5:30-9PM
BEN BURGESS
DJ FUNDAMENTAL

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 HAPPY HOUR 6-8PM
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THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 8PM:
NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS
SABALA VALHALLA: VIKING VS. PIRATE
KORPIKLAANI TYR • SWASHBUCKLE
WHITE WIZZARD • VESPERIAN SORROW
LIVE PIG ROAST, LIVE VIKING/PIRATE BATTLES,
SPECIAL DEALS FOR VIKING/PIRATE COSTUMES

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 5PM:
SCARY KIDS SCARING KIDS
(FINAL TOUR EVER!)
DANCE GAVIN DANCE
FIRE FROM THE GODS • THIEVES
INSIDE, DOORS @ 10PM:
DAX RIGGS • GRAHAM WEBER

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS
FOREVER THE SICKEST KIDS
ARTIST VS. POET • DISCO CURTIS
THE HIT • THE BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR
INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
THE HOPE CONSPIRACY
(ONLY TEXAS SHOW)
BITTER END • EIGHTFIFTEEN • POWER TRIP

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

INSIDE:
DEADBOLT
PICKLED PUNKS • JOHNNY HOOTROCK

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

OUTSIDE, DOORS AT 7PM:
VHI CLASSIC PRESENTS
ANVIL
BROKEN TEETH
INSIDE: ANVIL AFTERPARTY: **GODSWILL**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 6PM:
NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS:
WINDS OF PLAGUE
DESPISED ICON • FOR TODAY
STRAY FROM THE PATH
THE WORLD WE KNEW • SET AFLAME

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
ALL THE DAY HOLIDAY
KINCH • CITY LIVES • SEARCHER

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

INSIDE, DOORS @ 8PM:
DEX ROMWEBER DUO
EXENE CERVENKA • THE CASSINGLES

COMING SOON: 2/10 THE MOSH TOUR II WITH EMMURE, TERROR, AFTER THE BURIAL, MISS MAY I, THICK AS BLOOD, FALSETTA (OUT) • 2/11 MOTION CITY SOUNDTRACK W/ SET YOUR GOALS, THIS PROVIDENCE AND THE SWELLERS (OUT) • 2/12 THE ENGLISH BEAT, FISHBONE, OUTLAW NATION (OUT) • 2/13 RID2 W/ HAPPY CHICHESTER (OUT) / LADERA SKATEBOARDS PRESENT WINTER BLACKOUT 2010 FT. THE EXPENDABLES, IRATION, PASSAFIRE, POUR HABIT, AND ROOTS DOWN BELOW (INSIDE) • 2/14 SCREAMING FEMALES, JETT THE BROTHERHOOD, GHOST KNIFE, MUTATING MELTDOWN (INSIDE) • 2/17 HOT TOPIC PRESENTS: THE SUB CITY TAKE ACTION TOUR WITH: WE THE KINGS, MAYDAY PARADE, A ROCKET TO THE MOON, THERE FOR TOMORROW (OUTSIDE) • 2/19 CHAIN & THE GANG, THE STRANGE BOYS, YELLOW FEVER, COWABUNGA BABEZ (INSIDE) • 2/20 TV TORSO AND CORTO MALTESE W/ JESSE WOODS (INSIDE) / SOUNDTRACK OF OUR LIVES, NICO VEGA, JAY ADAMS (OUTSIDE) • 2/21 D.R.I., CONDEMNED UNIT, BLUNT FORCE TRAUMA, BIRTH A.D. (INSIDE) • 2/24 EVAN DANDO W/ SCOTT REYNOLDS (ALL) W/ QUIET COMPANY (INSIDE) • 3/6 DAWES, CORY CHISEL AND THE WANDERING SONS W/ JASON BOESEL (INSIDE) • 4/5 KING KHAN & THE SHRINES W/ THE FRESH & ONLYS AND THE STRANGE BOYS (OUTSIDE, ON SALE SATURDAY 1/23) • 5/1 DR. DOG W/ DEER TICK (OUT, ON SALE FRIDAY 1/22)

*ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT emosAustin.com, Waterloo Records, End of an Ear Records & Trailer Space

FIND UPCOMING SHOWS & BUY ADVANCE TICKETS @ EMOSAUSTIN.COM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

INSIDE: **DIXIE WITCH • HONKY**
DANNY BARNES • CORINNE ROSE
EARLY SHOW, DOORS AT 5PM:
THE AUDITION
THE DANGEROUS SUMMER • SPARKS THE RESCUE
THE RIGHT COAST • THE STAMPEDE

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

OUTSIDE: 101X PRESENTS
BADFISH (A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME)
SCOTTY DON'T • FULL SERVICE
BOB FLOYD BAND

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 2

OUTSIDE: 101X PRESENTS
NEW FOUND GLORY
SAVES THE DAY • HELLOGOODBYE • FIREWORKS
INSIDE, DOORS AT 7PM:
NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS
VEIL OF MAYA
ANIMALS AS LEADERS • CIRCLE OF CONTEMPT
PERIPHERY • FALSETTA

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 3

INSIDE: **FREE SHOW**
SIMPLE CIRCUIT • ICHI NI SAN SHI
LITERATURE

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4

INSIDE: **JOHN NOLAN**
(OF STRAYLIGHT RUN)
MANSIONS • PISTOLITA
DEAN STAFFORD (OF POMPEII)

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

INSIDE: **ALEC OUNSWORTH**
(CLAP YOUR HANDS SAY YEAH)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

INSIDE:
THAT 1 GUY • MANY BIRTHDAYS

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
THE CHARIOT • GREELEY ESTATES
INHALE/EXHALE • MEMPHIS MAY FIRE
THE COLOR MORALE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8

OUTSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM:
NO CONTROL RADIO PRESENTS
DEVILDRIVER • SUFFOCATION
GOATWHORE • THY WILL BE DONE
INSIDE, DOORS @ 7PM: **FRANK TURNER**
POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES
BROKEN GOLD

club listings

A ALL AGES VENUE R ROADSHOW ☆ RECOMMENDED ♪ HEAR MUSIC ONLINE

THU 21

ANTONE'S Chris Hawkes, the Nadas, Nelo (9:00) R

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Frankie J. Meyer (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Shores of the Tundra

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Preacher Keen (8:00)

BEERLAND Computer Jesus Refrigerator, Cari & Jason, Horse + Donkey ♪, Pataphysics

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton ♪ (6:00)

CAFE CAFFEINE Open Mic

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Steve Pack ♪, Vast Massive Satellite ♪ (7:00)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Steve Blum (6:30)

CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH City & Colour R, Lissie R

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Cory Morrow (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Continental Graffiti (10:00); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30); the Waymores, Sahn Covers Sahn, Glambilly (10:00) R

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Miles Zuniga (6:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Tameca Jones (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Tony Airoldi, Bruce Saunders (6:00)

ELYSIUM Amanda Lepre (8:00), Descendants of Erdrick, Manifesto, Killa Maul (9:00)

EMO'S Vesperian Sorrow, White Wizzard, Swashbuckle, Tyr, Korpiklaani *Chrontourage* Event R

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND PRINTED ON A SPACE AVAILABLE BASIS. Acts are listed chronologically. Schedules are subject to change, so call clubs to confirm lineups. Start times are provided where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS: Music listings deadline is Monday mornings, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Please indicate roadshows and residencies. Send venue name, address, phone, acts, and start times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax, 458-6910; phone, 454-5766 x159; e-mail, clubs@austinchronicle.com.

Austin bands: We want to hear from you. If you haven't registered and uploaded your MP3s to the Musicians Register, go to austinchronicle.com/register. Anywhere your band is mentioned, your music will be featured.

FLAMINGO CANTINA Creature Rock, Moonticca & the Texas Clock ♪, Disciples of Sound (9:00)

roadshows

january

THU 21

The Nadas, Antone's
City & Colour, Central Presbyterian Church
Lissie, Central Presbyterian Church

Glambilly, Continental Club
Korpiklaani, Tyr, Swashbuckle, White Wizzard, Emo's

Harry Bodine, Güero's Taco Bar
Meggan Carney, La Zona Rosa
Shapes Stars Make, Mohawk
Jan Seides, NeWorDeli
Jack Ingram, Paramount Theatre

Meggan Carney, Saxon Pub
St. Cloud, Stubb's

FRI 22

Buttercup, Beauty Bar
Scary Kids Scaring Kids, Dance Gavin Dance, Emo's
Under the Gun, Headhunters
The Entrance Band, Lights, Mohawk

David Benoit, One World Theatre
Matthew & the Arrogant Sea, the Parish

Minor Mishap Marching Band, Ruta Maya
Willy Porter, Saxon Pub
Perpetual Groove, Stubb's

SAT 23

Billy Bright & Chojo Jacques, Cactus Cafe

Hope Conspiracy, Bitter End, Power Trip, Forever the Sickest Kids, Artist vs. Poet, Emo's

Sean McConnell, Gruene Hall
Jake La Botz, Jovita's
Aesop Rock, C-Rayz Walz, Starving Martyrs, Mohawk
The Crips, Adam Green, Dead Trees, the Parish
Agnostic Front, Red 7
David Ball, Sengelmann Hall

SUN 24

Shawn Colvin, Robert Earl Keen, Jack Ingram, Austin Music Hall
Richard Bowden, Cafe Caffeine

Deadbolt, Pickled Punks, Emo's
Ottis Coleman, Saxon Pub
Tavana, Speakeasy

MON 25

Jonathan Richman, Cactus Cafe
Godswill, Anvil, Emo's

TUE 26

Jonathan Richman, Cactus Cafe

Seth Sherman, Carousel Lounge
The Iveys, Momo's
Naga Valli, Momo's
Waylon Payne, Saxon Pub

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

for your benefit

THU 21

Grounded in Music Fundraiser w/ Patty Griffin, Jack Ingram, **Paramount Theatre**

FRI 22

Yellow Bike Benefit w/ DJ Mike Wiebe, Eagle Claw, Fingaar Bangaar, Magnifico, **Red 7**

SUN 24

Help Us Help Haiti w/ Asleep at the Wheel, the Flatlanders, Band of Heathens, Charlie Sexton, Patricia Vonne, the Gourds, Guy Forsyth, Bruce Robison, Jack Ingram, Kelly Willis, Kinky Friedman, Paula Nelson, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Reckless Kelly, Robert Earl Keen, Shawn Colvin, **Austin Music Hall**

TUE 26

Stand With Haiti w/ Kat Edmonson, **Vino Vino**

THU 28

Open Ears w/ Carrie Elkin, **St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church**


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TUE FEB 2 FRI FEB 19 WED FEB 24



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WITH CARNEY
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KILLSWITCH ENGAGE
Devil You Know
dark tranquility
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IN THE CLUB

THU JAN 21 DOORS 9PM
REPRESENT AUSTIN PRESENTS
MORAKESTRA
WITH MAGNET SCHOOL AND ST. CLOUD
FRI JAN 22 DOORS 9PM
PERPETUAL GROOVE
SAT JAN 23 DOORS 9PM
THE UGLY BEATS
WITH THE RIPE AND ENGLISH TEETH
SUN JAN 24

GOSPEL BRUNCH WITH **THE SHIELDS OF FAITH**
THU JAN 28 DOORS 9PM
AUSTIN360 CONCERT SERIES
FEATURING **QUIET COMPANY**
WITH WHITMAN AND BUTTERCUP
FRI JAN 29 DOORS 9PM
THE SOLDIER THREAD
WITH MYNAMEISJOHNMICHAEL
SAT JAN 30 DOORS 9PM
THE BLUE HIT
WITH SOME SAY LELAND AND DOMINIC HENRICKZ
SUN JAN 31 DOORS 8PM
BLEU EDMONDSON
WITH BAND **NIC COWAN**

THU FEB 4 DOORS 9PM
JUSTIN TOWNES EARLE
WITH DAWN LANDES
SAT FEB 6 DOORS 9PM
DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND
WED FEB 10 DOORS 9PM
RAINA ROSE (CD RELEASE)
WITH CARRIE ELKIN
THU FEB 11 DOORS 9PM
RETRIBUTION GOSPEL CHOIR
FRI FEB 12 DOORS 9PM
MANIFESTO
WITH PREY FOR SLEEP AND BRINK OF DISASTER

FRI FEB 26



Rebelution
WINTER TOUR
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS **SOTA** ZION-I
TIX ON SALE NOW THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SAT FEB 27



BAD TO THE BONE
CHEF SMACKDOWN
BENEFIT FOR THE SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER
FEATURING MUSIC FROM DJ EL JOHN SELECTOR AND CHARANGA CAKEWALK
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WED MAR 3



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FRI MAR 5



STATE RADIO
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SAT MAR 6



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SAT MAY 1



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In Concert
WITH SASHA DOBSON
TIX ON SALE SAT 1/23 @ 10AM THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

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Bells of Joy
SUN. 1/24 11am Gospel Brunch no cover
301 W. Riverside Dr. 512.472.9304

North
SUN. 1/24 11am Bluegrass Brunch no cover
WED. 1/27 7pm Sittin' Singin' & Supper no cover
6416 N. LAMAR BLVD. (512)451.5440

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THU 01/21 10PM **NOBLE DOG**

FRI 01/22 9PM **TIN CAN PHONE**
LATER : DJ DIAMOND TIP SPINS TIL 2AM

SAT 01/23 9PM **MATT WHITE**
LATER DJ PROTEGE SPINS TIL 2AM

SUN 01/24 10PM **SONGWriters ROUNDTABLE**
WITH PENNI, ALON & DREW

MON 01/25 10PM **GUILTY PLEASURES**

TUE 01/26 10PM **DJ DIAMOND TIP**
OPENS FOR THE INCOMPARABLE **BOOMBOX ATX**

WED 01/27 10PM **BEN BURGESS**

THU 01/28 10PM **GRANT EWING BAND**

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SAT 1/23 LOST IN AUSTIN 9PM • \$5

WED 1/27 RUBY DEE & THE SNAKE HANDLERS 8PM

FRI 1/29 DEL CASTILLO PATRICIA VONNE 8PM • \$15

SAT 1/30 SKYROCKET 9PM • \$10

FRI 2/5 THE WEATHERMEN 9PM

SAT 2/6 SIGNALS 9PM

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 AUSTIN EST. 1974 TEXAS

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21 • 10 PM • \$2
 SCAN HOPPER
 THE BUBBLES
 WALDO WITTENMYER

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 • 10 PM • \$3
 BRIDGE FARMERS
 THE RIVER MOUTH
 RIFFLORD (MIN)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 • 10 PM • \$5
 SOUL TRACK MIND
 T-BIRD AND THE BREAKS
 PRAYER FOR ANIMALS

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24 • 10 PM • \$2
 CLAY NIGHTINGALE
 THE SHELLS
 ADAM SMITH

MONDAY, JANUARY 25 • 10 PM • \$2
 LEO RONDEAU
 WOODSBOSS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26 • 10 PM • \$2
 THE BREAD AND FRIENDS

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 • 9 PM • \$2
 NOEL MCKAY AND FRIENDS
 THE HOYLE BROTHERS (CMT)
 KALU JAMIES

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 • 10 PM • \$2
 FOCUS GROUP
 AND VERY SPECIAL GUESTS
 THE SAD BASTARD HAPPY HOUR

KITCHEN AT 11AM
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HAPPY HOUR
 Tuesday-Friday 4-7pm
 \$2.50 all beers
 \$2 well drinks
 \$3 house margaritas
 1/2 price appetizers

ALL DAY HAPPY HOUR
 Every Sunday 4pm-Close

SIN TUESDAYS
 \$1 Select Beers \$2 Wells
 Food Specials All Night!
 4pm-Close

LIVE MUSIC
 NO COVER ALL WEEK

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21 • NO COVER
 GIRL GUITAR 6-7PM
 JITTERBUG VIPERS 8-10PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 • NO COVER
 GIRL GUITAR 6-7PM
 MELANCHOLY RAMBLERS 7:30-9PM
 CHARLES THIBODEAUX & THE CAJUN ACES 9:30-11:30PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 • \$5 COVER
 DOORS AT 8PM MUSIC BEGINS AT 9PM
 HILLGRASS BLUEBILLY HEADQUARTERS PRESENTS
 RAMSAY MIDWOOD

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24 • NO COVER
 JAKE LEBOTZ

WHISKEY TANGO FAMILY BAND 6-8PM
 MONDAY, JANUARY 25
 CLOSED

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26 • NO COVER
 CARI HUTSON 8-10PM

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 • NO COVER
 GEEKS WHO DRINK 8-10PM

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM THURSDAY

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Troy Campbell (6:00), Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettle (8:00)

FRIENDS Casey Epps, Brother Magnum

THE GHOST ROOM DJ Parklife

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

GUERO'S TACO BAR Harry Bodine (6:30) Ⓡ

HOLE IN THE WALL Waldo Wittenmyer & the Wall of Sound, the Bubbles, Scan Hopper

JOVITA'S The Jitterbug Vipers (8:00)

LA PALAPA Triple Shot (7:00)

LA ZONA ROSA Meggan Carney, Eric Beverly & the Sunday Best (8:00), Latin at Heart (8:00) Ⓡ

LOVEJOYS Spot, Charlie Hurtin'

LUCKY LOUNGE Noble Dog (10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends (8:00)

MOHAWK We Aim to Try (8:00), Shapes Stars Make (8:00)

MOMO'S Phil Marshall, the Coffee Sergeants, Guy Forsyth, T Bird & the Breaks

NEWORDELI Third Coast Songwriters w/ Jim Patton & Sherry Brokus, Him & Her (7:30) Ⓡ

ONE 2 ONE BAR Spit & Tears (9:00)

PARAMOUNT THEATRE Grounded in Music Fundraiser w/ Patty Griffin, Jack Ingram (8:00) Ⓡ

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Twilight Hotel (7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Brooks Alan Brannon

RED FEZ DJ Rich (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Ricky Stein

RUTA MAYA Jean Claude Lessou, Djembabes, Aciable (9:00)

SAXON PUB David Holt & Tommy Shannon (6:00); Jarrod Dickenson, George Devore, Meggan Carney (8:00) Ⓡ

THE SCOOT INN DJ Gobot (9:00)

SENGELMANN HALL Open Mic (6:00)

SHINER'S SALOON Brent Allen (10:00)

SPEAKEASY The Space Rockers (9:30)

STUBB'S St. Cloud, Magnet School, Morakestra (8:00)

T.C.'S LOUNGE Lisa Marshall (10:00)

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Acoustic Open Mic

TOM'S TABOOLEY Fractals (7:00)

