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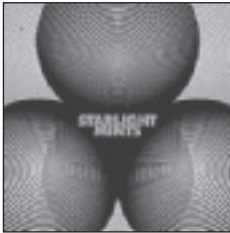
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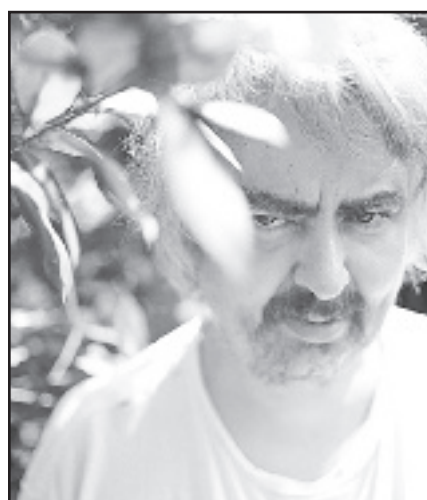
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Indecent Proposals

If you oppose these propositions, you must be on the take

BY LOUIS BLACK

The current hyperpartisan campaigning over Propositions 1 and 2 is depressing – especially so because this time the charge is being led by pro-environmental progressives rather than the right (though in too many near-tragic ways, the differences don't run that deep). It is still a flying wedge of true believers who know that they are pure and serving the "truth," rallying to mold and restrict government because it (representative government) and we (citizens, voters) can't be trusted.

I am not comprehensively addressing the actual merits or legal and legislative realities of these propositions, though I am clearly and strongly against them. Vote for them or don't vote for them; that is your privilege and your business.

My concerns are:

1) This is a campaign of semantics and good intentions, with supporters seeming to be remarkably unconcerned with substance. Yes, they are well versed on the intentions of the propositions, less so on the realities of what will happen if they pass – including the consequences of the actual wording and subsequent legal, enforcement, regulatory, and budgetary impacts.

Waves of supporters seem intoxicated by the cosmetics of "open government" and "Save Our Springs," which is the idea. Certainly, SOS is counting on the fact that few would argue against those headings, regardless of the actual content of the propositions.

If the propositions are passed, the intentions of those who drafted them, as well as the way they were understood by voters, will be essentially meaningless.

2) Read them. They are ridiculously crammed with dictates and restrictions. The two propositions will require so much in the way of implementation that any discussions of cost and staffing are ridiculous at this point. For example, here are just some of the issues addressed, and thus affected, in the Open Government proposition:

"Section 3: Open Government Online. (A) Open Access To City Business, (B) Open Access To City Calendars, (C) Open Access To City Electronic Communications, (D) Open Access To City Functions, (E) Effective Access To Information. Section 4: Public Information. (A) Information Relating To Civil Litigation, (B) Economic Development Information, (C) Agency Memoranda, (D) Personnel Files. Section 5: Open Meetings. (A) Settlements, (B) Economic Development, (C) Meet And Confer Negotiations"

Keep in mind that is just an excerpt of the range of issues addressed. The propositions are overly ambitious, badly and too hastily written, and will be far different, when enforced, from the ways in which those supporting them claim.

3) These are proposed changes to the city charter, the core document that structures the city: They are not guidelines, or even laws, but charter amendments!

Chronicle publisher Nick Barbaro is, in general, supportive of the ideas and approaches in the propositions. If they were offered in a more careful, detailed, and specific way, he would support most of them – but he doesn't think they work as written, and he is extremely uncomfortable about actually amending the city's charter in such an encyclopedic way. News editor Michael King is probably close to Nick in this thinking.

I'm not. I don't like a lot of the propositions' intentions and would oppose them regardless, but given what we are asked to vote on, the decision becomes pretty clear-cut. These propositions would be hard to enforce and difficult to figure out how to implement, are potentially expensive, and would set some dangerous precedents.

4) Given that no one can reasonably estimate the actual costs of these propositions, the social and economic justice communities are again shocked, if not exactly surprised, by the arrogance of the environmentalists' privileged take on the matters at hand. Many of the

groups concerned with the health and well-being of our city's poorest and most needy citizens have come out against Prop. 1. Those groups have a hard enough time squeezing nickels out of the council and the community; yet, on top of the tens of millions being proposed to buy open lands, supporters cavalierly assure us there will be no unintended consequences and very limited costs. Forget affordable housing, living wages, the consequences of gentrification, and the racial and economic inequalities that exist in Austin.

5) Supporters' tunnel-vision certainty that these amendments will do exactly what they believe they'll do is troubling. This is accompanied by a firm conviction in their own righteousness, coupled with an equally firm conviction in the inherent dishonesty of any who oppose them. By God, unless I'm missing something, progressives are more an endangered species than so numerous and powerful as to be able to afford wasting political capital by fighting among themselves. Yet these propositions, prepared by so few and quite hastily rushed onto the ballot, have divided this community.

Not that you would know this from the pro-Props campaign. Their ads claim all the opposition is from developers and developer interests (with the clear implication that they are greedy and corrupt). Anyone who opposes the Props, even longtime activists in the environmental community, stands accused of selling out. Talking to some of the supporters, I questioned this accusation. They quickly assured me that it is mostly true, and the other side has so much money that they are buying people off.

Later, when talking about a public forum, one of the SOS spokespeople explained how the opponents of the Props were playing politics in their support while the advocates were "educating" those in attendance. In other words, there aren't principled, differing points of view regarding these Props – there are only the truth and lies, good and evil.

Michael King and I have editorialized against the propositions. In response, this paper's long history of championing environmental causes has been forgotten and King's strong advocacy of liberal and progressive positions negated. We've received hostile accusations of being corrupt and masking a hidden agenda through our opposition. Clearly, it could not be the case that we think the Props will make bad law. Instead, there is a range of corrupt and corrupting reasons: A) Because of South by Southwest, I must have some deal with the city; B) we are worried

Oops!

In last week's election endorsements, the last name of ACC board of trustees Place 9 candidate **Ana Mejia-Dietche** was misspelled as Deitche. Also, in News story "Protest Retaliation?" company **IFCO** was misidentified as IFCA. The *Chronicle* regrets the errors.

about losing readership if the city has open Web access (I don't even really understand this one); (C) we are "the Establishment," which I guess means that none of our specific objections need to be addressed.

6) In pursuing this "open government" agenda, the framers of these propositions did much of what they supposedly "oppose." They were put together quickly by a relatively small group, without much public input. They have been rushed onto the ballot without really giving voters or politicians a chance to read or understand them. They have been given electorate-friendly labels rather than have their ambitions, difficulties, and complexities spelled out. When we asked why the Props are so jammed with provisions, we were told it's because any proposition is hard to pass, so, rather than come back again and again, they crammed them all together. A contingent's agenda has become far more important than the community's informed consent: The propositions represent the moral certainty of a small, insider, special-interest group that knows its concerns are more important than electoral government or constitutional guarantees. As SOS president Bill Bunch made clear, they were very much drafted to deal with SOS' specific concerns.

7) As another example of "Do what we say not what we do," I had an e-mail exchange with a gentleman who wrote Michael King that we must be opposed to Prop. 1 because it "will add to [the continuing declines in print media circulation and revenues] because the public will be able to learn what city hall is doing over the Internet and not from the *Statesman* and *Chronicle*."

I wrote him that I thought "... the kind of political arguing that insists upon polarization rather than discussion ... is polluting the process far more than many of the 'problems' these Props are 'addressing.'"

He responded, "Mr. Black: I am not interested in your views." So I suggested, given that

continued on p.12



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he is a public "open government" advocate, that our exchange would find a happy home here in "Page Two." Eventually, he declared "... I've got the best contingency lawyer in town available to look at this right now. ... [I've] got LOTS of insurance; don't play games you can't finish." Finally, he added, "What is truly disgusting is to witness what used to be a progressive voice become just another cheerleader for the Chamber of Commerce and RECA."

Forget open, honest discussion – it isn't that we think these Props are bad law and bad government; it is that we are corrupt!

8) The form of this debate is as upsetting as the content of the propositions. So certain of their moral rightness, supporters seem to be giving no consideration to not only the civic and legal costs and consequences of these Props, but what a burnt, civil-war-ravaged landscape they are creating in Austin's politically progressive community.

There is a lot more to say here that I'm not going to say. I expect these propositions will pass. I don't expect them to have nearly as catastrophic consequences as some of us fear, but I also doubt they'll do much good.



John Kunz of Waterloo Records and Kathy Marcus stunned, if not the whole world, then at least sizable chunks of it, when after decades of being together, they got married this past weekend. Our love and best wishes to them.

Neville Article Speaks Truth

Robert Gabriel:

Mr. Gabriel, your article speaks truth ["Cyril Neville Tells It Like It Is," April 28]. I don't think many folks are ready (or willing) to wrap their heads around the issues of which you speak. Folks would rather put more energy into talking about anything but the realness. Thanks for being "that guy." Most folks won't discuss race issues and gentrification on that level. Not only did you discuss it; it's published on the cover. Thanks for holding it down for all people. Maybe your article (and Mr. Neville) will encourage folks to have more constructive discussions about the fascist regime that terrorizes all of us, not just black folks.

Louis Ducis

Doesn't Get How Sick They Are

Dear Editor,

Without getting into the merits of many of the issues raised in Michael King's April 28 "Point Austin" column [News], it's obvious he doesn't realize just how sick East Austinites are of getting a disproportionate share of infrastructure that benefits the entire city but has localized negatives. No issue exists in a vacuum, and the Guerrero plant was seen as just the last straw, that East Austin should get preferential treatment until more of a balance is achieved. The fact that the part of the park where the plant was proposed for isn't used much isn't a reason for sacrificing it. The existence of enough woods to serve as crit-

ter habitat and oxygen production is as important as jogging trails. Maybe on its own it would have been a good project, but East Austin is done with hosting more than its share of infrastructure.

Tom Cuddy

[Michael King responds: Are those East Austinites who have suggested an alternative site nearer SH 130 also out of touch with themselves? This is a water-treatment plant, not a gasoline-tank farm. By Tom Cuddy's curious split-city logic, there are right now a "disproportionate" number of such facilities on the West Side, and a "preferential" treatment should be ... what? I don't have a position on where the plant, if any, should go, and Guerrero is, in any case, off the list. I was writing about the grandstanding accusations of nefarious, secret plots, for what was one of several potential proposals by city staff.]

'Chronicle' Mistaken to Endorse Kaplan for ACC Board

Dear Editor,

We believe the Chronicle made a mistake in endorsing Allen Kaplan for the ACC board of trustees [Endorsements, April 28]. In your editorial, you state that you were "swayed by his experience and the stability he will bring to the board." On the contrary, for years Kaplan has been a destabilizing presence to the extent that he twice jeopardized ACC's accreditation status, in 1996 and again in 2003. Further, he has demonstrated an inability to manage his own personal finances.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR must be signed with full name and include daytime phone number, full address, or e-mail address. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to edit all submissions. Letters may not be edited, added to, or changed by sender once we receive them.

As a board trustee, Allen Kaplan has repeatedly crossed the clear demarcation between the policy-making role of the ACC Board of Trustees and the president's role as the administrator. Specifically, in October 2003, the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools noted that the situation regarding the functionality of the board, and its ability to separate its duties from the executive management, had worsened since its initial visit in March 2003 and singled out Board Secretary Allen Kaplan for special mention:

Interviews with faculty and staff representing all campuses and all major employee constituencies yielded additional strong concerns about the board secretary [Kaplan], whose spouse is an ACC employee. Representatives of employee associations told the committee that college employees are reluctant to express any disagreement with the interests or positions taken by the board secretary's spouse for fear of retaliation from the board member. Such sentiments were pervasive across all employee categories.

Kaplan can't manage his own money. The Austin American-Statesman in an April 23, 2006 article reported that "Public records show that in 1999, [Kaplan] filed for bankruptcy and that between the late 1980s and 2002, several liens and civil judgments were filed against him for back taxes." ACC has a budget of more than \$140 million a year and is overseeing expenditures from a \$99-million bond package. If Kaplan isn't able to manage his own finances, can we trust him to manage that of ACC's?

Ana Mejia-Dietche has the vision and the experience to bring a new and informed perspective, fresh enthusiasm, and integrity to the role of trustee and will bring the stability that ACC needs and the Chronicle desires.

Ann Graham, Jan Soifer, Niyanta Spelman, Velva Price

continued on p.14

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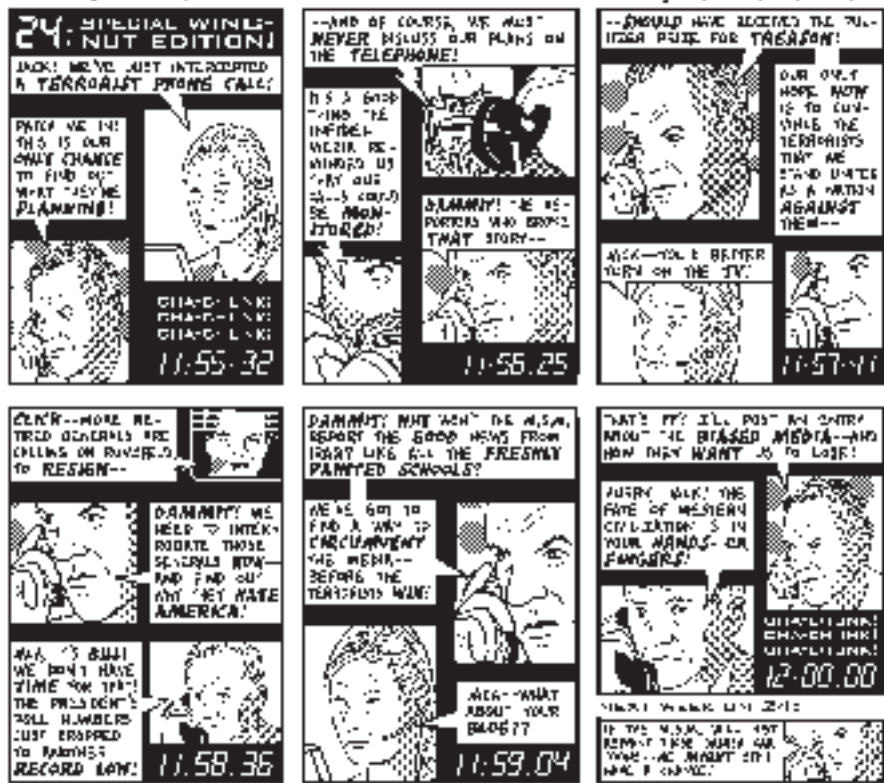
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



Keep Austin White?

Dear Editor,
I just wanted to draw your attention to the tone of the Cyril Neville profile ["Tell It Like It Is," Music, April 28]. The writer blithely disassociated the racism in Austin from the racism in New Orleans. When Mr. Neville was describing the black middle-class neighborhood that the city leveled with a freeway, I thought, well surely here's where the writer kicks it up and discusses the parallels here in Mr. Neville's new home and asks him what he thinks of this. The notion that Austin is somehow a respite or safe haven from these "isolated incidents" (to use the terms that keep whites in perpetual denial) of oppression, humiliation, exclusion, and violence is a position that creates the atmosphere of preciousness, passivity, and fashionable liberalism that Austin is known and loved for (by whites). Please consider probing into the dark side of Austin – pun intended. Or just start probing – that would be a good start. But what I anticipate is that this publication will continue to maintain Austin's status quo: Keep Austin white – I mean weird! I look forward to your inevitable rebuttal.

Signed,
Cauleen Smith

'Chronicle' Mean-Spirited

Dear Editor,
I found the Maroon "letter" and cartoon on Scott McClellan to be mean-spirited ["Scotty Needs Our Help!," News, April 28]. The piece mercilessly ridiculed McClellan, but what was its point? An ad hominem attack such as this one should include some journalistic value or

at least advocate some position, but this one was just a series of nasty statements about McClellan. While it may be easy to kick a man when he is down, doing so is in very poor taste, not to mention completely inhumane (yes, even where Republicans are concerned). The piece you published was so bitter, it made

me wonder what kind of personal insecurities the author may harbor where Mr. McClellan is concerned. As a longtime reader, I am disappointed that your editors allowed such a piece to be included.

Sincerely,
Kathryn Cooksey

City and University Are One

Dear Editor,
Unfortunately, the recent "Naked City" news brief [April 28] about the disappointment of the Design Commission regarding plans for the new UT Hotel and Conference Center makes it appear there is a trend afoot on the 40 acres of turning its back to the city of Austin. On the contrary, the university fully understands and appreciates the importance of its outreach to and intermingling with the Austin community. In fact, the physical design of the new Blanton Museum of Art accomplishes exactly that. When phase II of the museum is completed, it will bookend the existing grand landscape entry that already beckons visitors onto the UT campus, making MLK a primary access artery, not an alley. Austin's intellectual and creative capacity is a critical element in UT's international acclaim. There are no alleys separating the capital city from its flagship university campus. The university and Austin are intricately interwoven.

Sincerely,
Vincent Salas
Founding member
Blanton Museum Council

Give Them Hell, Bill!

Dear Editor
The *Chronicle* became my window on Austin after my wife and I moved from Falls Church, Va., to Hays County in 1999. I came to trust your reporting and then your judgment because I believed "you got it." Having grown up on a Dallas County farm during the Forties and Fifties drought, my memories of Austin were certainly idyllic of when it was a "sleepy college town."

continued on p.16

My Secret? A steady diet of dirt, gravel and mud.



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Sometimes SOS Bill Bunch is his own worst enemy, but I shudder to think what Austin would be like today without this unique organization and its single-minded focus on protecting all aspects of Barton Springs.

Recent "Page Two" comments by Louis Black [April 7] and Michael King's "Point Austin" [April 21], bring to mind how "Establishment" the *Chronicle* has become in just six years when it comes to Barton Springs and what it takes to preserve that Edwards Aquifer canary.

Isn't anyone at the *Chronicle* listening anymore? Twelve thousand plus citizens created an Envision Central Texas paradigm that includes preserving the Aquifer, its watershed, and a lot more of what we need to retain that special quality of life that attracts so many of us.

Citizens across Hays and western Travis counties have coalesced to protect their own little "barton springs" from Houston-style high-density residential sprawl following LCRA Pied Piper, Joe Beal, as he plays the empty tune that the developers and engineering firms orchestrate. They all will be gone with their fortunes when there isn't enough water and the Piper has to be paid.

We can't rely on LCRA, TCEQ, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, or City Hall. SOS on its worst day has done more to preserve the public health, safety, and welfare than all of them combined. Keep giving 'em hell, Bill.

Charles O'Dell, Ph.D.
Dripping Springs ETJ

Wealth of 'Chronicle' Writers

Dear Editor,

I'm guilty for taking your wealth of writers for granted. I want to thank Marc Savlov for writing the best review I've read all year in the conundrum of a movie called *Silent Hill* [Film Listings, April 28]. He hit the nail on the head with his review, driving it so deep into the cracked wood, I shall forever carry splinters. His resplendent imagination and descriptive phrasing ("night-shade logic") left me no alternative but to write in and display my man-love.

Thanks again,
Jeremy Dunn

Bunch's 'Guest' Editorial

Dear Editor,

Proposition 2 gives Austin voters the opportunity to ask city and corporate officials to take action now to save Barton Springs. At the moment, the whole future of Barton Springs and 30 years of city planning to protect Texas' most vulnerable major aquifer are being thrown out the window by Jim Bob Moffett's former right-hand man, Beau Armstrong, and Armstrong's new business partners at AMD and City Hall. This is the first major component of the scheme that the *Chronicle* exposed and help defeat in years past. We knew then, and we know now, what it means for Barton Springs.

What has changed? Water quality at Barton Springs has deteriorated as "grandfathered" development has continued. The worst algae bloom in memory persists today. The science is even more compelling that we will lose Barton Springs if we do not direct development into our Desired Development Zone.

And Moffett's original plans for a satellite downtown on Southwest Parkway expanded, adding the "Lantana" tract where AMD is now slated to build offices for 3,000 employees. The role of one of the world's worst corporate offenders of human rights and the environment is obscured, leaving us with the wispy-white Stratus Properties and AMD's greenwashing.

Austin voters have a say in the future of the soul of Austin. A vote for Proposition 2 is a vote for securing our future and protecting our heritage.

Sincerely,
Bill Bunch

Save Our Springs Alliance

[Editor's note: Bill Bunch played a prominent role in shaping the language of Proposition 2.]

Just an Exercise in Power and Ego

Dear Bill Bunch (El Pomposo SOSAnista),

When development is ecological and profitable, the aquifer shall be saved. Until then, only a losing advocate attempts to switch the topic to a consensus object like "clean water." No one is arguing about the aquifer or watershed being in trouble; the question is, do the proposed charter amendments help the situation or not? They don't, and that is revealed by the ACLU analysis of the amendments, that leaves crucial decisions in the very hands of the officials your gangrene-clique rationale holds are conspiring against the SOS ordinance. Since one cannot logically take the position that the Austin

City Council is running a secret star chamber imposing Chapter 245 on neighborhoods and then propose a solution whose execution would allow those same officials to be in charge of the "reforms," the amendments are the very essence of deception and hypocrisy. Which means that this is an exercise in nothing but political power and ego.

Your BANANA (Build Absolutely Nothing Anywhere Near Anybody) "strategy" to deal with MoPac congestion while buying all the watershed land is an exercise in herbal fantasy. The sprawl and the billion dollar figures are real enough, but tell us, commandante, what's the real 3-D alternative?

Finally, any appeal to citizens to save Barton Springs is marginalized by SOSA's environmental smear of anyone disagreeing with the latest encyclical decree. The science indeed shows a problem, but your "solution" is just another special-interest power broker ruse into Austin politics. Words illustrate intent, but action shows true meaning. Why, after 14 years, are there no specifics for "conservation-oriented development"?

Triflingly yours,
Ricky Bird
Bastrop

Passionate Arguments for Props

Dear Editor,

Even if we ignore the political timing of a "gift" given to make us forget Stratus Properties is the local name for Freepport-McMoRan, one of the worst corporate polluters on the planet, we have to understand this money will be used by the Hill Country Conservancy (where Freepport's old point man David Armbrust is chairman of the board) to create green zones that will increase the value of Stratus property on the aquifer. Is this a gift or the cost of doing business?

Stratus sold the Lantana Tract to AMD, which is in a donating frenzy, too. But are these really gifts? Or a vast loss for the people of Austin - the loss of Barton Springs.

If these "gifts" get us to defeat propositions 1 and 2, Austin will give hundreds of millions of dollars to corporations like Stratus Properties that lobbied (more "gifts") for the grandfathering bill that has enabled 119 projects in violation of current water ordinances.

If we don't pass Prop. 1 we'll get more back room deals, like the new Clean Water Ordinance drafted by Council Member Leffingwell last week. A fraction of zero compared to Prop. 2, it goes before the Environmental Board Wednesday, May 3. Lee Leffingwell is a member of the EDUCATE PAC, founded by Mike Blizzard (paid by Stratus), who works to discredit propositions 1 and 2.

The Leffingwell draft (sham) ordinance, the Green Water Treatment Plant/Guerrero Park debacle a few weeks ago, the court order requiring the city to clean up inaccurate and negative ballot language - aren't these arguments to vote for Open Government, Prop. 1?

It is heartbreaking to see the devastation that's resulted from these developer "gifts," which represent vast loss to the environmental community and to state and local government.

Susan Bright

All New Roads Over Aquifer?

Dear Editor,

Come on Colin [Clark]! First you say that the roads CAMPO is planning to build will *all* be over the Barton Springs Watershed ["Postmarks," April 28].

Then you imply that the money CAMPO is planning to spend on the roadways can somehow be used by the city to purchase open space.

continued on p.18

austinchronicle.com/postmarks

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Make your arguments on truthful statements. If they are valid, a “spin” doesn’t need to be applied.

Bruce Perrin

Apple Defines Her Activities

Hello,
While I’m extremely appreciative of the nice things Stephen MacMillan Moser writes about me in his blurb about my Web site, www.foundclothing.blogspot.com, and the recent *New York Times* article about it, it seems that he somewhat misses the point of both the article and my hobby (finding clothes and accessories, washing them, then wearing them) [“After a Fashion,” *Arts*, April 28]. I don’t think of what I’m doing as a “trend,” as he calls it, and I don’t think that other people who find clothes do, either. That’s like calling garage-sale hopping or thrift-store shopping “trends.” In other words, I think that people have been doing these things for decades

– I was just the first person (maybe) to produce an online archive of found clothing and items. (Also, I don’t understand why he puts “found” in quotes. I mean, the clothing is exactly that: found. I mean, it’s not a brand name or euphemism! Then again, maybe my nitpicking is just the future trademark lawyer in me coming out.)

As I explained to the *Times*, my reasons for finding and wearing clothes have nothing to do with being trendy (at 30, I’m a little too old to be so concerned with what’s cool, don’t you think?) and everything to do with recycling, conservation, spontaneity, and thrift. People, especially New Yorkers, throw tons and tons of perfectly useful items on the street every day. It’s enough to make even the most casual environmentalist wince.

That said, thanks for the coverage! Please eat some good salsa for me; up here the salsa’s like baby food or something.

Lauri Apple
New York, N.Y.

Truly Progressive City ...

Dear Editor,
“Boo hoo hoo ... I can’t afford to fill up my SUV, and traffic is awful, and then when I finally get to downtown, parking is a nightmare ... boo hoo hoo. I wish someone in power would do something.”

Every time I turn around, I hear this same refrain. This, my friends, is a classic example of people wanting government to change so that they don’t have to. If parking and traffic and gas are driving you to the poorhouse/crazy house, why not get off your fat ass and ride a bicycle once in a while? Park ‘em anywhere. Runs on food. And despite what many people believe, it is an extremely fast way to get around this small, centralized city. If you can’t do three miles on a bike, you’ve got worse problems than gas prices.

If Austin were a truly progressive city, it would address our car-related problems. But instead of real solutions for this, we keep coming up with ways to bring more cars and pollution and traffic into downtown. *Wake up people!* Cars are the problem! We need fewer cars downtown!

The City Council should support a broad-based measure to encourage bicycle commuting in the Austin area. It’s easy, cheap, and extraordinarily effective. Unfortunately, you can’t cram a cheeseburger in your face and slam a Big Gulp on a bicycle, but given the “huskiness” of so many of our citizens, maybe this is a good thing.

Healthy, environmentally sound, fast, fun, stress relieving, cheap ... too bad it doesn’t come in pill form; someone could make a fortune.

Mike “Dub” Wainwright

OMG! What’s Next?

Dear Editor,

I was in a bar the other night, and an illegal immigrant was smoking inside. He was also talking loudly so he must have been publicly intoxicated. He even tried to bring his dog on to the patio! I don’t think he was wearing sunscreen, either! OMG! What’s next, dogs and cats living together?

Ted Christopher

Because We’re Not Californians?

Editor,

If California can recall its governor, Gray Davis for alleged inaction, why can’t Texas recall its corrupt representative, Tom DeLay, for unethical, un-American, anti-democratic political prejudice in Congress, and criminal violations?

Edmund Holmes
St. Helena, Calif.

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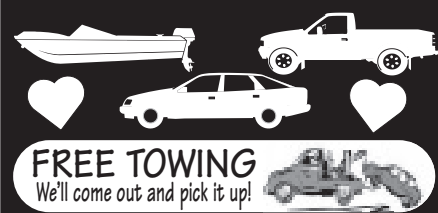
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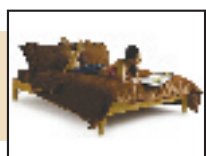
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Quote of the WEEK

“One of the things that money can buy can be lies. As a former educator, it causes me great concern that children growing up think that you may lie and slander and libel another person so that you can be victorious in a campaign.”

– State Rep. **Carter Casteel**, speaking for campaign finance reform (see p.40)

Unclean Hands

Prop. 1 and Prop. 2 are not “open,” not “clean” – and definitely not progressive

BY MIKE CLARK-MADISON

I’ve spent nearly 20 years in Austin as a progressive writer and journalist, a longtime advocate for libraries and information services, and an active citizen and neighborhood leader. I’ve watched progressive Austin move from the counterculture into the mainstream – making Austin a better place in so many ways – and now I watch, somewhat stunned, as a handful of activist leaders try to turn back the clock. In my considered opinion, there’s nothing progressive about either Propositions 1 or 2, and that’s why I’m voting against them and urging others to do the same.

First, Prop. 1, the Open Government amendment. Let’s get one thing out of the way off the bat: The crises that amendment backers have cited as reasons we need this amendment – AMD, the Gables, Green Water Treatment Plant, police records, and the union contract, whatever – have next-to-squat to do with government “secrecy.” They are all about plain-old city politics. They all represent political battles in which the Prop. 1 posse has come out on the losing side.

To me, this does not suggest that Austin’s civic leadership has become terminally corrupt. Rather, it suggests that the Prop. 1 posse isn’t very good at the real work of city politics, and/or that its positions on the issues are not nearly as broadly shared by the citizenry as it likes to think. Prop. 1 is an attempt to tilt the playing field to the posse’s advantage – in a way that other progressive activists and leaders, on a whole host of issues and fronts, have not needed to get good things done.

Providing this useful service to Prop. 1’s backers is not worth millions of dollars out of the city budget. The real cost of implementing Prop. 1 may be less than the city fears – although based on the city’s past experience with complicated custom information systems, I’d say City Hall is right to worry. But it’s still money that could be better spent providing actual services to benefit the 750,000 average citizens of Austin who have little interest in who said what at an after-work City Hall happy hour. If Prop. 1 were progressive, it would be designed to provide the greatest benefits to the greatest number. It does pretty much the opposite.

As a library advocate, I feel very strongly about this point because the Austin Public Library’s mission is already to provide information services and access to the citizenry. Spending more than half of the library’s annual budget on an “open government” system that most Austinites neither demand nor will use is, to echo another vocal library supporter you may know, Just Nuts. The library gets more than 3.2 million visits a year. Will more than a million visitors be trolling the Open Government system to find out about the happy-hour happy

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HEADLINES

- Thousands of demonstrators nationwide and in Austin turned out Monday, May 1 for a “**Day Without Immigrants**,” during which undocumented immigrant workers and their supporters declared their opposition to draconian legislation and support for legalized status for immigrants. See p.32.
- The Texas Senate passed most or all of Gov. Rick **Perry’s tax reform plan**, designed to cut property taxes and replace part of the revenue with a combination of new business taxes, cigarette taxes, and some of the current “surplus.” As of Wednesday morning, nothing had yet been done to provide additional revenues to public schools – remember them? See p.40.
- Election campaigns** continued for four spots on the City Council, seven charter amendments, AISD and ACC board spots, and many races in neighboring jurisdictions. Early voting ends May 9; election is next Saturday, May 13.
- UT’s new **Blanton Museum of Art** opened Saturday night and Sunday morning to enormous crowds, engaging music, and general celebration of the city’s first major art museum.

NAKED CITY

- Eyes are still rolling in **Rollingwood** over the staggering cost for the LCRA to connect part of the small suburb (500 of about 1,400 homes, plus some commercial properties) to Austin’s wastewater system. Originally estimated at \$7.2 million, the job came in at \$17 million, although that has reportedly been reduced somewhat by a negotiated amendment to the city’s contract with LCRA. The issue is now complicated by revelations of apparent conflicts of interest involving Mayor Hollis Jefferies (up for re-election May 13) and the city’s general counsel, the law firm of Armbrust & Brown. That is now the former general counsel, as A&B abruptly resigned in April, a few days after City Council hired two other firms to review the possibility – as the council March 27 minutes delicately put it – that “some professional services were rendered to the City that may have put the city at a disadvantage” concerning the LCRA project. Seems A&B principal David Armbrust, is also a registered lobbyist for the LCRA and the Endeavor Real Estate Group, which wants to develop a major commercial project at MoPac and Bee Caves Road. The motion to hire outside counsel was made by Mayor Pro Tem Dale Dingley – apparently because Mayor Jefferies manages the Austin financial consulting firm of AG Edwards, where LCRA is also a client. Maybe the entire city needs to adjourn to a neutral venue. – Michael King

- Frustration over traffic on Brodie Lane – and the desire of some county residents to put up a barrier on the roadway at the Hays Co. line – is simply the byproduct of a failure to build Frate Barker Road and State Highway 45 Southwest, Travis Co. staff told commissioners at this week’s meeting. Residents of both counties packed the courtroom this week to argue for and against the **closure of Brodie Lane**, which will be on the commissioners’ agenda later this month. Shady Hollow residents consider the traffic to be a hazard to their neighborhood. Hays Co. residents consider it the only way to get to MoPac. Joe Gieselman, executive manager of Travis County’s Transportation and Natural Resources department, told the court that the problems on the south end of Brodie are the direct result of failure to build arterials, specifically Frate Barker and SH 45. Frate Barker was pulled off of local road plans after vehement protests from environmentalists. Commissioner Karen Sonleitner and Hays Co. Commissioner Will Conley both expressed frustration over the state’s failure to build the crucial segment of SH 45, but TxDOT engineer Don Nyland said the state was being especially cautious about its environmental studies in light of Save Our Springs Alliance’s litigation over plans for SH 45 Southeast. Gieselman even suggested putting up a loan of county money for a two-lane roadway along the SH 45 SW route to get the ball rolling. County commissioners are scheduled to make a decision on the road on May 16. – Kimberly Reeves
- The Zoning and Platting commission delayed its decision on the controversial **Bouldin Meadows development** in South Austin this week, voting to take the matter up June 6. The homes are slated for construction in an area along West Bouldin Creek that is currently in the 100-year floodplain, yet lies outside that designation in FEMA’s newly issued floodplain maps. Neighbors across from the proposed site are concerned the homes will channel runoff into West Bouldin Creek and their homes (see “Waters Rising at Bouldin Creek?” April 28, 2006). A ruling on the proposed 14-acre, 61-lot project was postponed by ZAP last month, before going before the Environmental Board and returning to ZAP last Tuesday. – Wells Dunbar
- Brewster McCracken** showed up at the Lege this week to testify to the House Ways & Means Committee in favor of Rep. Martha Wong’s appraisal cap legislation, only to find that Wong had stricken cities and counties from her list of jurisdictions that could provide local-option elections on appraisal caps. Appraisal caps have seen rough seas in the Lege in recent sessions – favored by conservatives and opposed by every association that represents cities and counties – and they died a rather dramatic death on the House floor during the regular session. Still, McCracken pressed on with his testimony, saying that appraisal caps were the City Council’s preferred choice to deal with double-digit growth in home values, even more so than the tradi-

continued on p.23

talk? That's the level of use it would need to be as cost-effective, on a per-user basis, as the library is.

The fact that there's a good chance we won't have a 2006 bond election if Prop. 1 passes – which further delays progress toward an absolutely essential new central library – just makes this worse. If the Prop. 1 posse were really serious about using public information to benefit the lives of the citizens at large, they would be moving forward with a broad coalition, including library supporters and educators and researchers and everyone else in the information business, and a real implementation plan and vision for how an open-government system could work effectively. The fact that the amendment's backers (and authors) have quite publicly washed their hands of any responsibility in this regard proves to me that Prop. 1 is just a ridiculously burdensome means to a very narrow end.

Starve the Beast

Now, for Prop. 2, the Save Our Springs amendment. Of course I want to save the springs. All decent people do. It's become extremely tiresome to be told, as almost every progressive in Austin has been told, that there's no room for diversity of opinion on how this goal can best be achieved. If there were a magic formula that, once implemented, would create and sustain in perpetuity exactly the kind of relationship

If Prop. 1 were progressive, it would be designed to provide the greatest benefits to the greatest number. It does pretty much the opposite.