TROPHY'S Two Hoots & a Holler

Z'TEJAS Sweet Bunch of Daisies (6:00)

FRI 22

ANTONE'S The Motts, the Scabs (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Mark Viator & Susan Maxey (7:30)

BABY ACAPULCO NO. 3 Frank Gomez Band (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Tessmer (10:30)

BEAUTY BAR Prince Klassen, Ideal Soul Mart, Bear Bones, Buttercup, Stereo Is a Lie (8:00)

BEERLAND Dirty Charlie Band, Black Eyed Vermilion, Bob Wayne & the .357 String Band

BLU Christian Barbutto (7:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE Dance Lessons, Alvin Crow (8:00)

THE BUGLE BOY Eliza Gilkyson (8:00)

CACTUS CAFE Jimmy LaFave (8:30)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Two High String Band (6:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Jenny Reynolds (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Marcia Ball (9:30)

CHINATOWN DOWNTOWN Lucky Strikes (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin w/ Denny Freeman & Frosty (10:00); In the Club: The Blues Specialists (6:30); Darren Hoff & the Hard Times, Woodsboss, Scott H. Biram (9:30)

COTTON CLUB People's Choice (8:30)

COUPLAND DANCEHALL Midnight River Choir

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Conwell Crebbs Combo, Katy Cox (6:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Mark Goodwin Trio

ELEPHANT ROOM Combo Mahalo (8:00), Beto y los Fairlanes (6:00)

EMO'S Outside: Thieves, Fire From the Gods, Dance Gavin Dance, Scary Kids Scaring Kids; Inside: Graham Weber, Dax Riggs (8:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Benny vs. the Beast, River City All-Stars, Contra Coup (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Wild Bill & the Lost Knobs, Mandi LeBlanc, Todd Deatherage (6:00)

FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire, Eric Tessmer (5:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Shawn Nelson, the Moonhangers (10:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON The Duaines (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Ezra Charles CD Release (7:00)

GUERO'S TACO BAR Los Flames (6:30)

HANOVER'S Blue Finger Disco (9:00)

HEADHUNTERS The Buzzkillers, Under the Gun, Beat Dolls, Sunglasses & Mushroom, Bass Line Bums (8:00)

HILL'S CAFE Shane Smith

HOLE IN THE WALL The River Mouth, Smoke & Feathers

JOVITA'S Melancholy Ramblers, Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (7:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Tin Can Phone, DJ Diamond Tip (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Jimmy & the Mustangs (8:00)

MOHAWK Paul Green School of Rock Music (6:45); Smoke & Feathers, Lights, the Entrance Band (9:00) Ⓡ

MOMO'S Laura Lee Aimhoff, Seth Walker, George Devore

MONARCH EVENT CENTER MothFight!, Low Red Center (9:00) Ⓡ

NORTH BY NORTHWEST RESTAURANT & BREWERY Will Sexton (6:30)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Lisa Tingle, Lisa Donnelly (10:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE David Benoit (7:00, 9:30) Ⓡ

THE PARISH Matthew & the Arrogant Sea (9:00) Ⓡ

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Susan Gibson (7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Lincoln Durham, Gary P. Nunn

RED 7 Yellow Bike Benefit w/ DJ Mike Wiebe, Eagle Claw, Fingaarg Bangaar, Magnifico (10:00) Ⓡ

RED FEZ Ian Orth, DJ Ramesh (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Scooter Brown

RUTA MAYA Raks Helwa (7:00); Minor Mishap Marching Band, the Inheritance, Nefesh (10:00) Ⓡ

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR Marshall Ford Swing Band (7:00)

SAXON PUB Earl Poole Ball & the Cosmic Americans (6:00); Willy Porter, Akina Adderley & the Vintage Playboys (9:00) Ⓡ

THE SCOOT INN Nic Armstrong (8:00), the Preservation, the Happenings (9:00)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21 • 7PM
MATT SMITH'S WORLD
FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 • 10PM • \$5
REDD VOLKAERT
SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 • 10PM • \$5
VINCE MORENO



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MONDAY, JANUARY 25 • 6:30PM
AUSTIN CAJUN ACES
TUESDAY, JANUARY 26
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
KEVIN GALLAUGHER 8PM
WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 • 7PM
STEVE CARTER

HOPE FOR HAITI
WITH
LOVE AT WAR,
JOHNNY GOODIE
AND HIS ALL STAR
BAND & CHOFFEL,
SINGH, VALENTINE,
BENNET, WELCH
BENEFITTING DOCTORS
WITHOUT BORDERS
SUNDAY JANUARY 31ST



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THURSDAY JANUARY 21ST
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TONY CAMPISE
POSTPONED TO FEB 21ST

TUESDAY JANUARY 26TH
BLUE TUESDAY WITH
DEREK O'BRIEN, MALFORD MILLIGAN & SPECIAL GUESTS!
DOORS 8/SHOW 9

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 27TH
JAY FARRAR
OF SON VOLT
&
BENJAMIN GIBBARD
OF DEATH CAB FOR CUTIE
WITH **WILL JOHNSON**
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CD RELEASE PARTY
ERIC TESSMER
TIA CARRERA
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SATURDAY JANUARY 30TH
FOOT PATROL
MISTRESS STEPHANIE AND HER
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TUESDAY FEB 2ND
COREY SMITH
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SATURDAY FEB 6TH
HELLER WILLIAMS Performing Live
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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 11TH
HOWIE DAY
SERENA RYDER
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FRIDAY FEB 12TH CD RELEASE SHOW
RECKLESS KELLY
WITH THE TRISHAS
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FRIDAY FEB 12TH
BILL CARTER & THE BLAME
SEXTON FREEMAN RAINS SALMON AND MORE!
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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 18TH
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FRIDAY FEB 19TH
T-BIRD AND THE BREAKS & BROWNOUT
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THURSDAY FEBRUARY 25TH
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FABULOUS THUNDERBIRDS
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FRI FEB 26TH
CORY MORROW
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SUNDAY FEB 28TH
FOR MEALS ON WHEELS
RAY BENSON
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SA **ZACH WALTHER AND THE CRONKITES**
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Sat 1/23 AJ Downing
Geoff Union
Tue 1/26 Sand & Sunnie
Wed 1/27 Paul Spraw
Thur 1/28 Jim Halfpenny
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- & SUPER SPECIAL EVENTS -

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KARAOKE APOCALYPSE
Feel like a total rock star with live band karaoke!
Fri, Jan 22 11pm - NO COVER

DJ MEL S.N.D.P
A Saturday night dance party with Nasty's resident DJ, DJ Mel!
Sat, Jan 23 11pm - NO COVER

GEEKS WHO DRINK PUB QUIZ!
Every Tues 8:30pm - NO COVER

Join us for
HIGHBALL HAPPY HOUR
EVERY MON-FRI FROM 4:30 - 7:30
Enjoy up to 2 hours of complimentary private karaoke room rental as well as \$2 Lone Stars, \$3 local beers or \$5 well drinks with any food purchase!

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th 21 Pataphysics, Jason & Cari Band,
Horse Plus Donkey, Computer Jesus
Refrigerator

fr 22 Bob Wayne & the .357 Band, Black
Eyed Vermillion, Dirty Charlie Band

sa 23 Black Squeeze, Rifford,
The Daze, Night Meats

su 24 closed

mo 25 ROCK & ROLL KARAOKE @ 9PM

tu 26 League of Extraordinary Assholes:
Live and Uncensored Standup

we 27 Love Collector, Bottle Service,
the No No No Hopes, the Cassingles

th 28 A Giant Dog, The Shitty Beach Boys
(with Jeremy on vocals), Simple Circuit,
Zoltars

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Thursday • Jan 21 **LIVE MUSIC!**

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www.myspace.com/killamaulofficial
Manifesto 11 PM
www.myspace.com/manifestorocks
Descendants of Erdrick 10 PM
www.myspace.com/descendantsoferdrick

Friday • Jan 22 **SPECIAL EVENT!**

A TRIBUTE TO **depeche mode**
with DJs
SYNTHMASTER & ASURASUNIL

Saturday • Jan 23 **HAVEN**

goth, INDUSTRIAL, synthpop, & EURO DANCE
HAVEN WITH DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER
w/ SPECIAL GUEST DJ CYBERINA FLUX

Sunday • Jan 24 **REGRESSION**

RETRO 80's **RETRO 80's** RETRO 80's
WITH DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & BOBA FETT

Tuesday • Jan 26 **ROCK BAND**

The ROCK BAND Experience
WITH DJ MINIMUS

Wednesday • Jan 27 **MID-WAVE**

UNDERGROUND retro & old school goth
WITH DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & EDMINISTER

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thu. Jan 28 • **Live!** Accord of Dissonance,
Ugly Elephant, Sheer Khan and the Space Case

Fri. Jan 29 • Trans Diva **CHRISTEENE** -
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CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM FRIDAY

SENGELMANN HALL Beau Hinze
& the Back Porch Shufflers

SPEAKEASY Radiostar

STUBB'S Perpetual Groove
(10:00) Ⓜ

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Mad
Squirrel

**TRAILER SPACE RECORDS &
EVENTS CENTER** Derek Rogers
Band, Shitheads on Dynamite,
Daniel Francis Doyle (7:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL
Silver Creek (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Funk-o-Tron,
Spank

TROPHY'S Velvet Underground
Tribute w/ She, Sir; Chris
Cantaleña; Dakota Smith;
the Hallelujah Crowd; David
Nathan; Eddy Highway (9:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE
Fingerpistol Ⓜ (7:00)

SAT 23

**ANDERSON MILL
TAVERN** K.B. & the
Headliners (10:00)

ANTONE'S Eric Tessmer CD
Release, Tia Carrera, Amplified
Heat Ⓜ (7:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Grazmatics
(7:30)

**AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET
DOWNTOWN** Slow Down Lady,
Sara Shansky (9:30am)

BABY ACAPULCO NO. 5 Frank
Gomez Band

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB
Michael Holt (10:30)

BEAUTY BAR The Hi-Tones,
Planet Rye Co. Ⓜ

BEERLAND Rifford, the Daze,
the Night Meals, the Black
Squeeze Ⓜ

BOOMERZ Hoodygoode Ⓜ (10:00)

'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Dance
Lessons, Bobby Flores (8:00)

THE BUGLE BOY Ray Bonneville
(8:00)

CACTUS CAFE Billy Bright & Chojo
Jacques, Eliza Gilkyson (8:30) Ⓜ

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The
Dentones, Larry Seaman,
Foxworthy (7:00)

**CATHOLIC CHARITIES OF
CENTRAL TEXAS** Hope for
Haiti w/ Ryan Young, Margo
Valiente, About: Blank,
Akina Adderley, Los Texas
Wranglers Ⓜ (1:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH
Danny Brooks (6:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH
Rumbullion (6:30)

**CHEATHAM STREET
WAREHOUSE** Zach Walther &
the Cronkites (9:30)

CHINATOWN DOWNTOWN
Liz Morphis (9:00)

CLUB 1808 Weird Weeds Ⓜ,
Reverse X-Rays

CLUB DE VILLE Flashbulb Fires
(9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
Mike Flanigin w/ Denny
Freeman & Frosty (10:00);
In the Club: Redd Volkaert
(3:00); Lou Ann Barton, Mystic
Knights of the Sea (10:00)

COTTON CLUB The Debonaires
(8:30)

COUPLAND DANCEHALL Jody
Nix & the Texas Cowboys

DONN'S DEPOT Hotcakes

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Patricia
G. (7:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD
James Speer (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Henry Brun &
the Latin Playerz (9:30)

EMO'S Outside: Bright Light
Social Hour, the Hit, Disco
Curtis, Artist vs. Poet, Forever
the Sickest Kids; Inside:
Power Trip, Eightfifteen, Bitter
End, the Hope Conspiracy Ⓜ

ENCORE Prey for Sleep, Course
of Ruin Ⓜ, By Any Means
Necessary Ⓜ

END OF AN EAR The Perilous
Tide (6:00)

FADÓ The Blaggards (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA People
Food, Muchos Backflips! Ⓜ,
Opposite Day Ⓜ, We the
Granada (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE
Laura Freeman & the Hey
Lollies (10:30am); Dan
Rudmann, Michael Fracasso,
Nathan Hamilton (6:00)

FRIENDS Travis Green, Swamp
Sauce (4:00)

THE GHOST ROOM The
Dialtones, Darling New
Neighbors, the Lonesome
Heroes (10:00)

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN
SALOON** Flat Top Jones (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Sarah Pierce
(1:00), Sean McConnell
(9:00) Ⓜ

GUERO'S TACO BAR Beth Lee
(6:30)

HANOVER'S Lost in Austin
(9:00)

HILL'S CAFE Seth Canadian

HOLE IN THE WALL Prayer for
Animals, T Bird & the Breaks,
Soul Track Mind

**THE INDEPENDENT AT 501
STUDIOS** Ratarue Ⓜ

JOVITA'S Ramsay Midwood, Jake
La Botz (8:00) Ⓜ

LATITUDE 30 Magically Delicious
Smoking Skunk Monkey (11:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Matt White,
DJ Protege (9:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Spoiled
Royals Ⓜ (8:00)

MOHAWK Paul Green School
of Rock Music (6:45);
Glitterbillies, Starving Martyrs,
C-Rayz Walz, Aesop Rock
(9:00) Ⓜ Ⓜ

MOMO'S Rockey Ottley,
Warehouse Kings, Zach
Deputy, Matt McCloskey

MONARCH EVENT CENTER
Monarch Music Swap (noon)

**NORTH BY NORTHWEST
RESTAURANT & BREWERY**
Stephen Doster & Bill Carter
(6:30)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Jack Valen,
Kalu James Ⓜ, Ray Primm EP
Release (8:30)

THE PARISH Dead Trees, Adam
Green, the Crips *Chrontourage*
Event (9:00) Ⓜ Ⓜ

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE A.J.
Downing & the Buick 66,
Geoff Union (5:00)



LIVE MUSIC

715 RED RIVER AUSTIN, TEXAS
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THURSDAY - JANUARY 21

FRIDAY - JANUARY 22

SATURDAY - JANUARY 23

SUNDAY - JANUARY 24

MONDAY - JANUARY 25

TUESDAY - JANUARY 26

WEDNESDAY - JANUARY 27

THURSDAY - JANUARY 28

FRIDAY - JANUARY 29

SATURDAY - JANUARY 30

SUNDAY - JANUARY 31

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LOST ELEMENT

DANIELS & ANIMALS

STUMBLERDUNK

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RUDE RACHEL

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LOST JULY

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IN THE LOUNGE @ 10PM

FREE SHOW

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THE RUSTY MUSKETS

THE ROMEROS

THE NOISE FROM 913

MATT FLORES, IPOD NIGHT

FRIDAY - JANUARY 29

PARK N MURRAY

ANDROID, NO!

STEGOSAURUS LIPS

LOUDER SHARINE

RIGHTEOUS BRISKET

SOUL IN THE LOUNGE @ 2PM

UPCOMING SHOWS

02/05 - ZLAM DUNK, GIGGLE PARTY, SAY HELLO TO THE ANGELS

02/06 - ADRIAN & THE SICKNESS, SHE GRIVES

02/10 - PAUL DIANNO, ICARUS WITCH

02/12 - DISTANT LIGHTS, DARK SUMMER DAWN

02/13 - BANN, HATCHETWORK, INDISGUST

02/19 - TEXAS ROCKFEST BENEFIT SHOW

02/20 - LEFT RECORDS SHOWCASE

for private parties and info call: 512-474-1084



blu

THU. 21 DJ Impact

FRI. 22 blu Beats presented by Electric Avenue ATX

SAT. 23 Lovely Austin Fashion Show

SUN. 24 Sunday Sample Day

each week sample selected items from our menu

MON. 25 Charles Wagner & Friends

TUES. 26 Joey Colanusso Trio

WED. 27 The Lucky Strikes

MON-FRI 4-7PM HAPPY HOUR SPECIALS

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 \$2 LONE STAR (24 oz)

WED: MARC ALLEN ATWOOD
 PRESENTS "NO BAD WEDNESDAYS"
 OPEN MIC - \$2 LONE STAR
 \$2.50 OLD WHISKEY RIVER SHOTS

THU: LADIES' NIGHT DRINK SPECIALS
 FREE POOL, \$2 WELL DRINKS &
 DOMESTIC BEERS & \$1
 1ST DRINK FOR LADIES
 W/ OUT-OF-TOWN DRIVERS LICENSES
 NO COVER SUNDAY - THURSDAY NIGHTS

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<p>THURSDAY, JANUARY 21 BROOKS</p> <p>FRIDAY, JANUARY 22 GARY P. NUNN</p> <p>SATURDAY, JANUARY 23 LEE ANN ATHERTON LARRY WILSON BAND (OPENER)</p> <p>WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27 OPEN MIC WITH MARK ALLAN ATWOOD</p>	<p>THURSDAY, JANUARY 28 CATCH A DREAM</p> <p>FRIDAY, JANUARY 29 SLOW DOWN LADY LINCOLN DURHAM (OPENER)</p> <p>SATURDAY, JANUARY 30 TONI PRICE CATCH A DREAM</p>
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- Th 21 Eric Hisaw 6pm
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Henry & the Invisibles 10pm
- Fr 22 Ricky Lugo Project 6pm
Spank, Funkotron 10pm
- Sa 23 The Couch, Zlam Dunk, Equals 10pm
- Su 24 Open Mic w/ Grant, Holly & Nate 8pm
- Mo 25 Mashed Potato Johnson 6pm
Smarty Pants - Trivia Contest 8pm
- Tu 26 Stephanie Briggs 6pm
Cactus Rash, Newlywed, Say Say Say 10pm
- We 27 RC Banks 6pm
Electric Mayhem 10pm

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+++



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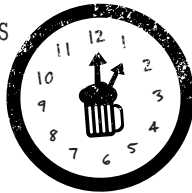
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the PARISH

Fri. - 1/22



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Sat. - 1/23



101X/UKTX Presents
The Crips
w/ Adam Green, The Dead Trees



Thurs. - 1/28



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w/ Drug Rug



Fri. - 1/29



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w/Magic Kids, The Smith Westerns

Sun. - 1/30



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www.TheParishAustin.com

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM SATURDAY

**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR &
GRILL** Larry Wilson, Leeann
Atherton

RABBIT'S LOUNGE Moving Blues
(9:00)

RED 7 Agnostic Front

RED FEZ DJ Orion, Prince
Klassen (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Tres Womack &
the Chubby Knuckle Choir