Austin wants and needs with its natural environment, it would have been put in place a long time ago.

Clearly, the original SOS ordinance wasn't the magic formula. Neither is Prop. 2; in fact, it, too, is pretty much the opposite of what I'd see as a truly progressive strategy for securing sustainability. It endeavors to establish by decree and dogma the marching orders of all future Austinites on this subject. In a host of ways, it removes people from the process – not just those bad, corrupt people in power, but all people, and all good ideas those people may want to apply for the benefit of all Austinites.

That's assuming, of course, that the various provisions of Prop. 2 survive their court challenges, which some clearly won't. Or that they were enforceable

in any meaningful sense, which some clearly aren't. Or that the city charter will be interpreted by future leaders the way Prop. 2 authors want it to be, which it clearly won't be. (The city charter also requires the council to zone land in accordance with its adopted comprehensive plan, which is nearly 30 years old. If this had in fact been done for the last 30 years, this whole debate would not be necessary.)

Let's pretend, just for grins, that Prop. 2 will in fact lead to real change and real impact in how Austin approaches the aquifer. Would it be positive change? What I see in Prop. 2 is a starve-the-beast strategy – declaring a large chunk of the city of Austin and its surrounds off-limits to any kind of meaningful public investment or planning. The erstwhile countryside of America is littered with sprawl that emerged in the wake of just such strategies, which have been part of anti-urban “progressive” planning schemes for decades. The only way to accomplish what Prop. 2's authors want their measure to accomplish is to literally ban development over the Edwards Aquifer. This will not happen in my lifetime in Texas, and even if it were possible, it's not what Austin wants. Of this I am sure.

Cultural Warfare

As a neighborhood leader and resident of East Austin, I've seen firsthand what happens when the city decides, as a matter of policy, to turn its back and withhold its energies and investments from one part of town. There is nothing progressive about enshrining discrimination, redlining, and neglect in the city charter – which is what the city did for decades in East Austin, and which is what Prop. 2 does to Southwest Austin. The fact that the southwest is wealthier and whiter makes no difference.

Or at least it makes no difference to me; I think it's very clear that it does make a difference to the people who brought you Prop. 2. It has not been pleasant watching the “progressive” agenda in Austin deteriorate from solution-oriented consensus-building for the common good into an irrational pre-emptive culture war. I don't think that's what a lot of people who signed petitions to put “clean water and clean government” on the ballot were lining up to support. But if Props. 1 and 2 win, that's what they're going to get. ■

Mike Clark-Madison was a longtime staff writer and city editor for the Chronicle, where he wrote a city politics column, “Austin@Large.” He is now an editorial director and analyst in partnership with TateAustin as well as in his own firm, At Large Partners. This column was first written, in a slightly different form, for the Educate PAC, an organization opposing city ballot propositions 1 and 2, and appeared at www.educatepac.org.

BESIDE THE POINT Happy Daze

It may sound surprising, but there were some surly cab drivers downtown last week. Dozens of drivers clogged City Council chambers into the wee hours – we'll get to them later – but the true embarrassment of riches came at 11am: The city's “financial forecast” parted the clouds, shining cotton-candy sunbeams into 301 W. Second. “Cautiously optimistic” sunbeams, to be specific – as if there were any other type at city hall. Accounting for the clear skies, said **Texas Perspectives** economist **John Hockenyo**s, are several influences: swelling sales and property taxes, steady employment growth, and 4.3% unemployment. However, Hockenyo noted several external factors that could have a dampening effect, including the unknown price tag of the proposed “Open Government Online” amendment, and uncertainties like fuel and public safety costs. (City Manager Toby Futrell reminded all present that public safety – police, fire, EMS – is on track to consume 77% of all departmental expenditures in 2007.) Rising gas prices, meanwhile, portend a proposed water and electric rate increase in the next five years.

But the emphasis was jubilation. “Things may get slightly better,” said Hockenyo, “which is hard to imagine considering how relatively good things are right now.”

The C'mon-Get-Happy affluenza, however, was not contagious. The brightness of Austin's finances hung over the **Roy's Taxi/Yellow Cab** discussion like a spring-time haze, only an allergen to the dozens of hacks speaking against the transfer of Roy's permits (as the company is sold) to the Yellow behemoth. Several camps spoke: those opposed to Yellow expanding its empire, since the company charges its drivers \$50 more a week (\$270) than Roy's (\$220); those jockeying to pick up some or all of Roy's 155 permits, in hopes of creating their own franchise (wannabes Longhorn Cab and Capitol City) or expanding their existing one (Austin Cab); and those advocating that the city sit on Roy's permits, claiming that keeping them off the market would be better for existing drivers.

Despite testimony firing the dais until 1am, council members said they can't, as Jennifer Kim put it, rob Roy of his “exit strategy” on the eve of his retirement. Proposals to transfer the permits to a separate entity are compromised since under his freshly renewed franchise, the permits are Roy's to do with as he sees fit. Betty Dunkerley eventually floated her own proposal, which passed on first reading: approve the transfer, let Yellow cover the cab conversion costs of Roy's drivers wanting to follow the permits, and send 20 permits Austin Cab's way for those who'd rather not sail Yellow. Additionally, 71 new permits borrowed against future growth, along with four from Yellow, would be set aside for a new franchise. (Any changes won't take place until 60 days after third and final reading – if it comes.) Speaking to the other big transportation item before council – revamping tow truck code – Will Wynn joked the hope was they'd “tow away some of the angry taxi cabs.” Good luck to the mayor getting that ride from the condo this weekend.

Further jamming traffic was a presentation on the **Green Water Treatment Plant** proposals, during which Roy G. Guerrero Park finally disappeared from the rear-view. Council responded with a clear, decisive voice: We Need More Time – to examine the two privately owned tracts under consideration, and perennial contender Water Treatment Plant No. 4. Compounding the problem is the practical deadline of 2011: Failing to meet the timeline, said Water Utility director Chris Lippe, will unleash public health threats and douse firefighting resources.

Further Green talk isn't scheduled for this week, but of note to the Eastside is a resolution authorizing the closing of **Holly Power Plant** Units 3 and 4 (Item 19). Also up are the **bond package's** biggest cliffhangers (after central library funds held steady last week at \$90 million): **affordable housing** and **open space**. The council is trying to shrink the overall package from \$614 million to – by their most generous estimate – \$530 million. Since \$436.4 million is already spoken for, only \$93.6 million remains for both affordable housing and open space. That's a far cry from the nearly \$160 million originally proposed by the citizens' committee (\$67.5 for housing, \$92.3 million for land). Well, we can all hope Prop. 1 saves billions! – *Wells Dunbar*

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6

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tional homestead exemption offered in other cities. While McCracken's testimony was a bit moot – Wong has limited her legislation to school districts in order to keep it within the special session's call – he had a lively discussion with committee members, who questioned why Austin had chosen to bypass homestead exemptions and whether council had heard from businesses that would pick up the tab for residential appraisal caps in the city. – K.R.

▶ You know that unmistakable, tough-to-get-out-of-your-clothes smell lawn mowers emit? Well, a big ingredient in it is nasty exhaust emissions, unfettered by modern pollution controls. Gallon for gallon, a 2006 lawn mower contributes 93 times more smog-forming emissions than a 2006 car, according to the California Air Resources Board, and the old clunkers most people use are way worse. But thanks to the **Mow Down Smog** program, and the **Clean Air Force of Central Texas**, you can trade in your gas mower and save more than \$100 on a cordless electric mower, or \$55 on a corded model, 8am-2:30pm this Saturday at Home Depot, 3600 S. I-35, or the following weekend at the Arboretum Home Depot. For more info, see www.cleanairforce.org. – D.M.

Three years ago Houston native **Dahr Jamail** was a freelance writer living in Alaska and working as a guide at a national park. Frustrated by what he believed to be the one-sided media coverage of the war in Iraq, he decided to go see things for himself. Since then he's spent a total of eight months in Iraq, filing his dispatches online at DahrJamailIraq.com. With independent war correspondents being few and far between, his reporting quickly proved valuable and was picked up by press services all over the world, leading to bylines in such places as *The Guardian*, *The Nation*, and *Asia Times*; appearances on the BBC and *Democracy Now!*, among others; and an invitation to testify before the World Tribunal on Iraq last summer in Istanbul. This week, Jamail will be in Austin to share his experiences. Attend his talk, "**Unembedded Journalism: Occupation and the Future of U.S. Power in the Middle East**," for free this Friday, 7pm, at Bass Lecture Hall. – Nora Ankrum

▶ As of June 1, 215 Hurricane Katrina evacuee families living in Austin will stop receiving **FEMA rent and utility assistance**. FEMA is almost completely finished determining which evacuees will continue getting rent assistance from under the agency's individual assistance plan, and which evacuees will be on their own, said Paul Hilgers, director of Austin's Neighborhood Housing and Community Development Office. Those who find themselves in housing limbo might want to sign up for Section 8 housing; the city Housing Authority is opening up its Section 8 waiting list from June 20-22 (call 477-4488 for more info). Also, one of the most common reasons FEMA gives for denying individual assistance is "insufficient damages" to property. There have been several successful appeals of this reason, and Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (374-2747) offers free help with the appeals process, as does ACORN (713/868-7015). See www.mapper.cctech.com for a satellite imagery map of New Orleans, a handy tool for appealing insufficient damage claims. – Cheryl Smith

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

▶ In other Katrina news, **Louisiana Medicaid health care coverage** and **Louisiana Children's Health Insurance Program coverage** for evacuees outside of Louisiana won't end in the near future, as previously announced. The Louisiana Department of Health and Hospitals announced last week that it doesn't intend to go through with the cutoff, said Neil Hahn, director of litigation and systems advocacy for the New Orleans-based Advocacy Center, which, according to its Web site, "protects and advocates for the human and legal rights of persons living in Louisiana who are elderly or disabled." Call the center at 800/960-7705, or Louisiana Medicaid at 888/342-6207. – C.S.

▶ No business tax bill is without its goodies, and one of the goodies in the **Perry-Sharp tax plan**, otherwise known as HB 3, is a paragraph that shifts the assessment of school district tax abatement packages to the Texas Education Agency. That's considered payback for Manor ISD's initial resistance to a \$115 million tax abatement package for Samsung, a deal that outside consultant Moak, Casey & Associates assessed as running in the red for the school district. Manor eventually worked out the details with Samsung, but the Governor's Office, which negotiated the deal, did not forget the slight. Although school taxes are the biggest part of any property tax bill, tax abatements are rarely approved by school districts because they rarely benefit districts under the current school finance formulas. – K.R.

▶ In other Lege news, someone needs to give the **State Board of Education** something to do. Each session, lawmakers manage to tinker with the law to erode the power of the elected board, and this special session is no different. Buried in the substitute to HB 1 – which has yet to make it to the floor of the Senate – are plans to shift both high school curriculum alignment and textbook approval away from the SBOE. Some who have opposed the heavy-handed right-wing slant of SBOE might say, "Good riddance," but the end of the textbook approval process has put elementary school math textbooks in limbo, which alarms groups such as the Texas Association of Supervisors of Math. "It is unbelievable that the Senate would consider denying our students new elementary mathematics books that are aligned with the TAKS test," said TASM President Jim Wohlgelegen. "How can they expect students to pass a test over material that's not covered in outdated textbooks?" Senators are optimistic they can get the approval process reassessed quickly. Elementary math textbooks already have been delayed for three years. – K.R.

▶ The **Lubbock Medical Examiner's Office** on April 25 ruled that police use of an electroshock Taser gun was a contributing factor in the recent death of



JOHN ANDERSON

BIKE AUSTIN! MONTH: Turnout was strong for Friday's annual Political Pedal bike ride, as City Council candidates Eliza May, Mike Martinez, DeWayne Lofton, Kedron Touvell, and Colin Kalmbacher joined Mayor Will Wynn and former Mayor Bruce Todd on a spin around the city, en route to the Bicyclist's Happy Hour at Tambaleo. While everyone stumped for better local bikability, the place 2 candidates stood out. Martinez vowed to bike commute to council if elected and to invest more in true multimodal transit, especially bike and pedestrian considerations. May suggested giving up space for bikes in automobile lanes and encouraging major public and private employers to incentivize bike commuting. For a list of Bike Austin! Month events, see www.austincycling.org. – Daniel Mottola

27-year-old Juan Manuel Nunez III. Lubbock Police Officer Matt Doherty responded to a domestic disturbance 9-1-1 call from Nunez's home on April 16. Nunez, who reportedly had been drinking, was involved in an argument with family members when Doherty shot him with a Taser. The Taser strike caused Nunez to fall and hit his head, the ME's office reported, which in turn led to his death. "It's a combination of the intoxication reacting with the brain injury, which was the result of the Taser," ME Chief Investigator Robert Byers told the *Lubbock Avalanche-Journal*. Lubbock police are investigating the circumstances, but it appears Doherty followed the LPD's policy on Taser use. Lt. Roy Bassett told the Associated Press. "I think it's very important to note that the Taser alone was not responsible for this death," Bassett said. – J.S.

▶ It's been seven years since thousands of **black farmers** won a landmark civil rights suit against the U.S. Department of Agriculture, on their charge that the USDA had for years systematically denied black farmers access to loans readily available to white farmers. The historic ruling, on behalf of nearly 100,000 individual black farmers, granted the farmers a settlement worth \$2.3 billion. Nonetheless, thousands of farmers have yet to receive any money, and on April 26 farmers rallied outside the USDA in D.C., to draw attention to their plight. As of January, the feds had paid out around \$900 million to settle 14,300 claims, but have denied another 8,100 claims, many of which are being reviewed by a court-appointed monitor; another 60,000 submitted claims after the filing deadline, according to the National Black Farmers Association Web site – www.blackfarmers.org. (The association hopes its lobbying efforts will persuade lawmakers to allow the late-filed claims to be considered.) "We want full restitution," said NBFA President John Boyd, "so black farmers can move on with their lives." – J.S.

▶ In an effort to focus law enforcement energies on combating the major narco trafficking operations that have led to increased violence, notably in border towns such as Nuevo Laredo, Mexican legislators passed, and President Vicente Fox is expected to sign into law, a measure late last week that would completely **decriminalize possession and use of small amounts of narcotics** – including marijuana, cocaine, and heroin. Under the new law, criminal penalties for possession of up to a half-gram of cocaine, 5 grams of pot, 5 grams of raw opium, and .025 grams of heroin would be completely erased. So far, response from the feds has been surprisingly measured; a U.S. State Department spokeswoman told the *Washington Post* that her "understanding" is that this law is only intended to clarify the definition of "small amount" that already exists under Mexican law. In San Diego (the largest border city), Mayor Jerry Sanders was a tad more irate: "This really stirs things up," he told the *Post*. Drug reformers were cautiously congratulatory: The new legislation would cut down on opportunities for police corruption and harassment of "ordinary citizens," said Ethan Nadelmann, executive director of the Drug Policy Alliance. "Mexico is trying to make the right choices." – J.S.

▶ The New York-based Innocence Project announced May 2 that it has asked the newly created **Texas Forensic Science Commission** to investigate whether the state wrongfully executed Cameron Todd Willingham for a murder-arson in Corsicana, and to undertake a review of all arson convictions statewide. Willingham, executed in 2004, was convicted largely on the testimony of Texas State Fire Marshals Office investigators whose opinions, arson expert John Lentini said Tuesday, were based on "B.S. – bad science." See details at Naked City Online. – Jordan Smith

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Austin Toll Party
South Austin Democrats
ACLU - Central Tx Chapter
The Good Life Magazine
Austin Neighborhoods Council
Exec. Committee

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Gray Panthers
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ELECTION NOTES

Names & Money

Endorsements and dollars accumulate as campaigns hit stretch

Municipal election campaign endorsements, one by one, are generally worth just about the paper they're no longer printed on – e-mail and the Web having supplanted much of the pulp-rolling in recent years, beyond the campaign door hangers moving swiftly from front porches to recycling bins all over town this week. We've reported before about the dubious consultant lobbying and overlapping memberships that underlie many of the endorsing groups, and endorsements often say more about the endorsing groups than the candidates – that is, voters should take them all with a large grain of salt. That said, it's helpful to note a preponderance of endorsements, decision-splitting, and any special-interest trends that the endorsements might suggest. Here we go:

• **Mayor:** Unsurprisingly, incumbent Will Wynn has collected virtually every endorsement to be had, from AFSCME (city employees' union) to the West Austin Democrats, and beyond. Challenger and Mayor Pro Tem Danny Thomas doesn't even have a Web site to list endorsements – www.wynnagain.com helpfully notes that the Austin Police Association and the city-county EMS employee association awarded "dual endorsements," recognizing Thomas' service and his previous career as an APD officer. Since the public employees' unions are inevitably described as "all-powerful" in local pol-buzz, one might surmise a close race for mayor. One would surmise wrong; although it is possible that some toll-road backlash against Wynn and some Props. 1 and 2 protest vote might go Thomas-ward.

• **Place 2:** This three-way race is a little more competitive, with Hispanic Chamber chair Eliza May giving a hard run to Austin

firefighters union president Mike Martinez. May has only a handful of endorsements, but they include the influential Austin Neighborhoods Council, Mexican American Democrats, and West Austin Democrats, as well as Eastside newspapers *The Villager* and *La Prensa*. Martinez boasts roughly three times as many group endorsements – ranging from all the organized labor endorsements, most of the Democratic clubs, and several business groups – as well as the *Statesman* and the *Chronicle*, and even the Austin Toll Party (dual with Wes Benedict). Libertarian longshot Benedict lists no other formal endorsements, but he has run often enough to pick up some Anglo and name-ID vote regardless.

• **Place 5:** Incumbent Brewster McCracken has the lion's share of the endorsements, including the unions, most of the Democratic clubs, the newspapers, and a couple of seemingly unlikely names, the Austin Women's Political Caucus (dual) and the Texas Environmental Democrats. Of his opponents, only Kedron Touvell has left a visible ding in McCracken's re-election veneer, winning the endorsements of AWPC (dual), the Central Austin Dems, the Austin Toll Party/PET PAC and the local Sierra Club, because of his anti-toll, pro-Props. 1 and 2 positions. The ATP loss must have galled toll warrior Mark Hopkins; neither he nor Colin Kalmbacher are demonstrating significant traction.

• **Place 6:** We're not handicapping, but on the stump this appears to be the closest race, although the endorsements argue otherwise. Sheryl Cole is way out in front with a couple dozen – the city unions, most of the Dem clubs, the *Chronicle*, and even the Toll Party, although that one might have seemed to belong by right to Oak Hill resident Darrell Pierce. Pierce has received the nod from the



JOHN ANDERSON

Southwest Austin Dems, the Circle C PAC, some small business PACs, and *The Villager*. His big pickup last week was the *Statesman* endorsement, for his business background and for "geographic balance." He also notes individual backing of several former council members, including Jackie Goodman, Charles Urdy, former mayor Lee Cooke, and most curiously, former Place 6 Council Member Eric Mitchell (now of Atlanta), who declares, "Darrell will be a champion for not only those who look like him, but a champion for the Austin community at-large." DeWayne Lofton boasts only the Black Women's Political Caucus, the Mexican American Democrats, and the Lesbian Gay Political Caucus.

– Michael King

The Money Race

Austin's increasingly creaky campaign-finance law – likely to be tinkered upward by Prop. 5 – has one major virtue: the \$100 individual limit requires candidates to reach out to large numbers of Austinites to gather sufficient support to run a citywide campaign. By default, however, it favors the personally wealthy and incumbents, and we've yet to summon the public will to do anything about the PACs, which run their own heavily financed campaigns. But reviewing the numbers can echo or counterpoint the endorsement lists. The eight-day pre-election reports are due this Friday, May 5; here's what we know now.

• **Mayor:** As of early April, Wynn had raised over \$100,000 and had nearly \$60,000 on hand. Thomas had raised \$7,400 and had \$3,600.

• **Place 2:** By early April, both Martinez and May had raised about \$30,000, but \$12,000 of May's is a self-loan. Both were down to the \$20,000 range in cash on hand, but Martinez will probably get some independent bounce from public safety PAC spending. Benedict shows spending only a few hundred dollars of his own money on his filing fee and Web site.

• **Place 5:** McCracken had spent \$25,000 by early April, mostly on administration, but had another \$40,000 to spend. Touvell had spent a couple thousand, apparently of his own money, and showed nothing on hand. Kalmbacher had a few hundred, Hopkins less.

• **Place 6:** Cole had raised a lot, nearly \$60,000 (including a \$20,000 self-loan) and had spent a lot (nearly \$40,000). She had \$21,000 on hand, still well more than Pierce's \$12,000 (of \$30,000 collected). An anomaly of Pierce's contributions is that more than \$4,000 came from out of town (beyond the near suburbs), with more than 40 contributors from 14 different states and D.C., ranging from California to New Jersey. "My wife and I have a lot of friends and family out of town or in other states, and that's where I started," Pierce said, "with the low-hanging fruit." Cole had 11 out-of-town contributors, six out-of-state. Lofton, who raised a couple thousand dollars and spent \$3,300, had no out-of-town contributors.

– M.K.



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ABOUT ANNETTE LOVOI

- 28-year Austin resident; mother of AISD senior
- Member of 2002 and 2004 AISD bond committees
- Two-time president of Pease Elementary PTA
- Thirty years of public service at the federal, state, and local levels
- Appointed first Ombudsman in Texas history by Gov. Ann Richards
- Founder of Texas Appleseed non-profit legal center
- Master's Degree, LBJ School of Public Policy

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ELECTION NOTES

Ethics, Libertarians, and Scalawags

There are more **campaign-finance ethics complaints** than usual circulating this year, most of which can be credited to the diligence (some would say obsession) of the Travis Co. Libertarian Party. Libertarian treasurer Arthur DiBianca and state party executive director Wes Benedict (also a candidate for City Council) have been bird-dogging this issue since they discovered (last go-round) that all sitting council members except Mayor Pro Tem Danny Thomas had exceeded the limits on out-of-town (mostly near suburban) contributions. Only Betty Dunkerley has returned any of the money, but the problem lies behind Prop. 5's proposed change of the boundary definition to more readily identifiable ZIP codes. (Dunkerley also was tagged for more technical violations.)

Others have also filed complaints or raised questions about potential campaign-finance violations concerning this election. The most significant at this time appear to be:

• **Clean Water Clean Government PAC:** Opponents have charged that the Save Our Springs Alliance failed to report nearly \$75,000 in previous charter-amendment petition expenditures last year, and then filed an affidavit last month "donating" those funds to the CWCG PAC. Bill Bunch of SOS told the online city politics newsletter *In Fact Daily* that the April filings cure the problem because "everything's disclosed." Campaign-finance expert Carl Richie told *IFD* that the CWCG/SOS filings are instead "a legal admission of prior violations of Texas campaign finance laws." (DiBianca has reportedly filed both an ethics and a criminal complaint.)

• **Brewster McCracken:** Sal Costello, of the Austin Toll Party and People for Efficient Transportation, has accused McCracken of illegally concealing funding "bundlers" (of multiple \$100 contributions). McCracken has responded that there are no such bundlers, and the matter is pending in municipal court. PET may

have its own problems, as Costello told *IFD* that the PAC intends to be a major player in next week's election – though it has failed to file the required 60-day advance notice with the city.

• **Mike Martinez:** DiBianca has charged that the Austin Firefighters PAC also failed to file its 60-day notice early enough before it began spending money in support of the Martinez campaign. – *Michael King*

Check Your Scopes

The controversy over **Liveable City's** study of the "Open Government Online" **Proposition 1** landed at City Council last week. At the lectern to address Council Member Lee **Leffingwell's** own proposal on online transparency – basically boilerplate, telling the city manager to look into it – environmental activist **Robert Singleton** chided council for the city's \$36 million cost estimate of Prop. 1. He paraphrased Liveable City's most contentious finding: that the city could "spend a tenth of that [\$36 million] to achieve nearly all of what current advocates consider most crucial."

Props. 1 and 2 proponents **Clean Austin** have called the study vindication, saying it "proves" the amendment would cost as little as \$2 million to implement. "The City of Austin has now confirmed Liveable City's cost estimate," reads their press release, "and Clean Austin has confirmed Liveable City's interpretation as accurately reflecting the priorities set out in the amendment."

However, Clean Austin's trumpeting carefully elides some Liveable City sour notes. "Whether or not the proposed Open Government amendment passes," reads Liveable City's release, "the council can and should, through a well-crafted ordinance, meet the intent of the amendment while minimizing administrative costs and reducing the degree of litigation." This new, and entirely unofficial, proposal – "prioritizing the areas of most con-

cern" – is the one with the comparatively low \$2 to \$3 million estimate, not Prop. 1 as drafted. After much (and reportedly contentious) deliberation over the weekend, Liveable City took no position on either Prop. 1 or 2.

Back at council last Thursday, Leffingwell reminded Singleton that the city can't cherry-pick enforcement of particular parts of the proposition. As for the city's reported confirmation of Liveable City's estimate, Council Member **Betty Dunkerley** said she and the city manager put the report's author in contact with city staff; they helped Liveable City estimate the cost "if the scope were this small," said Dunkerley, signaling a smidgen with her fingers. "Unfortunately, the scope is

this big," she continued, flinging her arms apart. "Scope size is what drives cost. ... Very frankly, I think the implementation costs are going to be higher than \$36 million." Despite her contention that it is a conservative estimate, Dunkerley said \$36 million would be the amount allocated in next year's fiscal budget should Prop. 1 pass.

Singleton was undeterred. "Doesn't this constitute using city resources to campaign against a ballot item?" he said of city's insistence on the

much-maligned \$36-million estimate, increasingly the thunder of Prop. 1's storm. Said city attorney David Smith: "Short answer, no."

– *Wells Dunbar*



JOHN ANDERSON
Robert Singleton

Money to Burn?

The **Basic Needs Coalition of Central Texas** entered the **Proposition 1** charter-amendment fracas this week, saying they fear passage of the online amendment may cripple social-services spending by the city. An umbrella organization of 32 local groups that work on providing social services to the most needy (including Meals on Wheels, AIDS Services of Austin, Caritas, United Way Capital Area, and others), the coalition's concern lies with the proposition's potential cost. "Any charter amendment which requires immediate and significant spending to implement will likely put at risk the city's ability to adequately address health and human service needs," reads the coalition resolution, released at a Monday morning City Hall press conference, where organizers said it had been unanimously adopted by the coalition membership. "Specifically, the \$36 million estimated cost to implement Proposition 1 poses a direct threat to the city's continuing support of social services and basic needs assistance."

For its part, proposition pushers **Clean Austin** released a television ad last week hoping to assuage voter's fears. While not speaking directly to cost, the ad addresses what they see as opponents' misinformation. Over a banging gavel, the ad intones, "An Austin judge actually ruled that opponents' wild charges were misleading and unfair." Those opponents would be City Council, their "wild charges" the biased ballot language they were ordered to redraft. *In Fact Daily* reports Clean Austin is buying a whopping \$100,000 worth of airtime for the spot. – *W.D.*

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ELECTION NOTES

Austin Interfaith Grills Candidates

Inevitably, elected officials will disappoint a portion of their constituency. Only in a country as renowned for its democratic harmony as say, Iraq, can a candidate hope to carry the full 100% of the electorate, as Saddam Hussein did in 2002 (see: sarcasm), but in a political body as socioeconomically diverse as Austin, total appeasement is impossible. It is, therefore, admirable that the organization known as **Austin Interfaith** attempts to present an ecumenical voice for citywide governance.

AI, a collective of schools and religious organizations, held an **"accountability session"** on Sunday. This forum presented the organization's agenda to candidates for the AISD and ACC board of trustees, and City

"I don't particularly like this format, one minute does not give [us] enough time."

– Vincent Torres, running unopposed for the District 4 AISD board position

Council. Instead of the typical stop many of these politicians are used to, AI narrowed the campaign's scope to specific concerns they want their future representatives to address once they get elected. In other words, AI isn't only interested in what these politicians are promising; this forum was a chance for a group of assembled citizens to tell the people who will be representing them what they want, directly.

With diverse membership like **Govalle Elementary parents** in East Austin and **First**

United Methodist Church due west of the Capitol, AI presented to candidates a list of questions seeking confirmation about concerns as specific as stoplights in highly congested traffic areas to a resolution "declaring Austin to be an immigrant-friendly city." With few exceptions, the candidates endorsed AI's agenda without question.

Unfortunately, it is unclear whether this was due to the justness of the presented agenda or to the session's format. Candidates had only a little over a minute to respond to four to six highly detailed questions while scorers for AI labeled their responses as simply a "Yes" or "No." Speaking first, **Barbara Mink** tried to explain why it was not within the ACC board of trustees' power to expand a college readiness program that AI wanted opened to more applicants. "It would violate our own policies," Mink explained. Even though Mink said she agrees with the policy in principle and would do what she could to comply, the scorers for AI marked her response down as a "No." It would appear that after Mink's mishap, other candidates chose to answer with a simple "categorical yes to all questions."

"I don't particularly like this format," said **Vincent Torres**, running unopposed for the District 4 AISD board position, "One minute does not give [us] enough time." Of the 24 assembled candidates, only Torres, Mink, and incumbent Mayor **Will Wynn** responded negatively to any of the questions. Wynn's remarks caused some palpable tension with the moderator and audience. Insisting that he would "never make a specific promise on spending ... in a campaign," Wynn was the only speaker who felt comfortable enough to have most of his answers labeled "No." Because of his short time on stage, it was unclear if Wynn intended to follow up on AI's demands, whether he saw their merit or not.

"This is one of the realities of dealing with 20 candidates," said Austin Interfaith organizer **Kip Bobroff**. He explained that the only way AI could gather 20 politicians for a day in the middle of campaign season was to promise equal speaking time and an audience of approximately 300.
– Frank Rivera


Election Tidbits

• Non-Austinites don't normally get to help shape our city charter, but because Proposition 2, the so-called "Clean Water" amendment, would have impacts beyond city limits, voters in Austin's **extraterritorial jurisdiction** in Hays, Williamson, and Bastrop counties are also eligible to participate in that decision. Williamson County voters will vote in Williamson; Hays and Bastrop voters will vote in combined Travis precincts only on Prop. 2 (go to www.co.travis.tx.us/county_clerk/election/20060513/polls.asp for a list of locations, the ones at the end starting with "BC" or "HC" – or just vote early at any Travis Co. early voting site). When Travis Co. reports the final city of Austin results, it will include the Williamson county totals.
– Lee Nichols

• Paper ballots are not quite dead in Travis County, despite our eSlate electronic voting machines. Voters who have recently moved from one address to another within the county, but are still on voter rolls at their old address, must cast their ballot under the **"fail-safe voting"** guidelines handed down by Secretary of State Roger Williams. This means that election workers must identify the common races between the voter's old precinct and the new one. Any races unique to either the old or new precincts will be crossed off a sample ballot, and the voter will be allowed to vote only on the commonalities. If you have moved recently and think you may not be registered in your new precinct, Travis Co. Clerk Dana DeBeauvoir urges you to vote early (again, through May 9) rather than waiting until election day.
– L.N.

• Although the *Chronicle* coverage of this month's municipal election is focused solely on the big three (city of Austin, AISD, and Austin Community College), our readers outside the central city know that the Travis Co. Elections Division will be busier than that – the county has contracted to conduct elections for **32 different jurisdictions** (plus a proposed new one, Emergency Services District 13) for May 13 balloting. That's good news for Travis voters – hopefully the days are gone when a voter might have to go to one polling location for a City Council race, another for school board, and yet another for a utility district or some such. This time around, it's one-stop voting. Of course, during early voting (through May 9), any Travis resident may vote at any early or mobile voting location anywhere in the county. Just tell election workers where you live, and they'll pull up the appropriate electronic ballot.
– L.N.

• At press time, we only had two days of **early voting** under our belt, so it's probably too early to make any judgments about whether turnout will be heavy or light this election. Last year's City Council election drew 16.5% of registered voters, one of the heavier turnouts in recent years for a council election. So far, 3,699 (0.7%) have voted, but those totals are for all the contests in Travis Co. (see item above regarding the 32 different entities holding elections). Heaviest turnout has been at the Randalls in West Lake Hills (414); lightest has been at the ACC Pinnacle campus (31); 864 votes were cast at the various mobile voting sites. To find the nearest early-voting site near you, see p.10.
– L.N.



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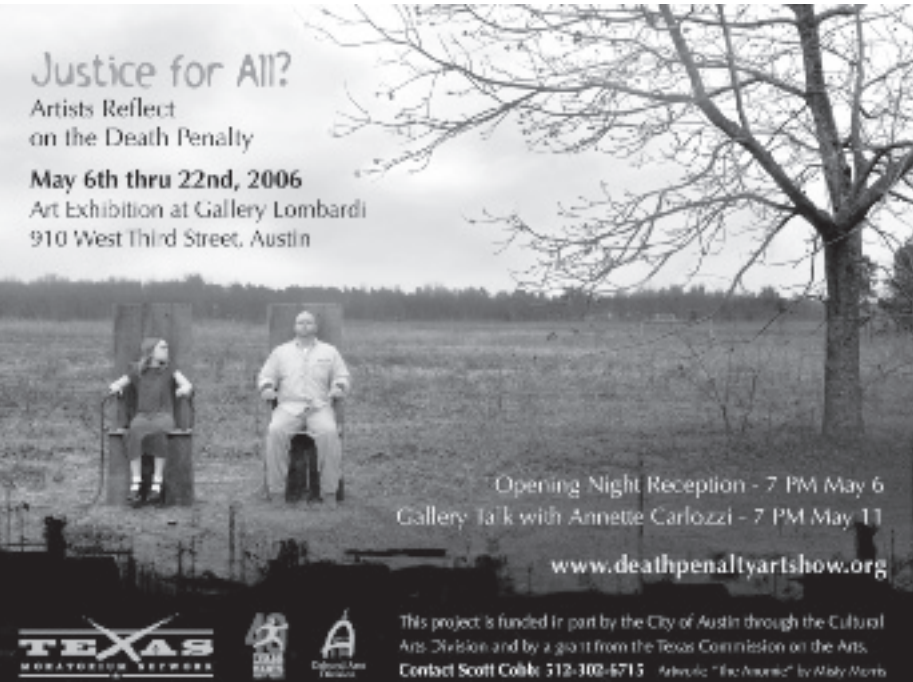
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"Wynn has been an engaged and effective mayor, has been at the center of major public initiatives...and he deserves credit for leading the city through the economic downturn to much better times...Mayor Wynn has earned another term."

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*"I helped found Envision Central Texas in 2001 because the fundamental dynamics we are dealing with in Austin right now all have to do with growth and change. My view is that it's not up to us **if** we grow, but it is up to us **how** we grow. And that, more than anything else, is why I'm running for a second term as mayor. I ask for your vote."*

- Will Wynn

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- Dramatically Change our Land-Use Practices**
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- Keep Delivering Real Transportation Solutions**
 - expand our mass transit system, improve roads, and build more sidewalks
- Improve the Quality of our Air and Water**
 - keep fighting to protect the Edwards Aquifer and reduce regional air emissions
- Keep Austin the Safest Big City in America**
 - hold steady on police, fire and EMS funding to keep Austin families safe
- Promote our Unique Character and Culture**
 - expand our reputation for film, music and the arts, and Keep Austin Weird

Endorsed by The Austin Chronicle and The Austin American Statesman
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Pol. ad. Will Wynn Campaign, P.O. Box 50042, Austin, TX, 78763, Paul Carrozza, Treasurer. This campaign has not agreed to comply with the contribution and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Ordinance. Accordingly, no public funds will be utilized.