RUTA MAYA Freddie Steady V,
the Hi-Tones (7:00); Jeff
Warren Johnston Band, Teddy
Long & the 716'ers (10:00)

SATELLITE BISTRO & BAR
Continental Graffiti (7:00)

SAXON PUB Ram Danesse,
Equal People, Vallejo, Robert
Johnson's Soul (8:00)

THE SCOOT INN Magnus, Lost
Soul Revue, Pure Luck (9:00)

SENGELMANN HALL David Ball

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS
Kyle Turnley

SONNY'S VINTAGE Princess Ho
(5:00)

SPEAKEASY The Space Rockers
(9:30)

STUBB'S English Teeth, the Ripe,
the Ugly Beats (9:00)

**TRAILER SPACE RECORDS &
EVENTS CENTER** The Perilous
Tide (3:00); Paperthreat, Baby
Robots, the Gary (7:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL
Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies

TRIPLE CROWN Zlam Dunk,
the Couch

TROPHY'S Rat Trap Ball Dance
Party

UNITED STATES ART AUTHORITY
Bear Claw 10-inch Release
w/ Silent Diane, Mutating
Meltdown

WHIP IN Lee Barber & the
Broken Cup (7:00)

SUN 24

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Bert
Rivera (6:30)

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Help Us
Help Haiti w/ Asleep at the
Wheel, the Flatlanders, Band
of Heathens, Charlie Sexton,
Patricia Vonne, the Gourds,
Guy Forsyth, Bruce Robison,
Jack Ingram, Kelly Willis, Kinky
Friedman, Paula Nelson, Ray
Wylie Hubbard, Reckless Kelly,
Robert Earl Keen, Shawn
Colvin (6:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish
Tunes Session (9:00)

BLUE VELVET Fractals (7:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (8:00)

CAFE CAFFEINE Richard Bowden,
Will T. Massey, Grace London
(2:00)

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH
Sarah Dinan (12:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH
Floyd Domino (12:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon
Dee Graham, Mike Flanigin
(8:30); In the Club: Heybale!
(10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly
Playboyz (7:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD
Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Tameca Jones
(9:30)

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro
Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

EMO'S Johnny Hootrock, Pickled
Punks, Deadbolt

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE
Dickie Lee Erwin (6:00), the
Inheritance (8:00)

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam
(5:00)

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN
SALOON** Redd Volkaert (4:00)

**GREEN PASTURES
RESTAURANT** Jacques
Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL Ray Bonneville
(12:30), Midnight River Choir
(4:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Will Indian
& the Arrow Heads (3:00)

HILL'S CAFE Danny Brooks,
Joe Forlini

HOLE IN THE WALL Adam Smith,
the Shells, Clay Nightingale
(9:00)

JOVITA'S Whiskey Tango Family
Band (6:00)

LAMBERTS Black, Red & Black
(7:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Songwriters
Round Table w/ Penni, Alon,
Drew (10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Darren Hoff &
the Hard Times (8:00)

MOMO'S Carley Wolf, Warren
Hood & the Hoodlums, Clownie

NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi
Relampago (1:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Hunters &
Gatherers (10:30)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
(11:00am)

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt, DJ Cauze-
One (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/
Glenn Allen

RUTA MAYA Mr. Leebot
(10:30am); Richard
Sanguinetti, the Process
Project (7:00)

SAXON PUB Lincoln Durham,
the Resentments (6:00); Ottis
Coleman (10:30)

SENGELMANN HALL Shiner
Hobo Band

SPEAKEASY Tavana (9:30)

STUBB'S The Shields of Faith
(11:00am)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/
Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken,
Nate Hinds

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Jeff
Lofton (11:00am)

WHIP IN Southpaw Jones (8:00)

Z'TEJAS The Saturday Nites
(6:00)

MON 25

ANTONE'S JJ Usher,
Soul Track Mind
(9:00)

Transmission Entertainment

Mohawk

912 red river all are welcome.

- Th 1/21 - Shapes Stars Make, We Aim To Try
- F 1/22 - EARLY: Paul Green School of Rock
- 7pm (out) // LATE: The Entrance Band,
Lights, Smoke and Feathers - 10pm (in)
- Sa 1/23 - EARLY: Paul Green School of Rock
- 7pm (in) // LATE: Aesop Rock w/ Rob Sonic
& DJ Big Wiz, C-ray Walz, Glitterbillies, Star-
ing Martyrs - 9pm (out) / DJ Notion (inside -
Afterparty) presented by The Onion - 12am
- Tu 1/26 - Mike & the Moonpies w/ John
Evans, Jenny and the Corn Ponies - 10pm
(FREE for ladies)
- W 1/27 - Corrina Corrina, Nature Boys, Cher UK
- Th 1/28 - Zest of Yore, The Demigs, The Sour Notes
- F 1/29 - Missions, Survive, Gobi, How I Quit
Crack w/ Orlando Mas
- Sa 1/30 - Thieves, Diamonds, St. David and
the Dirty Kids, Major Major Major - 8:30pm

www.mohawkaustin.com

RED 7

611 east 7th venue & wreck room

- Th 1/21 - EARLY: Divide, Mayans, Alaris,
Woodchipper - 5pm // LATE: Kill City (FREE!)
& Pop Punk DJ Night w/Mark Twistworthy -
10pm
- F 1/22 - Yellow Bike Fundraiser/Party feat:
Magnifico (Queen Tribute), Fingaar Bangaar,
Eagle Claw ... Hosted by Comedy Sensation
Mike Wiebe!
- Sa 1/23 - Agnostic Front, Death by Stereo,
Blunt Force Trauma, Night Siege
- Su 1/24 - Agnostic Front (AF playing "Victim
in Pain" in its entirety)
- Tu 1/26 - Video Game Tuesdays! Old School
NES - No Cover!
- W 1/27 - Anti-Flag, Aiden, Cancer Bats, Trash
Talk, The Anchor - 7pm (only TX show!)
- T 1/28 - 13th Victim, Dead Reckoning, The
Riot, Scene, The Hounds
- F 1/29 - PONG, ChurchWood, Death is Not a
Joyride / DJ Prince Klassen

www.red7austin.com

for info on upcoming tours, check out www.transmissionentertainment.com



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6:30 - 9 PM
SUNDAY
12:30 - 3 PM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22
TWO HIGH STRING BAND
americana, bluegrass

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23
DANNY BROOKS
blues

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24
SARAH DINAN
irish, celtic

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29
CIENFUEGOS
cuban

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30
AUSTIN FRIENDS OF TRADITIONAL MUSIC

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21
STEVE BLUM
jazz

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22
JENNY REYNOLDS
singer-songwriter

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23
RUMBULLION
french cafe music

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24
FLOYD DOMINO
jazz, western swing

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FEB 5 - Ginger Leigh
FEB 6 - Lost Pines
FEB 7 - The Tea Merchants

at westgate:

JAN 28 - Left of Sunday Afternoon
JAN 29 - Noelle Hampton
JAN 30 - Bruce James Soultet
JAN 31 - Senor Gato
FEB 3 - Spence Thomas
FEB 4 - Jarrod Dickenson
FEB 5 - Ruby Jane

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PHOTO BY M. DAPRA
THU, JAN 21 6-8PM **TONY HARRISON**
8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
9PM **JESSE DAYTON**
FRI, JAN 22 8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
9PM **ALVIN CROW**
SAT, JAN 23 8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
9:30PM **BOBBY FLORES**
TUE, JAN 26 **DEBRA PETERS & THE ACCORDION ROUNDUP** NO COVER
WED, JAN 27 6-8PM **BILLY GARZA**
8-9PM **DANCE LESSONS**
9PM **WELDON HENSON**

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FRI. JANUARY 22 *REGGAE* DOORS 9:00
RIVER CITY ALL-STARS
BENNY VS THE BEAST

SAT. JANUARY 23 *ROCK* DOORS 9:00
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02.05: SPIN ALLEY, DOWN SIDO, DEAR CYANIDE,
RESIDUE, VIOLENT NIGHT, SALVO
02.08: BOB MARLEY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION!
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WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27
 in the Texas Spirit Theater
 DOORS AT 3:30 P.M. ★ MUSIC SHOWCASE AT 4 P.M.
 Q & A AT 5:30 P.M. with Marc Fort, Raoul Hernandez,
 Ter'ell Shahid, A.J. Vallejo, and Kathy Valentine
 Moderated by Margaret Moser, *Austin Chronicle*

The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum ★ 1800 North Congress @ MLK ★ TheStoryofTexas.com

CALENDAR (COMMUNITY SPORTS ARTS FILM MUSIC) LISTINGS

CLUB LISTINGS FROM MONDAY

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Jonathan Horne

BAR 141 Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Heard Showcase

BEAUTY BAR Before Dawn, We Aim to Try (10:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Shawn Nelson

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

CACTUS CAFE Jonathan Richman (8:30) ♪

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Love Liberation Army (9:30)

CHEZ ZEE Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Bruce James Soultet (10:00); In the Club: Continental Graffiti (6:30), Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Marshall Ford Swing Band, Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (6:00)

EMO'S Outside: Broken Teeth, Anvil; Inside Later: Godswill (9:00)

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces (6:30)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Strange Brew Showcase w/ Grace Rowland (8:00)

FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (10:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Erin Ivey, the Finest Kind (6:30)

GRUENE HALL Bret Graham (6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Woodsboss, Leo Rondeau (9:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LATITUDE 30 Chris Tondre (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Guilty Pleasures (10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Stillwater Pioneers (8:00)

MOMO'S Scotch Mountain Gang, Tres Womack, Dustin Welch, Brandon Jenkins, Mark Monaco

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Jo Hell & the Red Roosters

RED FEZ DJ Cause-One & DJ Taco (10:00)

RUTA MAYA Dance Lessons, the Jitterbug Vipers (8:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Blues Jam w/ Breck English (8:35)

SAXON PUB Bob Schneider, Jeff Plankenhorn (7:00)

SPEAKEASY Brian Winfield (9:30)

WATERLOO RECORDS Spoon Chrontourage Event (4:00)

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith

BLU Joey Colarusso Trio (7:00)

'BOUT TIME A.J. Kline (9:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Debra Peters' Accordion Roundup

CACTUS CAFE Jonathan Richman (8:30) ♪

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Dana McBride, Lili & Walter (7:00); Seth Sherman, Jacob Borchard, Conrad Wright (9:00) ♪

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Midnight River Choir (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Ephraim Owens Experience (10:00); In the Club: Toni Price (6:30), Barfield (10:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Ashleigh Daniel (6:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith w/ Jon Doyle (6:00), Brannen Temple Underground (9:30)

ELYSIUM Nineties Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh (6:00), Kevin Gallagher (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sweet Bunch of Daisies (7:00), Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (9:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes (10:00)

THE GHOST ROOM Nic Armstrong (9:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Jim Stringer & the AM Band (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Drew Kennedy & Josh Grider (6:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Jon Burklund

HOLE IN THE WALL The Bread

JOVITA'S Cari Hutson (8:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Rich, Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa (10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT Austin Rhythm Section (8:00)

MOHAWK Jenny & the Corn Ponies, John Evans, Mike & the Moonpies (10:00)

MOMO'S The Iveys (7:00) ♪; World Music w/ Arthur Yoria, Haydn Vitera, Naga Valli (8:00) ♪

ONE 2 ONE BAR Farlow, Meagan Tubb (8:30)

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Sand Sheff (7:30)

RED FEZ Benmused Showcase, Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (9:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Forest Wayne Allen

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Erin & Michael (9:00)

SAXON PUB Waylon Payne (5:00) ♪, Bruce Hughes & the All-Nude Army, Deadman, the Hi-Tones (8:00)

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Ember (9:00)

SIX LOUNGE Lucas Cook & Abel James (9:00)

SPEAKEASY O Positivo (9:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Newlywed, Cactus Rash

TROPHY'S Armadillo Road (6:00), Singer-Songwriter Night (9:00)

VINO VINO Stand With Haiti w/ Kat Edmonson (7:00)

WED 27

ANTONE'S Will Johnson, Jay Farrar, Ben Gibbard (9:00) ♪

ARTZ RIB HOUSE The J&A Show w/ Jon Emery (7:30)

BAR 141 Electric Mayhem (9:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Trent Turner (10:00)

BESO CANTINA Gustavo Rodriguez Band (11:00)

BROKEN SPOKE Billy Garza, Dance Lessons, Weldon Henson (6:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE L.L. Cooper (7:00) ♪

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Texas Eastside Kings (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE Jacinta (7:00)

THE COCKPIT Club Inclusive w/ Julie Nolan (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Jon Blondell, Trube, Farrell & Sniz (8:00); In the Club: Shotgun Party (6:30); Jonathan Richman, James McMurtry (10:00) ♪

DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Bruce Smith (6:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), John Mills Times Ten (9:30)

ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister

EMO'S Set Aflame, the World We Knew, Stray From the Path, For Today, Despised Icon, Winds of Plague (8:00)

ENCORE The Brimmers

FLAMINGO CANTINA Trish Bales & the Beautiful Dolls, Stop the Truck, Mau Mau Chaplains (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE George Carver, Dennis Ludiker, Graham Wilkinson (6:00)

FRANK & ANGIE'S PIZZERIA Flying Balalaika Brothers (7:30)

FRIENDS J.T. Coldfire, Swamp Sauce (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Texas Renegade (6:00)

HANOVER'S Ruby Dee & the Snakehandlers (8:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Kalu James, Hoyle Bros., Noel McKay (10:00) ♪

KEY BAR Jukebox Heroes (8:00)

LA PALAPA Acoustic w/ James

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Ben Burgess (10:00)

MCCULLOUGH THEATRE Berlin Philharmonic Wind Quintet (8:00) ♪

TUE 26

THE ALLIGATOR GRILL Gator Child (8:30)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

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AUSTIN MUSIC HALL Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan (9:00)

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T-BIRD & THE BREAKS 12

GUY FORSYTH 9:15

COFFEE SARGEANTS 8:15

PHIL MARSHALL 7

FRIDAY JANUARY 22 / \$10

DEADMAN 12:15

GEORGE DEVORE 10:00

INTRODUCING JOHN FULLBRIGHT & FRIENDS 8

LAURA LEE IMHOFF 7

SATURDAY JANUARY 23 / \$10

ZACH DEPUTY 12

WENDY COLONNA 10:15

BACKSIDE PICK 9

THE WAREHOUSE KINGS 8

JENNIFER SULLIVAN 7

SUNDAY JANUARY 24

MICHAEL HALE 5.0 PARTY (\$5)

BUSTAMOOVALATORS 4

CHICKEN STRUT 5

AFROFREQUE 6

DAN DYER 7

CRYBEAR 8

WARREN HOOD 10:30

& THE HOODLUMS \$7

DARREN HOFF 12:15

MONDAY JANUARY 25 / \$5

SCOTCH MOUNTAIN GANG 7

TRES WOMACK 8

DUSTIN WELCH 9

BRANDON JENKINS 10:30

MARK MONACO 12:15

TUESDAY JANUARY 26 / \$5 (\$3 W/ STUDENT ID)

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DAVID JIMENEZ TRIO 12:15

SIDESHOW TRAGEDY 11

TED

(FEAT: DREW SMITH) 9:30

JEREMY NAIL 8:15

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George Devore 10pm \$5

Meggan Carney 12am \$5

Jarrod Dickenson 8pm \$5

David Holt, Tommy Shannon, Frosty and Special Guests 8pm Happy Hour No Cover

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22ND ★KGSR★

WILLY PORTER
9pm \$20 Adv/\$20 Door

Akina Adderley
11:15pm \$10

Earle Brown Band 12:30am \$5

No Cover Happy Hour The Cosmic Americans 6pm

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23RD

VALLEJO
810 cover by FREE "Wacosta" CD 11pm \$10

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8-15pm \$10

Robert Johnson's Soul
12:30am \$10

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24TH

THE RESENTMENTS

Peewee Moore 12:30am

LINCOLN DURHAM 6pm/ \$7

Ottis Coleman 10:30pm \$5

MONDAY, JANUARY 25TH

Bob Schneider's Lonelyland
8:30pm \$10

Sahara Smith 7pm \$10

Jeff Plankenhorn 11pm \$5

Steven Ray Will 12:30 \$5

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26TH

BRUCE HUGHES
& THE ALL NUDE ARMY 8pm \$5

Deadman 10pm \$5

The Hi Tones 12am \$5

No Cover Happy Hour **Waylon Payne**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27TH

MONTE MONTGOMERY 8pm \$10

Ouachita 12am \$5

Walt Wilkins
& the Mystiqueros 10pm \$10

NO COVER Happy Hour **The Nortons**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29TH

Carolyn Wonderland

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5TH

PORTER DAVIS

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CLUB LISTINGS FROM WEDNESDAY

THU 28

MEAN-EYED CAT The Drakes (8:00)

MOHAWK Cher UK, Nature Boys, Corrina Corrina (10:00) Ⓡ

MOMO'S House of Songs, Jeremy Nail, Ted Ⓡ

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Bruce Newman's Nutty Idol

ONE 2 ONE BAR Big Circle, TX; the Twalls (8:00)

PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Mark Allen Atwood

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

RED 7 Trash Talk, Cancer Bats, Aiden, Anti-Flag ⓇⓈ

RED FEZ Get Right Kids (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Robbie Doyen

RUSTY SPURS Open Mic Jam (9:00)

RUTA MAYA Dance Lessons, La Mona Loca (7:30)

SAXON PUB The Nortons (6:00); Monte Montgomery, Walt Wilkins & the Mystiqueros, Ouachita (8:00) Ⓡ

THE SCOOT INN Electric Mountain Rotten Apple Gang, Blackbird Raum, Wino Vino Ⓡ (9:00)

SHINER'S SALOON Jeremy Steding Ⓡ (10:00)

SPEAKEASY Soultion Ⓡ (9:30)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS & EVENTS CENTER Nightly Rituals, Nature Boys, Wild America (7:00) Ⓡ

TRIPLE CROWN R.C. Banks, Electric Mayhem

TROPHY'S J.T. Wright & Solstice (6:00); Radio Fallout, the Personals (9:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan (7:00)

Z'TEJAS Will Sexton, Stephen Doster, Bill Carter (6:00)

ANTONE'S No Justice (9:00) Ⓡ

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Mike Nicolai, Dark Water Hymnal

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Chad Henson (8:00)

BEERLAND Simple Circuit, A Giant Dog Ⓡ

BESO CANTINA Player One (Version 3.0) (10:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Graham Wilkinson