THE FACTS ABOUT AMD'S OAK HILL CAMPUS

27

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Immigrants Flex Muscle

A flood of flag-waving, sign-toting immigrants and supporters poured out of the Capitol's front gates onto Congress Avenue Monday afternoon, chanting rallying cries like "**¡Si Se Puede!**" as they turned left onto **Cesar Chavez**, aptly named after the Mexican immigrant who popularized the saying as founder and longtime president of the **United Farm Workers** union. "César would be proud," remarked local activist and co-owner of **Las Manitas** restaurant **Cynthia Perez**, near the corner of Chavez and Waller, a little beyond the halfway point of the march from the Capitol to **Cantu Park** at 2100 E. Third. The march and its proceeding rally were part of a national effort to call attention to immigrant and workers' rights. Billed alternately as the **Great American Boycott** and **A Day Without an Immigrant** by the **National Immigrant Solidarity Network** and other organizers, the much-anticipated May 1 work stoppage and boycott drew an estimated 1.5 million people into the streets. (The Associated Press reports 1.1 million, based on police numbers.) In Austin, organizer **Silky Shah** estimated almost 8,000 people showed up at the Capitol and that many more joined the group during the approximately 2.7-mile March and at the park.

"It was a lot bigger than I thought it was going to be," said Shah, alluding to fear in the local immigrant community generated by numerous stories of immigration enforcement raids after the April 10 rally, for which an estimated 10,000 people turned out. **Immigration and Customs Enforcement** hasn't confirmed or denied that it has stepped up enforcement post-April 10. An e-mail statement from **Nina Pruneda**, spokeswoman for the regional office of ICE in San Antonio, said ICE "is responsible for investigating a wide range of domestic and international activities arising from the movement of people and goods in violation of the nation's immigration and custom laws. ICE agents conduct operations every day in locations around the country as part of their efforts to protect the nation and uphold public safety. These operations are not random sweeps, but carefully-planned enforcement actions that result from investigative leads and intelligence."

Degrees of truth and fiction aside, the roundup stories had enough people worried enough to get local activists and city officials to hold a press conference to, among other things, remind Austinites that **APD**, like many local police agencies across the country, doesn't engage in immigration enforcement; the department views that as the job of the federal government. Instead, APD treats immigrants – documented or not – like any other city resident: If you commit a crime you're a criminal; if you don't, you're not.

Indeed, APD has diligently worked at making inroads in the immigrant community in order to encourage undocumented immigrants to report crimes to the police. Led by Assistant Chief **Rudy Landeros**, APD was among the first in the nation to convince local banks – notably **Wells Fargo** – to offer undocumented immigrants without a Social Security Number or a state driver's license a chance to open bank accounts under a program titled "**Banca Facil**," or "Easy Banking." The new program cut down significantly on the number of robber-



JOHN ANDERSON

Immigrants and their supporters mobilized once again on May 1, including here in Austin at the Capitol.

ies of recent immigrants, who became prey because they regularly carried significant amounts of cash. (In 2000, Latinos only made up 31% of Austin's population but were victims in 39% of all robberies.) And in 2004, APD created the **Immigrant Protection Unit**, responsible for investigating human trafficking and other crimes against immigrants. "Our job is to protect and serve, regardless of [immigration] status," Landeros explained in 2001.

Twenty-seven-year-old **Adrian Barrera** – who came to Texas from Morelos, Mexico, eight years ago with his parents, wife, daughter, and brothers – didn't appear worried about his security as he waited near a cluster of waving light blue Guatemalan flags for the rallying on stage at Cantu Park to end and the music, theatre, and the evening's other cultural performances to begin. "I'm living here illegal. I've been living here eight years without going back to my country because [I'm afraid] I can't come back," said Barrera, when asked why he marched. He said he went to his job with a local plumbing company but got off early for the event.

It's hard to get a real figure for how many undocumented workers – locally and nationally – decided not to show up for work, but there is indication that their absence was felt most prominently in the meat-packing industry, since **Tyson Foods** and **Cargill** shut down plants for the day. **May Day**, or **International Workers' Day**, is a globally acknowledged labor holiday that marks the 1886 **Haymarket Riot** in Chicago, during which demonstrators – many of them immigrants – rallied for a five-day, eight-hour-a-day work week. The holiday isn't recognized by the U.S. government.

An unknown number of local businesses and work sites were dead on Monday – either voluntarily or involuntarily. Perez said there was never a question of whether Las Manitas would close for the boycott. "I think it's a good thing to get people to dem-

onstrate their voice in issues. I think that's the American way," she said. Some local construction sites looked abandoned.

AISSD was quiet on Monday, with none of the massive walkouts that characterized April. However, the district did suspect a higher level of absenteeism, suggesting some students took the day off to protest. Fourteen-year-old **Claudia Arrellano** – who, along with family members, chanted "**¡Si Se Puede!**" at the Capitol and held a homemade poster reading "No Human Being Is Illegal" – skipped classes at **Americo Paredes Middle School** in South Austin on Monday. "We all came from Mexico, so we all have to be together. ... We all go to the same school and we all drink from the same water fountain and everything, so we have to be the same," said Arrellano, between cheers of "**¡Que vivan los inmigrantes!**" and "Today we march, tomorrow we vote," braces gleaming in the sun.

If any teachers were tempted to ditch school, AISD nipped that in the bud. In an April 25 memo, Superintendent **Pat Forgione**

warned teachers and staff that those who called in sick Monday without a doctor's excuse wouldn't be paid and could be disciplined or fired. "We ask that you show your support for the immigration cause in ways that do not negatively impact students' learning environments," he wrote.

Not all immigrants were gung-ho about the boycott. Charlie, an Armenian immigrant who owns the **Cigar Palace** on Congress, said immigrants should come to the U.S. legally. "The only way to win the battle is to join them," he said. "I waited over 13 years to come to the country legally." He kept Cigar Palace open, but the fact that Congress was completely blocked off during the march made him lose business, he said. "I'm not bitching about it, but that's not the way to do it."

Like many a Mexican-American, **Esperanza Trujillo** said she isn't sure how she feels about undocumented immigration. "I don't know. I'm kind of in between," she said, as she watched the mass of people march down Cesar Chavez from her front porch with grandson Eric and neighbor Armando Alvarez. "It's OK for those who want to be good citizens, and then you have those ..." For better or for worse, the march down her street made quite an impression. "All these people!" Trujillo said to Alvarez. "I knew there were Mexicans, but not this many."

With the windows of her light-blue pickup rolled down, the rumble of "**¡Si Se Puede!**" accompanied by the thundering of drums could be heard from blocks away as Perez looked for a spot to park and join the march. "I think it's a positive step in the right direction," she said, adding that she wishes the public would get riled up about other issues, such as the **war in Iraq** and the fact that **Exxon Mobil Corp.** recently reported an \$8.4-billion profit for the first quarter of 2006, while motorists are shelling out record amounts of money at the pump. "I think it's an opportunity," she said.

– Cheryl Smith, Diana Welch, Jordan Smith, and Rachel Proctor May

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Karen with her husband, Scott, and their two children who attend AISD. Karen Dulaney Smith is a two-term PTA President and small business owner.

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WHERE DO THE REST GO?

At four of the city's major high schools — Johnston, Travis, Lanier and Reagan — only 68.5 percent of first-time ninth grade students graduate four years later, and only 21 percent of those students enroll in college.



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- Use policy experience to improve recruitment, retention and educational goal completion programs for a more skilled workforce
- Recruit businesses and implement an aggressive annexation plan to fund more student educational opportunities



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El Futuro de East Cesar Chavez

Eddie Rodriguez took the stage at **Martin Middle School** Saturday morning and faced a piñata-adorned cafeteria stuffed with neighbors, housing advocates, and **Capital Metro** employees. The baby-faced, bespectacled state representative, who is also an Eastside resident, held up a report critiquing plans for the **Saltillo District**, Capital Metro's proposed Eastside redevelopment project, and outlined the kind of improvements the plan would need before neighbors could bestow their blessing on the project. "This is not a replacement to the Roma plan. We think of it as an enhancement," Rodriguez said. "We're not trying to say we're upset —"

In the back of the room, a slender, curly-haired activist named **Daniel Llanes** was feeling less conciliatory. "We are upset!" he shouted, interrupting Rodriguez. "We are upset about it!"

Sabino Renteria, a neighborhood activist and chair of the city's **Community Development Commission**, was sitting at one of the cafeteria tables, squished between several other affordable-housing scenesters. "Upset?" he wondered with a bemused smile. "I don't know ... I'm upset about my appraisals." The valuation of his home, just across from Martin Middle, jumped from \$169,000 to \$289,000 in a single year, a snapshot for the kind of gentrification pressures that Saltillo, done poorly, will exacerbate. The question is whether — if done well — Saltillo could help ease the crunch facing longtime residents of the suddenly hot Eastside.

The Saltillo District is a proposed high-density "transit village" on 11 mostly vacant acres between Fourth and Fifth Streets, just across I-35 from downtown. The proposed master plan, drafted at the behest of site owners Capital Metro by the San Francisco-based **Roma Design Group**, calls for one of those high-density "live-work-play" centers all the rage among city planners. It features multifamily housing over first-floor retail, happy pedestrians strolling about, and easy access to the commuter rail line that will run along the district's southern edge.

The community advisory group that has been monitoring the plan's progress over the last two years doesn't have any problem with the wide sidewalks or underground parking or the pedestrian "paseos" where kids can play. Rather, the CAG's complaint is that the Roma plan doesn't include enough family-sized affordable housing units and doesn't do enough to protect existing area businesses.

"The main thing is it does not protect the integrity of the neighborhood," said **Susana Almanza**, who serves on the CAG. "It does not enhance and does not complement what is already there."

What is already there is the **East Cesar Chavez neighborhood**, a deep-rooted, predominantly Hispanic community of big families and mostly lower-wage workers. The homes are about 60% owner-occupied, and the median family income is about \$28,000, significantly lower than the city's average. The CAG



JOHN ANDERSON

City of Austin staff and Eastside stakeholders discuss how to make Saltillo Plaza work.

wants the plan to reflect these realities, with 75% of the owner-occupied units three bedrooms or larger, and 50% of them affordable to families earning under 80% of the median family income, which is around \$60,000 for a family of four. The CAG also wants rental units to have similar levels of affordability.

Roma and Capital Metro, however, get jittery about any affordability level above 25% and say that even at that level the project will need heavy subsidies to get off the ground. "We're going to have to use a very creative array of public funding and private investment to make the project happen," said **Jim Adams**, a principal of Roma.

The main issue is that before you can rent or sell affordably, you have to build affordably, and ballooning construction costs are making that harder by the month. Even rock-bottom work starts in the range of \$75 a square foot, and that's before you add in density-enhancing features like elevators and structured parking,

which can quickly push it up over \$100. Plus, the proposed Saltillo project includes hefty infrastructure costs, such as the pedestrian malls, or relocating the train tracks that now bisect the blocks, which will leave Capital Metro \$11 million in the hole before a single unit is built. The math becomes even harder if you factor in large, family-sized units.

Still, tax credits and other subsidies can go a long way. At the nearby **Villas on Sixth**, city and state subsidies cover about \$12 million of the \$20 million cost, and 85% of the units are affordable for families earning 50-60% of the median family income.

In addition to affordability, attendees of the Saturday open house urged Roma to find ways to keep all the new retail from swamping existing small businesses in the area. The CAG wants to see some sort of noncompete clause so, for example, **Big Red Sun** won't suddenly find itself with another über-refined cactus and décor destination a few blocks away. Attendees also wanted to ensure that residents will be able to spend their money on something other than boutiques, salons, cafe concoctions, and über-refined cacti.

"Families cannot survive on coffee and getting their hair done," said **Austin Neighborhoods Council** Vice-President **Kevin Lewis**.

— Rachel Proctor May

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- Clean Water Action
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Early voting starts on Monday, May 1st
Election Day is Saturday, May 13th



Attorney and accountant Sheryl Cole, 41, is a 23-year resident of Austin and a proud graduate of UT. Previously a staff attorney for the Texas Municipal League, Sheryl currently practices law with her husband of 15 years, Kevin, at their firm Cole & Powell. Sheryl and Kevin are the parents of three boys – Marcus, Nelson and Femi – and live in East Austin. Sheryl is running for Austin City Council to help promote sustainable economic development, protect our environment, improve our transportation system, and help ensure a great quality of life for Austin families in every part of our community.



Sheryl Cole is proud to be endorsed by the following groups:

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Pol. Ad. paid for by Sheryl Cole Campaign, PO Box 4148, Austin TX 78765, Rev. Joseph C. Parker, Jr., Treasurer. This campaign has not agreed to comply with the contributions and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Ordinance. Accordingly, no public funds will be utilized.

Supremes Tackle Civility of Execution

The U.S. Supreme Court on April 26 took up the question of whether a death row inmate may use federal civil rights law to challenge a state's manner of execution. **Clarence Hill** was convicted of the 1982 murder of a Florida police officer as Hill fled from a bank robbery. Hill had exhausted his federal criminal appeals and was four days away from execution when he appealed his case once again, this time as a **challenge to Florida's lethal injection method**, filed as a civil rights claim. Hill claims the method of execution violates the **Eighth Amendment's ban on cruel and unusual punishments**. Lethal injection was developed in 1977 as a more human alternative to the electric chair and was subsequently adopted as the sole method of execution in 37 of 38 death penalty states (Nebraska uses electrocution); however, the three-drug cocktail used in lethal injections has come under increasing scrutiny, not only by human rights groups, but also by medical professionals. A study last year published in the British medical journal *Lancet* concluded that improper administration of the drug cocktail by prison employees and not medical professionals probably caused "unnecessary suffering." (In 43 of 49 executions studied, researchers found that the anesthesia administered was less than typically administered prior to surgery.) Moreover, in a brief filed with the Supremes in the Hill case, three veterinarians note that the combination of drugs Florida uses for executions would indeed be considered inhumane and thus legally prohibited in the euthanasia of cats and dogs.

Because the Supremes accepted Hill's appeal on the question of whether inmates may use Reconstruction-era civil rights law to challenge the method of execution, the justices reportedly focused much of their questioning on whether Hill could suggest another, more humane execution method. (A separate appeal, filed in February by a death row inmate in Tennessee – styled **Abdur'Rahman v. Bredeesen** – directly challenging lethal injection as unconstitutionally cruel is currently pending before the court.) The civil rights statute requires an alternative be shown – without that, Chief Justice **John G. Roberts** noted, Hill's appeal would appear to be a challenge to his death sentence, a route that Hill has already exhausted. A decision in the case is expected this summer.

– Jordan Smith

Officer Suspended for Excessive Use of Force

In a disciplinary letter dated April 25, Austin Police Chief **Stan Knee** handed Officer **Christopher Gray** a 70-day suspension for excessive use of force and acts bringing discredit to the APD for his role in the September arrest of 25-year-old **Ramon Hernandez**. Gray was one of three officers indicted for official oppression for their handling of Hernandez's arrest on Sept. 19, after Hernandez fled from the scene of a minor traffic accident. An APD in-car camera recorded a portion of the arrest; the video depicts Gray, along with Officers **William Heilman** and **Joel Follmer**, pinning a handcuffed and sometimes-squirming Hernandez face-down on the ground, while Gray intermittently delivers a total of 14 blows to Hernandez's lower back/kidney area.

A Travis Co. grand jury in December indicted the three officers on the **Class A official oppression** charge (which carries the possibility of up to a year in state prison and/or up to a \$4,000 fine). Gray and Heilman were tried and acquitted of the charge last month; Follmer's trial is scheduled to begin this month. Nonetheless, based on the results of an **Internal Affairs investigation**, Knee last week handed Gray a 70-day suspension for using excessive force. "Independent witnesses and another officer on the scene considered the amount of force used by Officer Gray to be excessive," Knee wrote in a four-page suspension letter filed with the Civil Service Commission. "After reviewing the evidence, I have determined that the amount of force used by Officer Gray was excessive, and his actions have brought discredit upon himself and the [APD]."

Specifically, Knee found that Gray violated the department's general rules on use-of-force, mandating that an officer "shall only use the minimum level of force that is reasonably necessary to bring an incident under control."



Christopher Gray

Knee was apparently swayed by Gray's untarnished record on the force, his record as a "well-respected" Field Training Officer (responsible for mentoring rookies on patrol), and his demeanor and candor during the Disciplinary Review Board hearing, in determining that Gray should not face an "indefinite suspension" – the Civil Service equivalent of termination. "Gray acknowledged that he could have and should have handled the situation differently, and would do so when confronted with a similar situation in the future," Knee wrote. "Finally, Officer Gray's chain of command spoke well of him, and those opinions weighed heavily in my decision to impose this agreed suspension." Indeed, an officer must agree to any suspension over 15 days – and must agree to waive the right to appeal the disciplinary decision to civil service commissioners or to an independent arbitrator. The suspension also requires Gray to "confer" with the APD's staff psychologist, to "successfully complete" any recommended course of counseling, and to complete additional use-of-force training prescribed by his chain of command; Gray's suspension will end July 5.

– Jordan Smith

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Proposition 1 is opposed by the Austin Chronicle, Austin American-Statesman, Austin Firefighters Association, Austin Parks Foundation, Austin Progressive Coalition, Austin-Travis County EMS Employees Assn., AFSCME, Basic Needs Coalition, Capital Area Progressive Democrats, Central Austin Democrats, University Democrats and West Austin Democrats.

VOTE NO ON PROPOSTION 1.
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Political advertisement paid for by the Committee For Austin's Future, PO BOX 685066, Austin, Texas, 78768, Greg Hartman, Treasurer.

Don't Put Their Back Yard in My Back Yard

Everyone loves **affordable housing** – except if said housing happens to be next to *your* housing. This eternal truth was demonstrated this week at the City Council, which in recent years has faced a monotonous din of neighbors opposing projects because their high prices will drive up local property taxes, and which on Thursday enjoyed a thrilling change of pace in the form of neighbors opposing a project because its extreme affordability will bring bad elements to the neighborhood.

"We are not opposed to **Foundation Communities**, and we're not opposed to helping the homeless," said **Bob Thompson**, who lives near the planned project. "The issue is whether they should build their next facility at this site or at a more appropriate site."

Despite the neighbors' objections, the council unanimously voted to allow the hous-

ing nonprofit Foundation Communities to convert a hotel on the corner of Ben White and Banister Lane into a permanent supportive housing complex for single adults. Supportive housing, designed to help homeless and other extremely low-income Austinites, is extremely cheap (around \$300 a month, utilities included, for a furnished efficiency) and offers on-site social services. The residents of Foundation Communities' current supportive housing complex, a former nursing home called **Garden Terrace**, can access counseling, a computer lab, job referrals, and other help getting back on their feet. A contingent of Garden Terrace residents showed up at the hearing to testify about the difference the facility made in their lives. **Lee Bollinger**, who was homeless a year ago, credited Garden Terrace with helping him turn his life around. "As of May 31, I have to move out of

Garden Terrace," he said. "It's not that I want to; it's because I make so much money now I don't qualify to live there."

The **South Lamar Neighborhood Association** endorsed the project. However, it was a "tyranny of the majority" sort of situation, in which the north end of the neighborhood – those farthest from the proposed project – rustled up more votes than the people on the south end of the neighborhood, who will actually live near the facility. The now-very-peevish outvoted neighbors put together a petition opposing the project and also showed up to voice their concerns: that the building is a high-rise, that it houses single adults, not families, that there's no nearby grocery store so residents will have to walk long distances "pushing shopping carts or carrying bags," as well as the well-being of the residents themselves. As Thompson explained, many homeless have histories of drug and alcohol abuse or mental illness, and he feared that housing them in a neighborhood already struggling

with crime hot spots and "illegal aliens" would make it harder for them to start over.

"These residents are trying to escape past problems and turn their lives around," he said. "However, they are vulnerable and perhaps fragile, and the host neighborhood could also be vulnerable if they should revert to their behavior problems. What they need and deserve is to be housed in a safe neighborhood without a high-crime environment and a neighborhood not already under stress."

The concerned neighbors asked to delay the hearing and vote, but council moved ahead anyway, swayed by Foundation Communities' pleas that looming grant deadlines meant that delay could scuttle the \$8 million project. "I think that it's just going to do wonders for our community if we can bring this third facility online and I just can't commend Foundation Communities enough for what they have done to help us in meeting this need," said Council Member **Raul Alvarez**.

– Rachel Proctor May



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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

WHO IS TO BE DETAINED?

Look out – here comes Halliburton again! With its own personal sugar daddy occupying the vice-president's chair, this giant government contractor keeps getting multibillion-dollar, no-bid contracts from the Bush-Cheney regime, despite having been found guilty of shoddy work, massive cost overruns, and fraudulent billings.

Its latest windfall, however, should not merely be worrisome to taxpayers, but also to anyone concerned about the Bushites' anti-democratic penchant to extend ever-more police and military power over We the People. Halliburton has been granted a \$385-million contract for a most unusual project: building a network of detention centers across our country. Up to 5,000 people could be "detained" and held in each of these centers, which are to be run by Homeland Security authorities and possibly located on unused military bases. "Detain," of course, is a euphemism for "incarcerate" – or "lock up." And "center" is a gentle term for "prison."

So, why does America suddenly need to spend a third-of-a-billion dollars to establish a new mass prison complex in our country? The feds and Halliburton cryptically say the detention centers could be needed for "some kind of mass migration" or for "the rapid development of new programs." When asked what is meant by the ominous term "new programs," a Halliburton spokeswoman said she could provide no additional information. Another curious aspect is that the Bushites refer to this as a "contingency contract," saying that the detention centers might never be built, but that Halliburton will have the cash and authority to move quickly if and when given the go-ahead. The corporation's executive vice-president says that Halliburton is "gratified," because the deal "builds on our extremely strong track record in the arena of emergency management support." Manage who? And in support of what policy?

CONSTRICTING HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATION

As if George W. hadn't mucked up public education enough by requiring all schools to conform to his regimented, teach-to-the-test scheme, along comes brother Jeb Bush with another wacky scheme for social engineering in our schools.

Jeb, who likes to call himself the "Education Governor," wants Florida to require every incoming high schooler to make a career choice and declare a major – as they enter the ninth grade! Every student would then have to have their four-year high school education narrowed, concentrating on subjects within their declared major – whether that's music or auto repair.

The ninth grade! You're only 14 years old! How do you know at this tender (and confusing) age what career is best for you? When I was 14, I decided that I should become a civil engineer and build bridges. Was I good at math or adept at solving structural problems? Not at all – I was simply infatuated with the notion of bridge-building, having seen a war movie called *The Bridge on the River Kwai*.

We don't let kids vote at 14. We don't let them get all roiled up in a hormonal rush and go marry someone at 14. We don't let them join the army at 14. Then why force them, at 14, to choose a career path, when they've had such limited exposure to the possibilities?

Jeb says it's all about getting scattered high schoolers to focus their minds so they can prepare themselves for college and the working world. Well, excuse me, but what about the broader role of education – letting kids sample a wide range of learning, offering a well-rounded view of the world, and developing each student's ability for critical thinking? High school represents the coming of age, and it should be a time for opening minds and exploring opportunities. There'll be plenty of time later for narrowing one's path in life.

Jeb and George are twisting our education system to implement the corporate dream: a society of highly-skilled automatons who do not think to question authority.

Jim Hightower is the bestselling author of Let's Stop Beating Around the Bush, on sale from Viking Press. For more information, visit www.jimhightower.com.

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Putting a Lid on Leininger

Lege Coalition Hopes to Limit Millionaire Politics **BY AMY SMITH**

There is no time like the present to put a lid on the campaign-spending sprees of megamillionaire James Leininger and other wealthy “owners” of the Texas Legislature, so a bipartisan group of lawmakers wants to add campaign-finance reform to the special-session agenda.

The legislators know there’s no chance that Gov. Rick Perry will add campaign spending limits to the to-do list, even if lawmakers are able to pass a tax bill before the clock runs down on the 30-day session that began April 17. Still, more than a dozen Republican and Democratic legislators have endorsed a bill filed last Thursday that would place a \$100,000 cap on the amount an individual can give to state campaigns during a two-year election cycle.

“This is a modest first step,” said Rep. Mark Strama, D-Austin, who co-authored HB 110 with Rep. Mike Villarreal, D-San Antonio. The two filed a similar bill in 2005, without success. “As redistricting has created more and more polarized districts, Republicans and Democrats alike are at risk of a single donor who chooses to spend a million dollars targeting one candidate,” Strama said.

The donor in this instance is Leininger, an ultraconservative San Antonio businessman who dropped more than \$2 million in the March primary races with a goal of ousting a handful of Republican legislators who helped kill a public school-voucher bill that he lobbied for in the 2005 session. Strama also has voiced concern about the prospect of Leininger opening his checkbook to his own District 50 Republican opponent, Jeff Fleece, in November.

In the primary, Leininger

succeeded in just two out of five races, but his bankrolling provided the impetus for the proposed campaign-finance legislation. “This comes on the heels of some awful primary elections where some outstanding members of the House were having to face millions of dollars poured into their opponents’ coffers from one or two individuals,” said Villarreal.

Last week, three of the targeted lawmakers – New Braunfels Rep. Carter Casteel (who lost), Lubbock Rep. Delwin Jones and Longview Rep. Tommy Merritt (who both won) – were among several lawmakers and reform advocates who joined the press conference to support adding the bill to the governor’s special-session call. In addition to Strama, Austin Democratic Reps. Elliott Naishtat and Donna Howard spoke in favor of the legislation.

Casteel, whose vocal opposition to school vouchers during the 2005 debate made her an instant darling of teachers’ groups and lefty Capitol bloggers, talked about being a target of Leininger’s money. “I don’t know whether to



JANA BIRCHUM

New Braunfels Rep. Carter Casteel is among those supporting campaign finance reform

be complimented or offended to be known as the ‘Million Dollar Baby,’” she said of her primary loss to Leininger-financed Nathan Macias. “One of the things that money can buy can be lies. As a former educator, it causes me great concern that children growing up think that you may lie and slander and libel another person so that you can be victorious in a campaign.”

Texas is one of 13 states without spending caps on individual campaign donations, which allows deep-pocketed “shareholders” in the Lege and other statewide offices to have virtual free-for-alls during election cycles. Craig McDonald, executive director of Texans for Public Justice, points to the 87 donors who contributed more than \$100,000 apiece in the 2004 cycle as just one reason the state needs to reassert its commitment to the democratic process.

While Leininger may believe his investments in pro-voucher candidates will ultimately benefit poor kids stuck in failing public schools, his dominance in political campaigns has GOP and Democratic lawmakers “shaking in their boots,” said McDonald. “The buzz going around since the primary is, ‘Gee, I could cast one wrong vote and I could be next,’” he said. “The members are more sensitive to that threat – probably more sensitive than the leadership.”

For that reason, McDonald believes the spending-cap legislation has a better chance of moving forward in next year’s regular session than in the ongoing special session in which the governor sets the agenda. “Right now I think the chances are very slim because these are Perry’s friends who are engaging in these practices,” said McDonald, referring to Leininger, Houston homebuilder Bob Perry (no relation), and other large donors. “I think it has a much better chance for discussion and debate, and perhaps even passage, in the regular session, because it will be driven by the members who can move it along.”

According to finance watchdog group Texans for Public Justice, 87 donors gave more than \$100,000 apiece to candidates in the 2004 election cycle. Here are the top ten; for the full list, see this story online at austinchronicle.com.

Donor Name	City	Company	Amount
Bob & Doylene Perry	Houston	Perry Homes	\$4,640,000
Antonio R. Sanchez*	Laredo	Sanchez-O’Brien Oil & Gas	\$4,544,000
Mr./Mrs. James Leininger	San Antonio	Kinetic Concepts, Inc.	\$1,311,142
Robert C. McNair	Houston	Cogen Technologies/Houston Texans	\$669,792
T. Boone Pickens	Dallas	BP Capital	\$644,000
Harlan R. Crow	Dallas	Crow Holdings	\$508,327
Richard W. Weekley	Houston	Weekley Properties	\$505,697
Lonnie A. ‘Bo’ Pilgrim	Pittsburg	Pilgrim’s Pride Poultry	\$475,795
Mr./Mrs. Harold Simmons	Dallas	Contran Corp.	\$466,750
Russell Kelley	Austin	Public Strategies	\$433,008

* Sanchez was repaying himself money he loaned his 2002 gubernatorial campaign.

Property Comes First

Bills that sailed through the House last week appeared to stall in the Senate this week, as Senate seas parted along partisan lines on Tuesday.

The Republican leadership had a game plan to make this session short and sweet: Divide the bills into palatable components, get them through the House quickly, drop in a teacher pay-raise on the Senate side to sweeten the deal, and avoid conference committees at all costs. The goal was to be out of the Capitol by this Friday. While a number of House Democrats crossed over for the business tax – Austin Reps. Mark Strama and Donna Howard included – the votes were much tougher in the Senate, where independent-minded rural Republicans have no problem voting against bills with the Democrats, if for different reasons. Early in the game, the bloc of 10 Senate Democrats made it clear that they intended to oppose the Republican package, offering a rare chance to see Texas Democrats voting against new taxes on big business.

“In voting against the tax bills today, we are sending a clear message that we believe our school children should come first,” the Democratic caucus wrote in a joint statement. “With no guarantee

that a substantial amount of the additional revenue will be invested in our public schools, or that funding equity levels will be improved, we are not compelled to raise taxes on countless Texans.”

Radio talk-show host and soon-to-be Senator Dan Patrick is putting plenty of pressure on lawmakers from his home turf in Houston, especially those who might be considering a run at U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay’s open seat. While such “no tax” pressure appeared to have limited effects on the House, it may have turned at least one Houston-area senator against the tax bill, causing the chamber to spend most of Tuesday afternoon at ease, while arms were twisted to get the votes to bring the centerpiece of the Perry-Sharp tax plan, the revised business franchise tax, to the floor for a final vote.

There were other skirmishes. Democrats asked to carry the tobacco tax bill – Senators Judith Zaffirini of Laredo and Juan “Chuy” Hinojosa of McAllen – balked when it became apparent that a second bill would mean that all new revenue would go toward property-tax relief, now and forevermore, with no consideration of health-care spending, such as smoking-cessation programs. Sen. Ken Armbrister, D-Victoria, likely on his way to a job in the Governor’s Office, finally was drafted to carry the bill, which has yet to make it to the floor.

The bill with the biggest challenge – and the only new spending on education – has yet to make it out of Senate Finance Committee. Bugged down with 45 possible amendments, CSHB 1 – a hybrid bill that provides 17 cents of tax relief and a \$2,000 across-the-board teacher pay-raise – was scheduled for a hearing Wednesday morning. The main sticking point is Robin Hood or, more specifically, that aspect of the school finance system that requires property-wealthy school districts like Austin and Eanes to send tax dollars to the state. Sponsor Sen. Florence Shapiro of Plano represents a number of property-wealthy districts and would like to see recapture of tax dollars minimized or eliminated. Poorer districts say that could be fine – as long as the state puts more money into school finance so the fewest number of dollars are recaptured.

Since the state is working under a constitutional spending cap – this special session can cost no more than \$3.8 billion – finding those extra dollars might be tough. Analyst Dick Lavine of the Center for Public Policy Priorities also has made it clear that spending this money now could mean no money for a supplemental spending bill prior to the next session, unless the role of the new tax dollars (as a budget swap rather than a budget addition) is made clear during the current session.

– Kimberly Reeves



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the arts

44 DAN DIETZ ON HUMANAFEST 48 BOOKS: DAO STROM EXCERPT 50 AFTER A FASHION



SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER: Into the Promised Land

They started by doing it in bars. Then they were doing it in theatres – though always other peoples' theatres. But now, the folks at Salvage Vanguard Theater are going to be doing it – that is, staging plays – in their very own space. Last week, SVT artistic director Jason Neulander inked a lease on a warehouse at 2803 Manor in East Austin with plans to renovate it and open it as an arts center this fall.

It's been a long time coming, as any fan of SVT (or reader of Wayne Alan Brenner's recent history – austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2006-04-14/arts_set3.html) can attest. Salvage was launched in 1994 with the show *Kid Carnivore* in the now-departed Electric Lounge, a bar which served as the company's home base its first three years. But ever since, Salvage has been wandering like Moses in the wilderness: Synergy Studio. The Public Domain. Hyde Park Theatre. The Vortex. The Off Center. The Blue. Gallery Lombardi. The Hideout. Little City Coffeehouse. At times it felt like the company was on the run, and you were chasing it across town.

No longer – or at least not for eight years. That's the length of the lease signed with landlord Rubinet Family LP. Plans by architects Craig Nasso and Andrew Clements divide the warehouse into a 2,400-square-foot performance area with 100 seats, a 1,600-square-foot rehearsal space, costume and scene shops, lobby and box office, offices, dressing room, and 12 small studios to be subleased to local artists. Salvage will mount all its main-stage and second-stage shows in the building but like its Eastside neighbors, the Vortex, the Off Center, and the Blue, will make it available for rental by other arts companies. Shannon McCormick will be programming director for the venue.

SVT estimates renovation costs in the neighborhood of \$350,000 and is gearing up for the biggest fundraising campaign in its 13-year history. It wants the capital raised by September 2006, so it can open the space with its planned fall production of Bertolt Brecht's *Mother Courage and Her Children*, starring Lee Eddy.

– R.F.

For more information, call 474-SVT6 or visit www.salvagevanguard.org.

CULTURE FLASH!

BY ROBERT FAIRES

- Hey kids! Free comics! The ever-popular **Free Comic Book Day** makes its fifth annual bow this Saturday, May 6. Before the X-Men make their last stand and Superman returns to the multiplex, reacquaint yourself with their four-color incarnations – or any of dozens of other characters, both caped crusaders and just plain joes (*Archie! Conan! The Simpsons! Scott Pilgrim! Owly! Dead@17!*), through specially published editions of their series available, at no cost, at your friendly neighborhood comic shop. To find which of the dozen or so area shops is nearest you, visit www.freecomicbookday.com.

- The second **First Night Austin** is just eight months away, so a **Call to Artists** has gone out for proposals for visual- and performing-arts projects that might be included in the New Year's Eve event. Projects in all disciplines are wanted for large-scale public art, street surprises, the grand procession, performance, youth performance, mobile art, and more. You can learn more about the proposal process at artist information meetings, Tuesday, May 9, 5:30-7pm, at the Carver Museum & Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina; and Wednesday, May 10, 5:30-7pm, in the Boards & Commissions Room at Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second. To attend, RSVP to anngraham@firstnighaustin.org, or call 476-5577. For submission forms, visit www.firstnighaustin.org. Proposals must be hand-delivered or postmarked to First Night Austin, 515 Congress #2050, Austin, 78701 by 5pm, June 12.

- The ever-eloquent **Sharon Bridgforth** will offer a banquet of words in **Transformations: Then & Now**, a spoken-word/a cappella concert Thursday May 11, 7pm, at Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf. This poet/playwright will share her journey/her work/her roads traveled from *sonnata blue* to *love conjure/blues*, from root w'y'mn theatre company to the *bull-jean* stories and beyond. Bridgforth will read from performance pieces, published works, and new things. For more info, visit www.sharonbridgforth.com.