BROKEN SPOKE Tony Harrison, Dance Lessons, Jesse Dayton Ⓡ (6:00)

CAFE CAFFEINE Open Mic

CAROUSEL LOUNGE George Macias, Patrick Cooper, John Craigie, Valerie Cochran (7:00) Ⓡ

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Honeybrowne (9:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Continental Graffiti (10:00); In the Club: Planet Casper (6:30); Izzy Cox, Jonathan Richman (10:00) ⓇⓈ

THE DRISKILL HOTEL Lobby Bar: Ricky Stein (6:00)

EDDIE V'S PRIME SEAFOOD Liz Morphis (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Gaila Kenneally, Erik Telford Collective Ⓡ (6:00)

ELYSIUM Sheer Khan & Space Case, Ugly Elephant, Accord of Dissonance

EMO'S Searcher, City Lives, Kinch, All the Day Holiday Ⓡ

FLAMINGO CANTINA Spank

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Troy Campbell (6:00), Open Mic w/ Lisa Kettle (8:00)

FRIENDS Red Corner Rhymers, the Finest Kind (7:00)

THE GHOST ROOM The Authors Ⓡ, New Roman Times

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Alvin Crow (9:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Mangled Bohemians, My Empty Phantom, Focus Group (10:00)

LA PALAPA Triple Shot (7:00)

LOVEJOYS Blower

LUCKY LOUNGE Grant Ewing (10:00)

MEAN-EYED CAT The Trim (8:00)

MOHAWK The Sour Notes Ⓡ, the Demigs, Zest of Yore (10:00) Ⓡ

MOMO'S Phil Marshall, Bob Floyd Band, Javi Garcia & the Cold Cold Ground, Nathan Hubble Ⓡ

MONARCH EVENT CENTER Megafauna, We the Granada, Fatback Circus (8:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Spit & Tears (9:00), Mingo Fishtrap Ⓡ (11:00)

THE PARISH Drug Rug, Fiery Furnaces (9:00) ⓇⓈ

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Jim Halfpenny Ⓡ (7:30)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Catch a Dream

RED FEZ DJ Rich (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Brigitte London Ⓡ

RUTA MAYA Austin Volunteer Orchestra, Killa Dilla, Armadillo Road (9:00)

SAXON PUB David Holt & Tommy Shannon (6:00); Seth Walker, George Devore, Meggan Carney (8:00) Ⓡ

THE SCOOT INN Zach Highwire, DJ Yay Yay, Adam Warped, Prepmode, Damon Allen, POSR (9:00)

SENGELMANN HALL Trevor Cole, Heather Kolacny

SPEAKEASY The Space Rockers (9:30)

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Open Ears w/ Carrie Elkin (7:30)

STUBB'S Buttercup, Whitman, Quiet Company (9:00) Ⓡ

T.C.'S LOUNGE Lisa Marshall (10:00)

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Acoustic Open Mic

TOM'S TABOOLEY Fractals (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Joel Hofmann Band, the Carneys, Bassturd, Joe Jack Talcom Ⓡ

TROPHY'S Jimmy & the Mustangs, Modern Don Juans, Michael Holt, Vicious Guns of Texas Ⓡ

Z'TEJAS Kris Kimura (6:00)

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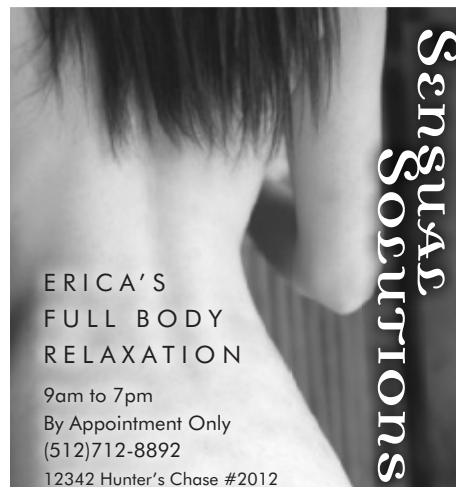
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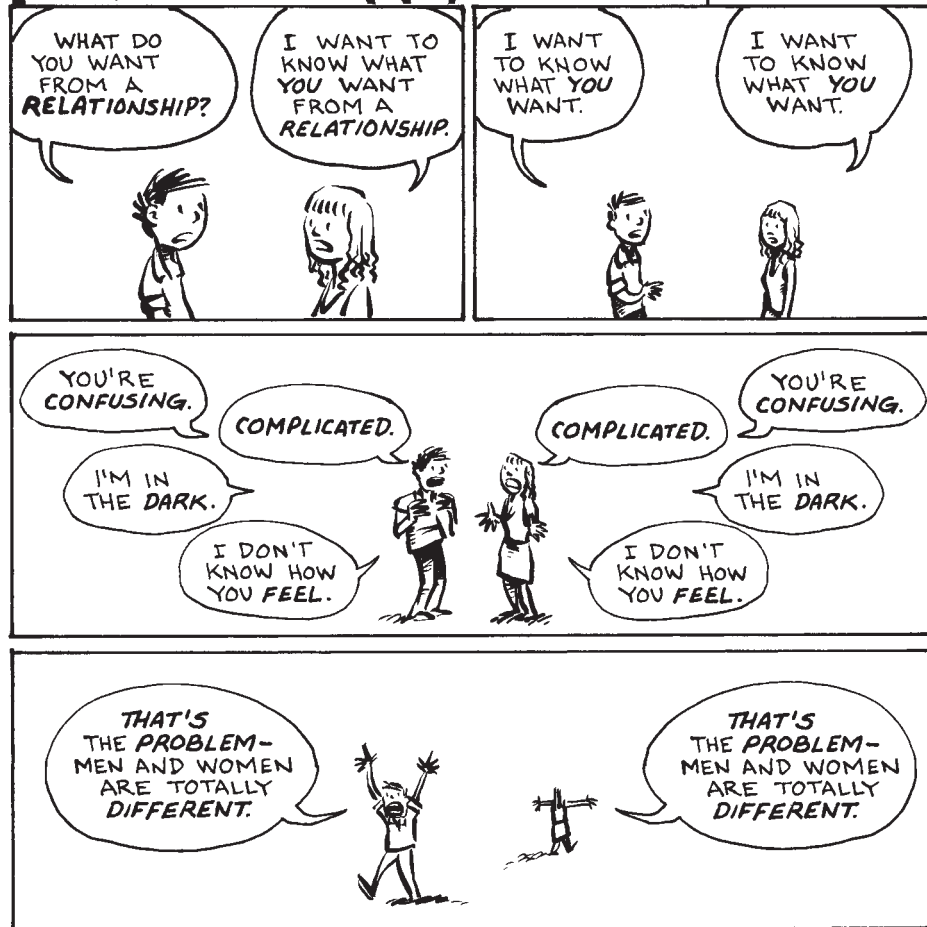
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The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

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Children are our future.

Be a positive role model working with elementary age kids in the afternoons. Work hours 2:15-5:45 p.m. M-F. Starting pay \$9.00-\$9.60/hr. EOE. Sites at over 70 elementary schools. Spanish speakers needed. Apply at

Extend-A-Care for Kids,
55 North IH 35,
www.eackids.org,
or call 472-9929 x408.

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Become TEFL certified. 4-week course offered monthly in Prague. Jobs available worldwide. Lifetime job assistance. Tuition: 1300 Euros. teflworldwideprague.com. info@teflworldwideprague.com (AAN CAN)

entertainment/casting

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general

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Starting pay: \$9.00-\$9.80/hr, EOE
Sites at over 70 elementary schools.

Apply at:
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www.eackids.org 55 North IH-35

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Get FREE nicotine patches and \$50. UT Clinical Research Study: 2 sessions/week for 12 weeks

You must be ready to quit, smoke 5+ cigarettes a day, 18-65 years old, do not exercise regularly, and be generally healthy.

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professional

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research study

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DO YOU HAVE CEDAR FEVER?

Do you suffer from:

- Sneezing • Runny Nose
- Nasal Congestion
- Itchy Nose

You may be able to participate in a Clinical Research Study for Mountain Cedar Allergic Rhinitis.

Participants must be 12 and older, have at least a 2 year history of allergies and be able to attend all 3 visits.

Study participants receive:

- Study Related Exam
- Study Related Allergy Testing
- Study Drug or Placebo
- All Free of Charge

Qualified participants will be compensated up to \$255.00 for the 3 visit study.

For more information, call local toll-free

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Do you have **cedar fever?**

Do you suffer from:

- Sneezing
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- Nasal Congestion
- Itchy Nose

You may be able to participate in a Clinical Research Study for **Mountain Cedar Allergic Rhinitis**. Participants must be 12 and older, have at least a 2 year history of allergies and be able to attend all 3 visits.


Study participants receive:

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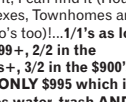
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007421, filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW #1 CARROLL, T VS. HERNANDEZ, E

Filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW #1 (Travis County Courthouse, corner of Tenth Street and Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas) on July 10, 2009.

STYLED: CARROLL, T VS. HERNANDEZ, E

NATURE OF SUIT: PERSONAL INJURY NEGLIGENCE
Given under my hand and the seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on December 18, 2009.

County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325,
Austin, Texas 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ C. MADDOX
Plaintiff Attorney:
TONY NGUYEN
9800 N. LAMAR BLVD.
SUITE 120
AUSTIN, TX 78753

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JAY ADELMAN Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-000040 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

BEVERLEY ADELMAN
The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on **January 12, 2010** an Application to Determine Heirship & For Issuance of Letters of Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said **JAY ADELMAN** Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

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If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on January 12, 2010.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk, Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy /s/ M. Limon

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KHADR ESSA KHALIL, Deceased, No. C-1-PB-09-001655 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

ALEXANDER AHADR KHALIL alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on December 07, 2009, an Application to Determine Heirship and Application for Issuance of Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said KHADR ESSA KHALIL, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court

at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on December 07, 2009.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. BOX 149325
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy: /s/ D. MENDEZ

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ANNIE BELL FRANKLIN Deceased, No. C-1-PB-10-000067 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

WILLARD CRAYTON
The alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on **January 14, 2010** an Application to Determine Heirship and For Appointment of Administrator and For Issuance of Letters of Administration in the said estate and request(s) that said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said **ANNIE BELL FRANKLIN** Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, on January 14, 2010.

Dana DeBeauvoir
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 149325 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78714-9325
By Deputy /s/ M. C. ARZOLA

CIVIL RIGHTS DECLARATION It is the policy of Riverside Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center to admit and treat all residents without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, religious preference, handicap, marital status, age or source of payment. The same requirements for admission are applied to all and residents are assigned within the home without regard to race, color, sex, national origin, religious preference, handicap, marital status, age or source of payment. There is no distinction in eligibility for, or in the manner of providing residents service provided by or through the nursing home. All of the facilities of the nursing home are available without distinction, to all residents, employees and visitors regardless of race, color, sex,

continued
legal notices

national origin, religious preference, handicap, marital status, age of source of payment. In accordance with the age discrimination act, Riverside Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center will not directly or through contractual of other arrangement, discriminate on the basis of age in the provision of services, unless ages is a factor necessary for the normal objective.

CONSTABLE'S SALE Under and by virtue of a Writ of Execution issued on the 17th day of September, 2009 in Cause Number 015218 by the Travis County Justice Court Precinct Three in favor of QSI Auto Sales, Plaintiffs, recovered a judgment against: Guillermo Espinoza, Defendant(s);

THREE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED THIRTY-EIGHT AND 20/100 DOLLARS (\$3,438.20) Together with the sum of THREE HUNDRED AND SEVEN AND 00/100 DOLLARS IN COURT Cost(s) as taxed on said Writ of Execution, and the further cost of executing the same, I have levied on the 28 day of DECEMBER, 2009 and will offer for sale and sell on the 2nd day of February, 2010 same being the 2nd day of February, 2010 at the steps of the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, of Travis County, in the City of Austin, Texas, between the hours of Ten O'Clock A.M. and Four O'Clock P.M. and any and all right, title, interest

and claim which the said Defendant(s) Guillermo Espinoza had of, in or to the following described Real Property situated in Travis County, Texas viz:
LOT 11 BLOCK E SUN-RIDGE PARK SECTION 1 A/K/A 3002 SUNRIDGE DR, AUSTIN, TX 78741

REAL PROPERTY RECORDED AS DOCUMENT 291549 The above sale to be made by me is to satisfy the above described judgment, together with the costs of said Writ of Execution, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

RICHARD MCCAIN, Constable Precinct Three, Travis County, Texas

By Deputy: /s/ Charles Stone, Senior Deputy

NOTE: On the property sold there are no warranties, expressed or implied, including but not limited to the implied warranties of merchantability and fitness for a particular purpose. You have bought the property "AS IS". Buyers are further advised that the purchase of the property at the Constable's Sale may not extinguish any liens or security interest on or in the property described. You have simply purchased whatever interest the Defendant(s) had in the property. If you have any questions, you should consult legal counsel.

The purchase will be required to produce an unexpired written statement from the Travis County Tax-Assessor Collector that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed to the county, school district or municipality, respectively.

D-1-GV-08-001462
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-08-001462, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Austin Independent School District County Education District, City of Austin, Maple Run at Austin Municipal Utilities District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Service District #5, and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and One Austin Capital Group, Inc. and Four D's Partnership (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$7,335.47 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3008, Bar-K Ranches Plat 3, Plat No. 57/15, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in document number 2002102675 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$4,855.71 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

Lot 49, Block G, Maple Run Section 9, Plat No. 86/54A as described in Volume 11509, Page 886 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$7,335.47 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-000642
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000642, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Gene O. Parker, Jr., Julia E. Parker, NRC, Inc. formerly known as National Resort Community, Inc. also known as Bar-K Corporation (In Rem Only) and Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$6,604.70 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 20, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3146, Lago Vista County Real Estates, Section 10, Plat No. 48/84, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 8742, Page 17 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$12,167.91 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

Emergency Services District No. 1 and County Education District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$4,855.71 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 25, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3008, Bar-K Ranches Plat 3, Plat No. 57/15, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in document number 2002102675 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$4,855.71 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-000642
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000642, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Karl W. Holdren, Jr and Doral P. Holdren are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums:

TRACT FOUR: BILLING NO.: 059510: \$ 2,207.30

Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT FOUR: BILLING NO.: 059510
Lot 3146, Lago Vista County Real Estates, Section 10, Plat No. 48/84, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 8742, Page 17 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$12,167.91 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 13087, Bar-K Ranches Plat 3, Plat No. 68/21 as described in Volume 10362, Page 976 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$6,604.70 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-09-000847
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200TH District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-09-000847, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and VALENTINA LUCIO CAMACHO, JUANITA GONZALES, DOMINGO CAMACHO, JOSEFA SANTOS YBARRA, DANIEL ACOSTA, ARTHUR C. ACOSTA, MARIA ALICIA ACOSTA, GREGORIO CAMACHO, JULIA MORONES JOE ESPARSA, ELIDA CANTU, ADELIA YBARRA, HENRY ACOSTA, MARIA LOUISA PARDO A/K/A MARY ESPARZA MARTINEZ, ERNEST ESPARSA A/K/A ERNESTO REYES RANGEL, FELIX RANGEL A/K/A NICHOLAS RANGEL, JR., CITY OF AUSTIN (IN REM ONLY), AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY AND TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT (IN REM ONLY), LEIF JOHNSON FORD, INC. (IN REM ONLY), FAIRLAND CREDIT, LLC (IN REM ONLY), and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (IN REM ONLY) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums:

TRACT FOUR: BILLING NO.: 059510: \$ 2,207.30

Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

TRACT FOUR: BILLING NO.: 059510
Lot 3146, Lago Vista County Real Estates, Section 10, Plat No. 48/84, Travis County, Texas, and being more particularly described in Volume 8742, Page 17 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$12,167.91 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-502844
CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126th District Court of Travis County, on the 16th day of December, 2009 in a certain cause numbered GV-502844, wherein AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE, AUSTIN INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT, CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY AND TRAVIS COUNTY HEALTHCARE DISTRICT are plaintiffs, and Jose C. Hernandez a/k/a Joe Cruz Hernandez, Victoria Cruz Garcia, Lucy Mercado Pedro C. Hernandez a/k/a Pedro Cruz Hernandez, Guadalupe Hernandez Cantu, Alejandro C. Hernandez, Joe Angel Hernandez, Manuel John Hernandez, George Anthony Hernandez, Manuel C. Hernandez, III, Jessica P. Hernandez a/k/a Maria Jessica Chavez, City of Austin, (In rem only) United States of America (In rem only), Mitchell International, Inc. (In rem only), Austin Community College, Manor Independent School District, Austin Independent School District, Travis County Hospital District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 11, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 4 (In rem only), Conn Credit Corporation, Inc. t/k/a Conn CC, L.P. d/b/a Conn Credit Company (In rem only), Mary Ellen Rangel (In rem only), Palisades Collection, LLC Assignee of AT&T (In rem only), Unifund CCR Partners (In rem only), State of Texas/Bond Forfeiture Section (In rem only), Cynthia Ann Canales (In rem only) and Sysco Food Services of Dallas, Inc (In rem only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$17,562.88 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 2, 2009.

I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 8, Block 5, Industrial Addition (O.I. 10, Div. O), Plat No. 409/553 as described in Volume 815, Page 565, Probate Cause No. 32,373 and 2002103722 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$12,167.91 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 21st day of December, 2009.

BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

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I, on the 18th day of December, 2009, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 2nd day of February, 2010 at 10:00 o'clock A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe Street in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

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CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

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ume 10403, Page 154 and document numbers 1999118141, 1999118142, 1999113801 and 1999113802 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$17,562.88 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

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BRUCE ELFANT,
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

NO. D-FM-09-006607
IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF KATERI BLUE SKY Petitioner, and JAMES ROBERT TIPTON Respondent

IN THE DISTRICT COURT 353RD JUDICIAL DISTRICT OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE BY PUBLICATION STATE OF TEXAS

TO JAMES ROBERT TIPTON, Respondent, and to all whom it may concern: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 20 days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you. The petition of KATERI BLUE SKY, Petitioner, was filed against JAMES ROBERT TIPTON, Respondent, on January 8, 2010, in the 353RD Judicial District Court of Travis County, Texas, and is numbered D-FM-09-006607, and entitled IMMO KATERI BLUE SKY, F/K/A GEGGY SUSAN WILT GALLIMORE AND JAMES ROBERT TIPTON, TRAVIS COUNTY CASE NO. FM-09-006607. This lawsuit is for a divorce. The Court has authority to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property that will be binding on you. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of at Austin, Texas, this January 15, 2010.