BIG TIME AT THE BLANTON Looks like Austin really wanted a look at that new museum on MLK. Thirty minutes after starting its 24-hour Extremely Grand Opening festivities, the Blanton Museum had a line of people stretching around three sides of the building. An estimated 20,000 crammed into the building in its first day. Below, a handful of the first-nighters check out the pennies in *Missão/Missões [How to Build Cathedrals]*, by Cildo Meireles.



PHOTOS BY ROXANNE JO MITCHELL

'JUSTICE FOR ALL?': Artists take on the death penalty

Capital punishment – a subject you expect to be hotly debated in the statehouse and the courthouse, among the Sunday TV talking heads, and perhaps in the theatre (as with *The Exonerated*, closing its run at Zach this weekend), but in the art gallery? Expect it this month, with "Justice for All?: Artists Reflect on the Death Penalty," an international juried art exhibition sponsored by the Texas Moratorium Network to encourage and enhance civic dialogue on the topic. Jurors Annette

Carlozzi, curator of American and contemporary art at the Blanton Museum of Art; Lora Reynolds, owner of Lora Reynolds Gallery; and Malaquias Montoya, artist and professor of art at University of California-Davis, considered more than 700 works by some 300 artists from 38 states and 19 countries. They settled on 55 works, 14 of which came from artists currently on death row in Texas. Visitors to the exhibition can hear individual works described – in most cases by the artists themselves – by calling special numbers on their cell phones, and then may share their thoughts on the artwork and have their statements posted on the Web site, www.deathpenaltyartshow.org. That site will also be displaying all the works that were submitted for the show, and in the future, artists will be able to upload their death-penalty artwork to the site, so that it can become a resource for galleries and organizations interested in organizing similar exhibitions on their own.

– R.F.

"Justice for All?: Artists Reflect on the Death Penalty" is on display May 6-22 at Gallery Lombardi, 910 W. Third. Annette Carlozzi will conduct a gallery talk Thursday, May 11, 7pm, at the Gallery. For more information, visit www.deathpenaltyartshow.org.



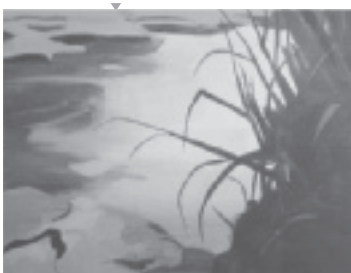


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Claire Gaston Hope I Can Remember This Later Oil on panel, 17 3/4 x 24 inches Lent by the Artist

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The Austin Museum of Art 2006 Exhibition Sponsors are Berman Family Foundation, Green Family Foundation, Chris Mattsson and John McHale, Bettye and Bill Nowlin, Susman, Tisdale and Gayle Architecture and Interior Design, Rosemary Haggard Vaughan Family Foundation, Vinson & Elkins LLP and Texas Commission on the Arts. 2006 Education Outreach is generously supported by 3M, James Armstrong, Bank of America, Katerlena Hernandez Cowles and James Cowles, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Texas Commission on the Arts, donors to the Education Fund, Laura W. Bush Endowment for Education and Outreach, and an anonymous donor. The Austin Museum of Art is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division, The Austin Fine Arts Alliance, Museum Trustees, Members, and Patrons.



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Live a Little.
Image of a martini glass with a blue rim and a red drink.

Looking for Las Vegas

An Austin playwright discovers Sin City by going to Louisville

BY DAN DIETZ

He's wearing a jumpsuit and a cap pulled down low, curly hair and dark moustache peeking out from underneath. He looks like a shorter version of Schneider from the Seventies sitcom *One Day at a Time*. And he's coming right at me.

"You on Flight 6610 to Louisville?"

"Yes."

"You got a boarding pass?"

"Yes."

"Could I see your boarding pass, please?"

"Yes, sir."

That's it, I think. They've overbooked the flight and I'm going to get bumped. I prepare my speech:

Listen, I have to get on this plane. I have a show at the Humana Festival of New American Plays. Curtain is in 90 minutes. It's a 50-minute flight. You do the math.

He maneuvers behind the counter usually reserved for harried airline reps and starts tap-

From: Adrien-Alice Hansel

Subject: A Proposition

Hey, Dan. I'm writing to see whether you might be persuaded to take part in this year's apprentice anthology project for the Humana Festival. This year: Vegas! Actually, it's an examination of American culture through scenes set in Vegas, but I'm focusing on the glitz factor myself. We're asking each writer to write two pieces – scene, monologue, or combination – for our Acting Apprentices. We'll fly you out to Louisville twice for development (once to meet the apprentices, in the middle of your writing period, and again for the first weekend of rehearsals), and, of course, again for the big weekend.

If you're interested and available to participate, will you email me?

Was I interested? This was a chance to write for one of the most prestigious regional theatres in the country – for money. Was I

What on Earth possessed me to agree to write three short plays about a city I've never been to for a cast of actors I've never met, plays which would be presented at a festival considered to be the theatrical equivalent of Sundance and seen by many of the most influential theatre professionals in America (not to mention abroad)?

ping away at the little keyboard, his face serious and intent. A final tap-tap and tap and a boarding pass spits out of the printer. He hands it to me.

"I think I've found you a better seat."

I look down. Seat 1-A. First class. Any further up and I'd be flying the plane.

I blink for a moment. "Thank you," I finally say.

"Not a problem."

I stand there. I want to ask him why he did this for me. Was my seat in coach given to someone else already? Were they upgrading passengers to make up for the weather delays? Or is he just some disgruntled worker sticking it to the man, with me as his "it"? I open my mouth to ask ...

... but don't. If I've learned one thing from life in the theatre, it's that miracles don't like questions.

I shut my mouth, step away from Schneider, and await the call to board.

The Proposition

In July of 2005, I received an e-mail from my friend Adrien-Alice Hansel, the literary manager of the Actors Theatre of Louisville. It was titled "A Proposition."

available? Baby, I was more than available, I was unemployed.

I won't bore you with the details of my full reply. This about sums it up:

To: Adrien-Alice Hansel

Subject: Re: A Proposition

Yesyesyesyesyesdeargodyes

Great. Now all I had to do was write two short pieces, and ...

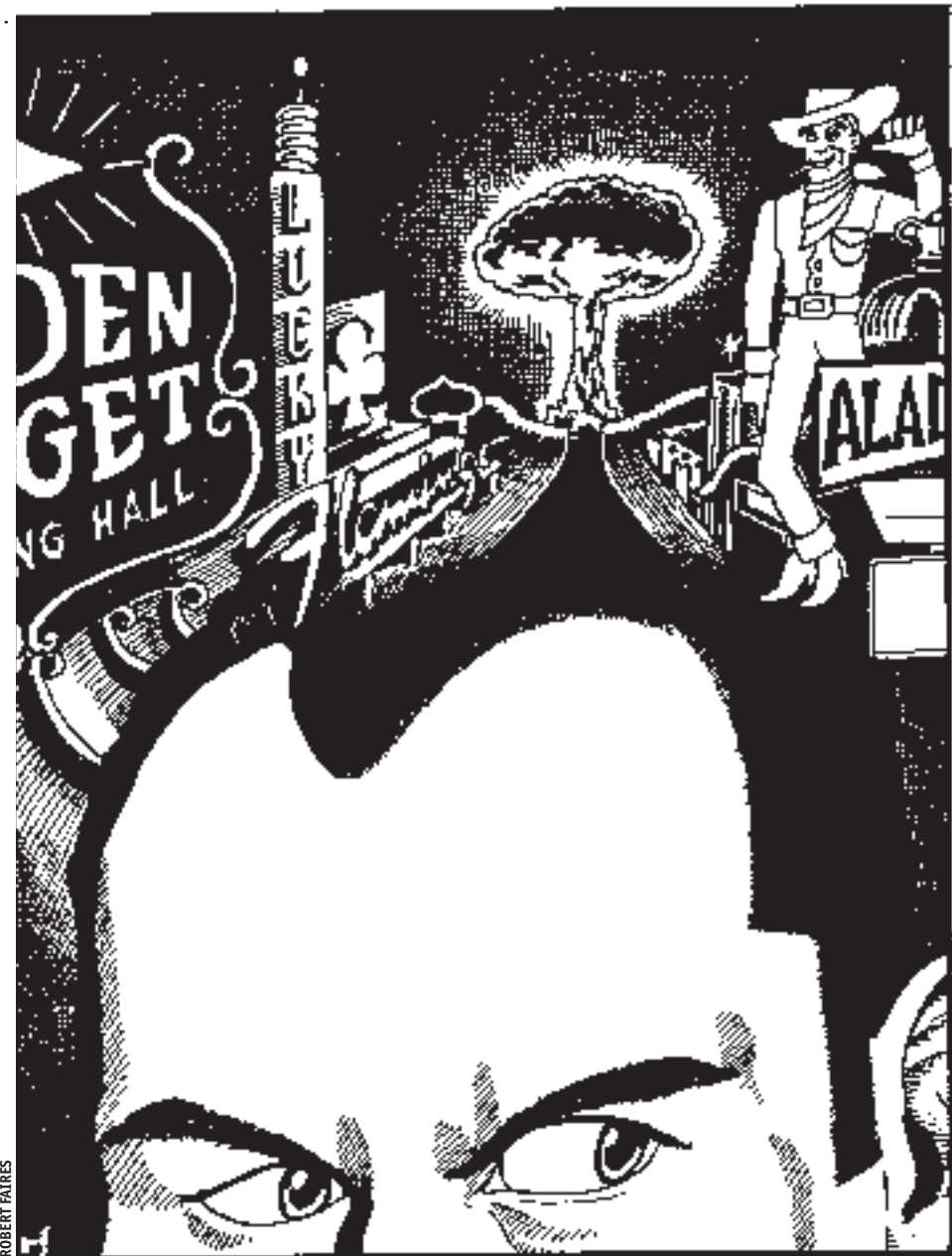
From: Adrien-Alice Hansel

Subject: A Plea

I've been doing some tricky arithmetic, and it turns out that we don't have quite enough people writing for this anthology project. I was wondering whether I could entreat you to write another for us? Think of the children, Dan. They need to perform.

Make that three pieces. About Las Vegas. No problem.

Well, maybe one problem. A big one. I've never actually been to Vegas. Not once have I made that supercharged, all-American, Sin City pilgrimage. I've never driven all night to watch the sun rise over the Strip. Never blew all my savings on one massive chip-soaked weekend. Never even stepped foot inside a casino.



ROBERT FAIRES

In short, I am not a gambling man.

So what on Earth possessed me to agree to write three short plays about a city I've never been to for a cast of actors I've never met, plays which would be presented at a festival considered to be the theatrical equivalent of Sundance and seen by many of the most influential theatre professionals in America (not to mention abroad)?

If miracles don't like questions, work hates them. So with the calendar counting down, I fly west in my mind across the desert to take the journey I never made.

Dog Shot

Faced with a subject I know nothing about and a looming deadline, I do what any sufficiently wired person would do: I go online. Luckily there's no shortage of sites detailing all the ghosts of Vegas past. While cruising through stories of ranchers and gamblers and mobsters, the word "atomic" suddenly pops out at me. I read more closely: above-ground nuclear tests ... veterans whose health was damaged due to proximity to the blasts ... Is this some Internet hoax-slash-conspiracy-theory?

Sadly, it's as true as it gets. After World War II, the American government decided to pre-

pare for combat in the nuclear age by dropping atomic bombs in the Nevada desert and then measuring their effects on vehicles, structures, and ... people. On a Web site dedicated to these Atomic Veterans, I read heart-wrenching stories about the terrible ordeals they went through.

But it's a photograph that really brings it all home: row after row of uniformed men seated on the ground, while in the distance a massive mushroom cloud surges into the air. Just minutes after the photo was taken, these soldiers stood up and marched right into the blast. This was an actual military operation carried out just an hour outside of Las Vegas in 1951. It was called Dog Shot.

I want to write the story of these men on the ground, but I feel too close somehow. Every time I try to put words down, I feel upset and the play just fizzles. Then it hits me. If the story on the ground is too close, leave the ground. Put the play where the action is: up in the air.

Two young pilots sit in the cockpit of a B-50 bomber, getting ready to drop a bomb on their buddies down below. Their voices pour out of me, fast and easy, their banter masking a deep dread for what they're about to do. I polish it up and hit "Send."

continued on p.46

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Advertisement for Dougherty Arts School featuring a group of children and the text: DOUGHERTY ARTS SCHOOL 1110 Barton Springs Rd. 397.1458 www.doughertyartscenter.org animation drama film art dance music

Advertisement for 'The Exonerated' play at Zachary Scott Theatre Center, featuring Jill Blackwood and a cast photo. Includes quote 'SMASHINGLY SILLY!' and 'RIVETING!' and promotional text like '\$5 Off' and 'Final Week!'.

Advertisement for a martini featuring a large image of a martini glass with a blue rim and a red drink. Includes the text 'Quit thinking about the word "assistant" in your title.' and the logo 'Live a Little.' with a chili pepper.

From: Adrien-Alice Hansel
I'm really excited to have "Dog Shot" in the mix. It widens the scope of the piece without changing the terms of the whole project.

The Electric Former Feminist Studies Major Bares It All for You

Another fascinating historical moment occurred in the 1950s, regarding a completely different kind of bombshell. On January 10, 1957, Vegas' first topless showgirls made their debut in Minsky's Follies at the Desert Inn. It never occurred to me that there was a first for this kind of thing. I figured nudity had been around Vegas since the first dancer strutted out on stage. But to be the first – that's an interesting moment to explore.

But no, I already set one play in the Fifties. I can't do that again. I sit down to write about something else (Bugsy Siegel? His mob moll girlfriend, Virginia Hill?) when a blinding light fills my head. The bright glitzy headdress and costume of a chorus girl glimmers into my mind. She's covering her bare chest with a little towel. She's about to go onstage naked, but she's not thrilled or even jaded about it. Her eyes are shooting fearful sparks. She's trapped and terrified and about to explode. And she's sort of demanding I tell her story.

Okay, I say, I'll make you a deal. I'll write your story if you'll be contemporary. Words come gushing out of her mouth, the fast verbal rush of someone addicted to action, to ideas, and, yes, to methamphetamines. But best of all, and I don't realize this until she says it herself, this showgirl is a feminist-studies major.

From: Adrien-Alice Hansel
"The Electric Former Feminist Studies Major Bares It All For You" is fantastic, both in giving an actor something wonderful to play and in giving her a whiz-bang theatrical ending.

Breaking Even

Vegas has the highest suicide rate in the nation. Which can mean only one thing: comedy. The idea for this play leaps out at me all at once. The unluckiest man in the world and the luckiest woman in the world both decide to commit suicide in a Vegas hotel, but they wind up booked in the same hotel room.

This is my third play, and by now, I'm feeling the need to go wild. If the folks at Humana reject one play in this entire commissioning process, I decide, it's going to be this one.

I start with an elaborate setting: a posh Vegas hotel room, complete with chandelier. Maybe the theatre can stage it without a chandelier, you say? Wrong! Leo, the Unluckiest Man in the World, enters and ties a noose to it! Then he tries to hang himself. Lola, the Luckiest Woman in the World, swallows a massive handful of pills. Leo sits in a chair – it collapses! Broken bones, gunshots, technical mayhem right and left. I'm reveling in the transgression, the gamble of it all. Maybe this is what going to Vegas is like, I tell myself. Taking one crazy risk after another, knowing that all your time and effort could (and probably will) go straight down the drain, and you'll have to start over from zero.

I send the play off, expecting a prompt rejection and slap on the wrist. Instead, I get this:

We love your pieces. Really – they cover a great range of subjects and tone. "Breaking Even" – Have you gotten a time on it? Ultimately, we're doing some 15 pieces all told, and need to keep the two-character scenes to about five-six minutes.

Wow. In a fit of self-indulgence, I write a play with no consideration for how difficult it might be to stage, and all they can say is it needs a little trimming (okay, a lot of trimming)? These people are awesome.

So I did it. I managed to create three plays about a city I've never been to. But that flight of fancy to Vegas is about to be followed by a real flight to Louisville. It's time to meet the actors.

Meeting the Actors

The rehearsal hall at Actors Theatre is filled with soft, beautiful natural light and gleaming wood floors. The apprentices are bustling with energy, all chatter and darting looks. We gather in a circle and introduce ourselves. Their ages range from young to way young, and they all look nervous and eager and ...

A familiar voice interrupts my thoughts. "I'm Robin from Austin, Texas. Hello, Dan Dietz."

I look over and see Robin Grace Thompson, a diminutive young woman with dark hair and a sweet smile. I recognize her from several wonderful roles in productions at St. Edward's University. She always managed to walk a line between performative power and heartfelt simplicity. I can't help but smile back.

"It's so good to see you," I say.
First up is a talent show. The actors perform all sorts of feats, from juggling to magic to somersaults to singing. It's wonderfully energetic, but also really self-conscious. We take a break and discuss what to do next. The playwrights all agree: We want to see some acting. The word goes out to the actors to choose a monologue they have in their repertoire and dive in.

I rush into the theatre and see Christi Moore and Steven Tomlinson sitting there, waiting for me. This sudden sense of dislocation passes through me. I'm in Louisville, in Vegas, and in Austin all at once. And somehow they all feel like home.

They do. And the rehearsal hall lights up. This is what I came to see. From a powerful, sexy monologue from Naomi Iizuka's *Polaroid Stories* to Robin's simple piece about love, the pieces create a kaleidoscope of emotion. Is this what it's like to go to Vegas, I wonder? Does it resemble this wonderful rushing carousel of quiet and loud and funny and sad? Or is it more like the talent show – act after desperate act until you're almost numb from it all?

The First Rehearsal

Three months later, I'm back in Louisville for the first read-through of *Neon Mirage*, the title we've landed on for our big crazy Vegas play. There's something magic that happens at first read-throughs. Don't get me wrong, it's a rough game. Your words sometimes shine and some-

times, well, suck – heaving and jerking like some big guy lumbering around on crutches.

But there's a shimmer of possibility in the room that is only matched by the moment when the house lights go down on opening night and the audience gets ready to experience the first moment. It's beautiful, and just when I think it can't get any more beautiful, I look out the window and see a mass of tiny snowflakes drifting down outside.

I'm from Texas. Snow like this just doesn't happen for me. I feel giddy.

But when I hear "Breaking Even," the joy comes crashing to a halt. It's too long. Like waaaaaay too long. I squirrel myself away in the literary offices and start cutting and slashing. We read through it the next morning. One of my actors smiles and says, "I really like the changes you've made." This is a good sign. Usually actors express keen disappointment whenever you cut their lines, especially laugh lines.

I feel like I've done my job, and fly home. Now all I have to do is sit back, relax, and wait for opening night ...

From: Adrien-Alice Hansel
Subject: A love letter to you
So ... Mr. Dietz. We're in the middle of tech for *Neon Mirage* and our run time is hanging out around an hour and 38 minutes, which is a touch too long for us. And the time has come for the ruthless cuts. Could you take a look and let me know what you think?

Only a dramaturge could call a request for cuts a love letter. I open the attachment.

Some of the cuts make perfect sense and work wonders to quicken the pace and flow of the play. But they want to cut Lola's "plucking gesture," the one she makes when she talks about "plucking failures from life like ripe fruit from an orchard." To me this gesture is key. It communicates a dreamy otherworldliness that Lola

is tapped into, something simple and pure and idealistic. Like the snowfall from our first reading of the show. It's like the whole little play is encased in a silly snow globe that manages to be beautiful and sweet and ridiculous all at once.

(Maybe that's what Vegas is like. A giddy bubble enclosing a world that's fast, loud, larger than life, and full of death. Or is that too extreme?)

I write them back accepting most of the cuts, but keeping the section with the plucking gesture. Somehow plucking failure from the jaws of victory sums up everything I dream Vegas might be about.

Showtime

We've landed and I've hopped out of my luxurious first-class seat (thank you, Schneider). I'm rushed to the theatre, arriving 15 minutes

before curtain, when my phone buzzes with a voice mail. It's Christi Moore, producing director of Austin Script Works! She's here with Steven Tomlinson, the brilliant writer/economist whose plays *Managed Care* and *Curb Appeal* have charmed and moved Austin audiences for years. Now he's here to accept the American Theatre Critics Association's Osborn Award for his latest work, *American Fiesta* (which Christi directed).

I rush into the theatre and see Christi and Steven sitting there, waiting for me. This sudden sense of dislocation passes through me. I'm in Louisville, in Vegas, and in Austin all at once. And somehow they all feel like home. Christi pats my knee as I sit down next to her.

"Hey, mister," she says, "We were looking all over for you."

"Congratulations, Dan," says Steven warmly.

"You too, Steven," I say.
And then the lights go down, and that shimmer of expectation fills the air. The lights come up on Robin as a drifting ghost cracking wise about the destruction of the Earth. She draws us into a world of dust and quiet, and then ... BAM! The lights shoot up, the music kicks in, and a glittery showgirl steps out and begins singing "MGM Grand," a wonderful song by Rick Hip-Flores about taking risks and winning big.

Then all the characters in the whole show enter the stage: the two pilots from "Dog Shot," Leo and Lola from "Breaking Even," Gina the feminist-studies major turned showgirl. Lola makes her plucking gesture. It's like one of those dreams where all the people you ever cared for – friends, lovers, family – are waiting for you at the same party, and they're all friends. Why does this work so well? What is it about theatre that can make the impossible happen right before your eyes?

Shut up, says the miracle.
No, I answer back. I can't stop thinking about it. This feeling of a sudden, unexpected gift. Maybe that's what draws people to Vegas. That moment when, out of the dark, the jackpot hits. An unexpected shower of riches. A shook-up snow globe raining renewal down on those within. A maintenance worker bumping you up to first class for no apparent reason.

In a weird way, it's like the bet you make on theatre. That something inherently obsolete and ridiculous (grown men and women playing dress-up and spouting the most outlandish things) will suddenly become something special. Something more precious and real than the money and time you spent getting into your seat.

It's a sucker's bet to be sure. You'd be a fool to wager your money, not to mention your heart, on a payoff like that. Theatre is a lot of work for very little reward. Plays are often bad. Stories are often flawed. The house always wins.

But before you dismiss this gamble completely, consider this:

I'm in Dallas, having flown back from Louisville in a tiny 30-seat jet through what I learn later were tornados that tore through Tennessee. I'm shaken to the core, feeling an inch away from having lost it all for nothing but a set of three five-minute plays that were performed three times before they went away for good. And then I look down at my ticket for my connecting flight back to Austin.

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Questions? ■

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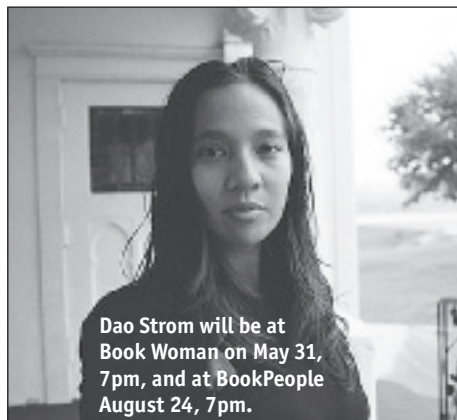
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'The Gentle Order of Girls and Boys'

Dao Strom's 'Four Stories': An excerpt

I went to a yoga workshop recently where, before teaching a new position, my instructor would explain that if we had any difficulties we were "coming upon our limitations." There was something in that phrase or the way she said it that transformed a frustrating lack of flexibility or balance into something surprisingly benign, like "coming upon" a bubbling brook or a clearing in the wood or a bunny rabbit. It transformed a weakness into a blameless fact, a discovery even. That's how I feel about Dao Strom's new book, *The Gentle Order of Girls and Boys*, in which she explores the way five Vietnamese-American women – a college student, a cocktail waitress, and three mothers at varying degrees of acculturation – come up against the chasms between themselves and the world, and especially between themselves and the men in their lives.



Dao Strom will be at Book Woman on May 31, 7pm, and at BookPeople August 24, 7pm.

The title itself is worthy of erasing "battle of the sexes" altogether from our vocabulary, as it proves so crude and destructive next to Strom's naturalistic parsing of the tensions, desires, and subtle power shifts present between men and women, who are no more responsible for the order of things than boys and girls. A musician and Michener Center graduate who lives in Austin, Strom was born in Saigon and raised in California, and the themes in her work reflect that background, infused as they are with the experience of looking different, of seeing the scrubby Texas landscape through fresh eyes, of spending one's time in nightclubs with tattooed boys and tired old musicians. *Gentle Order* is about these things and much more – the barbs and sudden intimacies of female friendship, the pitfalls of love and of independence – and it's all written with a feeling of subtle discovery, as if even our most ugly and damning weaknesses, be they narcissistic, indecisive, jealous, or mean, are somehow borne out of innocence.

Below is an excerpt from the first story in Strom's book, "Mary," about a film student who finds herself inextricably drawn to a frustratingly inaccessible boy.

– Nora Ankrum

□

Flat, brown carpet. It has been stained by many different substances and stood on by thousands of barefoot girls. She is nothing new. Neither is her first, no, second (she thinks) experience of love.

From her vantage point in someone else's doorway, she had spotted Ping amid the group coming down the hall that night, had placed herself strategically to say hello as they came by, and thus had gotten herself invited along.

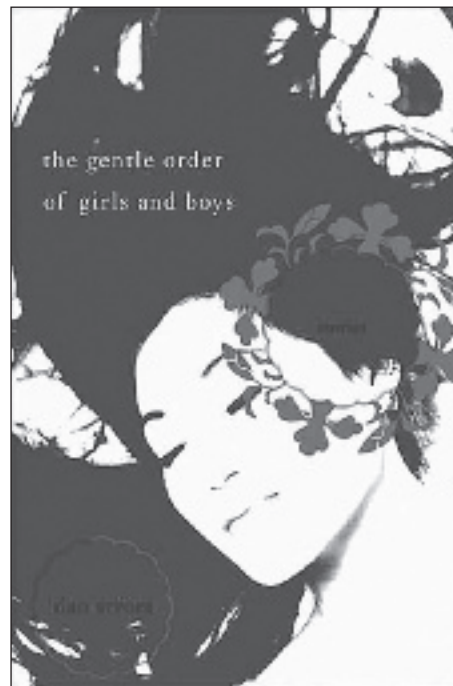
The boys were headed to a party they'd heard about in the neighboring ward. That is what the dormitories were called, these places of first freedom for so many (Mary liked to be sarcastic about it): *wards*. Ping introduced her to the other boys, who barely acknowledged her. Probably they were used to an occasional girl tagging along, and probably they were used to disregarding a girl until she'd done something to differentiate herself. In this group were Kenny and Kenny's blond friend, Jim, from Berkeley; Steve and Ian from Santa Cruz, semi-shaved-headed skater types whose hands continually slipped under their own shirts to brush against their stomachs, as if they took their own bodies as casual comfort; Travis, who played guitar and sang in a band and looked dauntingly similar to Johnny Depp; and Hasan the surfer, prototypically golden, slightly curly-haired, with his own indecipherable vocabulary for the ocean. They were the kind of boys who could cause Mary to feel a dull, consuming ache in her mind and gut whenever she gave thought to what capacities their bodies and attitudes and cold laughter

and various instruments of pleasure or skill – surfboards, skateboards, guitars, and tanned hands – suggested they might command. Boys like these seemed to Mary impossibly self-satisfied and out of reach, so caught up were they in their no-girls-needed passions. They seemed oblivious to need entirely, in fact.

Nowhere in Mary's imagination was she able to conjure a picture of girls in groups displaying such flippant possession of their own powers.

A couple of the boys Mary had seen around campus or knew by reputation; others, like Kenny and Jim, she had not seen before. She was frankly puzzled as to how Ping fit into the group, but had seized on his presence there as her opportunity to get inside, somehow. And there had not been time to hesitate. Ping had stopped to talk to her, but the others barely slowed. She was standing in someone else's doorway, a girlfriend she was visiting. It wasn't Ping or any single one of the boys she was saying "Okay" in interest of when Ping said to her, "You can come with us, if you want to." She couldn't have said what it was that compelled her. Only that she had positioned herself in that doorway, knowing she had to without knowing quite why, and when the invitation was issued, she took it. She did not even bother to say goodbye to her girlfriend (who was talking on the phone with her back to the doorway, anyway). For Mary not to go would have meant, what? Something less, something missed. She could not risk missing it.

The boys moved as if propelled by a collective energy; she caught the tailwind.



Ping was the one you looked past in the group, and so was Kenny, in a way. She actually had not taken much notice of him at first, though she did notice his friend Jim, whose shoulder-length blond hair made a ponytail at the nape of his neck. Jim wore a red-and-blue flannel shirt and cowboy boots, yet had a sharp-eyed, intellectual air that Mary had not, at that time, ever before encountered in someone wearing cowboy boots. The boots rounded out the group, she thought; they added texture. It didn't occur to her that these boys might not all know, or even like, one another – she was only assessing the essence of them

as she had seen it conjured up in their unified walk down the dormitory hallway. In the accumulation of crumpled jeans, untucked T-shirts, swaying ponytails, and almost-famous good looks; in the careless tilt of their shoulders, their nonchalant strides, the unrestrained ease of their bodies; all these details melded fluidly into a composite of something that Mary found both beautiful and angst-causing. Altogether these aspects made up a vision: they were the ingredients of envy.

The party was (as many in Mary's opinion were) a disappointment. There was a crush of people in the doorway when the R.A. came around saying all doors must be shut. So someone shut the door, leaving those who had lingered at the back of the crowd to stand in the hallway. That included Mary and Kenny and Jim (though not Ping, who had made it into the room – they saw his head bobbing up and down in the crowd – before the door shut). Without knowing anything else about one another, Mary and Kenny and Jim at least knew they had in common the tendency of arriving at the peripheries of parties. Kenny had his hands shoved into the front pockets of his jeans and one shoulder slouched firmly against the wall, his head also tipped to rest against the wall. Mary thought he looked wistful and tired. He wore black rectangular-framed eyeglasses that made his gaze seem strangely fixed. She looked away from him.

Jim offered her a beer from their twelve-pack. "I don't drink," she told him, the first words she had spoken since she'd latched herself onto the boys' group.

Now Kenny looked at her, though he shifted just his eyes to do so. This moment felt like a recognition – it disarmed her – of a kind that later (when she thought back to it for the ten-thousandth time) she would realize had always been meant to bring her in mind of the ocean. ■

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THE MAY QUEEN: WOMEN ON LIFE, LOVE, WORK, AND PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER IN YOUR 30S

edited by Andrea N. Richesin
Tarcher/Penguin, 269 pp., \$14.95 (paper)

Everything happened once I turned 30. In three and a half years, I finished a master's degree and started a doctorate, lost my mother, got married, and had a baby. Perhaps that old saw is true, that life, the sweet and the sour of it, begins when you're 30. That's why this collection of essays by a wide array of talented women writers (and musicians) feels like coming home.

To wit: Chick-lit It-chick Jennifer Weiner's essay, "35," is concerned with how society conditions women to fear single thirtysomethinghood, and how the rhetoric of how to be proper sexual subjects is controlled by whomever has the publishing contract. She reveals the truths that the popular discourse elides: Marriage and motherhood ain't a bed of roses. They just present a different set of problems than what we knew in those days of waking up feeling like reconstituted fish and lying next to a smelly stranger.

Tanya Donnelly reveals the river to be her muse in "River Love Song" and is so self-absorbed as to be off-putting. Austin-based writer and singer-songwriter Dao Strom (see above) shares lessons learned through the lens of motherhood and divulges that nothing and no one will knock you off your high horse like your child will. Novelist and onetime *Chronicle* contributor Amanda Eyre Ward brings a tear to the eye with "To All the Men I've Loved Before," a series of letters to her former lovers from preschool to her husband. Anyone who's ever had an inappropriate boyfriend will see herself here.

The May Queen isn't a mere bundle of chatty, girl-talky annoyances. Rather, it is a mature collection of reminiscences and honest insights from women who know enough to know they haven't seen it all, and embrace what's yet to come. In this respect, it serves as a comfortable conversation among women friends who can relate; better yet, the smart twentysomething will use it as a primer for graceful entry into life as we know it on the other side of that monumental birthday.

– Melanie Haupt



Events at BookPeople



ERIC SCHLOSSER

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Tuesday 9 May 7:00 pm

After the mind-blowing success of *Fast Food Nation*, Eric Schlosser is back with more useful facts about the fast food industry—the fast food industry as it affects your kids. The burger-biz wouldn't be what it is today if not for millions of little tummies craving Happy Meals, and one out of every five meals served for lunch in public schools features a fast food branded item. Bring your kids to BookPeople tonight at 7:00 pm so they can find out what a chicken nugget really is, and maybe you can all go out for burgers afterward...

JOSH FRANK

FOOL THE WORLD: THE ORAL HISTORY OF A BAND CALLED PIXIES

St. Martin's Press

Wednesday 10 May 7:00 pm

The Pixies are (hands down!) one of the greatest, most influential bands to come out of the forefront of the alternative music wave. *Fool The World: The Oral History of a Band Called Pixies* tells the story of Pixies by those who lived it. Band members, studio owners, producers, and musicians all come together to reflect on this remarkable band's rise to stardom, their breakup, and their unexpected reunion. BookPeople is thrilled to present Josh Frank, an Austin resident and author of *Fool The World*, on the second floor tonight at 7:00 pm. Don't miss it!



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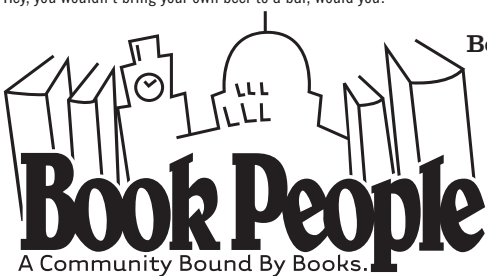
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AFTER A FASHION BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

SHOP WHORE The fabulous Silk Road (3910 N. Lamar, 302-0844, www.srfabrics.com) is one of the best shops I've been in recently. Though marked up to top dollar, the fabrics that owner **Karen Martin** stocks are unavailable anywhere else in Austin, and the unusual selection of buttons is a real treat... Also, **Jerry's Artarama** (6010 N. I-35, 420-9359, www.jerrysartarama.com/austintexas) has 14 locations (including Ningbo, China!), and we are lucky to have one here in Austin. Great prices on an excellent assortment of supplies for all art applications.

SPAY BRITNEY With the disturbing announcement that **Britney Spears** is pregnant again, I think the new rallying cry for the nation should be "Spay Britney!" After being caught driving with her first baby in her lap, and then rumors of him being dropped on his head by the nanny, there were the whispered

allegations that the baby had already fallen out of Britney's bed, not once, but twice. I've always felt that parents should be licensed before being allowed to have children, and this is a perfect example of why. Presumably the sperm donor is Britney's repulsive white-trash husband, **K-Fed**, who seems intent on spreading his fertile baby-batter around the globe. He should be neutered. She should be spayed. K-Fed recently stated in so many words that the public has demanded that he become a hip-hop artist. Hold on just a goddamn minute, Mr. Spears – you can't blame us for that. You misheard us: We said your alleged career was in the *crapper* – not that you should become a *rapper*!

ALLEYCATTING I took my mom with me to the annual **Umlauf Sculpture Garden Party**. It's everything a garden party *should* be: fabulous food from places like **Ranch 616**,

Kathy Womack displays a painting she created especially for Umlauf's annual auction.