By: /s/ MARTHA FEIGENBAUM

Texas Bar No. 00795186
1515 KOENIG LANE
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78756
Tel. (512) 454-8238
Fax (512) 454-7962
Attorney for Petitioner
KATERI BLUE SKY

NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the Tex-

AV0210 POUND SALE
NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECEIVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

FEBRUARY 10, 2010 @ 9:30 AM @ SOUTHSIDE WRECKER, 8200 S. CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX 78745

100081091	2001	KIA	4DR	KWL485	TX	KNAFB121915011225
105001101	1995	STRN	4DR	Z96HKW	TX	1G8ZK5270S2245463
105001103	2007	SHJM	MC	3NR882	TX	LJ4TCKPD17Y041238
105001280	1994	DDDG	VN	A545393	IL	2B6HB821X2RK105403
105001284	2000	NISS	PK	10JMW1	TX	1N6D026S6YC308839
105001290	1993	TOYT	4DR	646ZBJ	TX	4T1VK13E9PU084086
105001292	1991	VOLV	4DR	T455MV	TX	YV1AA8846M1448860
105001294	1996	CHEV	4DR	903JRW	TX	2G1LWN52X9T9157130
105001296	1996	NISS	4DR	382DXR	TX	JN1CA21D7T7734762
105001300	1990	BMW	4DR	KZS879	TX	WBAAHC2309LBE24299
105001303	1993	STRN	4DR	FVZ274	TX	1G8ZJ5571P2114046

as Alcoholic Beverage Code that The Reserve at Lake Travis Cypress Club Beverages, LLC dba Cypress Club Swim Center has filed an application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission seeking issuance of a Mixed Beverage Permit to be located at 2208 Seabiscuit Cove, Spicewood, Travis County, Texas. Managers of company are Harry R. Jones and Clinton E. Jones.

Notice is hereby given that Atlanta Grill, LLC has filed an Application for a sexually oriented business license to be located at 14106 N. IH 35 Austin, TX 78728, lot 4 Block "B" Wells Branch PHS U Travis County Texas. Behzad Bahrami is required to obtain an operator's license to operate the sexually oriented business. Behzad Bahrami, Member-Manager.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLE Pinkies American Towing Inc; TDLR VSF #0574407 located at 8917 Circle Dr in Austin TX, 512-233-4869 has in its custody a 1995 Ford F 350 truck; VIN 1ft1jw35fxsea21221; LP# 735541 ll; impounded 01/11/2010 by authority of Sunset Valley police dept. The charge as of 01/13/2010 is \$206.60; daily storage rate is \$20/day + tax.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT; THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 30 DAYS.
GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX, 78745.
1994 DODGE VAN
266HB21X2RK105403
1988 CHEVY PK
1GDCD14K9J263269

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS

Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulations:

INSTALLATION OF A TRAFFIC SIGNAL FOR THE INTERSECTION OF BRODIE LANE AT INDIAN POINT IN PRECINCT THREE.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposed action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be addressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources Department, Travis County, Texas, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be received within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE ABI Storage, pursuant to Ch. 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of a public sale. On **February 6, 2010**, ABI Storage located at 7320 E. Ben White Blvd. Austin, TX 78741 will conduct a sale. Delinquent rental spaces will be auctioned off to the highest bidder at **10 a.m.** on the premises. The public is invited to attend. Total of 10 rental spaces containing misc. items, clothing, household items, appliances, furniture, construction items, tools, will be sold to satisfy Landlord Liens. All items will be sold "as is" to the highest bidder. 10% BP, CASH AND CREDIT CARDS, NO CHECKS. All items are subject to prior redemption. Tenants included in this sale are: B19/50 Abandoned, B22 Abandoned, B24 Abandoned, B26 Abandoned, B37 Kelly Ryan Ross, C04 David Parr, C09 Abandoned, C70 Marisol Flores, C74 Gerard R. Figueroa, D22/23 Ruby Ann Pinon.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

U-STORE-IT hereby gives notice of Public Sale under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. This sale will be held on **February 4, 2010** beginning at 10:00 A.M. at the U-STORE-IT located at 10025 Manchaca Road Austin, Texas. This sale will continue to each designated address location listed below after the completion of the beginning sale. This sale is being held to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. Everything sold is purchased "as is" "where is" for cash. U-STORE-IT reserves the right to set a minimum bid, refuse any bid, or to cancel any Public Sale that is advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials related to the sale.

U-Store-It #753

**10025 Manchaca Rd
Austin, TX. 78748
512-292-1760**

Lydia McGee, unit 226 - Bicycle, Boxes, Hamper, Ironing Board, Ladder, Pictures
Justin Harmon, unit 235 - Boxes, Chairs, Ice Chest, Ladder, Suitcase, TV, Cylinders, Tub, Golf Clubs, Lanters

Bobby Ewell, unit 2204 -Bed Frame, Boxes, Lamp, Tubs, Buckets, Night Stand.

George D. Minorchio, unit 2314 - Bed frames, Boxes, Chairs, Desk, Suitcases, Table, Bar Stools, Sofa, Tubs, Chest, Bag

Tiffany Robinson, unit 610 - Bar Stools, Boxes, Chairs, Sofa, Speakers, Tables

George Minorchio, unit 631 - Bags, Bed, Boxes, Trunk, Tubs, stuffed animals
Jihad Jada, unit 713, -- Baby Chair, Bed Frame, Boxes, Treadmill

U-Store-It #751

**610 E. Stansney Lane
Austin, TX 78745**

512-441-8300

Lara Rogelio, unit 3031 - Bags, Beds, Bookcase, Boxes, Dresser, Lamp, Shelves, Table, TV, Computer, Totes, Crates.

Danielle Buetow, unit 3060 - Bags, Bed, Chair, Dryer, Ironing Board, Ladder, Lamp, Picture, Shelves, Table, TVs, Washing Machines, Crates, Entertainment Center, Leaf Blower, Tools, Tool Box, Weed Wacker.

AUCTIONEER: KENNETH HIERHOLZER 6568

NOTICE OF SALE Minuteman Ministorage hereby publishes notice, as required by Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, of a public sale for the property listed below to satisfy a landlord's lien. All sales will be conducted by written bid for cash to the highest bidder and will be considered final. Minuteman Ministorage reserves the right to reject any bids. The sale shall be held at each respective storage facility's address as set forth below on **January 23, 2010** between the hours of 9 am and 11 am.

Minuteman Ministorage at 11703 N. Lamar Blvd., Austin, Tx 78753. 512-491-9001 (Anticipated start time: 9:00 am)

#10 Rodriguez, Andrew - misc. tools, electronics and Dell computer tower.

#3 Adkins, Tommy - several tires,TV, and misc. tools.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TRAVIS

CAUSE: D-1-GN-09-001633 By virtue of a FIRST ORDER OF SALE issued by the District Court of the 250th Judicial District Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, November 23, 2009, in cause numbered D-1-GN-09-001633, styled GREEN SLOPES HOME OWNER'S ASSOCIATION, INC. versus JAVIER BATISTA HERNANDEZ AND LILLIAN CLAVELO GONZALEZ, on a judgment rendered against JAVIER BATISTA HERNANDEZ AND LILLIAN CLAVELO GONZALEZ; I did on DECEMBER 8, 2009 AT 9:00 AM, levy upon as the property of JAVIER BATISTA HERNANDEZ AND LILLIAN CLAVELO GONZALEZ the following described real property; TO WIT:

LOT 3, BLOCK E, GREEN-SLOPES, PHASE 1, A SUB-DIVISION IN TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR PLAT RECORDED IN VOLUME 70, PAGE 27 OF THE PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS ("THE PROPERTY") Commonly known as: 4805 Yucca Hill Dr.; Austin, Travis County, Texas 78744-5711

On FEBRUARY 2, 2010, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 AM and 4:00 PM, beginning at 10:00 AM, at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of JAVIER BATISTA HERNANDEZ AND LILLIAN CLAVELO GONZALEZ in and to the above described real property.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, December 29, 2009.

Maria L. Canchola
Constable, Precinct 4
Travis County, Texas

By /s/ LEONARD JARED, Deputy

Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the

Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF TANYA CHABAY NUTT, DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Tanya Chabay Nutt were issued on January 7, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001696 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Allan H. Nutt.

The residence of such Executor is Travis County, Texas. The office address is:

Allan H. Nutt

c/o Amy P. Bloomquist
Attorney at Law
614 Capital of Texas Hwy South
Austin, Texas 78746

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 11th day of January, 2010.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY ANNA CRARY ANDERSON, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Mary Anna Crary Anderson were issued on January 14, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001697 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Mary Bartlett Davis.

The residence of such Executor is Travis County, Texas. The office address is:

Mary Bartlett Davis
c/o Amy P. Bloomquist, Esq.
Attorney at Law
614 Capital of Texas Hwy South
Austin, Texas 78746

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 15th day of January, 2010.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF EDWARD O. DOYLE, SR., DECEASED

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Edward O. Doyle, Sr., were issued to Rosa Marie Doyle and James Everett Doyle as Independent Co-Executor on December 21, 2009, Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001137 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The mailing address of the Independent Executor is: Rosa Marie Doyle, c/o Wayne Gronquist, 1104 Nueces St., Austin, Texas 78701. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Wayne Gronquist, 1104 Nueces St., Austin, Texas 78701, Attorney for the Estate.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lee A.

Davis, Deceased, were issued on January 12, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001755, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Jonathan Richard Davis.

The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered at the following address:

c/o Barnes Lipscomb & Stewart, PLLC
Attorneys at Law
2901 Bee Caves Road,
Box D
Austin, Texas 78746

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 14th day of January, 2010.

/s/ Ellen P. Stewart
Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Henry Austin Moses, Deceased, were issued on January 12, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001773, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Dan Paul.

The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered at the following address:

c/o Barnes Lipscomb & Stewart, PLLC
Attorneys at Law
2901 Bee Caves Road,
Box D
Austin, Texas 78746

All persons having claims against this Estate which is

currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated the 14th day of January, 2010.

/s/ Ellen P. Stewart
Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Roger C. Goldsmith, Deceased, were issued on January 14, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001539, pending in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Jim B. Sullivan.

The notice to the Independent Executor may be delivered at the following address:

c/o Barnes Lipscomb & Stewart, PLLC
Attorneys at Law
2901 Bee Caves Road,
Box D
Austin, Texas 78746

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated the 15th day of January, 2010.

/s/ Patricia T. Barnes
Attorney for Independent Executor

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of CHARLES MANESS HALSELL, Deceased, were issued on December 8, 2009, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001563, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: ANN SMITH HALSELL.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is

currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Jason R. Flaherty
Attorney at Law
BENNETT FLAHERTY, PLLC
3307 Northland Drive,
Suite 470
Austin, Texas 78731
DATED the 5th day of January, 2010.

/s/ JASON R. FLAHERTY
State Bar No. 24036569
FRANCES H. BENNETT
State Bar No. 00783634
SHELLY C. FRISTOE
State Bar No. 07480800
Attorneys for ANN SMITH HALSELL
BENNETT FLAHERTY, PLLC
3307 Northland Drive,
Suite 470
Austin, Texas 78731
(512) 407-8888 (Phone)
(512) 407-8588 (Telecopier)

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On January 12, 2010, Daniel Josef Adam Johnson was issued letters of administration for the Estate of Daniel William John Johnson, Deceased, in Cause No. 09-0577-CP4, pending in the County Court of Williamson County, Texas. The address of the dependent administrator is c/o Claire D. East, Hopper & Associates, P.C., 400 W. 15th St., Suite 408, Austin, Texas, 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

Daniel Josef Adam Johnson, Dependent Administrator of the Estate of Daniel William John Johnson, Deceased

Daniel Josef Adam Johnson, Dependent Administrator of the Estate of Daniel William John Johnson, Deceased

By: /s/ Claire East, Attorney for the Dependent Administrator

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On November 24, 2009, Cheryl Ann Woods was issued letters of dependent administration for the Estate of

Melanie Delia Ruth Wilkinson, Deceased, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-000258, pending in Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas. The address of the dependent administrator is c/o Claire D. East, Hopper & Associates, P.C., 400 W. 15th St., Suite 408, Austin, Texas, 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law.

Cheryl Ann Woods, Dependent Administrator of the Estate of Melanie Delia Ruth Wilkinson, Deceased

By: /s/ Claire East, Attorney for the Dependent Administrator

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Oscar H. Albright aka Oscar Herman Albright aka Oscar Harman Albright, Deceased, were issued on January 12, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001752, pending in the Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas, to Shirley Darlene Albright Greer.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the Estate addressed as follows:

Representative, Estate of Oscar H. Albright aka Oscar Herman Albright aka Oscar Harman Albright, Deceased

c/o Walter C. Guebert
Walter C. Guebert, P.C.
5900 Balcones Drive,

LEGAL NOTICE

If you paid a fee for a blue parking placard for persons with permanent disabilities, you could get reimbursed from a class action settlement.

How Do You Ask For a Payment?

A settlement has been proposed in a class action lawsuit about the fees charged purchasers of blue parking placards for persons with permanent disabilities. The settlement will provide \$20,200,816.17 to reimburse fees paid, to pay the costs and expenses of administration, and to pay the costs and expenses of litigation, excluding attorneys fees. If you qualify, you may send in a claim form to get reimbursed, or you can exclude yourself from the settlement, or you can object to the settlement. If you choose not to file a claim and do not exclude yourself, you will be considered a Class Member and the monies held for your reimbursement will constitute unclaimed funds, one-half of which shall be paid to organizations for the purpose of serving an indirect benefit to persons with disabilities with one-half amount being returned to the State of Texas.

The United States District Court for the Western District of Texas, Austin Division, authorized this notice. Before any money is paid for reimbursement, the Court will have a hearing to decide whether to approve the settlement.

Who's Included?

You are a Class Member and could get reimbursed if you purchased a blue parking placard at any time between August 11, 1995 and July 7, 2008.

What's this About?

The lawsuit claimed the State of Texas \$5.00 fee for blue parking placard utilized by persons with permanent disabilities violates federal law. On July 7, 2008 a Federal Judge decided the fee was illegal and directed the parties to meet to discuss reimbursement to Class Members. The parties met and developed the plan described in this Legal Notice.

What Does the Settlement Provide?

The State of Texas will provide \$20,200,816.17 to a Settlement Fund to be divided among all Class Members who send in a valid claim form. Your share of the fund will depend on the number of valid claim forms Class Members submit but will not exceed the amount you actually paid. Representative Plaintiffs and Class Counsel believe reimbursement to Class Members will equal 85% to 100% of the money paid by Class Members. **Access www.texasplacardfees.com to view the Settlement Agreement and to obtain your claim form.**

car talk

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

NICE GESTURE DOES NO HARM TO CARS

Dear Tom and Ray:

I am a valet at a local country club in Wisconsin. As you well know, it gets very cold here in the winter months, and that leads to my question. As a favor to the members who choose to valet park with me, I like to warm up their cars before they leave. I let the cars run anywhere from two to 15 minutes, depending on how long they take to get ready to leave, get their coats, finish conversations, etc. So my question is: Am I doing any damage to these automobiles? Would they be better off next winter driving away in ice-cold cars? —John

RAY: You're not harming their cars, John. The only harm you're doing is wasting gasoline. And since they're all paying exorbitant dues to belong to a country club, they're probably not worried about gas money.

TOM: In the old days, when cars were carbureted, you could do harm by warming up a car for too long. In warm-up mode, a carburetor would pour lots of gasoline into the cylinders, and the excess gasoline could run down into the crankcase and dilute the oil. And the rich mixture could ruin the catalytic converter, too.

RAY: But modern cars meter their gasoline into the cylinders so precisely, with the help of computers, that they can idle for days without a problem. This was proven in Princeton University's famous "Police Cars in Front of Dunkin' Donuts" study from 2003. And 2004. And 2005.

TOM: So, in terms of the cars themselves, you're doing no harm. And I'm sure your customers appreciate getting into a warm car and having heat immediately.

RAY: The only other downside is the extra pollution created by these long warm-ups. But I'd deal with that on a case-by-case basis. Now that you know who the good tipplers are, John, next winter, make sure those cars get warmed up. And balance out that extra pollution by not warming up the cars of the lousy tipplers. In fact, you can turn on their electric seat coolers.

Wait! Don't buy another car without the mechanic's checklist that's included in Tom and Ray's pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." It will help you get a good used car and avoid the clunkers. Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website, www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on

kut 90.5
AUSTIN TEXAS

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continued

legal notices

Suite 190
Austin, Texas 78731

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED this 18th day of January, 2010.

WALTER C. GUEBERT, P.C.
By: /s/ Walter C. Guebert

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary of the Estate of Joan C. Ball, Deceased, were issued on January 5, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001705, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Craig D.

Ball. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. All claims should be addressed in care of Executive Craig D. Ball, 3723 Lost Creek Blvd., Austin, TX 78735. Dated the 14th day of January, 2010, by Craig D. Ball.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Susan Kay Shellaby Brucks, Deceased, were issued on January 14, 2010, in Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001713, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, TRAVIS County, Texas, to: Glen Lee Brucks.

All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

c/o: Barnett & Associates, P.C.
Attn: Jeffrey Barnett
13740 Research Boulevard,
Suite N5
Austin, Texas 78750
DATED January 14, 2010.
/s/ Jeffrey J. Barnett
(SBN: 00792346)
13740 Research Boulevard,
Suite N5
Austin, Texas 78750
Telephone: (512) 336-1529
Facsimile: (512) 336-1550
Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GEOFFREY R. FERGUSON Notice is hereby given that on December 29, 2009, Greg Baker was issued original

letters testamentary on the Estate of Geoffrey R. Ferguson, deceased, Cause No. C-1-PB-09-001621, now pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas.

All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law to Greg Braker, Independent Executor of the Estate of Geoffrey R. Ferguson, c/o Charles O. Grigson, 604 W. 12th St., Austin, Texas 78701.
Charles O. Grigson, Attorney for Greg Braker, Independent Executor

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Demolition Services,

B100098-LD

Opens: February 8, 2010 @ 2:00 p.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 28, 2010 @ 10:00 A.M.

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate.

Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids for the **INSTALLATION OF A TOUCH SCREEN SECURITY SYSTEM FOR TCCC BUILDING 2 (140) AND 3 (160) (IFB No. B10008BDG)**, will be received electronically through www.bidsync.com and/or hardcopy. Bids will be accepted until **BID OPENING DATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO 2:00 P.M. CST, FEBRUARY 9, 2010**, then publicly opened and read aloud. Travis County will also accept paper bids received by Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, marked "Sealed Bid (PROJECT NAME, IFB No. B10008BDG)" at the Travis County Purchasing Office, 314 West 11th Street, 4th Floor, Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701. Note: The Time-Date Stamp Clock located at the front counter of the Travis County Purchasing Office will serve as the OFFICIAL CLOCK for the purpose of verifying the date and time of receipt of paper bids.

You may print the Plans and Specifications from www.bidsync.com or they can be obtained in the Travis County Purchasing Office. Hard copies (printed) of Plans and Specifications may be obtained from the Travis County Purchasing Office for a refundable deposit of \$100.00 in the form of a cashier's check, money order, or company check payable to "Travis County." The deposit will be refunded if the drawings and specifications are returned in good condition within 21 calendar days of the bid opening. In addition, Plans and Specifications will be made available for viewing free of charge at various Austin-area Plan Rooms listed below.

A bid security in the amount of five percent (5%) of the total bid amount will be required. **IF A COPY OF THE BID SECURITY IS SUBMITTED ELECTRONICALLY THROUGH WWW.BIDSYNC.COM, AN ORIGINAL AND ONE COPY WILL BE DUE (BY CLOSE OF BUSINESS) ONE BUSINESS DAY AFTER THE BID OPENING DATE.** Payments will be made for completed work in progressive payments with the County retaining five percent (5%) of each payment until final acceptance of the project. Payments will be made by check. A Payment Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$25,000. A Performance Bond is required in the amount of one hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount, if the contract amount exceeds \$100,000. Bidders should use lump sum pricing.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems will conduct an accreditation site visit of:

TravisCountySTAR Flight on February 8 and 9, 2010

The purpose of the site visit will be to evaluate the program's compliance with nationally established medical transport standards. The site visit results will be used to determine whether, and the conditions under which accreditation should be awarded to the program.

CAMTS accreditation standards deal with issues of patient care and safety of the transport environment. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent or valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the CAMTS site surveyors at the time of the site visit. Information presented at the inter-

IF THE CONTRACTOR FAILS TO COMPLETE THE PROJECT IN THE WORKING DAYS SPECIFIED, LIQUIDATED DAMAGES OF \$450.00 PER DAY OF DELAY WILL BE ASSESSED.

Historically Underutilized Businesses including Contractors, Subcontractors, and Suppliers are encouraged to participate in this project consistent with the goals of the Travis County Commissioners Court. Contractors will be required to comply with all applicable Equal Employment Opportunity laws and regulations, all Federal, State, and local regulations for construction safety and health standards.

The successful bidder must commence work upon issuance by County of a written Notice to Proceed. The County reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informality in the bids received. Bids may not be withdrawn for ninety (90) calendar days after the date on which they are opened.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Identity and Access Management Solution, RFP P100003-GM

Opens: February 1, 2010 @ 2:00 p.m.

2. Park Concession Operations, RFS S100096-RG

Opens: February 8, 2010 @ 2:00 p.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 2, 2010 @ 2:00 P.M.

3. Interactive Voice Response System for District Clerk, Jury Office, RFP P100004-LC

Opens: PROPOSAL OPENING DATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO FEBRUARY 1, 2010 @ 2:00 P.M.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

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CAMTS accreditation standards deal with issues of patient care and safety of the transport environment. Anyone believing that he or she has pertinent or valid information about such matters may request a public information interview with the CAMTS site surveyors at the time of the site visit. Information presented at the inter-

view will be carefully evaluated for relevance to the accreditation process. Requests for public information interviews must be made in writing and sent to CAMTS no later than 5 business days before the site survey begins. The request should also indicate the nature of the information to be provided during the interview. Such request should be addressed to:

Office of the Executive Director
Commission on Accreditation of Medical Transport Systems
PO Box 130
Anderson, SC 29677
The Commission will ac-

knowledge such written requests in writing or by telephone and will inform the program of the request for an interview. The program will, in turn, notify the interviewee of the date, time and place of the meeting.

This notice is posted in accordance with the CAMTS requirements and may not be removed until the site visit is completed.

January 8, 2010

PUBLIC NOTICE

TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JOEL B. GLICKMAN, DECEASED

CAUSE NO. C-1-PB-09-001716 Notice is hereby given that on January 14, 2010, Letters Testamentary were issued to JoAnn Glickman by the Honorable Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, in Cause Number C-1-PB-09-001716 pending upon the Probate Docket of said Court.

All persons having claims against said estate are on notice of the administration and are hereby requested to present the same within the time prescribed by law to: ROBERT J. BIRNBAUM, ATTORNEY AT LAW, 7750 BROADWAY, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78209.

PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Marilyn Louise Segner, Deceased, were issued on December 29, 2009 in Docket Number C-1-PB-09-001646 in Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas to Jerald Lynn Segner, Independent Executor. The address of record for Jerald Lynn Segner is 7705 Islander Dr., Austin, Texas 78749. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims to the foregoing address within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

2003 LEXUS RX-300, had a minor ding at right rear quarter. Ready now. Stunning with 103k miles. Can trade and warranty. \$8500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2001 MERCEDES SLK-230, red, nice, can trade, warranty. \$7950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2002 CIVIC four-door, auto 92k, one year warranty. Clean, nice, \$6550. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2003 TACOMA 4dr, Crew cab, auto, 82,000 miles, light hail. Clean, warranty. \$10,550. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2005 NISSAN "Nismo" 4WD Xtra cab pickup, 53k miles. Can trade, nice. \$13,950. Full warranty. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2005 RAV-4 55k miles, nice, full warranty, can trade. \$12,950.

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2005 RAV-4 55k miles, nice, full warranty, can trade. \$12,950.

motor

CARS

1993 BMW 850 ci- 153k miles, 30 day warranty. VERY RARE!!! \$8,500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

1995 MERCEDES SL-320 Two seater roadster, in process of complete, professional paint job. This car will be a '10' and we can take your car in a trade. \$10,950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

1996 MERCEDES E320- 70k miles, clean as a pin. Gold, parchment leather, can trade, warranty, \$6,950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

1997 OLDS Aurora- This luxury car is a one owner, loaded with leather, and only 119k miles. Some hail dents, drives perfectly, and just completed our rigorous check. \$2,650 with a full warranty. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

1999 MERCEDES C320 Kompressor- 150k miles, one owner, silver, 4 dr, runs great- \$5,500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

200 VOLVO S40- (will be ready in one month), 74k miles, black on black, leather, new engine rebuilt...\$5,350. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2000 COROLLA 4dr, only 77k. Minor hail dents. New motor. Warranty. \$4500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2000 LEXUS RX-300, had a minor ding at right rear quarter. Ready now. Stunning with 103k miles. Can trade and warranty. \$8500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2001 MERCEDES SLK-230, red, nice, can trade, warranty. \$7950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2002 CIVIC four-door, auto 92k, one year warranty. Clean, nice, \$6550. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

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2005 RAV-4 55k miles, nice, full warranty, can trade. \$12,950.

2008 HYUNDAI ACCENT GS 3 dr hatchback. 5 sp, PUUUURFECT, runs great, it's my personal vehicle, but my needs have changed with a baby a big dog! 14k miles, FULL WARRANTY for six years. \$8,500. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767 www.autodepotaustin.com

1997 HONDA CIVIC LX 4 dr, 5 sp, 175k miles, new tires, warranty, \$2,750. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767 www.autodepotaustin.com

1999 HONDA CIVIC EX 2 dr coupe 5 sp, 131k miles, beautiful interior, sunroof, red in color, COLD AC!!! Full Warranty \$3,750. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767 www.autodepotaustin.com

2003 HONDA CRV EX AWD 2.2L, 100k miles, Extremely clean, burgundy color, tan cloth interior, \$9,950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767 www.autodepotaustin.com

2004 TOYOTA SCION 70k miles, drives super, clean, automatic, clear title with warranty! \$7,250. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767 www.autodepotaustin.com

2006 DODGE Ram 1500 Pickup Truck- \$8,750- 17k miles, never wrecked, no accidents, selling for a friend. Gray, perfect condition, single cab. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2008 HONDA FIT 2800 miles (Yes, 2800 miles!) Auto, full factory warranty. Can trade. \$14,950. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

CHEVROLET NOVA 1972 Just replaced the wheel-barring issue. Drives like a charm now. 1972 Chevy Nova 350. Engine and transmission are in tip-top shape. Keeps great oil pressure and doesn't burn it either. Power steering. Power brakes (drum). New carpet. New bucket seats. \$8M Shifter (automatic). New dash cover (Only halfway glued on). Current registration and inspection. Questions feel free to call me, 512-293-7616 or email khunyapan@gmail.com. Asking \$3500 OBO. Serious buyers only. For more info, see my ad online.

HYUNDAI SONATA 2009 1 Owner Garage Kept In Mint Condition. 14,844 Miles Fully loaded power seats sun roof alloy wheels Call Christina at 512-786-5649

1937 FORD Yes, 1937 Ford Rumble seat convertible. Needs total restoration (we can do it for you), but very, very rare. Being brought back to life. \$14, 750. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

2005 NISSAN "Nismo" 4WD Xtra cab pickup, 53k miles. Can trade, nice. \$13,950. Full warranty. Auto Depot 909 Prairie Trail 836-9767. www.autodepotaustin.com

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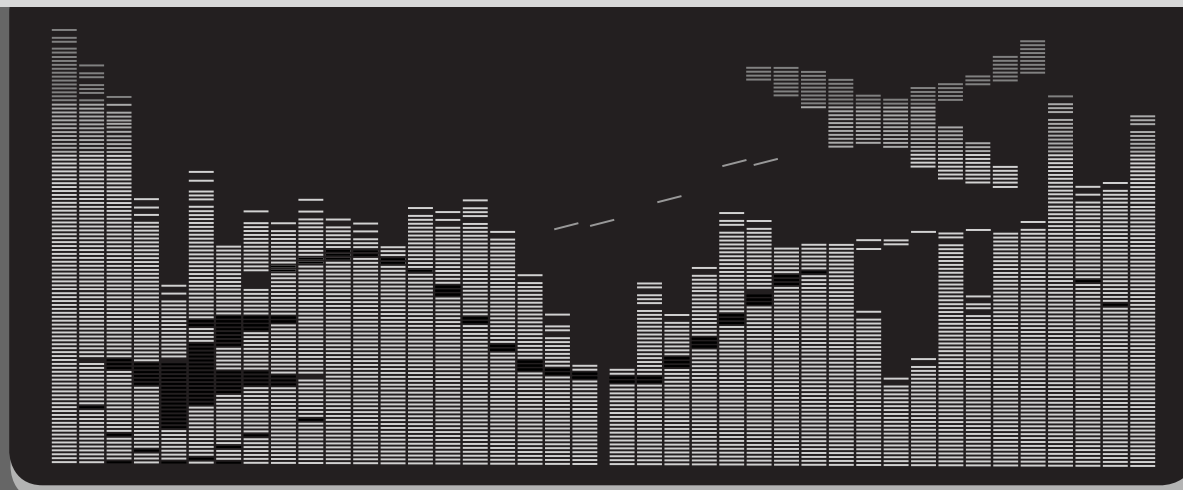
SOUND WARS

is a **song competition** between local Austin bands competing for notoriety, exposure, and for a chance to win **cash and prizes** ... and bragging rights of course!

The competition begins



January 28



DEADLINE:
Wednesday,
January 27,
2010!

Ready to compete? Bands, sign up online today!



READY



BAND



SIGN UP



ONLINE



TODAY

Competing bands must be registered in the *Chronicle's* **Musicians Register** (austinchronicle.com/musiciansregister) and opt in on their Musicians Register profile page in order to participate and be included in the contest. **Update your Musicians Register profile, upload your song, and good luck!**

Prizes courtesy of *The Austin Chronicle* and Music Lab

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CHRONICLE

MUSIC LAB

austinchronicle.com/soundwars

THE AUTO DEPOT

CV AXLES • CLUTCHES • A/C • BRAKES
AND EVERYTHING ELSE

DURING JANUARY WE
WILL DONATE 10% OF ANY MECH. REPAIR [5% ON BODY]
TO DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS FOR HAITI RELIEF!

MOST CARS/TRUCKS QUALIFY FOR OPTIONAL 4
YEAR/UNLIMITED MILEAGE WARRANTY GOOD
ANYWHERE IN THE U.S. OR CANADA!

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909 PRAIRIE TRAIL

ONE STREET SOUTH OF KRAMER, WEST OF NORTH
LAMAR. LOOK FOR THE BIG RED AUTO BARN.

MON- FRI 8AM-6PM

SAT 10-5PM OR BY APPT.

PHONE JIM AT **294-2885** UNTIL 9PM

OR 7 DAYS/WEEK FOR ANY OF THESE CARS OR FOR
REPAIRS. WE CAN PROBABLY FIND WHAT YOU WANT.

autodepotaustin.com

**DON'T FORGET - WE BUY CARS
(RUNNING OR NOT) (ACCIDENTS OKAY)**

NEW VEHICLES FOR SALE THIS WEEK:

ALL WITH OUR FAMOUS WARRANTY

2008 Hyundai Accent GS 3 dr hatchback, 5 spd., it's my personal vehicle, but my needs have changed with a baby and big dog! :-), 14K miles, FULL WARRANTY for six years! - \$8,500

2000 Honda Civic LX 4 Dr, 133K miles, auto, salvaged title, with one year full-warranty! - \$4,250

2002 Honda Odyssey, 134K miles, auto, champagne color, warranty - \$5,950

2003 Honda S2000 54K (ready in one month) beautiful car in the process of getting perfect! LOW MILES - \$12,900

2004 Toyota Scion XA - 70K miles - Drives super, clean, automatic, clear title, with warranty! - \$7,250

1998 Lexus SC300 coupe. 115K. Wow, what a car. Just a gorgeous classic. \$5,900.

1993 BMW 850ci - 153K, 30 day warranty VERY RARE! \$85,000 new - \$6,900

2000 Volvo S40 - (will be ready in one week), 74K miles, black on black, leather, new engine rebuild... - \$4,995

1999 Mercedes C230 Kompressor Sport- 168K miles, one-owner, all records, silver, 4 DR, looks and runs beautiful \$4,995

2007 VW Rabbit - 3 Dr. Hatchback, 56K Miles, Full Warranty, 5 speed, 35 MPG, beautiful - \$8,900

2006 Ford Mustang GT - (ready in one week) Silver, auto, fast car, RUMBLES! 102K miles, beautiful, charcoal interior - \$11,950

1937 [yes, 1937] Ford rumble seat convertible. Needs total restoration [we can do it for you!], but very, very rare. Being brought back to life - \$14,750

2001 Civic, 4dr., 5 speed, clean, nice, looks, drives perfectly, warranty. 140k. \$5,350

2001 Civic 2dr., 5 sp., 80k, runs, drives, looks super, warranty, \$5,750

1997 Civic 2dr. EX, 5 sp., full warranty, \$4,250

VOTED BEST IN
AUSTIN 7 TIMES
BY THE AUSTIN
CHRONICLE AND
CITYSEARCH



MENTION THIS AD AND
RECEIVE AN ADDITIONAL 10%
OFF ANY MECHANICAL
REPAIR!

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trucks

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repairs

AUTO INSURANCE DISCOUNTS UP TO 40%

Call, click, or come by my office to find out how you can save money on your car insurance by switching to the #1 team.
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Nancy Callahan
State Farm Agent
3500 Jefferson Suite 313, 78731
(512)451-7573
nancy@nancyjocallahan.com
State Farm Mutual
Automobile Insurance Co.
Home
Offices: Bloomington, IL

DENT REPAIR The DiNG company was started and is a Austin Texas based company that specializes in paintless auto hail damage removal, denting repairs & clear auto bra installations. We save you time and money. thedingcompany.com

DETAIL SERVICE SAustin Drop-Off Detail has been doing business since 2004! 20+ years experience! Just drop off and pickup! Interior / exterior / engine/trunk / wheels! All paint types- metallics, dk colors, two stage! Lowest prices around! Complimentary consultations! We also do consignment sales! Email mision_motivation@yahoo.com for more pics or leave a message for Victor at 512-673-3919 for more info! Have a great day!!

INSPECTIONS

State Inspector of Austin
LLC - Vehicle Safety
& Emissions Testing

9433 Parkfield Dr, 78758

Se Habla Espanol
836-7661

FREE ADS Got a car you need to sell? Looking for a roommate? Want to unload that old refrigerator? Got a great idea for a band, but missing some musicians? All you need to do is go online to www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds and post your ad for FREE. Make it stand out with pictures! Highlight it by making it a featured ad! You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

music

equipment for sale

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VOICE LESSONS for singers of all ages. All experience levels welcome. Call Emily Bem at 784-7728.

musicians available

GUITAR Two 30 something guitar players available to jam. We are looking to form a band, heavy, blues based, rock and roll. We have lots of song ideas, we are just trying to take it to the next level. Looking for drummer, bass, voice. South Austin. Matt 512-740-5933 or wilburpeter@yahoo.com

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musicians wanted

BASS Need Country Bass Player for paying gigs. If you cannot practice or travel please keep looking Call Bill 512-630-9539 or Ronnie 512-563-0292

BASS: Two guitar players looking to form band. We have lots of song ideas. Looking for a vocalist/ songwriter with something to say, bass player, drummer. Heavy, blues, rock and roll (kind of Acdc meets Ted Nugent without the flaming arrows.) We are both in our upper 30's and have been playing for over 20yrs. Nothing formal yet, if you just want to get together and jam and see how it goes contact me. Matt 512-740-5933 or wilburpeter@yahoo.com.