JOANNE FENN

Maudie's, Capitol Brasserie, and **Moonshine**; music by the **Nash Hernandez Orchestra**; a terrific auction; and a setting so dreamy you just want to stay there forever. I bonded hard with noted artist **Kathy Womack**, who had donated a painting she created especially for the party, and had a wonderful time with my good friends **Eric and Maria Groten**... The grand opening of UT's **Blanton Museum** is something all Austin should be proud of. What an amazing space the Blanton is, with endless galleries and an array of work that is staggering. The party was jam-packed; I knew dozens of people there, but the place is so cavernous, I only saw a few. What I did see was plenty of tanorexic glamazons sporting the **Four B's** – Botox, boobs, baubles and blonde hair. My favorite outfit there was the custom-designed gown I made for arts columnist **Paula Kothmann** of the **Downtown Planet** – a red silk charmeuse column dress with a floating panel of hand-painted silk chiffon by my studio partners **Channe Felton** and **Daniel Knorra** attached

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at the shoulders. As I walked a few steps behind her, I was gratified to hear the remarks being made... Afterwards, on the complete flip side, my date **Rita Garza** and I went to the **Cream** dance party at **Karma** (www.karmaaustin.com) and judged a drag fashion show. Karma (Eighth & Colorado) is the coolest nightclub that you've never heard of; they fly under the radar and are primarily known for their after-hours parties, but with the red light, acrylic, and stainless-steel interiors, the place is as cool as it gets.

AGENDA Thu.-Sat., May 4-6 brings Austin the annual **Dennis Quaid Charity Weekend**, featuring, among other events, the glamorous **Lights, Camera, Fashion 4** show at the Austin Music Hall on Fri., May 5, 8pm. Starring contestants from **America's Next Top Model** and fab fashions from **Estilo**, show producers **Gary and Laurie Spellman** from **Ultimate Salon Services** say this show will be unlike any other. The show will be followed by the **Dennis Quaid & the Sharks Benefit Concert**. For tickets

and info on all the events, see www.quaidcharityweekend.com... Fri., May 5, at **Elysium**, 9pm, the organizers of the eighth **International Drag King Community Extravaganza** are presenting a "fashion" show called **Trashy: The Spring Edition**. Go to www.elysiumonline.net for details... Sun., May 7, 7-9pm at **Top Drawer Thrift**, 4902 Burnet, **Project Transitions** presents its **Top Drawer Couture** fashion show. Featuring treasures from its current stock, as well as "couture" designs created for the event by volunteers, the event is hosted by my never-garrulous editor **Kate X Messer** and **Your Style Avatar**. For tickets and other info, go to www.projecttransitions.org/couture.shtml... Sat., May 20, 7:30-10pm, is **Arthouse's** "Best of Austin"-award-winning event, the fabulous annual **5x7 Art Splurge and Exhibition**. It's one of my favorite annual events; go to www.arthousetexas.org for more info.

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

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food

54 THE DAILY JUICE, RAW REFERENCES

56 RESTAURANT ROULETTE

The Raw Deal

A survival guide to the raw-foods movement **BY KATE THORNBERRY**

Nothing gets a diet craze going like the movie-star stamp of approval. Once America hears that celebrities are embracing a particular diet, that diet gets tried. This is not completely illogical; stars, if they want to work, absolutely have to stay preternaturally thin, glow with health, and look 10 years younger than they are. This is serious business; if a star can find a regimen that achieves all this, it is news with a capital N! The diet craze currently spreading like a Texas grassfire through Hollywood, New York, and Aspen is the Raw Foods Diet (sometimes called the Live Foods Diet), and judging from the results of the converted, it is something to get excited about.

What is unusual about the raw-foods movement is the premise, which is absurdly simple, and, well, obvious: The Earth produces food for us (and all the other animals) in the state in which it is meant to be eaten: raw. We are supposed to eat it the way it comes. The end.

There is a certain irrefutable logic about this premise. Humans didn't even discover cooking until relatively recently, something along the lines of 10,000 years ago. (Practically yesterday!) Adherence to the raw-foods regimen is simple: Don't eat things that have been heated above the temperature of 118 degrees. When food is cooked, vitamins are significantly reduced, and the natural enzymes present in food are damaged, sometimes destroyed, by the heat. Raw-food theorists claim that these natural-food enzymes are crucial to our ability to truly digest our food. When these enzymes aren't present, our bodies are forced to use our own cellular enzymes to complete digestion. Raw foodists

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I have to admit that I never gave more than a passing, disinterested glance at the Living Foods counter as I scurried over to the pizza pickup. It just didn't look all that good to me. The display case reminded me of 1974, when "health food" meant things like "nut loaf." Imagine my surprise as I sat down to my first raw entrée, the Vegetable Nori (\$8.99). Crisp, brightly colored raw carrots, red pepper, avocado, cucumber, lettuce, and Brazil nut paste done up like a spider roll and just as delightful, both to the eye and the palate. I am not exaggerating when I say that finding out that raw food can taste this good was a revelation to me. I asked the counter girl (who graduated from chef school; wow, I certainly underestimated this place) to bring me her favorite juice, which turned out to be the Number Three (\$4.25), a bright-green vegetable juice that I doubted I would find palatable. But it tasted fine, and more than that, it made me feel

like my very cells were rejoicing. And that, more than anything, is the drawing card: This food really does make you feel energetic and nourished. When I went back, I had the raw granola with almond milk (\$5.99), which afflicted me with a recurrent craving for the stuff. I have had granola before. I haven't been living under a rock; the raw granola really is different: Made from sprouted buckwheat and sunflower seeds, it is chewy, crunchy, barely sweet, and (apparently) addictive. On my next visit I tried the raw tostada (\$6.99), a sunflower and flax seed tostada shell topped with a spiced nut paste, avocado, fresh greens, pico de gallo, and cashew "sour cream" with a side of pumpkin-seed cheese (the Living Foods Bar is vegan as well as raw, which means, no dairy or other animal products). The tostada shells are both crunchy and chewy, due to the fact that they are dehydrated rather than baked or fried, and in other ways as well it is clearly a health-food tostada, not a Mexican restaurant one. But again, it was a bouquet of flavor sensation, and it left me feeling satisfied and energized. The line for smoothies at the Living Foods Bar is always long. Previously I had



Living Foods Bar at Whole Foods

JOHN ANDERSON

claim this causes us to age prematurely, feel fatigued, and grow ill. In addition, in part because our bodies become warehouses of toxic, improperly digested food, we also grow stubbornly fat.

As common sense as the theory sounds (and even with added celebrity allure), eating nothing but raw food is a huge adjustment for the average American; it takes a lot of motivation to even try. Two of the biggest motivators are life-threatening illness (that one will get you motivated) and obesity. But weight loss, for all its drawing power, is only one of the benefits of following a raw-foods diet. Proponents also claim numerous other health benefits, including

continued on p.54

thought: "Pay four bucks for a smoothie? I can make one at home." Not smoothies like these. With ingredients like fresh coconut water, raw almond butter, amazon cherries, and fresh mango, blueberries, and acai, these are masterfully formulated; there is a reason the line for smoothies is longer than the line for gelato. On my final visit, I forced myself to try dessert. Health-food dessert (other than a piece of fruit) has always been, in my experience, awful. I was astounded to learn from the counter-person that dessert is actually the most popular item at the Living Foods Bar. I tried a piece of the Strawberry Almost Cheesecake, which, in spite of the circa-1974 name, was a dream. Lightly sweet, chewy-crunchy crust, filled with cloudlike strawberry fluff with just a hint of tartness. (The challenge of making something so divine at home, out of entirely raw ingredients, seems insurmountable.) I can only imagine how good all the food I sampled would taste to someone actually following a raw foods regimen. I think that if one were to decide to give the Raw Foods Diet a try, beginning at the Living Foods Bar would be an entirely painless way to ease into it.

- K.T.

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

The third time was definitely the charm for former Austin pastry artist **Bronwen Weber**, who brought home a gold medal and a check for \$10,000 as the winner of the Food Network's Gingerbread Mansions Challenge. The Grove Park Inn Resort in Asheville, N.C., hosts a gingerbread-house competition every December, and in 2005 the Food Network issued challenge invitations to five nationally known pastry artists to compete in a special mansions category. Weber, then a pastry instructor at the Texas Culinary Academy and a second place finisher at two previous pastry challenges, was one of the five artists. The Food Network aired the hourlong feature about the competition for the first time April 23 and will rerun it periodically. Keep an eye out for Bronwen's award-winning gingerbread rendering of Austin landmark the **Bremond House** (700 Guadalupe). It may be difficult to congratulate her in person, however, because Weber has left TCA and is now creating specialty cakes at the **Frosted Art Bakery** (www.frostedart.com) in Dallas... And speaking of cooking competitions on television, I am totally hooked on Bravo's *Top Chef*. I've found the way the weekly challenges are designed to reveal the various strengths and weaknesses of the contestants to be very engaging and almost always agree with the judges' decisions regarding eliminations. At press time, there were four contestants remaining, and the arrogant, clueless sommelier was finally sent home! Next week, the show moves to Las Vegas where the final three cooks will fight it out for the big prize. I'm betting on Tiffani, Lee Anne, and Dave... Did anyone else notice that NBC's highly promoted *Celebrity Cooking Challenge* was mercifully canceled in the middle of its scheduled weeklong run? The show, a cross between *Dancing With the Stars* and *Iron Chef*, was wrong on so many levels: lots of flowing hair on both men and women (very unappetizing), beauty queens revealing too much cleavage (exposing tender areas over sauté pans is a very bad idea), high heels in the kitchen (stupid and dangerous), and respected New York restaurant reviewer **Gael Greene** in garish uniforms that appeared to have been abandoned by Michael Jackson when he fled the country. Truly awful.

EVENT MENU MAY 5-11

The **Central Texas Farmers' Market** resumes weekly sales in front of the **Marbridge Garden Center** (2310 Bliss Spillar Rd.) in Manchaca. This is a small-growers-only market, Fridays through October, 3-6pm.

Fleming's Steakhouse and Wine Bar (320 E. Second, 457-1500) invites you to experience Spier wines from South Africa paired with appetizers and entrées prepared by chef **Erick Nixon**. \$65 per person, reservations necessary. Friday, May 5, 6:30pm.

Wine expert and author **Karen MacNeil** will present a master-level wine appreciation class at the **Whole Foods Market Corporate Conference Center** (Sixth and Bowie) after a champagne reception on the Rooftop Plaza. Tickets are \$75, and necessary reservations can be made at the WFM concierge desk or by calling 542-2243. Friday, May 5, 7-8:30pm.

The Texas Culinary Academy (11400 Burnet, 837-2665, www.txca.com) hosts their second annual Barbecue Cook-Off this weekend in conjunction with the Texas Beef Council, Martin Preferred Meats, East Poultry, and the Central Texas Barbecue Association. Both teams of culinary students and teams of community members will compete in three categories: beef brisket, pork ribs, and whole chickens. The public is invited to attend, and \$10 covers the cost of all-you-can-eat barbecue plates and nonalcoholic drinks. For registration information, e-mail register@txca.com. Saturday, May 6, 11am-4pm.



JOHN ANDERSON

THE DAILY JUICE

1625 Barton Springs Rd.
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This place is the real thing. Not only do they sell a myriad of juiced-to-order fruit and vegetable juices, they also offer cleanses, shots (not the alcoholic kind, I mean shots of potent health substances like wheatgrass and echinacea), froths, and smoothies. It pains me when I see "smoothies" being sold at mainstream places that are made from "smoothie powder" or "frozen yogurt." Okay, folks, listen up! That is not a smoothie, that is corporate crap in a cup. A real smoothie is made from fresh, unprocessed fruit and/or fruit juice, the way they make them here. In addition to classics like banana and soy milk or strawberry, blackberry, and apple juice, these guys are up-to-the-minute with new nutrition trends and superfoods. You can get juices and smoothies featuring young coconut water, noni, cacao nibs, Himalayan crystal salt, goji berries, ginseng, aloe vera, and more. They also have nondairy ice cream for the kids. Perhaps it is a reaction to the times, but I find that counterculture places like this (you get 15% off if you ride your bike here, for instance) have a steadily increasing relevance. There is a big difference between empty-calorie, high-fructose carbonated swill that they have to brainwash you into buying with nonstop advertising and this heavenly nourishment. — K.T.

increased energy, improved skin appearance, better digestion, and reduced risk of heart disease. A raw-foods diet contains little saturated fat and no trans fats. It is also low in sodium and high in potassium, magnesium, folate, fiber, and health-promoting plant chemicals called phytochemicals. All of these properties are associated with a reduced risk of heart disease, diabetes, and cancer. Plus you lose weight. Your body effortlessly morphs into its most perfect version of itself. What's that? The most perfect version of you was a younger one? Well, you get to feel and look younger, which is probably as good as you are going to get, short of making that pact with Satan you were contemplating.

Ah, the siren song of effortless weight loss! According to advocates, you can eat all the raw food you want, whenever you want, pounds and pounds at a sitting, and the fat will still melt away. I tend to believe this mighty claim, because if you are eating raw foods and only raw foods, it isn't easy to get enough calories. Consider this: In order to get the normal requirement of 2,000 calories a day, you would have to eat 20 lbs. of raw vegetables. Seriously. I will tell you right now, you could spend all day chewing and swallowing 20 lbs. of raw vegetables, and then you would have to go to sleep, because your jaws would be so tired. You would only need to eat 14 lbs. of sprouts, or 10 lbs. of raw sweet fruit, to reach the 2,000-calorie mark ... but that's still a pretty heavy commitment of time to chewing, and ... excreting. (The raw-foods diet is a very healthful experience for your intestines, as you may have imagined.) Fortunately, you are able to eat other things besides raw fruits and vegetables on the live food regimen: sprouts, seeds, nuts, grains, beans, dried fruit, and seaweed (grains and beans must be sprouted or soaked, though, sometimes as long as 30 days). This getting-enough-calories thing is something of a problem for the raw foodists; almost all raw-foods regimens rely on juicers and food dehydrators to some extent, as well as packaged "superfoods" that help get the calorie count up in the survival range.

Raw References

If you are interested in looking into the raw-foods movement further, here are some books, cookbooks, and Web sites to check out:

The Raw Food Detox Diet by Natalia Rose (Regan Books) A very good beginners/transitional guide to the raw-foods lifestyle

Living Cuisine: The Art and Spirit of Raw Foods by Renée Loux Underkoffler (Avery Publishing Group) Exceptional cookbook for beginners and advanced raw-foodists alike. A real gem.

Naked Chocolate by David Wolfe and Shazzie (Maul Brothers) All about our favorite miracle food, the "best food ever!"

Raw Food/Real World by Matthew Kenney and Sarma Melngailis (Regan Books) Successful raw restaurateurs share their story and their recipes.

The Sunfood Diet Success System (6th Edition) by David Wolfe (Maul Brothers) Seminal publication detailing the whys and how-tos of the raw-food diet

Eating for Beauty by David Wolfe (Nature's First Law) Popular book detailing how to improve your appearance from within with raw foods and superfoods

Raw by Charlie Trotter, Thomas Keller and Norman Van Aken (Ten Speed Press) Stunningly photographed cookbook for the serious foodie or aspiring raw chef

www.livingnutrition.com

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Noted author and raw-foods guru David Wolfe was in town recently, explaining the raw-foods diet and extolling the virtues of two superfoods: raw chocolate, also known as cacao nibs, and goji berries. He himself gets much of his daily caloric requirement from chocolate, which (in its raw state, of course) is extraordinarily good for you (raw chocolate has 13 times the antioxidants of fresh green vegetables, as well as tons of magnesium, natural antidepressants and MOA inhibitors, to just name a few of its rare qualities). Getting to eat all the chocolate you want: That certainly does take some of the sting out. Wolfe takes a very relaxed attitude about conversion to a raw-foods diet, an attitude I found refreshing. "It isn't about denying yourself things you want to eat," Wolfe explains, "If it becomes all about denial, you will never succeed. Start by adding raw foods and superfoods to your normal diet. It is better for your body to make the change gradually, in any case. The more vibrant, alive foods you eat, the less you will want dead, unhealthy foods" (such as "hormone and antibiotic-filled glow-in-the-dark factory-farmed milk," the description of which made me laugh, and simultaneously lose my appetite for milk

— forever.) According to Wolfe, it's about making positive choices, and choosing what works for you. He is no diet nazi. "Even if you never achieve a 100% raw-food diet", he adds, "even getting 50% of your daily intake via raw foods will have a dramatic effect on your health." Wolfe also places an emphasis on seeking out organic foods whenever possible, which is also a fairly obvious "better choice." The vitamin and, especially, mineral content of organic foods are phenomenally higher than in conventionally grown foods, since the soil they are grown in is living soil that actually contains minerals.

Smoothies, salad, nuts, and seeds not sounding like enough, even with unlimited raw chocolate? Well, it's not enough for the go-go Hollywood crowd; the stars have been hiring chefs to prepare gourmet raw food for them, to round out the experience a bit. Said chefs have been obligingly jumping on the raw-foods craze, opening raw restaurants and writing raw cookbooks, and real creativity has been employed to come up with satisfying, recognizable entrees. Right here in Austin we have our own raw-foods restaurant, (okay it's more of a lunch counter) at Whole Foods Lamar, as well as superfood-conscious Daily Juice on Barton Springs Road. ■

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CHAIN, DELIVERY, PIZZA, TAKEOUT: HOEK'S PIZZA Of the many Sixth Street pie dealers, this wins for the most fun to say. And they have the best lighting. 320 E. Sixth, 708-8484 \$

BURGER JOINT: HUT'S HAMBURGERS The legend rests not on its laurels but often atop beef eaters' picks for Best Burger. Notorious for their two-for-one specials. 807 W. Sixth, 472-0693 \$

BARBECUE: IRON WORKS BARBECUE The Works retains its neighborly charm, with modest prices and self-serve beer offered from tin coolers. 100 Red River, 478-4855 \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: KATZ'S DELI & BAR New York, New York! Austin's own posh-nosh, a sit-down deli for the late-night crowd. 618 W. Sixth, 472-2037 \$\$

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BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: KT'S DELI Housed in the bottom floor of the William P. Clements Jr. Building, this cafeteria-style eatery boasts good food and low prices. Open for breakfast and lunch. 300 W. 15th, 495-9313 \$

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: LA TRAVIATA Fresh and seasonal ingredients, light sauces, and a judicious use of herbs and aromatics make this spot popular for lunch and dinner. 314 Congress, 479-8131 \$\$\$

TEX-MEX: LAS MANITAS AVENUE CAFE If people-watching and amiable service don't explain the weekend wait, one taste of their Migas Especiales con Hongos surely will. Enjoy the dishwasher's song as you walk through the kitchen to get to the patio. 211 Congress, 472-9357 \$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: MANUEL'S Somehow Manuel's manages to be chic and casual at the same time. It continues to be our favorite place for value-priced drinks and appetizers. 310 Congress, 472-7555 \$\$\$

MEDITERRANEAN: MARAKESH Large portions at reasonable prices and some of the best and most authentic Middle Eastern food in town make this place the total experience. 906 Congress, 476-7735 \$\$



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STEAKHOUSE: RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE Nationally recognized steak house in a historic Austin building. Good steaks and a la carte side dishes, plus stock market quotes for the business crowd. 107 W. Sixth, 477-7884 \$\$\$\$

EAST

TEX-MEX: ARTURO'S TAQUERIA The sister restaurant to the one on Cameron Road with seafood specials on weekends; the soul of the sea is evident in their atmosphere and menu. 3306 Oak Springs, 926-8474 \$\$

TEX-MEX: CHAPALA JALISCO This taqueria features cheap breakfast specials and Jalisco-style barbacoa by the plate or pound. 2101 E. Cesar Chavez, 320-0308 \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR The newest addition to Eastside's own restaurant row offers a full menu of coffee beverages, panini, salads, and pastries from Russell's Bakery. 2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900 \$

TEX-MEX: JUAN IN A MILLION Find one of our favorite "heart attack" breakfasts: gorditas with chorizo and fried eggs slathered with chile con queso. Arteries may harden around the room, but no one seems to care. 2300 E. Cesar Chavez, 472-3872 \$\$

BARBECUE: LEWIS' BAR-B-Q Step up to the window of this unassuming concrete shack for a juicy chopped-beef sandwich or a link of smoky sausage, then have a seat at the picnic tables. 1814 Harvey, 473-2225 \$

THAI: LITTLE THAILAND A cozy family joint located east of the airport, offering spectacular authentic Thai food in a funky, relaxed setting. 4315 Caldwell, 247-3855 \$\$

TEX-MEX: MI REY MEXICAN RESTAURANT & CAFE "My King" boasts *guisado de puerco en chile colorado*, plump chile rellenos, and light, tasty gorditas. 1505 E. Seventh, 476-4211 \$\$\$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: MR. NATURAL A juice bar, bakery, health food store, and vegetarian Mexican restaurant in one: your one-stop shop for soybean ceviche, pineapple empanadas, and queen bee royal jelly. 1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228 \$

CAJUN/CREOLE: PAPPADÉAUX Items here include po'boys, dinner plates, and combos with shrimp, oysters, and crab. Order the fishy fried, blackened, or charbroiled with a variety of side dishes. 6319 N. I-35, 452-9363 \$\$\$

JAPANESE: SUSHI JAPON The sushi is fresh and professionally prepared, and the draft hibiban is perfect with it. Don't leave without tasting the black cod and the yellowtail. 6801 N. I-35, 323-6663 \$\$\$

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TEX-MEX: VIVO Try their affordable San Antonio-style Tex-Mex fare and margaritas on the decks. 2015 Manor Rd., 482-0300 \$\$\$

KOREAN: KOREA GARDEN The interior may be newer and brighter, but the sushi and Korean dishes are as good as ever. Try the *banchan* tidbits and the noodle dishes. You can also grill on your table. 6519 N. Lamar, 302-3149 \$\$

MEDITERRANEAN: CLEOPATRA MEDITERRANEAN RESTAURANT Find fresh, affordable, and tasty Middle Eastern fare south of the river at this comfortable eatery that features expected dishes, as well as some new and interesting ones. Don't miss dining in the "tent room." BYOB. 2620 S. I-35, 947-9462 \$

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TEX-MEX: FLORES MEXICAN RESTAURANT Still offering delicious grilled items, affordable lunch specials, friendly service, and good margaritas. 1310 RR 620 S., 263-9546 \$\$

FINE DINING: HUDSON'S ON THE BEND A lakeside fine-dining fixture for two decades, specializing in game of all descriptions: rabbit to rattlesnake, pheasant to frogs' legs. The ambience is romantic, too. 3509 RR 620 N., 266-1369 \$\$\$\$

BARBECUE: R.O.'S OUTPOST A complete barbecue menu is available, as well as chicken-fried steak and fried quail. No matter how much you eat, you must save room for the pies. 22112 Hwy. 71 W. #2, 264-1169 \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: TRUE GRITS TEXAS GRILL The food is of the real-deal, made-from-scratch, Texas-cafe variety. Beef anchors the menu, assisted by chicken-fried everything. Dozens of homemade pies and sturdy coffee, too. 18645 FM 1431, 267-4749 \$\$\$

NORTH

ITALIAN: ANDIAMO RISTORANTE The personal warmth and hospitality of old-style restaurateur Giovanni Cocciante make this a special place to dine. Northern Italian specialties, good soups, homemade pastas, and a wine list coming in March. 2521 Rutland, 719-3377 \$\$\$

SEAFOOD: CATFISH PARLOUR When the gang's hungry, take a crowd to eat in, or arrange to have them cater your next outdoor fish-fry. 11910 Research, 258-1853 \$\$

TEX-MEX: EL ARROYO ROUND ROCK The northern outpost of this longtime Austin favorite offers the same menu: everything from breakfast tacos to late-night entrées. Don't miss the rollicking happy hour. 301 W. Taylor, 310-1992 \$\$

TEX-MEX: EL TACORRIDO In addition to standard breakfast-taco fare (bacon, egg, potato, chorizo, etc.), they serve chicken, carnitas, and barbacoa tacos, as well as burritos. 9316 N. Lamar, 873-8602 \$

CHINESE: MANDARIN HOUSE A respectable and frequently replenished lunch and dinner buffet is the main attraction here. Popular items include General Tso's chicken and above-average egg rolls. 8929 N. Lamar, 837-6361 \$\$\$

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continued on p.58

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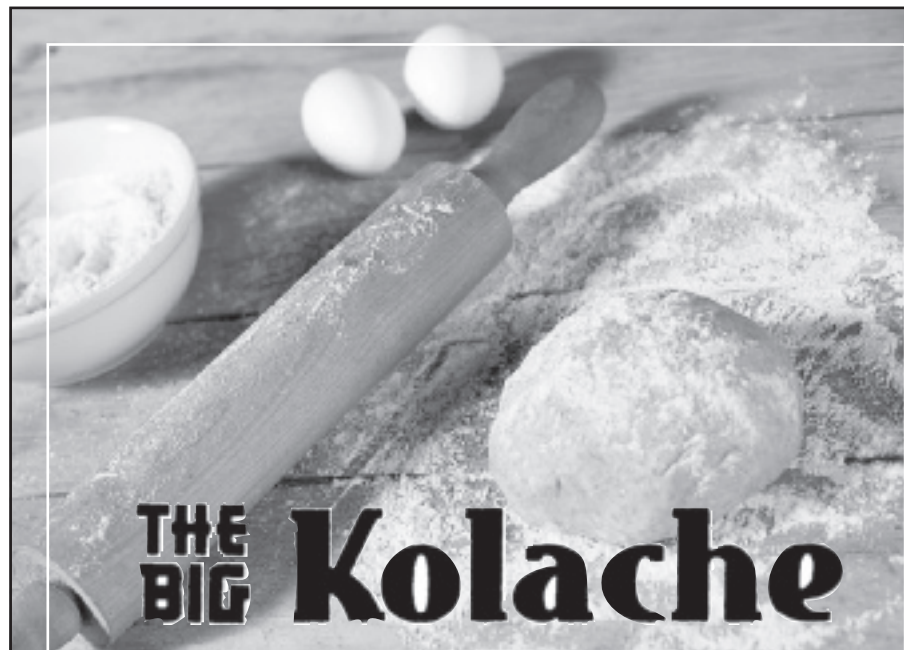
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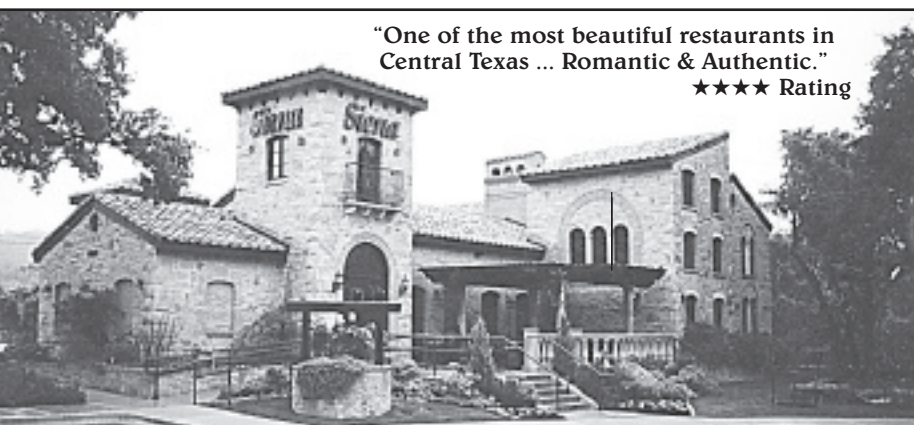
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ITALIAN: CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. 6406 N. I-35, 419-1220 \$\$\$

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BARBECUE: BONGO BBQ & BEER BARN Sit-down barbecue and drive-through beer! Life doesn't get much sweeter or more convenient. 1004 W. 24th, 478-7427 \$\$

ITALIAN: FINO RESTAURANT From the owners of the popular Asti Trattoria in Hyde Park come influences from Nice to Morocco, Italy to Athens to Valencia, all ably executed by chef Tristan White and his team. 2905 San Gabriel #200, 474-2905 \$\$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: LITTLE CITY Popular coffee shop's nearest campus location, informally known as Itty Bitty City. Vast drink selection and happy hour specials as well as top-notch baked goods. 2604 Guadalupe, 467-2326 \$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP, DELIVERY: LONGHORN PO-BOYS & FALAFEL It seems unlikely, but this tasty and unassuming sandwich shop makes some of the city's best and cheapest falafel. Famous for their stuffed grape leaves. 2901-B Medical Arts, 495-9228 \$

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PIZZA: MILTO'S Longtime UT-area institution serving both Italian and Greek specialties. Wonderful. 2909 Guadalupe, 476-1021 \$\$\$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: MOMOKO Sushi, Japanese treats, and trendy bubble tea can be found at this popular spot. 705-A W. 24th, 469-0232 \$

ITALIAN: PICCOLO ITALIAN CAFE Don't just try them for the variety of house-made pastas and wood-fired pizzas. Try the hot and cold appetizers and the chicken, seafood, and veal entrées. 2828 Rio Grande, 476-5600 \$\$\$

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THAI: THAI KITCHEN The Drag location of this respected local Thai restaurant chain is popular with student diners - the authentic food is fresh, spicy, and affordable. 3009 Guadalupe, 474-2575 \$\$\$

WEST

AMERICAN CAFE: BRENTWOOD TAVERN The latest restaurant incarnation in the cute stone building at the Travis County Farmers' Market building offers affordable American and comfort food classics in ample portions. 6701 Burnet Rd., 420-8118 \$\$\$

BARBECUE: GREEN MESQUITE BBQ SOUTH Check out the Oak Hill outpost of this South Austin favorite. Exceptional barbecue at both locations. 7010 W. Hwy. 71, 288-8300 \$\$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: HANG TOWN GRILL Jetson-era family restaurant with gourmet pizzas and mesquite burgers for mom and dad, combo meals for kids. Outdoor patio. 701 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 347-1039 \$\$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: NAU'S ENFIELD DRUG A traditional, old-fashioned, mom-and-pop drugstore, with soda fountain/diner, office supplies, and a decent selection of cards and gifts. Not many of these places left. 1115 West Lynn, 476-1221 \$

JAPANESE: ODAKU Who would have thought a little, out-of-the-way restaurant would hold such treasures? We went straight for the *hamachi* and *uni*. What a pleasant surprise! 2501 W. Palmer #500, 834-9304 \$\$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: THE OMELETTY Before there was Magnolia or Kerbey Lane, there was the Omeletty, beloved for its eggs, flapjacks, and home fries. Same as it ever was. 4811 Burnet Rd., 453-5062 \$

PIZZA: ORIGINAL DAVID'S BRICK OVEN Serves home-style, thin-crust pizzas - some of the best in town - with a personal touch. 1608 W. 35th, 453-4330 \$\$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: PARALLEL Part wine bar, part coffee shop, part boutique. The small kitchen staff here prepares daily specials wrapped and ready for takeout or dining in. 4800 Burnet Rd., 371-7000 \$\$\$

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Screens

62 'THE DEVIL AND DANIEL JOHNSTON' 66 DOC TOUR: 'AIN'T GOT NO HOME' 67 TV EYE

THE ICON DOWN THE STREET

Remembering Louise Brooks, a little too late

You never forget your first glimpse of Louise Brooks. That glossy, black bob that both reflects the light and absorbs it – like the cinema screen; it's a mirror onto which the audience projects something of itself – and the almond-shaped eyes, rimmed with kohl, wide-set in the perfectly oval face, and framed by the most famous hair in all of silent Hollywood. It means business, that face, simultaneously coquettish and rapacious, starving and insatiable. And smart, whip-smart and wanting to be left alone, long before Garbo. It's that singular, wholly unique visage, eerily captured by cinematographer Günther Krampf in G.W. Pabst's diabolic, Weimar-era dueling morality plays *Pandora's Box* and *Diary of a Lost Girl*.

(Krampf, famously, also lensed Murnau's *Nosferatu*; all three films benefit tremendously from his ability to suffuse the funereal with an electric, passionate clutching at life.)

Brooks, no dumb blonde she, allowed herself to be cast out of B.P. Schulberg's Paramount Pictures in 1929 and into Pabst's double bill and, from there, into quick obscurity that ended only in the mid-Fifties when Henri Langlois and his *Cinematheque Française* held a retrospective of her work, correctly spotting a direct correlation between Brooks' willful disregard of Hollywood politics and the emerging *nouvelle vague*: the icon reborn through the iconoclasts. "There is no Garbo! There is no Dietrich! There is only Louise Brooks!" Langlois

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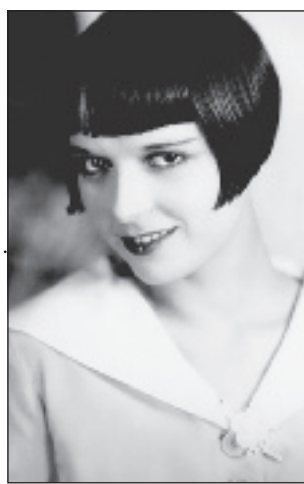
crowded. And after decades of New York City squalor and self-imposed exile, to Rochester, N.Y., and the George Eastman House, courtesy of the Brooks-besotted film preservationist James Card.

I grew up there, a scant few miles from Brooks' final home, without even knowing who she was until after her death, at age 78, in 1985. Although she had worked for everyone from Howard Hawks (*A Girl in Every Port*, 1928) to William Wellman (*Beggars of Life*, 1928) before finding herself permanently on the outs and in Berlin, it's the two Pabst films that cemented both her reputation and her pop-culture image. The former Kansan and eventual Denishawn dancer and Ziegfeld Follies girl-cum-intellectual-curiosity who devoured Schopenhauer between setups and enjoyed the screen's first lesbian tryst (with Belgian actress Alice Roberts in *Pandora's Box*) only found her niche – as a writer, go figure – late in the game.

Asked about her style of acting once, she described it only half-jokingly as "A complete indifference to the camera," but the camera was never anything less than infatuated with Brooks, the movies' proto-anti-heroine, the man-eater who wryly noted that the "tragedy of film history is that it is fabricated, falsified by the very people who make film history," and then went on to conflate her own mythology like nobody's business.

Pandora's Box ends on a fiendish, sorrowful minor note that is nonetheless preceded by a snippet of dialogue that in retrospect resonates with all the bitter irony of blade lodging against breastbone. Epitaph or warning or just some title-writing scenarist's mordant wag? Any way you slice it, "You are under the mistletoe – now you must let yourself be kissed."

– Marc Savlov



FILM NEWS

BY JOE O'CONNELL

'HITCHER' REMAKES RIDES INTO AUSTIN

Michael Bay's *Platinum Dunes*, the company that puts the re- in horror remake, is in preproduction for an Austin shoot of *The Hitcher*. Remember the Eighties flick in which driver **C. Thomas Howell** is terrorized by creepy **Rutger Hauer**? Well, at least you remember the two *Texas Chainsaw Massacre* films that *Platinum Dunes* has shot in the Austin area in recent years. **Bob Hudgins**, now Texas Film Commission head, was still in Illinois when *The Amityville Horror* remake shot there. He remembers producer **Andrew Form** admitting he'd rather be shooting it in Austin. "Andrew is the guy who brings things back to Texas," Hudgins says. "He loves it here." Indeed. Last I saw Form, he was sporting a Hutto Lady Hippos T-shirt. Somebody quickly give Form a Taylor Ducks shirt. Word on the street is *Platinum Dunes* fancies a remake of Alfred Hitchcock's *The Birds*.

LINKLATER DOES THE CANNES TWO STEP

Yes, **Richard Linklater** can, can make it into the Cannes Film Festival with both *A Scanner Darkly* and *Fast Food Nation*. The latter, a fictional adaptation of **Eric Schlosser's** book, has been chosen for competition. Meanwhile, Link's adaptation of **Philip K. Dick's** novel is slated for the Un Certain Regard section. Austin's auteur, you will recall, also had two films – *Waking Life* and *Tape* – screen at Sundance in 2001.

HOW NOT TO PROMOTE YOUR FILM

Teeth, the film that aims to make vagina dentata the new Austin catchphrase, recently had to fight off neighbors' fears that kiddie porn had come to town. Said neighbors called television and radio reporters, who jumped on the story. However, *Teeth* is actually a horror film about a woman who, er, takes a bite out of bad guys. Need I say more? Bob Hudgins of the Film Commission, who was called into action to deter the media onslaught, said it best of the film: "It's in incredibly bad taste, but it's not pornography."

CHOP, CHOP; TAO'S THERE

Tao Video quietly opened a few months ago on the frontage road of North I-35 (and within walking distance of "the store for lovers," aka *Dreamers*). *Chronicle* film guru Marc Savlov already has his membership and sees it as taking up some of the slack left by Pedazo Chunk's closing. Tao is a one-stop store for the true chopsocky fanatic. Where else can you buy a sword, a box set of anime, and rent DVDs of the finest Asian action films and obscure television shows? Did I mention they have 30-day rentals and sell remote control Panzer tanks?

AND THE REST

Fresh from a role in **Robert Rodriguez's** section of *Grind House*, **Josh Brolin** joins **Tommy Lee Jones** and **Javier Bardem** in the cast of *No Country for Old Men*, the **Cormac McCarthy** novel adaptation that the **Coen brothers** are set to film partly in Marfa... Corpus Christi native **Eva Longoria** (*Desperate Housewives*) is attached to *Deep in the Heart of Texas*, a romantic comedy that is set in San Antonio and expected to at least partially film there... Austin native **J.M. Logan's** first film, a psychological thriller titled *Family*, will premiere at the Cannes Film Festival... **Amy Grappell's** doc *Light From the East*, which played SXSW 05, is set to premiere May 11 in New York City at the Pioneer Theater. It follows a U.S. acting troupe visiting the Ukraine in 1991 as the Soviet Union crumbled... *Chalk*, Austin writer/director **Mike Akel's** look at public schools from a teacher's perspective, recently won the audience award for Best Feature Comedy at the Cinequest Film Festival and a special jury award for Best Ensemble at the Florida Film Festival. Akel knows his subject well; he's a former Travis High School film teacher... Check out **Dano Johnson's** short comedic film "In Defense of Definitions" at YouTube.com.

Send tips to filmnews@austinchronicle.com

DVD WATCH

THE COMPLETE MR. ARKADIN (AKA CONFIDENTIAL REPORT)

Criterion, \$49.95

Take a fresh-bought card deck, crack the seal, and fan the cards. Savor the symmetry. Now, shuffle the deck and look again: Chaos, but a whole new game.

Long before directing movies, Orson Welles was a prodigious magician, always

carrying a card deck (and the occasional rabbit) in his pocket with which to dazzle his audience. He knew the value of smoke and mirrors, carrying that sensibility over to his film work. Shot throughout Europe in 1954, *Mr. Arkadin* (aka *Confidential Report*) tells the tangled tale of mysterious billionaire Gregory Arkadin (a bearded, be-wigged, putty-nosed Welles), who hires an American smuggler (Robert Arden) to investigate his own past, claiming amnesia. After producer Louis Dolivet confiscated the footage for reshaping, seemingly everybody but the director had a hand in the editing. "That



film was taken away from me completely and was totally destroyed in the cutting," Welles lamented. "That was the real disaster of my life."

The Complete Mr. Arkadin is, of course, a misnomer. At least five varying versions of the film exist (three included here). Some changes are nearly subliminal: an alternate take, a reshaped flashback or looped voiceover (Welles provided no fewer than 18 of the voices.) Comparing the differences points up both the audacity of Welles' cinematic sleight of hand and his unfortunate tendency to blame others for his own bad choices. His magic, though, is always manifest. *Arkadin* is an unfinished card trick, but a predictably dazzling one. Attempting to reconstruct the director's never-defined vision of the film, Criterion has assembled a "comprehensive version" – a patchwork quilt of various prints, using Welles' often conflicting statements as a tenuous guideline. *The Complete Mr. Arkadin* offers a bounty of extras, including audio commentaries on all versions, the complete

novel (written by Welles or not, take your pick), and a revealing series of outtakes showing Welles directing – petulant, precise, bullying. The ultimate *Arkadin*? No: Welles still had that conjuring trick up his sleeve when he died. But he did leave behind a maddeningly cut deck. Pick a card, any card. They're all jokers. – Steve Uhler

ALSO OUT NOW

Laurel & Hardy Collection (TCM Archives, \$39.95): Two-disc set containing two early L&H features for Hal Roach, 1933's operetta spoof *The Devil's Brother* and 1935's *Bonnie Scotland*. Not the team's best, but the bonus material, including long unseen clips from *Hollywood Revue* of 1929 and 1937's *Pick a Star*, is a delight.

The Laurel & Hardy Collection (20th Century Fox, \$34.95): After leaving the Roach studios, the aging team was signed by 20th Century Fox, who took away their pancake make-up, their personas, and their creative freedom, saddling them with formulaic scripts and clueless directors. This set contains three of their features from the Forties, *Great Guns*, *Jitterbugs* (featuring Stan in drag), and the aptly titled *The Big Noise*. Not another fine mess – just a mess.

Visions Holy and Damned, Innocent and Experienced

The documentary 'The Devil and Daniel Johnston' is just the latest attempt to make sense of his life and art

BY LOUIS BLACK

I Have to Live These Songs Forever

During the past two decades, Daniel Johnston has achieved international recognition as an important American cult/outsider/alternative musician/artist. Accompanying this has always been the dark side: He is a singer-songwriter with a history of mental problems that on occasion have led to violence. Many respect him for his gifts, but to some he is simply a creative naïf lacking substance; others label him a no-talent celebrated by so many out of perversity (some combination of liberal love for the impaired and an act of violence against the culture right out of Ayn Rand). None of the views is exactly on target, but because it is Johnston, each also is in some way. Even though much has been written about him, little has captured this expansively complex and contradictory person.

As a creative talent – musician, songwriter, cartoonist, and artist – Johnston is flying high, achieving the fame he once dreamed up. As a man at 45, Johnston's health is shaky, his weight excessive; he has moved into his own house recently built right behind his parents'. Now – although in the past similar peaks in output and recognition were prelude to some of his worst times – he seems more steady than ever. The proximity and vigilance of his long-suffering parents and family must be enormous stabilizing factors.

The Devil and Daniel Johnston, Jeff Feuerzeig and Henry S. Rosenthal's documentary, premiered at Sundance in 2005 before playing SXSW. This year, Johnston was also one of only 100 artists invited to the show at the prestigious Whitney Biennial (leading to a full-page story in the Sunday Arts section of *The New York Times*). Johnston will display visual art elsewhere in NYC, as well as in Brussels and Houston. His drawings, once available for about \$10 apiece at Austin Books, are now going for hundreds, and in the case of earlier ones, even thousands, of dollars.

He has three new CD releases out in just the first few months of this year. *Welcome to My World: The Music of Daniel Johnston*, a sampler that easily offers the best overview of his work available. And *Freak Brain*, from Danny & the Nightmares, was released last August; *The Electric Ghosts*, by Johnston and Don "Jack Medicine," came out this past March. The flood of releases is accompanied by a steady and ever-widening stream of covers.

Just over a year back, Gammon Records released *Discovered Covered: The Late Great Daniel Johnston*, a definitive two-disc tribute. One disc is Daniel's original versions of the songs, while the other includes covers from Tom Waits, Bright Eyes, Eels, Gordan Gano, Death Cab for Cutie, Mercury Rev, Vic Chesnutt, M. Ward, Beck, and Sparklehorse with the Flaming Lips. This is the mother lode, clearly illustrating why the interest in Johnston is so much more because of his brilliance as a



songwriter than just his history, persona, performances, or recordings.

Meanwhile, *Dead Dog's Eyeball*, Kathy McCarty's seminal 1994 album of Johnston songs, one of the most inspired and brilliant of Austin albums, was recently reissued. The quality of performance, arrangements, and range of material in ex-Glass Eye McCarty's album (produced, of course, by Brian Beattie) provided the first detailed blueprint as to the astonishing quality of Johnston's songs.

In another realm, Infernal Bridegroom Productions, a Houston experimental theatre company, has announced that in June they will produce a musical based on his work, which comes 15 years after Bill T. Jones presented *Love Defined*, a dance performance choreographed to six songs from Johnston's *Yip/Jump Music*.

The Devil, Daniel, and the Documentary: Hold Me Like a Mother Would

In 2002, Jeff Feuerzeig and Henry Rosenthal came to Austin working on *The Devil and Daniel Johnston*. They talked to me, among others. They continued to work on it for the next few years, following up in town. It would eventually win Feuerzeig the Best Director Award at Sundance. The film has done extremely well playing the festival circuit to mostly excited – almost intoxicated – reviews. It opened theatrically on March 31 and is now playing in 15 cities. It is the film's anticipation, release, and critical reception that finally brings everything to a head.

The Devil and Daniel Johnston tells his story with all the important moments there. But, for me, it all runs together. I don't remember what

happened when, the order of, or how far apart the incidents. The thing is, we were living it. Here, I'll briefly touch on our introduction. For much more, see austinchronicle.com/webextra.

The year is 1985: I was sitting in the *Chronicle's* office on a Saturday, writing. I heard a strange sound near the front door. I ignored it and kept writing. It continued as I kept hoping it would go away. Finally, I went over. Opening the door, I found a skinny kid shuffling – not knocking – rubbing his feet on the mat. He handed me a tape.

"I'm Daniel Johnston," he said. "Here's a tape of mine for you to listen to."

It was a time when we were being handed tapes and records relentlessly as hopes of getting reviewed in the *Chronicle* ran high. In doing so, musicians would search our faces for some sign that because they were delivering it personally, it would score a review. I was getting used to going blank.

The Devil and Daniel Johnston tells his story with all the important moments there. But, for me, it all runs together. The thing is, we were living it.

"Thanks," I said. "I'll pass it on to a reviewer. If they like it, they may review it for the paper."

Nodding, almost mumbling, he stood there. I closed the door and headed back across the room. The shuffling sound started up again. I opened the door.

"Uh, I gave you that for you to listen to," Johnston said. "Not to be reviewed."

Never before has anybody declined just the possibility of a review. He left. I went to type but stopped and put the tape on. I ended up taking a break from writing to listen. I played the tape through and then again. The next week, I played it for everyone, especially music writers and women. I'm not even sure why, but I knew who needed to hear it most.

I don't remember the next time I saw Johnston. I do remember hearing more and more people talking about him. He was forever passing out tapes to whomever he passed on the street, regularly recruiting new fans. At the *Chronicle*, we wrote about him:

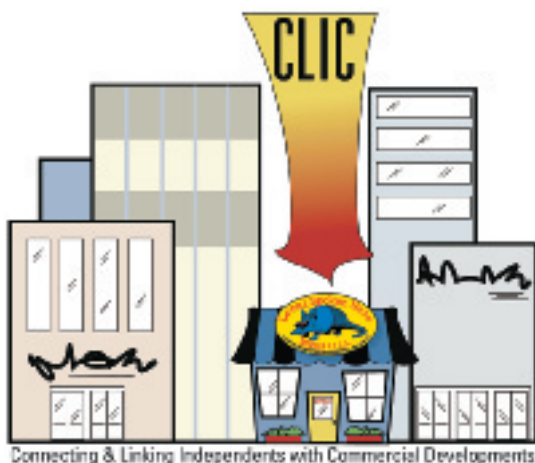
"Opening for [Glass Eye] for their next few live gigs will be as gentle a giant talent as we've heard in many years, Daniel Johnston – neon mystic, carnival worker, song writer, fast food traveller, swinging low, swinging sweet romantic." – Richard Dorsett, Louis Black, "Recommended," May 31, 1985;

"Without fanfare or introduction, a slight, obviously nervous singer holding an acoustic guitar steps up to the mike and starts playing and singing. His playing is awkward, his singing shaky." – Louis Black, Oct. 4, 1985.

continued on p.64

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- MICK VANN, "DRAG NIRVANA", AUSTIN CHRONICLE



Gradually, Johnston entered my life. Slowly at first, he soon slammed right in during a time both terrible and bloated with promise, when I was damaged and trying to remember how to walk. Had you asked me, before meeting Johnston, I would have said that if I had known van Gogh, his madness would not have bothered me. There was nothing Rimbaud could have done to upset me. No matter what they say about how difficult Brian Wilson was, I would have understood. Genius, I figured, is so splendid to be around that its light will heal any irritation. Forget that: Genius up close isn't always pretty.

Better off My Chest/ Than out of My Mind

Now, some who praise the film didn't know and/or get Johnston's music but still loved the documentary. Interestingly, the negative reviews are all more about the critic's reaction to the subject than the film. They don't like his music; they don't get his fans:

"The Devil and Daniel Johnston ... spends [too] much time overhyping its subject as 'the greatest singer/songwriter in the history of America.' ... Though we hear dozens of breathless testimonials from Johnston's inner circle about the power of music, *Devil* never gets tough enough to ask how much of his cult fame is due to genuine enthusiasm, and how much is because people always enjoy a good freak show. ... Are we watching mental illness as performance art?" — Sean Burns, *Philadelphia Weekly*, April 26

"Dominated by Johnston's closest friends and biggest fans, *Devil* is both too quick and too insistent to call this quirky performer an 'incredible genius' and 'the best singer-songwriter alive today.' ... So eager to venerate Johnston for his suffering it doesn't understand that a) his undeniably painful experiences haven't sanctified him and b) they're more tedious than involving when related in detail on-screen. A performer of formidable self-absorption, Johnston has inspired a film with the same trait, and the results are about what you might expect." — Kenneth Turan, *The Los Angeles Times*, March 31

"Louis Black ... editor at *The Austin Chronicle*, contends, 'All great artists are crazy people.' In the film's faulty logic, since Johnston is crazy, he is a great artist. ... If nothing else, *The Devil and Daniel Johnston* shows just how easily hype and gossip can dupe a public hungry for anything new." — Daniel Eagan, *FilmJournal.com*, March 31

Consider the perspective expressed here: "As a critic, I don't like Johnston's music, so those who do are tasteless suckers and trendy morons." I'm setting up an easily knocked down straw man here, not only because the negative reviews were so consistent, but to make the major point.

Making the case for an unknown artist is extremely difficult. Watching a movie is a very different experience than listening to an album or seeing a performer live. Music documentaries, especially of lesser-known talents, have to tell you why because there is no clear-cut way to show it. Still, instead of considering that concept in general or even criticizing the film in particular, the body of work is dismissed. These critics are thinking about it backward. There is a certain



L-r: Bill, Mabel, and Daniel Johnston

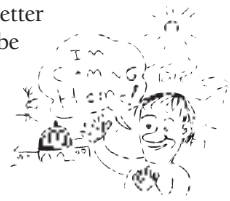
TRACI GOUDIE

arrogance that they get to judge the movie and dismiss Johnston, thus rendering the filmmakers and fans as freak-show addicts.

Certainly every critic is entitled to their opinion about Daniel's music, but please don't ascribe pretensions to us. These writers did not express opinions about Johnston's music. They made a decision about its worth and reception. As factually as it can be clarified, it is wrong.

Many of the people to whom Johnston first gave his tapes were musicians and writers. These were people who listened to music every day, their lives centered on it. Most of them were constantly being given new music to listen to by other acts or by friends. Turning those you knew on to cool new music was a shared ambition. But more often than not, the music wasn't worth it. Catching their attention was far from easy.

The first time Johnston played at the Beach, the center of Austin's New Sincerity scene, he was invited by Glass Eye. The audience was filled with musicians and music writers. We hadn't had a meeting or checked a "cool" newsletter to know we should be there. Daniel had simply handed most of us tapes at some point. One of the more jaded audiences around had



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listened to these tapes and then listened again. Individually and excitedly, they continued to listen, many playing them for anyone who would sit. Each of us was there because we wanted to listen to Johnston. He did not disappoint.

Neither do the efforts of Feuerzeig and Rosenthal. Still, dissing the documentary is one thing (with which I don't agree); throwing out the family while testing the temperature of the water is a disgrace. The film was made because of the brilliance of Johnston as a songwriter and performer. My fascination with him begins with the music. If any critic were to watch a documentary on the life of an accepted master, would they so easily trivialize and dismiss the ambition, information, and resonance? Even the critics who love it tend to focus on Johnston's mental illness and life. These are fascinating, but as a result of his work — not as a justification for it.

The legend of Daniel Johnston is greater than the facts, so we'll happily go with it. The film draws us in, having so much to show with such power. It does raise questions about art and illness, about accepted behaviors set against deviant and excessive ones. It shines its light: It excites, upsets, and challenges viewers.

I offer this neither to defend myself or my taste. As much as I have been angry at Johnston as a person, his music has always been more than important to me. I rarely listen to it casually, but rather in times of personal and emotional turmoil. It is often one of the places I go to hide and to heal. In admitting as much, I'm essentially paraphrasing myself 20 years after first finding it,

"haunted by one of his public performances, left cold by another. Fascinated. To me there is little question about his talent. In fact almost none at all ... [but] I don't really know how to talk about his talent. Maybe by telling this story about when [former *Chronicle* Music editor and current SXSW Creative Director Brent] Grulke goes head over heels in love so suffocating ... then everything falls apart ... Grulke arcs downward on some dangerously graceful slide, coming up fast ... with no thought of using anything to brake but himself. ... We sit him down, take out [Johnston's] *Hi, How Are You?* and play 'Desperate Man Blues,' because it's all we can think of. Grulke listens, listens again ... [and] starts to laugh. Laughs because after all, it's all part of the joke and the joke only." — Louis Black, October 1985

The Devil and Daniel Johnston opens in Austin on Friday, May 5. For a review and showtimes, see *Film Listings*, p.92.

Parts of the piece have previously run in *The Austin Chronicle* and elsewhere.

Wx web extra

For Louis Black's recollections of his "roller-coaster relationship" with Daniel Johnston, see austinchronicle.com/webextra.

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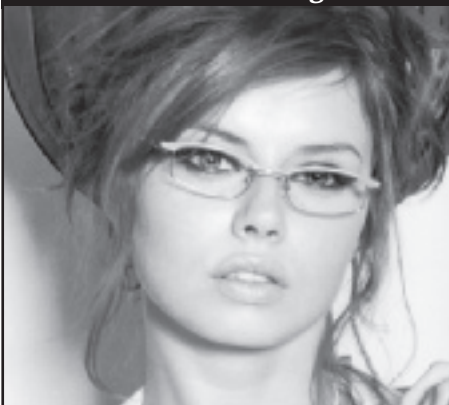
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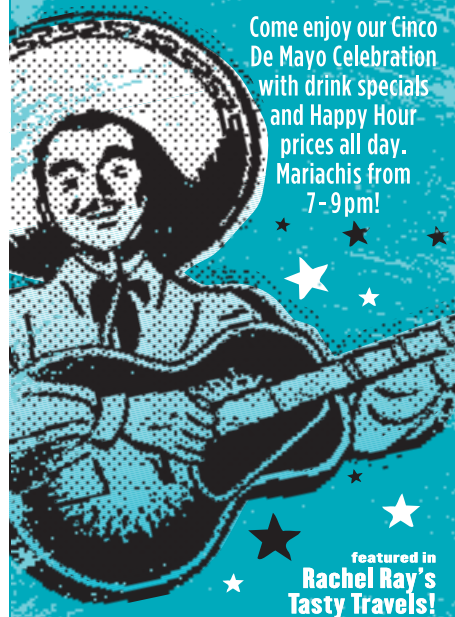
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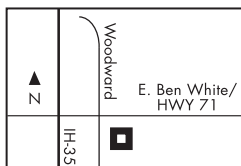
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Hey, Hey, Woody Guthrie, I Made You a Film

The AFS Texas Documentary Tour: 'Ain't Got No Home'

BY ANNE S. LEWIS

Whatever your connection to the man or his music, Peter Frumkin's film *Woody Guthrie: Ain't Got No Home* will have a little something for you. For those who've spent any time around a campfire or on a school-bus trip to anywhere, the words to Guthrie's opus, "This Land Is Your Land," are more familiar than the national anthem. For leftie Baby Boomer fans of Guthrie's folk music legacy as carried on by protégés like Ramblin' Jack Elliot, Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan, and son Arlo, the film will flesh out the singular lyrical-historical-political arc of Guthrie's all-too-short and disproportionately prolific creative life. And for those flummoxed by how a populist Dust Bowl drifter from Okemah, Okla. (by way of Pampa, Texas, and L.A.), would come to call New York City home – or, for that matter, that within his massive archive there are a number of songs celebrating Jewish culture and history recorded recently by the Klezmatics – well, the film, co-produced by PBS' *American Masters*, explains it all.

Frumkin's interest in Guthrie grew out of an interest in the music of Guthrie's acolytes and the discovery of just how strong the link was for musicians like Dylan and Seeger. Reading Joe Klein's Guthrie biography, Frumkin was struck by how much more diverse the cowboy minstrel turned out to be than he'd originally thought. "It's very easy to think of him as a not very smart hick who could write three-chord songs," Frumkin says. "Actually, he was a very, very bright, an almost pathologically creative, self-educated guy who could sop up huge amounts of information and pour out huge amounts of art, from songs to prose, drawings and paintings. He was a compulsive creator – that's a good way to describe him." The filmmaker also admired Guthrie's visceral sense of right and wrong, and his ability to live by those principles.

Mostly. "He wasn't entirely consistent," Frumkin adds. "He certainly didn't treat his first family all that well." Guthrie abandoned Mary Jennings and their three kids for years when he left Pampa for California to escape the Dust Bowl and the Depression. "That he would do that was amazing, yes, but probably not all that atypical," Frumkin says. "Probably the reason it seemed so striking in Guthrie's case is that he lived out so many of his other principles in such an admirable way." Jennings, now in her 90s, and long since remarried, appears in the film talking dispassionately about her years with Guthrie, though, Frumkin admits, "She's probably a little more bitter than she appears in the film."

Guthrie's plainspoken wisdom and political protest songs would earn him notoriety in L.A. as a radio personality and propel him eastward into the welcoming arms of New York's left-ist community, where he sang for and hobnobbed with union organizers, anti-fascists, Communists, artists, writers, and other musicians. In 1940, folklorist Alan Lomax recorded Guthrie in a series of conversations and songs for the Library of Congress. During that time,

Guthrie made a series of recordings for the legendary label Folkways. He also wrote and performed with the influential, politically radical Almanac Singers, some of whose members would later become the commercially successful folk music group the Weavers.

The Huntington's disease that would ravage and finally kill him – as it had his mother and two of his eight children – began to take its toll on Guthrie while married to Marjorie Mazia and living in Coney Island with her and their family in the late Forties. Guthrie died in 1967 at the age of 55, following 13 years of hospitalizations.

Austin Chronicle: How would you sum up Guthrie's legacy?

Peter Frumkin: When the folk revival started happening around the late Fifties and early Sixties, people were rediscovering Guthrie, and they found this guy who had used music as a social tool or weapon. In the Sixties, music became one of the primary weapons of the progressive part of the country. ... Songs didn't have to be about cars and girls and boys, there could be a real serious content to music. That's probably his greatest legacy.

AC: Let's talk about his most familiar song, "This Land Is Your Land."

PF: "This Land" sat in his suitcase for four or five years before he finally recorded it in 1944. Apparently, Guthrie would sit and write lyrics and toss them away. The melody was based on a Carter Family song, and the Carter Family had stolen theirs from an old African-American Baptist hymn. For so many of his songs he stole melodies; everybody did that at that time. There are melodies that Guthrie used five or six times for different songs. He wasn't a great musician or composer of music; it was really all about words. There are several thousand songs of Guthrie's in his archive that have never been recorded and that don't have melodies.

At some point in the Fifties, "This Land" became everybody's favorite folk song. LBJ suggested it should be made the second national anthem or something like that. Sometime in the Fifties or early Sixties, everybody started singing it at summer camps and around campfires, and it passed into another realm. Another aspect of the song that we don't touch on in the film is that there are a few verses that he wrote but never recorded – and these verses are sort of radical. One is seen as an attack the concept of private property:

As I went walking I saw a sign there
And on the sign it said "No Trespassing."
But on the other side it didn't say nothing,
That side was made for you and me.

Another one:

In the shadow of the steeple I saw my people,
By the relief office I seen my people;
As they stood there hungry, I stood there asking
Is this land made for you and me?



So, when you look at the unrecorded verses, it is kind of a radical song. But it's the recorded verses that have been used by everyone from the Ford Motor Company for its commercials to the Mormom Tabernacle Choir's recording of it.

AC: Do we know what his politics were? Was he a Commie?

PF: The answer is, probably not; no one knows for sure whether he formally ever joined up, but it really doesn't matter, because, for one, a lot of people were members of the Communist Party or sympathizers and friendly with Party members during the Thirties and Forties. People don't understand how politically left the country was in the Thirties, because the country wasn't working for a vast number of Americans; it was a mess. People were looking for other solutions, and many looked to the political left. A lot of people then were Communists or Socialists or variations of those, and the unions became very powerful because workers were having such a hard time in the Thirties and Forties.

AC: What were your major challenges making this film?

PF: One was just getting a grip on the vastness of the archive he left. Just getting your hands around all the songs, diaries, novels, short stories, etc., is pretty tough. I read a significant portion of it, not all of it. I don't think anyone has. Another more prosaic filmmaking challenge was that there's almost no footage of him. There was also the fact that filmmaking tells, in many ways, simple stories, and Guthrie's story is very, very complex. So paring down what to include was very hard. There were so many poignant, funny stories we could have included, but didn't. This film could easily have been twice as long.

AC: Why was there so little footage of Woody?

PF: He was very much under the radar for most of his life, especially in the early days.

In 1937, when he first went to L.A. and got to be a radio star, people simply didn't have film or video cameras around. There are some photos, but he was basically pretty poor, as were the people he hung around. Probably they didn't have a lot of cameras. And certainly no one was going around to every radio studio in L.A. making films of everybody who wanted to be a cowboy radio star. (At this point in his career, Guthrie was really trying to break into showbiz as the cowboy radio guy, though he'd talk on the radio about the injustices he saw from his populist political viewpoint.)

AC: Guthrie's affair with Marjorie Mazia, the Martha Graham dancer, while she was still married to someone else, was pretty fascinating. She gets pregnant with Guthrie and then returns to her husband to have the baby. Only later does she get divorced and marry Guthrie.

PF: Her story is fantastic. And when she went back to her husband, there was no doubt that she was having Woody's baby – everyone knew that. But theirs really is an amazing love story, very deep and very tumultuous; they fought a lot and ultimately divorced, but she stayed by him until the very end, even though she remarried. The two of them were really meant for each other. They were so different, but somehow they understood each other, motivated

each other, and on some level made life hell for each other. They had three kids: Nora, Joady, and Arlo – who's still around, plays constantly, and has a very large following. (He was not in the film because of scheduling problems.) The

third kid, Joady, who keeps a very low profile, lives in California. None of these kids had the Huntington's gene. Marjorie started the Huntington's Disease Foundation.

AC: Is there any thought that his prolific creativity and output – and some of his behavioral antics – may have been attributable to his disease?

PF: An ongoing question is how much of his creativity was part of his disease. I think the guy lacked some filters that the rest of us have in terms of appropriate behavior, and maybe that made him more creative. Who knows?

AC: Who most epitomizes the Guthrie legacy?

PF: Dylan. When he came to New York City at 19, he absolutely modeled himself in every way after Woody Guthrie. His reason for coming to New York City was that he'd heard that Woody was sick, but that you could visit him, so he came to the city to sit at Guthrie's feet. There's a story, maybe apocryphal, that when Dylan appeared at Folk City, the seminal folk club, for the first time, he was wearing clothes that Woody had given him. Don't know whether it's true, but it's a great story. Another story was Woody's quote about Dylan that, "he can't write songs very well but he sure can sing." He got that backward, but he was sick at the time. My guess is that without Guthrie, we wouldn't know the Dylan we know today. ■

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The Brazilian series *City of Men* is now showing on the Sundance Channel.



TV EYE

Sweeping and Surfing

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Yes, it's May, which is a sweeps month. Now, this *should* be exciting, as the networks try and woo viewers by saving the best for last. It also means all good things (and some not so good) are coming to an end. *Lost*, *Invasion*, *Gilmore Girls*, and *Veronica Mars* (to name a few favorites) will see their seasons close. In the cases of *Invasion* and *Gilmore*, the future is uncertain. As for others – *The OC* and *Alias*, for instance – their glory days are over.

Regardless, I can't think of anything more dismal than sitting at home and watching TV in the summer. Fortunately, the Sundance Channel picks up some of the slack with encores of acclaimed series aired earlier in the year. If you missed them the first time, set up your recording device of choice for these TV treasures.

City of Men: This amazing Brazilian series set in the slums of Rio de Janeiro started on Tuesday, but not to worry: A rerun of the episode you missed airs on Saturday at midnight.

Kath and Kim: Catch up with reruns of the Australian sitcom on Fridays and Sundays.

Slings and Arrows: A Canadian Theatre Festival is the backdrop of this comedy series, returning to the Sundance Channel for a second run. The second season reruns in its entirety starting Sunday, May 15; encores air on Tuesday and Fridays. Check local listings.

Heard and overheard

Carminio Giovinozzo (Detective Danny Messer, *CSI: NY*) kicks back in Austin this weekend. On Saturday night, he throws out the first pitch at the Round Rock Express game. On Sunday, he puts around with other celebs during the Dennis Quaid Charity Weekend. In between, he's doing interviews and, since he's been included in *People's* 50 Most Beautiful People list, will probably be beating off admirers with a stick.

Chronicle colleague Joe O'Connell passed this along: Word has it that a crew is in town shooting new scenes for *Welcome to the Neighborhood*, the reality show that was shelved after vociferous criticism last summer. The premise appeared simple enough: Several families try to earn the favor of current homeowners in an all-American neighborhood (Austin's Circle C subdivision) in order to win a brand-new home in said all-American neighborhood. When the first two episodes

were shown to critics and test audiences an uproar arose because the deciding family had reportedly made prejudicial remarks about some of the contestant families, which were Latino, African-American, Wiccan, and gay. That wasn't so surprising. After all, reality TV thrives on this kind of chatter. However, the final yank on the plug came when it was suggested that the series was violating the Fair Housing Act, which protects potential homeowners from discrimination based on race, religion, color, ethnicity, sexual preference, national origin, or family status.

Welcome to the Neighborhood was to have premiered on ABC last June. Calls to the network to find out if the show had resumed production and whether it would air were not returned. "TV Eye" speculates that all is silent until the new footage is shot and episodes recut to deflate criticism back to garden-variety reality-show piffle. That, and it could be that when the contestant families signed on, they were contractually promised an outcome: meaning that someone, no matter if the series aired or not, would win a new home. I suspect *Welcome to the Neighborhood* will appear on cable TV. If not, look for it as a future TV-on-DVD release. Speaking of which ...

New Releases

Mixed with contemporary TV titles are several vintage titles (and I mean from way back in the vault) coming to DVD.

May 2: *Kate & Allie: Complete First Season*

May 9: *Dr. Katz, Professional Therapist: Season One*; *The Facts of Life: The Complete First & Second Season*; *Life Goes On: The Complete First Season*; *Northern Exposure: The Complete First and Second Seasons* (repackaging)

May 23: *Boston Legal: Season One*; *The Closer: The Complete First Season*

May 30: *Night Stalker: The Complete Series* (the remake; includes four unaired episodes); *Rollergirls: The Complete Season One*

Coming in June: *The Boondocks*; *Dharma & Greg*; *Lancelot Link: Secret Chimp*; *Medium*; *Walker, Texas Ranger*; *Strangers With Candy*; *Perry Mason*; *Weeds*; *The Bill Cosby Show*; *JAG*; *Pinky and the Brain*; *Rawhide*.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com

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music

70 BIG CHIEF KEVIN GOODMAN
74 PHASES & STAGES

TCB music news

BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY

GIGLOCK

On an otherwise innocent Monday night, it's a music geek's worst nightmare: the **Subways** at the **Parish**, **Art Brut** at **Emo's**, and **She Wants Revenge** at **Stubb's** – not to mention Aussie SXSW stars **Wolfmother** at the Parish the night before. Since that \$100 gasoline rebate check from **Uncle Sam** won't show up for a while, this handy TCB quiz will help you figure out at which show you belong.

- 1** How did you hear about the show?
 - Saw tour dates on **Pitchfork.com**
 - Won tickets from **101X**
- 2** Getting dressed for the show, you wear:
 - Strokes** T-shirt, ripped jeans, black low-top **Converse**
 - Black mock turtleneck, black eyeliner, black low-top **Converse**
 - Secondhand suit jacket, little league T-shirt, black low-top **Converse**
 - What you woke up in, black low-top **Converse**
- 3** You managed to get on the guest list plus one. Who do you ask?
 - The girl you've been exchanging flirtatious glances with at Jester's **Veronica Mars** watching parties
 - The temp at your office with red-streaked hair, nose ring, and lower-back **Virgin Mary** tattoo
 - The sarcastic discussion leader in your **History of Film** seminar

If you answered...

- mostly **a) The Subways**: Enjoy, because you'll probably have forgotten all about them in six months.
- mostly **b) She Wants Revenge**: A crowd of people with similar self-esteem issues could mean an end to your months-long scoring drought. Don't count on it.
- mostly **c) Art Brut**: At no point during the evening should you crack a smile or otherwise indicate enjoyment.
- mostly **d) Wolfmother**: Rock and fucking roll, dude!

TO RUSSIA MY HOMELAND

Coinciding with the Russian release of 2005's *Worlds Apart*, Austin noisemongers **...Trail of Dead** spent Easter weekend as ambassadors to Moscow, where they stayed in a hotel built by German POWs and encountered a warmer than expected reception. "I guess they don't have many bands coming over there," figures singer/guitarist **Conrad Keely**, who laughs that **ELO's** original lineup played the same club a few days later. Their experience ran contrary to what **Buzz Osborne** of the **Melvins** and **Fantomas** told them earlier that week in Vienna. "We all went over there expecting the absolute worst," Keely says. "We thought it was going to be totally dangerous and seedy, and nothing happened." Even the famously forbidding Russian weather was less than frigid. "I brought scarves and a coat, and I was frankly overdressed," chuckles Keely. The band toured the **Kremlin**, but **Red Square** was closed for Easter, so they couldn't view **Joseph Stalin's** remains. "You can see his corpse, and his hand is connected to a little motor, so it kind of salutes you," shivers Keely. Once back in the States, **Trail of Dead** immediately resumed putting in long hours in their **Mob House** studio finishing up their next album. "It's coming out pretty wacky," Keely says.