GUITAR Pro Band seeks Acoustic (nylon string preferred) Guitarist to complement a jazz fusion styled band. Hear what we mean at www.myspace.com/bmikelg48. Contact Mike at www.bmikelg48@netscape.net

KEYBOARD I'm looking for a keyboard player for a gigging band. Practices are held in Spicewood (about 25 minutes west of Bee Cave/Oak Hill). We play Americana, Texas Country, Blues and Rock. Contact Rusty via email if you are interested. rusty.09@gmail.com

OTHER Female vocalist needed to work with various artist in the studio. Willing to trade studio time at a discount for your own project. studioilusionsrecording@yahoo.com

OTHER Established Industrial Punk band seeks dedicated live soundperson. Contact: info@luciddementia.com

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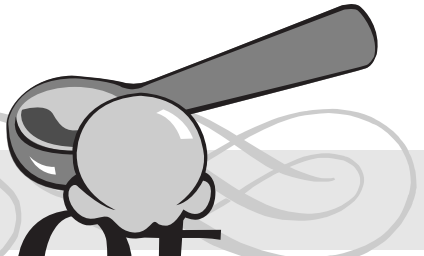
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WARM APPLE PIE

lets see what happens.. jade99, 30, [#132306](#)

TASTES LIKE CANDY

Still haven't found what I am looking for. tasteslikecandy, 46, [#132022](#)

WET AND HORNY

looking for dominate much much older male 50 plus for discreet en counters. Loved to be spanked and teased. hotneasy, 24, [#131716](#)

SENSUAL KISSER LOVER

I am a 37 year old woman who wants nothing more than to spend time with someone that I can call on when I want it! I am pretty simple... boytoywanter, 37, [#131255](#)

ORGASM?

I have many fantasies. I want you to teach me and tell me how.23 years old, 5'4", 110 lbs, very cute and willing. LittleLady, 24, [#131233](#)

SUBMISSIVE SEEKS MASTER

I'm 26 years old and love being a submissive to a knowledgeable dominant male. I am untrained but have enough brains to know how to respect my Dom/Master. kinkykendra69, 26, [#131116](#)

DOMME SEEKS SUB

For consideration you must include a face pic. Replies with NO pic or DICK pics will be DELETED. To get MY attention you must also say MORE than ONE-LINE.. MistressZann, 50, [#130836](#)

ELMO LOVER

I'm a girl who just wants a lot of fun and wild things into my life. lovabileibra12, 20, [#130651](#)

SENSUAL IRISH EYES

I am a very sensual, uninhibited, hedonistic woman!! love sex.I love men,singly and plurally.I write erotica, and I'm damn good at it! Meeting people and learning new things;I'm an adventurous free spirit. irisheyes417, 52, [#130532](#)

SUB, SHY, SWEET.

I'm witty, charming, and shy, and Gemini. I love learning and having fun. I am looking for a dominant, clever, and affectionate man to befriend and maybe more. Willow1113, 18, [#129849](#)

SASSY NEEDING DOMINATION

Very busy and lacking release outside of daily life. Looking for someone not afraid to dominate and open to public role playing. I have a spanking fetish that needs satisfying. burlyqgirl, 25, [#128939](#)

FUN LOVING

looking to have a good time...FUN!! jccc, 35, [#127045](#)

MAYBE SOMETHING MORE

I am not a thin, perfect Barbie type. I'm looking for an attractive M 25-36 who can keep up. litred, 32, [#128782](#)

IT'S PLAYTIME BOYS

I'm looking for a man that's sweet and caring but i get bored easily so he needs to be full of surprises so that i never get bored. austinpar-tygurl1985, 24, [#119045](#)

PLAY WITH US

Married Couple looking for women 41(her) 44(him). We are hwp, attractive, ddf,drama free. We like to watch and be watched. Seeking woman to share erotic adventures. Age 25-50 HWP Caucasian, Latin. seekingfun1, 45, [#132126](#)

COUPLESEEKTHREESOME

Open minded couple seeking a female for threesome. First time tried anything like this but open to new experiences. No strings attached, discrete one time thing. 3sCompany, 22, [#132020](#)

CUTIE = 3

We are looking for a cutie to come play for some laughs and naughtiness. we are attractive, very easy going and really know how to have a good time! MrDestructo and CatastropheGirl, 29, [#132001](#)

STRIP POKER!

We are looking for a fun women to hang out with and see what fun we can get into. We want to start slow and break the ice. first time. mtaustin30, 29, [#131684](#)

SEXY BLACK COUPLE

Sexy black couple looking for a woman to please us both. Almost anything goes. Just want to have a whole lots of fun!!!!!! wnepps, 24, [#131382](#)

DOWNTOWN DREAM COUPLE

Looking 4 sexy, drama-free, anything goes fun with a single lady or couple, specifically no-strings horny sexy fem we can spoil and fuck and possibly even travel with! sexyloftlovers, 31, [#131373](#)

NAUGHTY PLAYMATES WANTED

we are an attractive bi-couple(both) seeking playmates for erotic encounters of the close kind! we are seeking a bi-couple or single bi guy or girl for naughty sultry times. playfullpair, 31, [#131360](#)

OPEN-MINDED, SEXY COUPLE

We are a happily married couple that loves to meet new people and make friends! We always play together and never force chemistry. Feel free to ask any questions. curiousbikers, 27, [#131117](#)

ADVENTURE SEEKERS

We're an attractive, committed couple interested in meeting similar couples or select singles. We're safe, sane, fun, and drama-free. If you're both bi (or at least curious) that's a plus. PairofAces, 29, [#131110](#)

AHHHITSYOURFACE!

First off we have been together for 7 years now. So we are very comfortable with what we are trying to do here. LvLup, 24, [#130887](#)

FEMALE FOR ME

Married Hispanic BiFemale, 34 looking for BiFemale for fun encounters. Let's get together for drinks and see what happens? femaliforme, 34, [#131835](#)

A WET TREAT

I am 28, sexy and looking for someone who knows how to use their hands and mouth well. Let's see how juicy I can get!!! austinkristal, 28, [#131787](#)

HOTTIE SEEKING NAUGHTY

Happy in relationship with boyfriend, just curious for some girl on girl.. Have only been with one girl- often daydream about it. temptress, 26, [#131370](#)

GIRL PLAYMATES

Experienced sexy bi hottie looking for other femme hotties to play with. Catwalk, 32, [#119900](#)

FEMALE SEEKING COUPLE

Single female looking to add adventure in my life & definitely try new things! Have always been curious/interested in doing naughty things with a hot couple. Any takers?! browneyedgirl85, 25, [#132264](#)

PLAYMATE(S) FOR ASIANBEAUTY

AsianBeauty seeks Erotic Play with Woman or Man;couples considered. I'm very open-minded,feel free to suggest your sexual fantasies. Only Inquire if you're STD-Free. Asian-Orchid, 24, [#131487](#)

YOUNGNTIGHT

looking for a couple to have some fun with...im young sexy and up for just about anything so if u think u can handle me then let me know...ava 18. bossgirl45, 19, [#129789](#)

WETLIPS

im a wild sex kittin with wet lips and a soft skin, email me for sexy e-mails, ill talk dirty! highheels23, 23, [#126858](#)

MANPLEASURER

Love men of all types...just want to do whatever makes you moan with joy...! OverEasy, 29, [#131200](#)

SUBMISSIVE SEEKING TOP

I am looking for dominant top, eager and willing to dominate me. He might have to put up with scheduling problems. I am in relationship. Day-time encounters might be necessary. volcano, 49, [#127424](#)

HOTGUY LOOKING FOR

Hispanic Bottom, looking for a discreet encounter and a relationship with a Top guy. I am discreet Open to new things with guys around my age or younger.46yrs. antonio_3638, 45, [#118402](#)

PANTYHOSE LOVER

Pantyhoose enthusiast loves playing with others while wearing pantyhoose, stockings, and other silky lingerie. Very clean, safe, sane, ddf. If you're interested in some discreet play let me know! houhoseluvr, 38, [#132269](#)

CONTRASTING COLORS

Black Male in the Austin area. Discreet if need be, with an incredible labido. I am oral, endowed and always ready for fun. Open to single women, couples, multiple women. chocolatefun, 44, [#117982](#)

LOOKING FOR FUN

Looking for no strings fun and wanting to explore. Am a little bi-curious. Tgun, 38, [#131470](#)

PARTY ANIMAL

im an attractive latino from colombia love to please women any race, im looking for ladies to have some adventures once a month and discreet. latinlover4u, 34, [#131378](#)

READY TO PLAY

I ready to do some exploration but not alone. Who wants to play? Stiff_Breez, 37, [#131318](#)

HI ALL MEN

Im looking for a man who would love to have a crossdresser for dinner and desert. roxytail23, 32, [#132238](#)

BLONDE T-GIRL TOP

Hot Blonde T-girl likes to "Dance and Prance". Seeking Hot "Athletic Model" type boys to work the Floor with. I like Muscles or lean. You will like All of me. BlondeHottie, 35, [#101055](#)

ORAL TUTOR

Hi slim guy 40's white professional discrete good sense of humour open minded, experienced and into swinging or female/couples who like to experiment. Am from the UK working in austin. tartanboy, 44, [#132332](#)

PARTY AT MOONTOWER!

I love Austin but I love the women of Austin even more. You know who you are! The girls you-can find on a hot summer day down at the green-belt. liquidtech, 23, [#132304](#)

TALL DARK HANDSOME

Young man looking for fun time with cute and attractive woman between the ages of 18-30. Easy going and up for anything. MickeyMouse44, 20, [#132274](#)

GIVING, EAGER, OPEN-MINDED

I'm a recently separated man eager for some casual action and a fun, friendly time. I hear I'm a great lover. I'm into giving you the best time I can. philo, 33, [#132215](#)

LAIDBACK AND HORNY

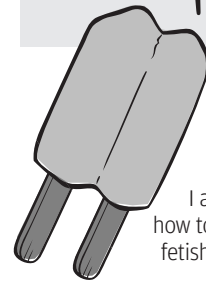
I'm looking for a woman or couple for discreet encounters dating and a whole lot of good times. If you are interested, let me know. Captain-Kinko, 37, [#132205](#)

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Flavor of the Week



kinkykendra69

 Age: 26
Extremely Kinky submissive
Seeks Master

I am untrained but have enough brains to know how to respect my Dom/Master. I am open to many fetishes, and fantasies or role playing. All you have to do is ask what you'd like to know openly.

read the rest of **KINKYKENDRA69's** profile or enter your own profile for **FREE** online at austinchronicle.com/easystreet

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If it hasn't happened already, there will come a time in your life when you have to show your ass in public. If you're lucky, you'll be really wasted and your face will be blurred when the video shows up on YouTube. The more likely scenario is that you will show your ass in a more metaphorical sense: Expose yourself publicly to the withering criticism and derision of others. Some people like to call this type of vulnerability life. They tend to suck it up and get on with it. Others will try to forestall this eventuality by ducking below the radar. After all, as the saying goes, the tallest blade of grass gets cut first. So, to avoid embarrassment, they bury themselves in remote corner cubicles of sprawling government bureaucracies, spend their days filing mimeographed (that's right, this is the government we're talking about here) triplicate copies of mimeographed triplicate copies. Others go entirely off the grid, toiling away on some sustainable organic farm, spending their days plowing, weeding, watering, and milking things like goats, cows, and father time. Then there are those who go underground – hole themselves up for years in the windowless basements of their mothers' houses, day trading, surfing porn, and playing World of Warcraft. These are all fairly low-risk strategies. Yes, it is risky ... brave even ... to offer yourself up as a meatshield for your fellow Blood Elves in your skirmish with Skullsplitter trolls in Stranglethorn Vale, but even if you do get gloriously ganked in WoW, you'll still be alive (although nearly invisible) in the real world. You might even think you're safe, but it's just an illusion. Often an uglier fate awaits those who try to avoid fate altogether. As it says in the book of Matthew, "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth." Sounds like a halfhearted pep talk for all the suckers getting left behind in the rapture. Awesome. You definitely get some nice real estate in that deal, but you also get places like Mogadishu, Peshawar, and Port Arthur. Thanks for nothing, J-Dawg. Or, maybe the "inheritance" thing is meant to be a confidence builder: People who own a lot of stuff seem to have a limitless supply of confidence and self-worth. Look at Jerry Jones ... Mark Cuban ... The Donald. Those guys don't seem to be embarrassed about anything. Imagine the type of arrogant dickhead you would have to be if you owned the earth. You would probably end up walking around like a 2-year-old saying: "Mine! Mine! Mine!" In reality, whether you believe it or not, you do own the earth ... at least as much as anyone else does. The big question is whether or not you choose to be a selfish dickhead or a generous caretaker. Ideally you'll want to peacefully share yourself and the world with others, thereby enriching their experiences and yours. To do so you will have to show your ass on occasion, expose yourself to injury, take some risks. It's really not so bad, and you may learn along the way that your ass isn't all that special anyway. Throughout January, Fronterafest plays host to a whole bunch of people hell-bent on showing their asses as it hosts its 17th annual fringe festival, five weeks of fringe theatre from all types of performers from all over the country. At 7:15pm this Saturday, Jan. 23, at the Salvage Vanguard Theater, Chicago comedians Alan Metoskie (Texas expat) and Zoe Schwartz bring you An Evening With Chastity and Alan Jr, a country and western musical comedy revue. Chicagoans doing a country and western comedy revue in Texas is risky, but that's what fringe theatre ... and life ... is about, isn't it?

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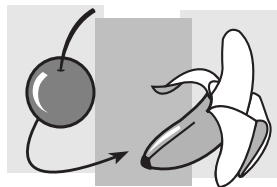
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GENUINE. AUTHENTIC. CRAZY. I love the simple things in life. I'm low-maintenance but I'm all about self-improvement. Looking for an intelligent mature man who can appreciate the beauty in everyday things. **RocketStarling**, 23, #132330

CAMPING Typical woman needs camping buddy. Someone, who won't nag me when I am connecting to a tree and yet is there when I need to be rescued. **iamevil**, 28, #132267

PARTNER IN CRIME Want to meet someone who shares my interests: hiking, biking, live music, traveling, cooking, reading, etc. Looking for someone who knows what they want and how to ask for it. **hablinka**, 26, #132257

DON'T LOOK BACK I live my life so that I have as few regrets as possible. I think before I act, mean what I say and embrace the life I've been given. **motherpoet**, 49, #115833

STRIKING, PROVOCATIVE, CHEEKY Porcelain skinned educator looking for a welcomed diversion. Any Joe Strummers/Lloyd Dobblers out there? I'm into intelligence, debate, obscure film references, music, and quality humans. **Red-Betty**, 35, #127053

NEWYORKER Short latinredhead, with one child, native NewYorker...love romance, movies, reading, cooking and hate writing about myslef. **jusalady**, 53, #132221

MAUDE SEEKS HAROLD me: artist/librarian/student/teacher. 34 year old maude seeks similiar-aged/emotionally-available harold/ marcel duchamp/bill hicks/beck/ andrew bird/vonnegut/ with buddy holly glasses. meet me in montauk. **craftylibrarian**, 34, #132186



Flavor of the Week

RocketStarling Age: 23
Genuine. Authentic. Crazy.
I'm low-maintenance but I'm all about self-improvement. Looking for an intelligent, caring, mature man who's can appreciate the beauty in everyday things.

read the rest of **ROCKETSTARLING's** profile or enter your own profile for **FREE** online at austinchronicle.com/loverslane

CREATIVE INTELLIGENT WOMAN

I am an intelligent, funny, romantic who likes to travel, I love my job and have a good life. I would like to find a gentleman who also loves life. **austinsberry**, 52, #132200

OUTGOING, RANDOM, FUN I really enjoy meeting new people and where they come from. I love the outdoors, good food, and random adventures! **wmartinez**, 25, #132009

ETERNAL STUDENT I'm a laid back gal who loves to learn about the world whether it be through reading, interacting with others, or traveling. **German_Longhorn**, 21, #131999

FOXY TALENTED CHIC

I like men and enjoy a fun adventure, guys who are sure of themselves, good with fixing things, are compassionate, sexy, and that appreciate a real woman. I am still looking! **foxychic2day**, 49, #132134

I CAN Animal and nature loving girl, who would like to meet somebody to spend some time with. No Drama, BS and Stress needed. Just be yourself and say what you mean. That's all. **oktoberkiki**, 37, #132129

OPTIMISTIC AND ATYPICAL I'm a single mom with a full time job that I love. My favorite things are music & movies (hard rock & any good film). **TXgirl2282**, 27, #132062

RELAXED AND FRIENDLY

I try and learn something new everyday as well as put a smile on the people's faces around me. I am passionate about many subjects, but also a good listener. **Milo1701**, 38, #132326

PLAYFULL SORTOF MATURE Just moved to Austin and LOVE IT! I'm pretty relaxed and try not to take anything too seriously. Some say I have a tough shell, but really im sort of a space cadet. **FreshAustinite**, 23, #132309

TALL, PUNK, HANDSOME Young cook looking for someone special to help me cause mischief all over this town. Looking to have fun minus insanity. Spend the night in bed or in the pit? **yankeaintx04**, 21, #132315

QUIET AT FIRST Looking for someone who loves being outside, isn't too stressed, likes to do new things, but also likes just hanging out at a coffee shop or watching movies. **emptyflask**, 28, #132312

PINK FLOYD Philip Glass Flametrick Subs David Bowie Original Sinners Frank Zappa The Cramps Dmitri Shostakovich John Cage The Residents Diamanda Galas Kraftwerk Ute Lemper Paul Hindemith Ravi Shankar Metallica Dino Lee. **schnick808**, 48, #132293

GUIDE SEEKS GUIDE I've guided adventures around the continent, but here in Austin I need a guide to take me by the hand and show me their favorite haunts . . . **Troubadour**, 53, #132292

COUNTRY BOY Im the kind of guy that likes spontaneous things. I like fishing, snow boarding, pretty much anything that has to do with the outdoors. You wanna know more email me. **Liquorman**, 24, #132272

SUPER CHILL ROCKER I'm a engineer and musician. just moved to town Im looking to meet people to hang out and party with or chill with a good movie and some good tunes. **00Deven**, 22, #132282

KINKY, SEXY, ARTISTIC, Just looking for a good woman to be with and enjoy each others company. I am a good guy who needs someone special I love music, would perform for you. **kalidascope**, 43, #132278

TO THE VEDGE My biggest passion is the beautiful universal language of music. i play a few instruments, but bass is my love. i pretty much am either playing music, or have it blasting thru speakers every 2nd mawake. **RaulDuke**, 24, #132270

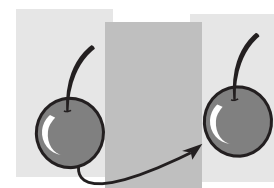
FUN MOVIE GEEK

SHM, 36, a fun sense of humor, seeks S/D/F race 23-38 for dating. This relationship would involve the movies (I am a critic), concerts (Rock, blues, latin, ska, jazz, classical), karaoke, fun times. **moviegeek**, 36, #132254

PASSIONATE CREATIVE ARTIST Creative artist/software developer seeks friend/lover/muse, a copilot (not crew, hitchhiker, or stowaway), with passion for shared moments living, loving, laughing, dancing, cryin', finding the way, and stoking the flame... **synrG**, 45, #132253