Wolfmother

- d) The guy who just hooked you up with that quarter of KB
- 4** How are you getting there?
 - Capital Metro**: students ride free!
 - Carpooling with your friend who promised you a ride to **Nine Inch Nails** next month
 - 5** You stop off for a drink before the show. Where?
 - Mugshots**
 - Elysium**
 - Casino el Camino**
 - 6** Standing in line to get in, what's on your iPod?
 - Arctic Monkeys**, *Everything They Say I Am, That's What I Am Not*; **Kaiser Chiefs**, *Employment*; the **Vines**, *Vision Valley*
 - Interpol**, *Turn on the Bright Lights*; **Depeche Mode**, *Black Celebration*; the **Cure**, *Disintegration*
 - Wire**, *Pink Flag*; **White Stripes**, *De Stijl*; **Bloc Party**, *Banquet*
 - Led Zeppelin**, *Led Zeppelin II*; **Ozzy Osbourne**, *Blizzard of Ozz*; the **Darkness**, *Permission to Land*

LET'S ROLL

It's been three bloody years since **George W. Bush** declared "Mission Accomplished" in Iraq, and speaking out against the president and/or the war is suddenly pop's hottest trend. **Pearl Jam's** new

"World Wide Suicide" dominates rock radio, **Bruce Springsteen** blasted "President Bystander" at **Jazzfest** last weekend and, apropos of ... something, Madonna chimed in at **Coachella** with, "Just go to Texas and suck George Bush's dick." Even the **Dixie Chicks** are back with the petulant "Not Ready to Make Nice," but no one has garnered more media attention than **Neil Young**, who posted his new album *Living With War* on his Web site last week. (It's in stores May 9.) Young wrote and recorded the album over two weeks last month, not long after SXSW Managing Director **Roland Swenson** said, "Neil, we need a new song [like 'Ohio']" in his introduction to Young's keynote speech. "I haven't heard that mentioned [as a reason] yet, so that's probably something I shouldn't speculate on," says former *Austin Sun* writer **Bill Bentley**, who recently left his vice-president position at **Warner Bros.** after 20 years to handle publicity for Young. ("I'm sure it wasn't any one thing," agrees Swenson.) Whatever its origin, *Living With War* "feels like the record of its time," offers Bentley. "We sent out just a few advances a week ago, and the response has been overwhelming." With songs like "Let's Impeach the President," "Flags of Freedom," and an "America the Beautiful" performed a cappella by Young and a 100-member choir, it's guaranteed to stir up debate. "Regardless of which side you're on, I think this kind of album opens a discussion in a way that's been a little lacking," Bentley says. Young, whose *Heart of Gold* concert film is due on DVD soon, joins his **Crosby, Stills, and Nash** cohorts on this summer's **Freedom of Speech** tour, but no Texas dates have been announced.

GARY MILLER



Like a Hurricane: Neil Young at SXSW 06

JULIE BURRELL 1964-2006

Local singer **Julie Burrell**, who won the 1994 Austin Music Award for **Best Jazz Artist**, passed away last Tuesday. The cause of death was undetermined, but friend **Steve Craddock** says Burrell, 42, was on an extended Central Texas visit from Southern California to try and recover from two recent bouts of pneumonia. Born in Houston, Burrell attended junior and senior high school in Manor and left home briefly at 17, moving to New York to audit classes at the **Julliard** School. Burrell studied classical piano, wrote the music for Episcopal hymn "Let Him Reign" at age 12, and later toured with the **Stray Cats**, **Gregg Allman**, and **Johnny Winter**. She ultimately found her true calling as a torch singer. "My brain grew," she told *Austin Blues Monthly* in 1995. "I got bored with 12-bar, 1-4-5 progressions and power chords." After winning another Austin Music Award in 1997, Burrell relocated to Long Beach, where she released the CD *Juliejazz* in 1998 and later worked with **Quincy Jones**. "Not only was Julie a beautiful woman with an amazing voice," says Craddock, "but she also possessed one of the keenest intellects and sharpest wits I ever encountered."



Julie Burrell

COUNTRY BITS

Close friends say **Don Walser's** health is fading fast, but the legendary Austin singer is at home, alert, and eager to receive visitors. Contact the family at www.donwalser.com... Congratulations to **Waterloo Records** owner **John Kunz** and longtime girlfriend **Kathy Marcus**, married in a surprise ceremony at the **Broken Spoke** Sunday, and serenaded by the **Joe Ely Band**, **Jimmie Dale Gilmore**, and **Ponty Bone**... The hilarious video for **Willie Nelson's** "Cowboys Are Frequently, Secretly (Fond of Each Other)," featuring **Burt Reynolds** and a whole lotta line-dancing cowpokes, is available at **iTunes**... **Bruce Robison** and **Kelly Willis**, **Billy Joe Shaver**, and the **Dixie Chicks** urge Texas voters to "Save Yourself from Kinky" at www.kinkyfriedman.com/multi-media/_video/kinkytoon_03. One of your final chances to sign Friedman's ballot petition is today (Thursday) at the **Continental Club**.



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My Gang Don't Bow Down

Mardi Gras Indian Chief Kevin Goodman leads his tribe to Texas **BY MARGARET MOSER**

Big Chief's deconstructed headdress lies on the bare cement floor of a nearly empty garage in Southeast Austin like a half-finished elementary school project.

A large semicircle of light green poster board reinforced by a smaller half-circle rises above the cutout for the face. Below that, tabs taper under for the chin, then curve over the shoulders. Strips of brightly colored material once glued to it are now torn away. A few sequins and downy wisps from its previous incarnation dot the structure. A paper design of a bull's head with detailed scrolling newly adorns the center of the headpiece.

"It might be a longhorn," offers Kevin Goodman with a playful grin, gold-capped teeth standing out against his burnished skin. The handful of fiery orange feathers in his hand fan into a half-moon. "You use really long ones here," he explains, holding them to the top of the structure. In the imagination, plumes extend four or more feet into the air in a brilliant, waving halo.

Goodman is so wrapped up in the design process that his forehead is once again smooth, in contrast to the anger that furrowed it 10 minutes earlier. Amid his pride in relating the story of life as big chief of the Flaming Arrows Mardi Gras Indian tribe in New Orleans and the secrets of "masking Indian," he angrily spun a horrifying tale of survival after Hurricane Katrina.

Wading out of the rising waters in his neighborhood on August 29 after the levees broke, babies and little children in his arms, he and his family sought shelter in New Orleans' Convention Center. They suffered four god-forsaken days without food, water, toilets, and electricity amid relentless summer heat.

To the outsider, the notion of blacks in Native American tribal dress is anachronistic. How did slaves, shackled and shipped into America from Africa and the Caribbean, come to adopt Indian garb?

When Goodman and his family finally evacuated New Orleans, he landed at the Austin Convention Center. Met with compassion and open arms, he chose to stay and begin his life anew. The rich detailing of New Orleans' centuries-old history is far more intricate than Austin's relatively new one, yet the two towns have long shared an affinity for each other's music. Goodman is grateful for the generosity.

Yet this is no fairy tale ending. New Orleans and its levees are ill-prepared for the hurricane season that begins June 1. Uncertainty fogs the future of his hometown and unanswered questions abound for thousands of New Orleanians displaced throughout the country. For Kevin Goodman, his status as big chief is evidence of revered tradition, his home's troubled past, and a chance to start over.

My Flag Boy and Your Flag Boy

To the outsider, the notion of blacks in Native American tribal dress is anachronistic. How did slaves, shackled and shipped into America from Africa and the Caribbean, come to adopt Indian garb?

Popular doctrine is a variation on "my enemy's enemy is my friend," that native Louisiana tribes sheltered runaway slaves. Another theory suggests that Buffalo Bill's traveling Wild West Show inspired imitation of native rituals. Either way, present day styles are more Hollywood than Plains Indian, whose resplendent headdresses originally inspired the Mardi Gras Indians. Costuming is called "masking," dressing in tribal costumes for the purposes of marching, as they do on Mardi Gras and St. Joseph's Day.

Segregated from the white Carnival krewes, the Mardi Gras Indians began parading in the late 1800s. On an offbeat path few tourists see and through mostly black settlements in New Orleans, they took on names that often identified them by neighborhood. The names are exciting, evocative, and colorful (see "Tribes" sidebar): 9th Ward Hunters, Creole Wild West, Young Cheyenne, Golden Eagles.

The purpose of masking is to show off the extravagant costumes with enormous headdresses, or "crowns." Elaborate protocol sets the stage for peacock-like preening of feathered finery and sparkling stitchery when the chiefs meet. Tribal positions such as "spy boy," "flag boy," "trail chief," and "wild man" lead the parade of colors and relay information about approaching tribes with hand signals, calls, whoops, and dance steps. Like the battlefield

often cited in their chants, the tribes face off, big chiefs strutting and swaggering until one acknowledges the other as the "prettiest."

Goodman grew up in the 7th Ward, where Frenchmen Street crosses North Rocheblave. That's the "back o' town, near Tootie Montana," he says, proudly citing the late big chief of the Yellow Pocahontas tribe as a neighbor. Back of town is also where Goodman inherited his crown from his father, Big Chief Merk, who left the Medallion Hunters tribe to establish the Flaming Arrows in 1963. Tribes rise into prominence, then fall into history. They also shift and regroup every few years, such as when jazz saxophonist Donald Harrison left Guardians of the Flame tribe, where his father was big chief, and formed the Congo Nation.



AUBREY EDWARDS

The accompanying chants, sing-song patois, and funky rhythms spring from Haitian and African music, not Native American music. The ubiquitous "Iko Iko," charted nationally by the Dixie Cups in 1965, remains perennial; few outside New Orleans recognized the counting-rhyme cadence of "my flag boy told your flag boy I'm gonna set your flag on fire" as tribal code. The Wild Tchoupitoulas' "Meet de Boys on de Battlefront" and the Wild Magnolias' "Hatchet Wanda (Pts 1 & 2)" match "Hey Pocky Way" and "Shoo Fly" as Indian classics. The annual New Orleans Jazz & Heritage Festival, which continues this weekend, provides the highest profile for the Mardi Gras Indian gangs, who conduct "walk-around" parades. Goodman is visibly annoyed by the contemporary image of Mardi Gras, the Bourbon Street bacchanalia imitated annually on Sixth Street in Austin.

"To tourists, Mardi Gras is 'throw parades' with the beads and floats and people getting

drunk and showing tits," he says. "Indian Mardi Gras is different. For us, it's Carnival. We mask for the people in our neighborhoods, the old people sitting on the porches. We sing 'Indian Red,' and the chief would call off the different positions, like spy boy, gang flag, flag boy, wild man – wild man's got horns on his head and a hatchet in his hand. He clears the path, makes sure the ones wearing the costumes get respect."

These legitimate showdowns mirror the once-bloody rivalries of the tribes who faced off on Fat Tuesday. Goodman has no time for such violence.

"Kill 'em dead' means with needle and thread. You don't work to make beautiful costumes then go tear them up. You can't hang out in the streets, bars, clubs. You gotta buy sequins, pearls, beads, glue guns, material, cardboard. We take the gun from the hand and put a needle and thread in it."

continued on p.72

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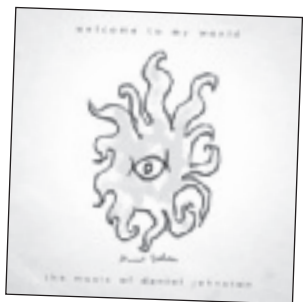
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WHERE MUSIC STILL MATTERS

Sew, Sew, Sew

“Everybody in the family and the neighborhood pitches in to sew,” Goodman explains about the communal contributions and thousands of hours put into a “new suit.” This is a bonding element for tribes and their families. Creating the suit means countless hours of sewing, yes, but also provides an atmosphere in which oral history, dances, and sewing techniques are passed along.

“The songs have meaning, like ‘Sew, Sew, Sew,’ because on Mardi Gras you gotta look pretty,” waves Goodman. “People look at those feathers! We sew for the beauty of seeing it finished. When you put the costumes on and people see it, their eyes are as big as half-dollars.”

The family, relatives, neighbors, and anyone who feels like it can fall into place behind the Indians. They sing, bang tambourines, dance, twirl umbrellas, and form the famous “second line.” The second line is one of New Orleans’ most beloved traditions, appearing not only at Mardi Gras and St. Joseph’s Day parades but at funerals as well.

Though the crown is the memorable feature of the costume, the “patches,” chestpiece, and “apron” command attention, displaying intricate beadwork and eye-popping sequin patterns. Buffalo, spears, eagles, warriors, and other tribal motifs are integrated into the design. These are neither cheap nor quick to produce, and every year requires a new look. Each tribe has a specific style of sewing and the results are dazzling to behold.

“The pattern can be traced over and over, 30 times, as many times as you need it,” relates Goodman. “I might take the top part and use it on different parts of the costume. The crown has a wire on the back of it before it’s decorated. It’ll weigh about 14 pounds, but you carry the weight on your shoulders. The crown will have a band to hold it on your head.”

The cardboard bones of the crown are covered in canvas and designs drawn on it. The feathers are arranged with glue, then stitched to the cardboard. Emblems meaningful to the various tribes are prominent; in this case, a flaming arrow.

“I think my dad chose the name from the Bible, when God sent the flaming arrow at Adam and Eve after she ate the apple. Fire is beautiful, but it destroys.”

The Mardi Gras Indian tradition showed no

Nine Mardi Gras Indian Songs You Don’t Know (and One Everyone Knows)

- “Jockamo,” **Sugar Boy Crawford & the Cane Cutters**
- “Handa Wanda Pt 1,” **Wild Magnolias**
- “Big Chief Got a Golden Crown,” **Wild Tchoupitoulas**
- “My Gang Don’t Bow Down,” **Flaming Arrows**
- “Yella Pocahontas,” **Champion Jack Dupree**
- “New Suit,” **Wild Magnolias**
- “My Indian Red,” **Dr. John**
- “Second Line Pt.1,” **Bill Sinigal & the Skyliners**
- “Big Chief,” **Professor Longhair**
- “Iko Iko,” **the Dixie Cups**



First and second line: Kevin Bush (l) and Kevin Goodman

AUBREY EDWARDS

signs of being destroyed until late last August. “I heard the hurricane was coming, but we hear that a million times,” reflects Goodman. “You get a good hard rain in New Orleans, and it will flood anyway ’cause of the drainage system.”

When the Levee Breaks

“I watched the storm from my front door,” begins Goodman. “Katrina came and then she was gone. When it was over, the sun came out. Then the levee broke, or was blown up.”

Goodman’s casual reference echoes a horrifying but widespread rumor among many flood victims: That the levee along New Orleans’ Industrial Canal was blown, maybe dynamited, on purpose.

“Whether the levee broke or was blown up, the water came, and it came in one direction: toward the 9th Ward.

“It was me, my brother, his daughter Precious, and a young lady with baby twins and two kids. We tried to leave one way for higher ground, but the water was rising so we had to turn around. The water was filthy. We’re walking through tree limbs, cable wire, stuff grabbing our legs. Precious had an operation about six months before. She got meningitis from that water and is still in a hospital in Dallas. We floated the kids on a door and got to stay at St. Augustine School.

“Some guys in the neighborhood had boats the next day and took us to the foot of the bridge. People were sitting all along the bridge with everything they could carry. We walked from there to the Convention Center. It felt like 120 degrees in the heat. We cut a piece of carpet for the babies and laid down. Five minutes later, a stampede of people started toward us ’cause they heard the buses were coming. People started to pile up, hundreds. They kept saying, ‘The buses gonna come,’ but they didn’t. Day after day. We never saw no officials or city leaders. We might have been satisfied to see someone in a suit and tie.

“I was at the [New Orleans] Convention Center three, four days without food. People

sick, sitting out on the curb in their wheelchairs, using the bathroom on themselves. Babies dehydrated. No nurses, no medical attention, no doctors. By Friday night I was laying down trying to sleep, but I couldn’t stand the smell of myself or the filth around me. So I got up and walked around. I saw a police car go by and some guys started walking toward the police car. One guy’s trying to get their attention, and he waved like this. Next thing I know I hear, ‘Boom!’ A shot come out of the police car and they drove off. Killed a man and left him. Gone. Everyone watched him die, gasping for breath. I bet it didn’t get reported, that the police killed a man. I never seen nobody die before.

“The police cars say, ‘Protect and Serve.’ Wasn’t no protecting and serving going on. We protected ourselves and served ourselves. The sick, the poor, the helpless. About 2½ hours later, the police passed by again and ran over the dead man they killed. And kept going. I raise my right hand to God.”

The wounded words falter from a chief who did his best to protect his tribe and couldn’t.

“I couldn’t take it no more.”

Big Chief Got a Golden Crown

Kevin Goodman reaches for the bright orange feathers and a faint breeze in the garage ruffles them in his fingers. If a helicopter could transport him from New Orleans’ devastation and send him on a chartered flight to Austin, he could uproot pageantry deeply embedded in the culture of the Delta and bring it to heart of Texas. He’d never heard of Austin, much less knew where it was.

In Austin, Kevin Bush is his new second chief, someday to wear the big chief crown. Bush sits in a wheelchair; his own story of lashing himself to an attic rafter with a rope to escape the floodwaters is bone-chilling. Annie Jenkins, another evacuee, is Goodman’s new queen, soon to be mother to their child. His children are learning the ways of the tribe as the Young Flaming Arrows. The hurricane took a lethal toll on the Mardi Gras Indians, yet

Mardi Gras Indian Tribes From New Orleans

Listed are more than 50 Mardi Gras Indian tribe names from in and around the New Orleans area. The oldest is Creole Wild West, founded in the 1800s. Some, like the Wild Squatoulas and Medallion Hunters, are no longer active. Others, such as Fi-Yi-Yi and Congo Nation, haven’t yet reached their peak. If you’re in the Crescent City during the Jazz & Heritage Festival this weekend, join the second line of their spectacular walk-around parades.

— M.M.

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| 7th Ward Hard Headers | Indians of the Nation |
| 7th Ward Hunters | Medallion Hunters |
| 9th Ward Hunters | Mohawk Hunters |
| Bayou Eagles | Morning Star Hunters |
| Bayou Renegades | Red Hawk Hunters |
| Black Eagles | Red White & Blue |
| Black Hawk Hunters | Seminole |
| Black Feathers | Seminole Hunters |
| Black Seminoles | Seminole Warriors |
| Black 7th Hunters | Skull & Bones |
| Blackfoot Hunters | Trouble Nation |
| Carrollton Hunters | Uptown Rulers |
| Cherokee Hunters | Westbank Indians |
| Cheyenne Hunters | White Cloud Hunters |
| Comanche Hunters | White Eagles |
| Congo Nation | Wild Apaches |
| Creole Osceola | Wild Bogacheeta |
| Creole Wild West | Wild Magnolias |
| Fi-Yi-Yi | Wild Squatoulas |
| Flaming Arrows | Wild Tchoupitoulas |
| Geronimo Hunters | Yellowjackets |
| Golden Arrows | Yellow Pocahontas |
| Golden Blades | Young Brave Hunters |
| Golden Comanche | Young Hunters |
| Golden Eagles | Young Cheyenne |
| Golden Sioux | Young Monogram |
| Golden Star Hunters | Hunters |
| Guardians of Flame | Young Navajos |

come next Mardi Gras, they’ll all have another costume, glittering and regal.

Goodman goes to therapy weekly “to work out a lot of stuff.” In seven months, he’s performed around town on New Year’s Eve, at Antone’s, Jovita’s, the airport, local festivals, SXSW, and marched through the Rosewood neighborhood. He toured India, Sri Lanka, and the United Arab Emirates, sponsored by the Lincoln Center. Impressed by native Sri Lankan art, he’s busy building a mask inspired by the visit. His newly adopted home has renewed interest in the Flaming Arrows’ funky, wonderfully percussive 1997 CD *Here Come the Indians Now!* This weekend, he returns to New Orleans to perform at Jazz Fest.

Goodman lifts the poster-board structure of the headpiece, the Chief’s crown, onto his lap. His eyes fix on it, seeing its future, rainbow-hued glory. Its mojo is intact. There’s undeniable irony to this process, that from such rudimentary beginnings come such a fiery display of pride. Though he lost a lifetime of costume history to the elements, two of his suits were preserved in a New Orleans museum exhibit. Back in his hands, they’ve given him a starting point, 500 miles from his home, a triumph of spirit over circumstance.

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Mark Bonner



BUILT TO SPILL

You in Reverse (Warner Bros.)
SECRET MACHINES
Ten Silver Drops (Reprise)

Spearing Neil Young's "Cortez the Killer" 20 minutes *Live* (2000), Built to Spill staked its contemporary rock classicism as sure as the Bob Dylan and Van Morrison covers on last year's *Secret Machines EP*. *The Road Leads Where It's Led*. Zeppelin pulses equally stentorian on the former group's "Mess With Time," as does Clash skank and Strummer spaghetti splay. Sixth studio LP *You in Reverse* also revisits Crazy Horse with "Wherever You Go," yet liquefies akin to My Morning Jacket where previously the Idaho quartet erected epic song scaffolding mostly in service of Doug Martsch's six-string supremacy. Starting gun "Goin' Against Your Mind" acts as a hydroelectric-dam burst, gushing Martsch's aquamarine vocals, "Layla" slide coda, and the rhythm section's tidal realignment. Streaming melodies ("Liar"), Sam "Quasi" Coomes' organ ellipses ("Gone"), and the top down, spark-throwing "Conventional Wisdom" rush head-on into the 21st century like Hunter Thompson's hovercraft. *Secret Machines'* Brandon Curtis breaks down repeatedly as the NYC via DFW trio's singer, opener "Alone, Jealous and Stoned" immediately betraying his strip-mall blandeur. Guitars should fill this void, but the melodic liftoff of "Lightning Blue Eyes" remains powered by the Machines' keyboard paradigm. That leaves the brunt on Benjamin Curtis' big-drum bomp and atmospheric thumpers such as "Daddy's in the Doldrums" and "Faded Lines," a strategy anchoring the band's kowtowed debut LP; '04's *Now Here is Nowhere*. The Flaming Lips proved the sky's the limit with kick drums, but *Ten Silver Drops* begs for Built to Spill's lightning-rod riffs.

(Built to Spill) ★★★★★
 (Secret Machines) ★★ – Raoul Hernandez

DVDnds

PANTERA

3 Vulgar Videos From Hell (Rhino)

The first group Queen guitarist Brian May and his son both liked? Pantera. What began as another Metroplex metal band grew into one of the most influential and bestselling metal acts of the Nineties. Founded in 1981 by the Pantego, Texas-residing Abbott brothers – drummer Vinnie Paul and guitar-



ist "Diamond/Dimebag" Darrell (both sons of country songwriter and studio owner Jerry Abbott) – Pantera didn't hit its stride until bassist Rex Brown and lead screamer Phil Anselmo joined, releasing their breakout *Cowboys From Hell* in 1990. After four platinum-plus albums and global tours, internal discord pulled Pantera apart in 2003. Band-members had other projects, but any glimmer of a reunion was blacked out on December 8, 2004, when Dimebag was murdered on stage while he and his brother's new outfit, Damageplan, began their first song at a show in Ohio. The content on these two DVDs will make any fan salivate. Twelve studio videos and five live ones, with Pantera's zany touring antics composing the rest of the total four hours, including performances

and/or partying with Alice in Chains, Suicidal Tendencies, Rob Halford, Slayer, Trent Reznor, Black Sabbath, Marilyn Manson, and Kiss. Not surprisingly, this ain't PG-13 footage, more of a convention of *Animal House* alum, *Jackass* veterans, and *Girls Gone Wild*. Or as the jester-chemist Dimebag opines: "Most people take this shit seriously. To me, it's just one big jack-off session." But hold that mouth watering: All of this was originally released in 1999, save for new menus and a 5.1 Surround Sound option. Which prompts the question: is the new *3 Vulgar Videos From Hell* archival, or opportunistic? A little of both, but more of the later. Fans should save their cherry for Vinnie's brotherly DVD tribute, *DimeVision – Vol 1: That's the Fun I Have*, out later this year.

– David Lynch

THE FLAMING LIPS

At War With the Mystics (Warner Bros.)

Today, children, we're going to learn about the Flaming Lips. They're from Oklahoma City, and they're really fun, like a puppet show. Now, you'll like the very first track, "The Yeah Yeah Yeah Song." When Mr. Wayne asks about whether you'd use your powers for good or evil, it might remind you of Sunday school. Those fartly sounds and the guy with the *deeeeeeeeeeeep* voice on "It Overtakes Me" are called "bells and whistles." That's what bands do when they don't have anything to say. Your parents might act the same way when you play this for them. They might get grumpy and say something like "The air in that plastic bubble must be pretty thin!" They're just mad because the Flaming Lips used to be even more fun. There might be a few moments when your dad stops acting like the troll under the bridge and actually smiles; "Pompeii Am Götterdämmerung" sounds like the kind of music he used to listen to in college when his dorm room would fill up with funny-smelling smoke. But the Flaming Lips didn't make this CD for them. This one's yours to keep. At least until you're old enough to appreciate *The Soft Bulletin*.

★ – Melanie Haupt



THE ESSEX GREEN

Cannibal Sea (Merge)
CAMERA OBSCURA
Let's Get Out of This Country (Merge)

Besides being epicenters of their nations' fashion-forward music scenes, Glasgow and Brooklyn share forbidding industrial landscapes of factories, shipyards, and warehouses, decrepit places that foster dreams of blissful afternoons in pastoral meadows and long nights in a lover's embrace. In other words, the very building blocks of quality pop since Elizabethan times. Brooklyn's Essex Green, singer-songwriters Chris Ziter, Sasha Bell, and Jeff Baron, backed by strings, keyboards, and woodwinds, are well aware of urban constraints: "It's hard to hug the girders, my brother. It's hard to swing and waltz," they sing on "Don't Know Why (You Stay)." Instead they've constructed a menagerie of animal references and escape fantasies that encompass acoustic reverie ("Rabbit") and snappy Motown-like bounce ("This Isn't Farm Life"). Scottish troupe Camera Obscura, guided by the irresistible vocals of Tracyanne Campbell, aren't quite as enamored of the great outdoors, quite possibly because they seldom venture outside the bedroom. Deeply romantic and just as melancholy, *Let's Get Out of This Country* bridges the gap between what the heart wants and what it gets, with Beach Boys harmonies ("Tears for Affairs") and Spectorian strings ("Come Back Margaret"). The inescapable pop shadows of the Shins and Rilo Kiley – minus the latter's caustic lyrics – hover nearby, but no more so than past practitioners, from the Sundays and 10,000 Maniacs to Lush and Madder Rose. Besides, the real shadow lingering underneath these two unabashedly vibrant albums is that tinge of sadness all great pop possesses. **(The Essex Green blooms at the Parish, Wednesday, May 10.)**

(Essex Green) ★★★★★
 (Camera Obscura) ★★★★★ – Christopher Gray

JOLIE HOLLAND

Springtime Can Kill You (Anti-)

Jolie Holland's rustic voice croons from a sleeper car on a long journey across the American plains. Envelopes of sunshine creep through the drawn blinds, coaxing the melancholic San Franciscan out of a nightlong fling with a bottle of moonshine and a beat-up acoustic guitar. Holland's third album transcends the footfalls

of history and blooms on the modern side of the folk/country/old-timey moon. "Like a stubborn beast when the barn is on fire, I might resist you when you try to save my life," oscillates the former Be Good Tanya on *Springtime* highlight "Stubborn Beast." Dipping beneath the wax, "Moonshiner" pulls Tom Waits out of Ralph Stanley, while the manic side of love swims in her drunken cover of Riley Puckett's "You're Not Satisfied," a duet with David Dondero. As soon as LP closer "Mexican Blue" conjures up Nina Simone, Holland stamps it all her own with that unique, altering voice and softened presence. Holland's cry seesaws from yelp to confirmation within tunes of heartache and resilience, her songwriting poetic yet blue-collar and blending that invisible socioeconomic line between genres.

★★★★★ – Darcie Stevens

LILA DOWNS

La Cantina (Narada/EMI)

With her superb fifth album, Lila Downs not only embraces her Mexican roots, she does so fiercely, lovingly. *Rancheras*, *cumbias*, and *corridos* are all played with a deeply felt *sentimiento* that ranges from joyous to heart wrenching, playful to grievous. All 15 tracks are impossible to dismiss, each a unique treasure on an album that's already a generous gift. Although working with traditional forms, songs like "Tu Recuerdo y Yo" (a classic cry into your *cerveza* if there ever was one) and the heart-wrenching "La Cama de Piedra" are infused with contemporary rhythmic touches and arrangements that make the songs fresh. In fact, most tracks are startlingly modern without sacrificing the vintage roots that have made them classic forms. And perhaps only a person who reveres the signature dish of her Oaxaca, Mexico, birthplace can truly appreciate "La Cumbia del Mole" (also sung in English), which pays tribute to the mastery of creating the dish from scratch, set against a sassy cumbia backbeat. Tejano accordionist Flaco Jimenez sits in on several cuts, bringing his characteristic zing to an album already piquant with vibrancy and flavored with *corazon*.

★★★★★ – Belinda Acosta



PRINCE

3121 (Universal)

Remember the "New Kids on the Bleech" episode of *The Simpsons*? Bart, Milhouse, Nelson, and Ralph emerged as a chart-topping boy band called Party Posse by running their normally frail voices through an elaborate enhancement machine designed by the Navy. Apparently, Prince has purchased just such a machine for Paisley Park Studios. Of course *3121* makes one wonder why someone as brilliant as Prince would lower himself to the level of Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake by overusing the vocoder like an industry crack pipe. Not that we should dub him Prince Rogers Smellson since his newfound Neptunian minimalism yields refined funk bliss of the trashiest variety through "Black Sweat" and "Love." It's simply that one expects more from Prince than this "futuristic fantasy." Sexual predators will surely jump on "Satisfied" and "Get on the Boat" as the overriding message becomes that something infinitely creepy lurks within the confines of Prince's gaudy West Hollywood mansion.

★★★ – Robert Gabriel

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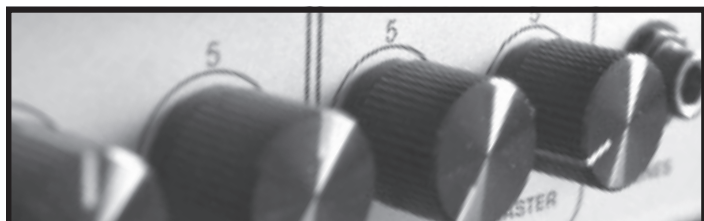
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LEAD STORY

Salt Lake City fashion designer Jared Gold recently began offering jeweled brooches featuring brightly colored Swarovski crystals affixed to a live, 3-inch-long Madagascar hissing cockroach that a woman can allow to roam a short distance around her dress or jacket via a silver chain affixed to the roach's back. The brooch sells for \$80 at Gold's Web site. An April *New York Post* story quoted an animal-rights spokesman as calling the bauble "just the gift" for the "person who doesn't mind a small animal excreting on them throughout the day."

CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE

• Teachers at several nursery schools in Oxfordshire, England, have been encouraging kids to learn the verse "Baa, baa, black sheep/Have you any wool?" without the word "black," but in its place a variety of emotions (e.g., "Baa, baa, sad sheep") or colors (including "Baa, baa, rainbow sheep") because they believe that kids with black skin might feel disrespected. According to a March Cox News Service dispatch from London, the campaign seems of a piece with a UK media flurry in 2003 suggesting changing the ending of "Humpty Dumpty" so that he receives merely a mild bump instead of shattering.

• China's Xinhua news agency reported in March that the police department in Nanjing has gone beyond fingerprints and now has a data bank of smells taken from criminals and crime scenes to aid police dogs in investigations. Officials say that storing the scents at minus-18 degrees Celsius retards degradation for at least three years, and already, they say, the bank of 500 odors has led to the identification of 23 suspects.

• In March, on State Highway 2, near Papamoa, New Zealand, police stopped a 32-year-old man driving 121 km/hr (75 mph), with no license and also no arms, having kept relatively good control with one foot on the gas and the other on the steering wheel. He told officers he had been driving that way for years without incident, a fact that amazed police and an amputee interviewed by the *New Zealand Herald*. The man still got a NZ\$170 (US\$106) ticket.

UNCLEAR ON THE CONCEPT

• 1) The Nigerian Football Association advised its referees in March that they could accept money from teams (since "bribery" is considered part of the way of life in Nigeria), but that they should only pretend to agree to treat the briber favorably because they have a duty to call a game fairly. 2) Joshua Abeyta was charged

NEW OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



ROY TOMPKINS

Long Island, N.Y., bus driver Michael Cianci, 38, was charged in April with child-endangerment for allegedly setting up a hierarchical social structure to enforce discipline among the Tottenville sixth-graders who rode what he called his "Death Cheese Bus." Cianci, who was the "Emperor," had a 12-tiered ranking system, from "Lord" to the low-end "Speds" ("special education" students). Police said Cianci permitted his high-ranking enforcers to rough up misbehaving kids.

with arson in Thornton, Colo., in February after he allegedly set fire to the Grand Auto Pontiac dealership, doing 300,000 dollars' worth of damage; according to police, Abeyta had no connection to the company except that he was angry with his mother, who drives a Pontiac.

• A Philadelphia woman who identified herself to reporters as "M. Smith," and who contracted AIDS and cancer more than 15 years ago, said recently that the company Life Partners has been threatening to back out of its contract to pay her health and life insurance premiums. She entered into a "viatical" contract in 1994, signing over her insurance death benefit to Life Partners in exchange for its promise to pay all premiums for her then-expectedly-short life. However, a new generation of drugs has kept her alive, rendering Life Partners quite unhappy with the deal it made. Although the company has not yet reneged on the contract,

M. Smith reports that it constantly pressures her to begin paying the increasingly steep premiums herself.

ADVANCES IN TEXTILES

An Arizona company told the technology Web site CNET.com in April that it has created a polyester fabric that neutralizes shots from a Taser gun, basically forming an electric loop on the cloth and sending the charge back into the gun. G2 Consulting Co.'s Thor Shield is now marketed only to law enforcement and military agencies, for their own personnel to wear. 2) Professor Greg Sotzing of the University of Connecticut at Storrs is developing clothing with electromagnetic polymers that can be manipulated to change colors while being worn, allowing the user to style himself depending on mood or whimsy (according to an April report in *New Scientist*).

CRÈME DE LA WEIRD

• Chiropractor James Burda of Athens, Ohio, advertises a miraculous cure in which he sends patients, via telepathy, back to the origin of an injury so they can understand the pain and make adjustments. Dr. Burda says he need not meet the patient, nor even talk by phone, because e-mail works perfectly well, even for people who want chiropractic treatment for their pet. According to his Web site, he discovered his skill by accident, while driving around one day. Not surprisingly, the Ohio State Chiropractic Board announced in April that it would hold a hearing to review Burda's work.

• Creativity in Perversion: Paul Daniel Metcalf Jr., 39, was arrested in Asheville, N.C., in April and accused of two incidents in which he allegedly doused female department store shoppers with his semen, at least once (according to a store's surveillance camera) by spitting it at a woman through a straw.

LEAST COMPETENT SURGEONS

1) Children's Hospital of Orange County (Calif.) announced new rules to guard against wrong-site surgery after a January incident in which doctors opened up the wrong side of a child's skull to remove a brain tumor, only to realize, after finding no such tumor, that it was on the other side. (According to the surgeons, they merely sewed up the first site and proceeded to the correct side, without complication.) 2) Dr. Mary Ellen Beatty was suspended and fined \$20,000 by the Florida Board of Medicine in April for a wrong-finger surgery, her third wrong-site error in five years.