PASSIONATE, CARING, DORKY I am going to school for a Masters degree in Special Education. One of the reasons I work well with autistic children is that I am incredibly patient and calm. **Typhoeus**, 33, #132252

GOOFY ME I I'm summed up in the following pluses: - still alive (MAJOR plus there) - devoted to my parents - devoted to my church Can sing and act. And fly. **BURP. AFlyGuy**, 35, #124116



WANNA BE FRIENDS? I haven't dated in a while and I'm ready for a change. Looking for someone fun and funny, independent and drama free who enjoys the fine art of hanging out. **NiceGirl78**, 30, #132097

SCIENCE/MUSIC NERD I just moved here and I'm many hours away from everyone I know and love. I love learning, reading, science, playing music, making jewelry, nature, my frogs, cooking, and unplanned adventures. **velvet-goldmine**, 23, #131887

LOOK BETTER ON im Ace. moved to austin 2 weeks ago. love to laugh. very single. college student. love coffee. im very blunt, not rude. love mexican food. looove walks. really laid back. **AceOfSpades**, 20, #131753

ADVENTURE BECKONS fun, genuinely funny, three-year texan seeks someone to enjoy life with. spiritual is a plus. **pleasantly-human**, 29, #131741

NEW TO TOWN

Just moved to Austin from Florida. I also just graduated nursing school. For fun I like working out when I can, watching or playing sports, movies, chilling, food, downtown. **Swoosh12101**, 23, #131567

QUEEN SEEKS COURT Let's go skinny dipping at night under the stars and drink wine by the pale of the moon. Make me laugh, make me happy - I'll reciprocate! **brownsugarjones**, 44, #120282

NEW TO AUSTIN Generally a really positive person, I live life to the fullest and without regrets because my mistakes have proven to be my best teachers. **juicebysarah**, 23, #131478

DINO-S-RAWR This lovely lady is into designer jeans and thrift store T-shirts. Pizza and beer, lots of yoga and a passion for green living. Ridiculously grown-up, but total Peter Pan syndrome. **Pedal-estrian**, 25, #131366

I LIKE QUESO i don't really know what i am looking for, but i'm sure i will when i find it. **allietea**, 24, #131071

SEEKING SOMEONE SPECIAL I've been single now for 24yrs. I enjoy good company, conversation, a funny Pixel movie, and spending time with my granddaughter. Fall and Spring are my favorite times of the year. **Towanda**, 52, #126707

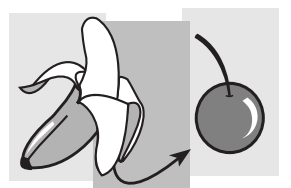


ATXGUY SEEKS ATXGUY Typical Austin guy and then some. I like to be close enough to whisper ... **jonwayne**, 20, #132177

SMART, LOVING, LOYAL. I am honest and very blunt. Love cuddling. Love being outdoors. Love animals and nature. If you want to know something about me ask it. **Gabe7373**, 22, #131975

NICE AND SIMPLE Laid back guy seeks low drama situation with another guy. Enjoy hanging out with friends, margaritas, red wine, dining out. Road bike riding, 24Hour Fitness. Dog lover. Disease/smoke free here. **jodetx**, 50, #131890

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EASYGOING, OPEN-FINDED, ADVENTUROUS I am going to keep it simple. Just looking to meet new people and have some good times! Open to everyone as long we keep things interesting and not boring! **beboid12**, 28, #132344

1234 Just got into town, looking for a funtime female companion who likes to rock'n'roll, stroll around, drink it down, eat it up, sit back, take it off, shake it up. **BUB76**, 39, #132339

NO DRAMA LOVER What's missing in your life? Would you like a stable intimate lover? Someone you could see on a regular basis. No drama relationship, but with all the intimacy of lovers. **Earth_Wind_Fire**, 49, #132340

I'M ROMEO ROSE I'm new to Austin TX and am looking to meet someone. I'm a Blues guitarist/singer and abstract painter. **romeorose**, 35, #132334

PRO STUDENT I love honesty, integrity, and optimism with a side of good jokes. **blue_skies**, 26, #132289

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OPERA OR PUNK

Wait a minute... He likes Opera and punk? He likes Grindhouse and Love, Actually? He likes Chez Nous and The Salt Lick? Is fun and capable of making a commitment? **pparker**, 53, **LOI**, #131728

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Originally from Boston. I enjoy going back east to visit family. I'm looking for someone with the same interests, cooking, taking walks, talking about the important things in life. **It-TakesTwo**, 47, **LOI**, #131616

NEW TO AUSTIN

Very blessed, spiritually-changed. 51 GPM ISO honest, outgoing, totally real, self-confident and self-loving gay man who wants to work hard on a friendship and relationship together. **newtoaustinguy**, 51, **LOI**, #131167

LONELY ROMANTIC

38yo, Hispanic male, 5'6", 200, br/br, very easy going and affectionate, romantic, spontaneous, ambitious, love the outdoors, travel, would like to find a guy i can spend time with and get to know and see what happens from there. **sthaustin78704**, 38, **LOI**, #130019

SLAY MY DRAGON

A regular guy who believes in 'happily ever-after'... seeks prince in shining armor to slay the Lonely-Ness monster. **tkaustin**, 48, **LOI**, #119526



LOVE TO LAUGH!

I love to laugh but who doesn't. I am told I have a great smile and love showing it. I enjoy watching sports, playing pool, and watching all kinds of movies. **nayzia**, 28, **LOI**, #132138

PASSIONATE, ARTISTIC, OUTGOING

I am a major of dance and Spanish. My passions include dance, writing, & music. I enjoy riding my bike, running/jogging, and swimming. I have a crazy sense of humor. **dancer28**, 28, **LOI**, #131739

WHY I OUGHTTA...

just moved back to austin. it's a crazy world out there. i like making people laff. hard. come have a drink and laff with me. **eweezie**, 30, **LOI**, #132049

LOOKING FOR FRIENDS

Hoping to move back to Austin. Looking to move back there. Let's have coffee and see what we like to do. Not looking for sex/dating. **hip-pyatheart**, 56, **LOI**, #131994

SENSATIONAL, THEATRICAL, PRESENTABLE,

I love the theatre, I like movies, I am a great fan of Video Games. I like musicals. I make re-make music videos for fun and write scripts for fun. **alexcrumb**, 24, **LOI**, #131826

A LOST FOREIGNER

Im a mellow guy that is easy to get along with. Im new to Austin and wouldnt mind having a female companion to show me what this city has to offer. **Bayborn**, 21, **LOI**, #131782

ARTSY, RECLUSE, DAY-TIME-DRINKER

Lazy, paint, thrift, shoot. That's what I want to do with you. not guns though. **theivorytower**, 24, **LOI**, #131274

BAM DRUMMER BOY

SSHHHH, lets pretend we met at the Library, I liked your t shirt of little kittens in a basket, you liked my curly hair, and red Bugle Boy sweat pants. **Rumplestiltsken**, 24, **LOI**, #131743

LOOKING FORWARD TO....

Grad student looking to experience the art, live music, and culture of the Austin area. Interested in finding people who enjoy spontaneity, exploring, simplicity and just "being". **SG728**, 25, **LOI**, #131303



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CARL STARKEY "Rocket" Riley is looking for y'all or ANYONE with info please contact me at: planorocket@aol.com

a shot in the dark

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE WAITER

You were our curly haired waiter. You had a beautiful smile and when you asked if we needed anything else and I wish I had said yes. Thinking of you. **When: Wednesday, January 13. Where: Alamo Drafthouse. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904605**

HALF PRICE BOOKS?

We exchanged light conversation and a few laughs in the Health/Psychology section, would love to talk more. You game? **When: Monday, January 18. Where: Half Price Books, South Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904604**

MAYOR OF HOUSTON

You in a home made dress. With your coat over it I couldn't help looking into your eyes. Asked you about it and then was interrupted then you were gone. Chat about politics? **When: Saturday, January 16. Where: 13th st.. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904602**

LADY IN RED

You wearing a red top dancing w/ some guy at Donn's. I just sat there w/ friends watching you wanting to cut in. Our eyes met more than once. Another time? **When: Thursday, January 7. Where: Donn's Depot. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904601**

TERRY 1991

Terry last we met was in 1991, we made love in the grass. Please contact me **When: Tuesday, November 16. Where: North Austin. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904600**

BEAUTIFUL BRUNETTE SKATER

You, white shorts gorgeous body, sunday afternoon at wahoos fish taco, me, brown hair black shirt blue jeans with long board.... teaching u how to longboard and left b4 i got ur number **When: Sunday, January 10. Where: wahoos fish taco. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904599**

I'MLOOKINGFOR JAMES...PT.1

James, I knew you about 3 years ago. You took me out to lunch@ ZTejas, you gave me a beautiful blue topaz pendant & we drove over to Pure Austin... **When: Monday, January 1, 2007. Where: Bath Junkie south austin. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904596**

VIBRAM SOLES

You caught me off guard. I wasn't prepared for conversation with a cute girl about my shoes. I know about other stuff too. **When: Wednesday, January 13. Where: El Chilito. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904595**

SPEEDWAY 26TH CROSSWALK

You: Light blue, golden hair, smiling to yourself, black top/ jeans, bewitching. Me: disheveled, dark eyes/ hair. Seen you crossing before and you seem too wise to be a student. **When: Tuesday, January 12. Where: 26th and Speedway Crosswalk. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904593**



SUNDAY-NAT GROCERY

you looking, me looking...your my density **When: Sunday, January 10. Where: In store. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904594**

OBJECT VERSUS SUBJECT

Met at the bar. You like music and work in environmental policy. Conversation was cut short but I'd like to hear more about how you think health equals happiness. **When: Friday, January 8. Where: The Side Bar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904592**

POLVOS & HAIRBAND

Tall, beauty with blonde friend, perusing Hair metal book. Me: tall, short hair, adjacent booth. You said good night, but your smile said more? Too stunned to ask for your number! Meet me at Polvos? **When: Saturday, January 9. Where: Polvos restaurant. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904591**

CHICKEN, STRAY CAT

Friday, January 8. east side. you: silver-ish SUV ordering fried chicken. me: trying to rescue stray cat. you were cautious to not scare cat away. wish i'd asked your name. **When: Friday, January 8. Where: church's chicken. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904590**

SUNDAY SPIDERHOUSE BARFLIRT

I regret not taking you up on your offer for extended drinks & conversation; did you not read my napkin note? Next time I'll not be so subtle! **When: Monday, January 4. Where: Spider House Cafe. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904589**

BUSTED BEAUTY

Pavielle- we are both retired pedicabbers, i see you got a Pl.. wanna get a drink? **When: Monday, September 8, 2008. Where: the streets. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904586**

OG GORDON

We're looking for an old friend that worked at the OG in Grapevine! Haven't seen you in a while, would love to catch up! **When: Wednesday, June 1, 2005. Where: Your old house. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904580**

HEB SLAUGHTER

You-In line with peanut butter & spaghetti sauce. Me-In line behind you with just sushi. I was on the phone but wished I could have said hello to you. **When: Tuesday, January 5. Where: HEB Slaughter. You: Man. Me: Woman. #904579**

SASSY BARISTA EASTSIDE

Tall red lipped Thunderbird. Karibu? Small black coffee. **When: Friday, January 1. Where: Thunderbird. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904578**

BUYING JEANS

You were gorgeous, with long black hair, in a gray sweater. We laughed as I got a 2short from a mannequin. Sorry I didn't ask for your number... lunch sometime? **When: Sunday, January 3. Where: Lakeline Mall. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904577**

DANCE W/ME LATER?

Did you just walk around!? :) Met you & pals, smiled, thought Damn, she's... yeah! DEFINITELY wanted to take you up on that dance. lost you. sigh. **When: Saturday, January 2. Where: Red Fez. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904576**

WELLS FARGO BEAUTY

You- gorgeous, dark haired teller at north Austin Wells Fargo. Me- slim guy withdrawing a paltry \$10. You seemed something special, made me nervous in a good way. **When: Wednesday, December 30, 2009. Where: Wells Fargo Far W. Blvd. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904575**

FROM NEW ORLEANS

You were wearing an orange t-shirt and we were both originally from Louisiana. We spoke briefly and you wanted to watch the Saints game. I want to talk again. **When: Saturday, December 19, 2009. Where: CVS pharmacy at Brodie and Slaughter. You: Woman. Me: Man. #904567**

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsny for Jan. 22-28

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): One of the musical Jonas Brothers got married last month. Up until then, 22-year old Kevin Jonas was a virgin, having long ago pledged himself to abstinence until his wedding day. At HuffingtonPost.com, humorist Andy Borowitz reported that when Jonas and his bride returned from their honeymoon, he had some shocking news. "To be honest, sex was not worth the wait," Borowitz quoted Jonas as saying. "After we did it, I was kind of like, that's it?" I haven't been able to verify that Jonas actually said what Borowitz claims, but if it's true, I must protest. How could Jonas reach such a definitive conclusion based on so little experience? Wouldn't it be wise to consider the possibility that over time he might uncover secrets and plumb mysteries that are unknown to him in his unripe state? Learn from his apparent mistake, Aquarius. In the coming weeks, cultivate a humble, innocent, curious attitude not just about sex, but about everything.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): I have a Piscean friend who does modern-day cave paintings. She hikes out to underground caverns and abandoned gold mines, where she creates murals on stony walls. Only a few friends know about her unusual hobby. She shows us photos of her work but otherwise keeps it secret. She says it's a pleasurable spiritual practice to offer these beautiful mysteries as a gift to the earth, without any expectation of getting recognition or money. I don't normally recommend such behavior for Pisceans; in general, I believe you should err of the side of being somewhat self-promotional to compensate for your self-deprecating tendencies. But I do suggest that you try it in the coming weeks. I think you'll conjure up an epiphany or two if you offer life your favors without worrying about whether they'll be returned.

ARIES (March 21-April 19): Philosopher David Pearce is committed to the abolition of suffering. While he acknowledges that we've got a long way to go before accomplishing that goal, he believes it's possible, mostly with the help of technology. (More at bit.ly/8oTsCv.) More than two millennia ago, Buddha also articulated a vision for the cessation of suffering. His methods revolve around psychological and spiritual work. In light of your current astrological omens, Aries, I think it's an excellent time to contribute to this noble enterprise. Your level of suffering is rather low these days, which could give you a natural boost if you set in motion some long-term strategies for reducing the pain that you experience and the pain that you cause.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): I don't mean to sound melodramatic, and I certainly don't want to encourage you to do something foolish, but if you've been pondering the possibility of storming the castle, this would be a good time to do so. What exactly am I implying with the phrase "storming the castle"? Well, anything that involves a brave effort to fight your way into the command center of the empire ... or a heroic attempt to take back the sanctuary you were exiled from ... or a playful adventure in which you work your way into the heart of the king or queen.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): "Let us not underestimate the privileges of the mediocre," wrote Friedrich Nietzsche. "Life becomes harder and harder as it approaches the heights - the coldness increases, the responsibility increases." I bring these thoughts to your attention, Gemini, because in the next two months you'll be in a prime position to renounce some of the "privileges" of your laziness. Please hear me out. I'm not saying that your lackadaisical attitudes are any worse than mine or anyone else's. But there come times in everyone's cycle when he or she has a chance to outgrow those lackadaisical attitudes so as to reach a higher level that's both more demanding and more rewarding. This will be one of those times for you.

CANCER (June 21-July 22): According to a poll conducted by the Pew Forum on Religion & Public Life, there are as many people who give credence to astrology as call themselves Catholic. Believers in reincarnation are another sizable minority; their numbers equal those who put their faith in the pope and in the planetary omens. Based on this evidence, we can safely conclude that at least some supposedly woo-woo notions are no longer just for woo-woos. You can't be considered a New Age weirdo or pagan infidel if you're receptive to the possibility that the world is exceedingly mysterious and a long way from being all figured out. That's good news for you Cancerians. According to my analysis, your belief system is ready to crack open and allow a surge - maybe even a flood - of new data to rush in.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): How are your wooing skills? Have you enhanced your seductiveness in any way during the last few months? Have you been working on boosting your ability to attract the bounty you need? I'm not just speaking about your power to corral love and sex and tenderness and thrills. I'm referring to the bigger project of enticing all the resources that would be helpful as you pursue your quest to become the best and brightest version of yourself. The coming weeks will be an excellent time to ramp up your efforts.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): "We should feel excited about the problems we confront and our ability to deal with them," said philosopher Robert Anton Wilson. "Solving problems is one of the highest and most sensual of all our brain functions." I wholeheartedly agree with him, which is why I expect that in the coming weeks you will be getting even smarter than you already are. The riddles you'll be presented with will be especially sexy; the shifts in perspective you'll be invited to initiate will give your imagination the equivalent of a deep-tissue massage.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): "Dear Rob: I've been listening to your audio messages on my laptop in my bedroom. And I've noticed a curious thing: My cat goes nuts trying to get to you. She never shows any interest in the other videos and music I play. But when your voice comes on, she does everything she can to try to get into my computer, to find the source of your voice. What's going on? Liberalicious." Dear Liberalicious: Maybe it's because in all versions of my recent Libra horoscopes, I've been putting subliminal messages designed to draw out and energize your tribe's inner feline. It's that time in your cycle when you have a mandate to be graceful and inscrutable and sleek.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): This would be an excellent time for you to do a lot of everything. You're entering a phase when you can actually help your long-term goals by being less ambitious. The point is not to give up your drive to succeed, but rather just put it to sleep for a while. Let it recharge. Allow it to draw energy from the deeper psychic sources that it tends to get cut off from when it's enmeshed in the frenzy of the daily rhythm. Do you have the courage to not work so much, not try so hard, and not push so relentlessly?

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Cartoon character Homer Simpson is on record as saying that whenever he learns something new, it pushes some old stuff out of his brain. For example, when he took a course in home winemaking, he forgot how to drive. But I don't see this being a problem for you as you enter the High-Intensity Educational Season, a time when your capacity to find and absorb new teachings will be at a peak. If you push hard to learn new lessons, you will certainly not cause the expulsion of old lessons. On the contrary, you'll dramatically enhance the power and brightness of what you've already learned.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Take what you really need, Capricorn, but don't take what you just sort of want. That's my advice to you. Haggle with life, yes, but insist only on the specific essentials and forgo irrelevant goodies. A similar principle applies as you seek the information you crave: Formulate precise questions that will win you the exact revelations that are necessary to help your cause and that won't fill your beautiful head up with useless data.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsny's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES AND DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

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