THINNING THE HERD

People Who Shouldn't Have Played with Matches: 1) An unnamed man in his 80s, whom neighbors said "hated everybody," was killed in Downey, Calif., in January after attempting revenge by putting an explosive in a neighbor's home but accidentally setting his arm on fire, which then set off his bomb. 2) A 49-year-old woman died in a fire in Milwaukee in January when, trying to get her boyfriend's attention, she stood angrily beside his bed and flicked lit matches onto his sheet-clad body, until a fire started. She was eventually overcome with smoke, but the boyfriend and the five others in the house survived.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at newssoftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newssoftheweird.com). Send your Weirdest News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com. ©2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

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calendar

c COMMUNITY p.78 + a ARTS p.84 + t ILM p.92 + m MUSIC listings p.102

this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM ARTS, FILM, AND MUSIC) BY NORA ANKRUM

Thursday 04

FIRST THURSDAY Music, food, and shopping. From the river, south on South Congress. Free.

HERBS FOR DIABETES This class will be taught in both Spanish and English; please RSVP 7-8pm. 1805 S. First, 426-3113.

HONORING WOMEN IN OUR LIVES LUNCHEON benefits the Texas Council on Family Violence and features a talk from Lance Armstrong's mother, Linda Armstrong-Kelly, a domestic-abuse survivor and author of *No Mountain High Enough*. 11am-1pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 485-5999. \$60 (\$100/two tickets; \$1,000/table of 10). www.honoringwomen.org.

LIBERTY DOLLAR OF AUSTIN MEETING 6pm. Opal Divine's Freehouse, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. Free. www.austinlibertydollar.com.

MIDWEEK AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET 4-7pm. Plaza Saltillo, 401 Comal, 236-0074. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.

NATURAL EAR MUSIC SHOWS Austin's best kid bands are wrapping up their spring semester with two rock & roll performances this week. *Natural Ear Music School*, 103 Krebs Ln., Thu., May 4, 6pm.; *Broken Spoke*, Thu., May 10, 6:30pm. Also, don't miss Natural Ear-trained band the Loose Cannons (*Chronicle's* 2005 Best Preteen Band) performing a Roky Erikson song on an upcoming HBO program about musical kids (see Web site for details). 447-5910. www.naturalearmusic.com.

WHAT IS EATING MY PLANT? 7-8:30pm. Post Road Community Center, 2201 Post Rd. #101, 854-9600. www.tcmastergardener.org/html/events.html.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Austin Visual Arts Association Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Hedwig and the Angry Inch Sing-Along @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm
Legendary Weapons of China @ Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings)
Ephraim Owens Group Kenny Dorham's Backyard
Kid Rock Frank Erwin Center

Friday 05

CINCO DE MAYO PARTY Flamenco-, belly-, and fire-dancing, plus live music from Andrea Cortez and Ravner Salinas. BYOB; call for reservations. Ararat, 111 E. North Loop, 419-1692.

CONVERSATIONAL FRENCH CLASSES 1pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free with cafe purchase.

DAHR JAMAIL will be speaking on Unembedded Journalism: Occupation and the Future of U.S. Power in the Middle East tonight at the Bass Lecture Hall, Dean Keeton & Red River. (See News, p.23) 7pm. Free. www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

FINAL DAY TO ACCEPT APPLICATIONS TO VOTE BY MAIL in the May 13 municipal elections. 238-VOTE. www.co.travis.tx.us/county_clerk/election/dates.asp.

GREYSHEETERS ANONYMOUS is a supportive program of abstinence from compulsive eating. 7:30-8:30pm. St. Catherine of Siena, 4800 Convict Hill Rd., Rm. 210. www.greysheet.org.

NAVIGATING BREAST CANCER TOGETHER MEETING for newly diagnosed women and their primary support partners. 6-8:30pm. St. David's Health Resource Center, 3000 N. I-35, 472-1738 x100.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING FOR CANCARE AUSTIN CanCare provides emotional and spiritual support for cancer sufferers and their families, and they're training cancer survivors and caregivers as volunteers. Call or visit the Web site for details. 342-0233. www.cancareaustin.org.

10am-1pm. A+ Federal Credit Union, 6420 Hwy. 290 E.

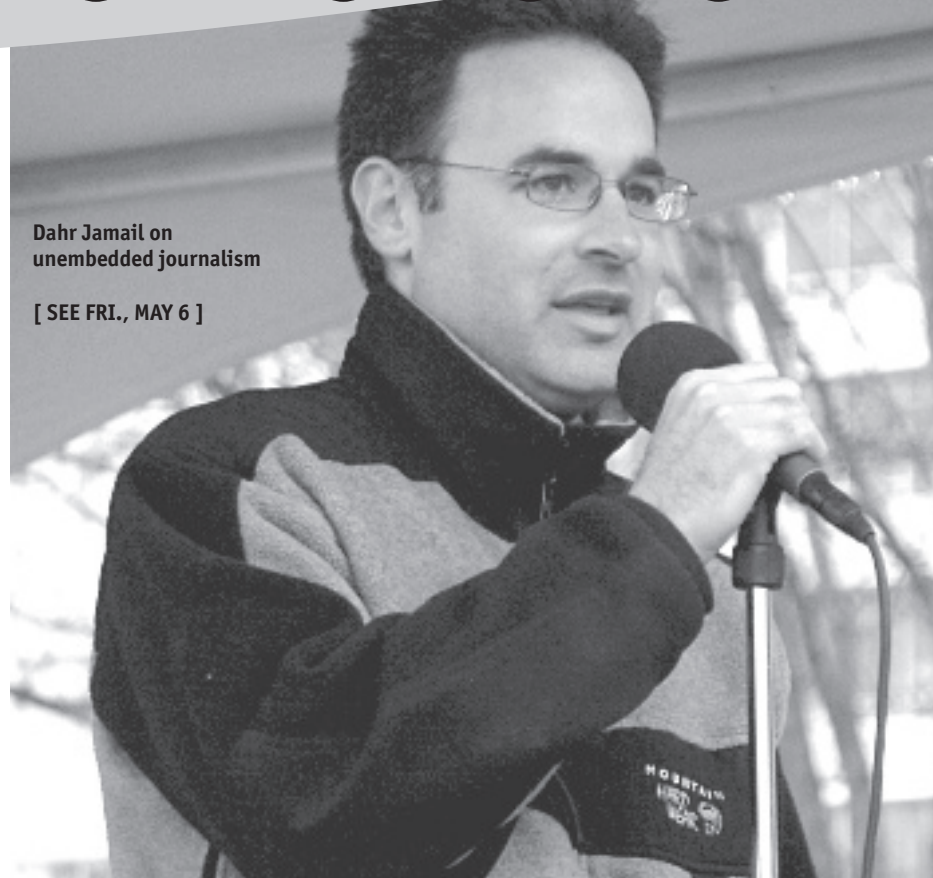
SPLASH DAY Water slides, splash fountains, games, food, music, and free T-shirts to kick off the summer with style. Sat., May 6, 10am-2pm. YMCA, 5315 Ed Bluestein.

VIOLET CROWN FESTIVAL is going all out for the kids: Along with the usual suspects in children's entertainment – moonwalk, carnival games, face painting, etc. – they're packing in a domino tournament, fencing, darts, golf, an art center, a rock climbing wall, a petting zoo, and a dunking booth. Sat., May 6, 12-7pm.

SUNDAY MORNING KID SHOWS Performances from musicians, magicians, and others. 10:30am. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Tips appreciated.

LEARN BASIC CHESS and then play the game with knee-high pieces. Sun., May 7, 1-2pm. Terra Toys, 2438 W. Anderson, 445-4489. Free.

JANICE AND TOM SHELFELMAN discuss and sign copies of their latest author/illustrator collaboration, *Sofie's War*, a historical novel set in Comfort, Texas, during the Civil War.



Dahr Jamail on unembedded journalism

[SEE FRI., MAY 6]

WEEKLY PEACE VIGIL/ANTI-BUSH PROTEST 5-6pm. Texas State Capitol, 1100 Congress, 305-8400.

WHAT MAKES GREAT WINE GREAT? A wine-tasting workshop from the host of PBS's *Wine, Food & Friends* with Karen MacNeil; arrive at 6:30 for the meet-and-greet champagne reception and book signing. Call to reserve your spot. 7-8:30pm. Whole Foods Market (meet at the Rooftop Plaza), 525 N. Lamar, 542-2243.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts)
Art on 5th

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)
Park Row @ Texas Union Theatre, 7:30pm
Videoke @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid

Saturday 06

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET HEIGHT OF SEASON KICK-OFF The season's produce in its full abundance, plus a gardening workshop, cooking demos, live music, and lots of stuff for the kids, including food art, sunglasses-decorating, and a petting pen. 9am-1pm. Austin Farmers Market Downtown, Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 236-0074. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.

BLACK STAR CO-OP FUNDRAISER Enjoy some live music and find out all about Texas' first cooperative beer bar. 7pm. See Web site for location. www.blackstarpub.com.

BOULDIN CREEK BAZAAR GRAND OPENING Sample foods from local merchants, peruse organic produce, and enjoy the sidewalk entertainment – magic shows, music, skateboarding, sidewalk art, and more. 9am-1pm & 5-9pm. Bouldin Creek market, 1207 S. First, 494-1411.

COUGAR BAND COOK-OFF/CAR SHOW The cook-off starts at 2pm, with competitors vying for best chili, brisket, or cook's choice, while the car show, games, and craft booths go all day long. 10am-4pm. Connally High School, 13212 N. Lamar, 339-9005. campindaw@aol.com.

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 May 19 issue is Monday, May 8. 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 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

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

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

Nora Ankrum (everything else): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

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

the young ones

SHOTS FOR TOTS Austin/Travis County Health and Human Services offers free immunizations at two locations (call for times). Far South Clinic, 405 W. Stassney; St. John Clinic, 7500 Blessing. 972-5520.

ART PAD ART CAMPS

offer morning, afternoon, and full-day weekly sessions for grades one through six, and they cover just about everything – from fabric and fiber arts to painting, drawing, and cartooning to mosaics, mobiles, and “junk sculpture” – all with an emphasis on creative problem-solving and “process over product.” May 29-Aug. 11. 1403 W. 47th, 323-0802. \$150-350 (discounts available).

BOOKKIDS CELEBRATES National Poetry Month with readings from Shel Silverstein, Roald Dahl, and more. Magical, whimsical, poetical, wheel! Fri., May 5, 10:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.



GIANT CHESS GAME Play knee-high chess! Volunteers are needed on an ongoing basis (chess skills not required). Plus, another reason to become a Park Pal: You can borrow the set for at-home games. Saturdays, 12:30-3:30pm. www.austinparks.org/volunteert.html.

KIDS MOUNTAIN BIKE CLINIC Sat., May 6. Walnut Creek Park, 11928 Swearingen Dr., 512/267-5315. spinnincin@sbcglobal.net.

TEEN SKIN CAMP: BATTLE BLEMISHES AND BEYOND Get the lowdown on teen skincare in this class taught by aestheticians; price includes a 60-minute facial. Call to register and to schedule your facial. Sat., May 6, 10-11:30am. 452-1844. \$60.

CINCO DE MAYO on Seis de Mayo: Continue celebrating with the Bedichek Mariachi del Sur band, workshops for making flores de papel and piñatas, and delicious Oaxacan tamales. Sat., May 6, 10am-1pm. Sunset Valley Farmers Market, Toney Burger Center, 3200 Jones, 280-1976.

FAMILY DAY Carnival games, food, entertainers from Hero Productions, a fire truck, and more, to benefit Dell Children's Medical Center. Sat., May 6,



2nd
Annual

Festival Celebrating Youth

Featuring Ethnic Dance
and Performances By:

- Bowie High School Steel Band
- Hawaiian-Kona-Isle Dancers
- St. Edwards University Folkloric Group
- Capoeira Da Rua
- Johnson High School Baile Folklorico
- Tanjore (Music and Dance from India)
- Love of China
- Lannaya (Drums and Dance of Guinea and Ivory Coast)

Free Admission
Free arts and crafts
for children
Saturday, May 13th
Metz Recreation Center
Outdoor Pavilion
2407 Canterbury Street
12-5pm



For more information contact 385.2838 or melanvil@hotmail.com.
This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division, by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and Austin Parks and Recreation Department. This project is co-sponsored by Ballet East Dance Company.



ART on 5th Fine Art Gallery

Details at www.arton5th.com

1501 W. 5th St (just off MoPac)
Mon - Sat 10-6, 481-1111

Texas Football Championship
Commemorative Painting

Unveiling and UT Athletics Benefit
May 6 10am-6pm & May 7 12-5pm

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What *the* BLEEP!?


Down the Rabbit Hole

SPECIAL SCREENING - WED, MAY 10
7:00 pm @ Unity Center, 9603 Dessau Rd
Tickets: \$10.00
www.whatthebleep.com 512-837-6225 or 512-836-6732

**Summer
Kids With A Camera Boot Camp**
In Association with Motion Media at 501 Studios

Learn, first hand, how the filmmaking process works! Over 4 days your child will collaborate with other kids and industry professionals to help write, audition actors, shoot, direct, act-in, and edit your own short film!

This is your chance to give your kids a learning experience this summer that they will never forget, not to mention a great film for their acting resume or directing reel.



Qualified Ages: 8-14 years old **TAKE**

When: June 3rd, 4th, 10th, and 11th (two consecutive weekends)
Lunch will be provided

Cost: \$475 before May 20th, \$500 after. (Only 12 slots available)

Each participant receives two copies of the film and publicity photos. The finished product will also be entered in at least five national festivals.

Our first bootcamp film, THE AGENDA, premiered at the Palm Beach International Film Festival and is continuing on to the Santa Cruz Film Festival. Your film could be next.

Registration or for more information, contact:
Kate Dawson at 917.568.5799 or katedawson@aimg.com
Or visit www.dawsonfilms.net

DATE

CPR/FIRST AID CLASS 2-3pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar, 750-0586. \$25.

DATE AUCTION/PROM Proms aren't just for high schoolers anymore. This one in particular is for adults who want to support Iron Gate Studios' efforts to provide inexpensive workspaces for artists. It features Journey cover band Odyssey, a photography exhibit and raffle, plus the usual goodies – food, photos, and dancing. 8pm-1am. Iron Gate Studios, 2205 E. Fifth, 495-9994. \$10. www.irongatestudios.org.

FREE SKIN CANCER SCREENINGS 8am-2pm. Brackenridge Hospital (first floor, day surgery), 601 E. 15th, 800/ACS-2345. www.seton.net.

GIGANTIC BOOK SALE An abundance of books – especially the coffee-table variety – sold at low, low prices to benefit the Guardians of Lick Creek. 8am-4pm. La Cabana Grill, 21103 Hwy. 71 W., 264-0916.

GLAM STYLE SQUAD Glamour magazine's in town to pick the four women with the best "style" – winners will be photographed all over town for the August issue's "Snapshots of American Style" section. 11am-4pm. Wal-Mart, 710 E. Ben White. www.glamstylesquad.com.

GRAND OPENING OF THE NEWLY RENOVATED TERRAZAS BRANCH LIBRARY Come celebrate with the Terrazas family. There'll be breakfast, kids entertainment, and music from Mary Welch & los Curanderas and Mariachi Relampago. 10am. Terrazas Library, 1105 E. Cesar Chavez, 472-7312. www.cityofaustin.org/library.



HIGHLAND MALL JOB FAIR Businesses from Bath & Body Works to Express to J. Crew are looking to hire; bring your résumé and wear your business attire. 1-5pm. Highland Mall (lower level, women's Dillard's wing), 6001 Airport, 454-9656 x7020.

LAWNMOWER TRADE-IN FOR A CARBON-FREE SOCIETY Bring in your grotty gas-powered mower and save \$108 off an electric one – good for your wallet, good for the environment. 8am-2:30pm. Home Depot, 3600 S. I-35, 447-4595.



LEARN TO MEDITATE: TURNING THE MIND INTO AN ALLY provides an introduction to strong meditation practice, with a focus on posture and breath. 9:30am-5pm. Austin Shambhala Center, 1702 S. Fifth. \$40. www.austin.shambhala.org.

LEGENDS OF TEXAS MUSIC FESTIVAL A day of country music, good food, lotsa vendor booths to peruse, and a silent auction, all to benefit Dripping Springs' Dr. Pound Pioneer Farmstead Historical Museum. (See Club Listings) Noon-11pm. Nutty Brown Cafe, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 694-0874. www.legendsoftexasmusic.com.

OLD PECAN STREET SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL has live music all day, lots of entertainment for the kids (this year they've got pony rides and a rock wall), and more than 300 booths to peruse. 11am-10pm. East Sixth. www.roadstarproductions.com/RoadStar/Events-cat.asp?media1id=550.

SPRING FLEA MARKET FESTIVAL Don't miss this mondo multifamily garage sale! 7am-4pm. Greater Calvary Bible Church, 6510 Berkman. www.greatercalvary.org.

VIOLET CROWN FESTIVAL The citizens of the Brentwood and Crestview neighborhoods invite you to a full day of live music, theatre, exhibits, workshops, artist booths, a silent auction, and a slew of activities for the kids. (See Young Ones, Club Listings) Noon-7pm. Brentwood Park, 6710 Arroyo Circle, 459-4471. www.violetcrownfestival.com.

WESAK takes a monthly spiritual retreat to San Marcos. Call for details. 2-8pm. Private residence, 396-4021. sashawhite@sbcglobal.net.

WEST SIXTH STREET ARTISTS' MARKET 10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099. www.6thstreetmarket.com.

YOGA FOR HYPERTENSION 4-5:15pm. Yoga Solutions, 10008 Mount Rainier Dr., 963-8364. Donations accepted. yogasolutions@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER TRAINING FOR CANCARE AUSTIN 342-0233. www.cancareaustin.org. (See Friday)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts) **Creative Research Laboratory, Gallery Lombardi**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) **Granito de Arenas** @ Resistencia Bookstore, 5pm **Letters From the Other Side** @ Big Red Sun, 7pm

Sunday 07

AUSTIN CELTIC ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING accompanied by music from the Tea Merchants – nonmembers welcome! Noon-3pm. Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747. www.austincelts.org.

AUSTIN GIRLS' CHOIR ANNUAL SPRING TEA An English high tea with delicious delicacies and the sweet sounds of the choir. Seatings at 3, 4, & 5pm. Caswell House, 1404 West Ave., 453-0884. \$20.

BECOMING A NEW CREATION This three-part series focuses on the teachings of the Beatitudes. 9:30-10:30am. Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743. Free.

BEMBE CONNECTION Open dance with live Afro-Cuban percussion. 8:30pm. Art Amici, 79 San Marcos St., 444-0371 or 657-5880. bembeconnection@hotmail.com.

CAT TRAINING CLASSES Learn how to teach your cat to sit, stay, and walk on a leash. Call/e-mail to reserve your spot. Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez, 892-3346 or 689-7665. trisha@pottytalkbytoast.com.

GERMAN-TEXAN HERITAGE SOCIETY SPEAKER SERIES: URSULA HATZFELD & GENEALOGY Genealogist Hatzfeld is in town discussing her book *From Dillenburg to Texas: Emigration between 1845-1846* (the founder of Fredericksburg was from Dillenburg). 3pm. German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-4847. Free.

HAPPY LIVING WITH JUSTICE offers free yoga, followed by a meeting to increase awareness of environmental, peace, and justice issues. Locations vary. 3:30-5:30pm. 292-8093. Free. happylivingwithjustice@gmail.com.

MOTHER'S DAY ARABIC BAZAAR Don't worry. It's not Mother's Day yet. You've got a week to find her a unique and beautiful token of your love, and the bazaar's a good place to start, with music, food, bellydancing, and henna tattoos to get you into the buying mood. 11am-6pm. Arabic Bazaar & Zein's Dance Studio, 5013 Duval, 533-9227.

POVERTY AND FAITH SPEAKER SERIES: MOVING FROM CHARITY TO SUSTAINABILITY brings us "How Did We Get Here? Historical Roots, Ingrained Practices and Discrimination of Poverty." 9:30-10:30am. University Presbyterian Church, 2203 San Antonio, 476-5321. Free. www.upcaustin.org.

SPIRITUALITY AND HEALING: FINDING THE CONNECTION THROUGH PRAYER 3pm. Christian Science Church, 14th & Guadalupe, 472-2356.

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN THE TEXAS CAPITOL? A talk from the Center for Public Policy Priorities' Dick Lavine, about the special session and school finance. 11:30am-12:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.austinuu.org.

OLD PECAN STREET SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL 11am-8pm. East Sixth. www.roadstarproductions.com/RoadStar/Events-cat.asp?media1id=550. (See Saturday)

WEST SIXTH STREET ARTISTS' MARKET 10am-6pm. 709 W. Sixth, 698-8099. www.6thstreetmarket.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) **The Boys of Baraka** @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Tour 18 Golf Course in Humble takes the weekend duffer on a journey down some of the most famous fairways in professional golf without the traveling expenses. You would have to visit 16 courses around the country to play the original holes that are simulated on this public golf course on the north side of Houston.

"It's amazingly like the real thing," said a member of our party as we worked our way to the first green. The hole is modeled after the finishing hole at Harbour Town Golf Links on South Carolina's Hilton Head Island. "The only thing that is missing is the red-and-white lighthouse in the distance and the Atlantic Ocean off to the side," he said.

At one time a faux lighthouse did peek above the pine trees that line the back of the green. The hole looked so much like the real thing that a lawsuit forced the managers of the course to remove it. Each of the 18 signs at the tee boxes announces: "This hole was inspired by [enter the name of the hole and club name] and is not affiliated with, endorsed, or sponsored by [said golf club]." The lawyers require the course to tell the players they aren't at Augusta, Sawgrass, Colonial, or Pebble Beach, just in case someone might mistake it for the real thing.

While most of us won't have an opportunity to play all the original holes, Tour 18 is a great substitute. Keep in mind that the course is made up of 18 holes, which have tripped some of the best players ever to play the game as well as created some of the most exciting moments in golf. Very few weekend hackers have much of a chance to beat the par-72 course, but it's a thrill to take up the challenge of holes that have been featured in some of golf's most famous tournaments.

The island green on the final hole of the front nine of Tour 18 is the perfect example of how the course can make a golfer very humble or inflate their ego. A near-perfect copy of the island hole at the Tournament Players Club at Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra, Fla.: You can drown a lot of balls or make a fairly easy par 3.

Some holes are a stretch for the imagination, like the oddly shaped sand bunkers that are supposed to be Mickey Mouse ears in front of the 11th green. Still, it's fun to get a sense of the width of the professional fairways and the number of bunkers and sand traps that threaten every approach. It is no wonder that a four-hour game can easily last an extra hour, and scores tend to soar.



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Hogan's Bridge

If you take your golf game too seriously, you might not appreciate the humbling experience. The three holes borrowed from Augusta National Golf Club drop the famous "Amen Corner" onto the Coastal Plains. Jack Nicklaus called the par-3 12th hole at Augusta (number six at Tour 18), "the toughest tournament hole in all of golf." Greg Norman called the next hole "the greatest hole in golf." With recommendations like that, who wouldn't get chills just trying their skills?

Besides being a challenging course, Tour 18 is almost as beautiful as the courses that it replicates all the way down to the flowers of Augusta surrounding the sixth green. Well-maintained fairways and greens make blaming the conditions a hollow excuse, and make even a bad outing a pleasure. The club has a nice driving range, putting green, and chipping bunkers if you need to warm up before your trip around the course.

Opened in 1992, Tour 18 can be a humbling and exciting experience on the links. Normal green fees range from \$65 to \$105, including a cart. The course is about 30 minutes north of downtown Houston off of U.S. 59 on FM 1960. For tee times and information, call 281/540-1818 or go to www.tour18golf.com. A second Tour 18 golf course opened north of Dallas in Flower Mound in 1995.

776th 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.

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

VIVA! CINCO DE MAYO includes the official state Menudo Cookoff, parades, dance performances, music, arts & crafts, a carnival, and more. *Thu.-Sat., May 4-6.* Hays County Civic Center, San Marcos, 512/393-5900. www.vivacincodemayo.org.

USA FILM FESTIVAL features the best new independent short and feature films from around the world. *Through May 4.* Dallas, 214/821-FILM. www.usafilmfestival.com.

HOMECOMING means a barbecue cook-off, parade, craft vendors, lots of food, and two nights of dancing in the street. *Thu.-Sun., May 4-7.* Lexington, 979/773-4337.

MAYFEST Music, food, and river rides. *Thu.-Sun., May 4-7.* Trinity Park, Fort Worth, 817/332-1055. www.mayfest.org.

BUC DAYS Don't miss the Illuminated Night Parade, rodeo, barbecue cookoffs, folklorico competition, parades, carnival, fireworks, and more. *Through Sun., May 6.* Corpus Christi, 361/882-3242. www.bucdays.com.

CINCO DE MAYO IN LOCKHART is remembered on the Courthouse Square with music, arts & crafts, and food. *Fri.-Sat., May 5-6.* Lockhart, 512/398-9600.

CINCO DE MAYO IN GOLIAD celebrates the Mexican victory at the Battle of Puebla and the Texas-born hero Ignacio Zaragoza. *Fri., May 5.* Goliad State Park, Goliad, 361/645-3405.

ARTWALK surrounds the little precinct courthouse with food; music; and the wares of artists, craftsmen, and artisans from around the state. *Sat.-Sun., May 6-7.* Fayetteville, 979/378-2113. www.texasartwalk.org.

ICE CREAM FESTIVAL *Sat., May 6, 10am-5pm.* Downtown Brenham, 888/273-6426. www.downtownbrenham.com.

ST. STANISLAUS PARISH FESTIVAL celebrates the 150th anniversary of the second oldest Polish church in the U.S. with food, music, an auction, and other fun. *Sun., May 7.* Mansfield Park, Bandera, 830/460-4712. www.stanislausfest.com.

Monday 08

FREE LEGAL ADVICE 6-7pm. Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell. Free.

TIBETAN BUDDHIST FORMAL COURSES 7-9pm. 2700 W. Anderson, #320. www.lonestardiamonds.org.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings)

Beyond Fear: Finding Hope in the Horror @ Paramount, 7pm

Wet Hot American Summer @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm

Tuesday 09

AUSTIN CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTORS TO MILITARY TAXATION Call for meeting confirmation and location. 467-2946. Free. peacetax_tx@yahoo.com, www.acomt.org, www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

AUSTIN IONS MEETING features "Astrology and the MBTI - An Interdisciplinary Study," 6:30pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 847-0371. Free. www.ions-austin.org.

CARDIAC RISK PROFILE SCREENINGS Seton Medical Center, 1201 W. 38th, 324-3162. \$32. cwahlgren@seton.org.

DRINKING LIBERALLY Progressive types can drink and talk politics with like-minded citizens. 6:30pm. The Dog & Duck Pub, 406 W. 17th, 479-0598. austin@drinkingliberally.org, www.drinkingliberally.org.

EARLY VOTING ENDS today for mayor; City Council Places 2, 5, and 6; and Propositions 1 through 7. (See "Early Voting," p.10.) 238-VOTE. www.co.travis.tx.us/county_clerk/election/dates.asp.

GUIDED MEDITATION An intro to breathing techniques that relieve stress and improve health. 6:30pm. Milwood Branch Library, 12500 Amherst, 680-6140. Free. www.artoflivingaustin.org.

HERBAL INTENSIVE WORKSHOP focuses on using herbs for health and well-being. Tonight's topic: Staying Healthy - Herbs for the Immune

System and Liver Cleansing Herbs. 6:30-9:30pm. Austin School of Herbal Studies. www.ezherbs.net.

INDEPENDENT ORDER OF ODD FELLOWS WEEKLY MEETING Odd Fellows Hall, 6809 Guadalupe. www.capitol23.com.

JOBS WITH JUSTICE MEETING Texas State Employees Union, 2700-C S. First, 448-4225. Free. www.jwj.org/LocalCoal/TX.htm.

LONESTAR MENSA MONTHLY OPEN MEETING May's topic: "The Troubled Border of Psychology and Religion." 7-8:45pm. North Village Library, 2139 W. Anderson, 836-5773. Free. www.lsm.us.mensa.org.

PUBLIC HEARINGS ON COMMUNITY NEEDS The city needs your input on the 2006-07 action plan, which assesses community needs, available resources, priorities, and proposals for HUD funding. You can also submit comments online, through Aug. 15. Street-Jones Building, 1000 E. 11th: Tue., May 9, 6:30pm. City Hall, 301 W. Second: Wed., May 24, 6:30pm; Thu., May 25, 6pm. 974-3100. www.ci.austin.tx.us/connect/email_nhcd.htm.

SINGLE VOLUNTEERS OF AUSTIN MONTHLY MEETING 6:30pm. Flores Mexican Restaurant, 2700 W. Anderson, 302-5470. Free. www.singlevolunteers.org/austin.

UNDERSTANDING THE IMPORTANCE OF PH BALANCE IN YOUR BODY 6:30-8pm. Regenesi Integrative Health Centers, 1700 S. Lamar #322, RSVP 326-3737. Free. www.regenesiisihc.com.

WALK WITH US TO CURE LUPUS INFORMATIONAL MEETING Learn about the latest lupus research and find out how you can help organize this fall's walkathon. 6:30-8pm. Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 866/Walk-ALR. Free. alytle@lupusresearch.org, walk.lupusresearch.org/site/PageServer.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts) Artspoken Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings) **Diary of a Lost Girl** @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm **Wet Hot American Summer** @ Alamo Village, 9:45pm

the GAY place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

SWIFT! Not so much of the "boat" variety, as the "Jonathan" ... **Stephen Colbert**. And for the two to three of you who have not yet seen this: www.cinemablend.com/television/Colbert-Confronts-Bush-With-Truthiness-202.html, www.thankyoustephencolbert.org.

TGT UT's got a new student organization called Transgender Texas to say, "Hey, what up, y'all? We are fabulous, and we are here to freely express ourselves!" So if you are trans-identified and would be willing to take a survey or be interviewed, get in touch with these kids; they're gearing up for some important work. jack.skelton@gmail.com.

LGBT SUPPORT IN KILLEEN The place to deal with coming out, relationships, emotional turmoil, or just a new place to hang out with like-minded peeps, and feel safe, secure, and fostered. Tuesdays. Killeen Community Center, Rm. 101, W.S. Young @ Veterans Memorial Blvd., Killeen, 932-2666.

FIRST FRIDAY DINNER CLUB This group of professional gay men and women meets on the first Friday of each month. Hence the name. Fri., May 5. joshloker@prideofaustin.com, frstfridays-subscribe@yahoo.com.

A VERY SPECIAL CINCO DE MAYO LOVE. ON THE LAWN Patrice Pike, Natalia Zukerman, Martine Locke, and Ginger Leigh. Gingerly, baby. Fri., May 5, 7pm. Love, 1000 S. First, 442-5683.

TRASHY: THE SPRING ED. Garbage-bag glam with your fave gender benders - who happen to be the same kids who are bringing IDKE to our town. It's a big deal that the international drag king thing is coming to Austin - first time in the South, even. And it's going to take a lot of sweat equity from our bad lads in **Kings N Things**, the **Wunder Bois**, and

Austin Gender Conspiracy to pull it off. Come out to this spring to-do and support. Fri., May 5, 10pm. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. \$10. www.elysiumonline.net, www.idkeAustin.com.

MAY DAY Fight AIDS by swinging! Jive to live jazz by **Denia Ridley & the Marc Devine Trio**, the "living art" floral sculptures by **Coby Neal & the Flower Studio**, and nosh to yummys from Cafe Josie, Mars, and Wink. Sat., May 6, 7:30pm. F8 Fine Art Gallery, 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. www.asaustin.org, www.f8fineart.com.

SIN2 The music here will take you away, featuring local pretty boy **DJ Manny** - perfect for a dance-off with some breakers in residence. Or run downstairs and prove to **Abe the Assassin** that lesbians do, in fact, know how to get down. Sat., May 6, 10pm. Sky Lounge, 416 Congress, 477-3151. \$10, presale; \$12, door; \$40, VIP; \$70, VIP couple. www.missmanagedproductions.com.

TOP DRAWER COUTURE FASHION SHOW Work. Turn to the left. Work. Turn to the right. Runway. Sashay. A fashion show, featuring styles culled exclusively from the thrift store itself, the expected emcee-loose lipping from the *Chronic's* own **Stephen Moser** (joined by a certain K8x), drinks, eats, an auction, and fashion, fashion, fashion. Proceeds go to **Project Transitions**. Sun., May 7, 7-9pm. Top Drawer Thrift Shop, 4902 Burnet Rd., 454-8646. \$35, advance; \$40, door. www.projecttransitions.org.

RAINBOW SKATE Austin's monthly gay skate night! Close your eyes and you are in *Xanadu*! Price includes skate rental. Rollerblades and BYO-quads welcome. Mon., May 8. Skate World, 9514 Anderson Mill Rd., 258-8886. \$6. jsvetlik2003@yahoo.com, www.main.org/rainbowskate.

LEARN TO DANCE COUNTRY It's the every-Tuesday two-step! And line dance and waltz and triple-two and more! Grease up yer ropers and head on down to the Cattle Co. to learn a bit beyond the do-si-do! Rainbow Cattle Co., 305 W. Fifth, 472-5288. www.rainbowcattleco.com.

For more gay stuff, see Calendar online: austinchronicle.com. Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.



The Finger thinks the smell test is an acceptable alternative to laundry.



The Finger believes heavy petting is every animal's right.



The Finger believes doodling is a legitimate form of taking notes.



The Finger thinks that streaking would be more fun if it were called "the running of the junk."

followthefinger.com

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www.roadwayevents.com

Art by Gary Fey



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Triple Espresso

State Theatre, through May 14

Running Time: 2 hrs

Triple Espresso is a coffee bar, and for the last 20 years, Hugh Butternut has been the piano player there. To celebrate his anniversary, he wants to reunite the old trio he used to be part of and resolve an old conflict with his two old friends. As premises go, this one's somewhat of a stretch, but the premise in this imported Equity production is just an excuse, really. The caffeine theme is as well. Nayna Ramey's set is literally a theatrical mosaic, combining relatively small squares of pink, green, red, and orange in different combinations. With a city backdrop cleverly composed of cups and saucers and a gorgeous piano filling the stage, it's all lit quite pleasingly by Michael Klaers, but, like the "story," it's just window-dressing. This show is really about allowing three performers to strut their stuff.

What they do is variety, vaudeville. One's a singer, one's a comedian, and one's a magician. Joe Gautier is the comedian, Bobby Bean, and while it took me a while to warm up to him, it must have been me that was doing the warming up. Gautier has a rubber face and body, and he does a tremendous amount of schtick, leading the audience in a sing-along as a young guitar player, performing a shadow-puppet show, and doing an extended ape sequence that floored me. The magic is the usual cups and balls and mind-reading card tricks, but it's all done quite well by Charles Peters as Buzz Maxwell, and magic done well is always fun. Danny Jacobs plays Hugh Butternut, doing a comic lounge-singer riff you've seen before, which he does well enough, but what he does *really* well is play and sing. At one point, taking requests from the audience, Jacobs broke into Billy Joel's "Piano Man." I'm always stunned when I hear a singer take a famous song and make it his own, and that's what Jacobs did. He didn't sing the whole song – what comic lounge singer ever does? – but after hearing him sing the beginning, I wanted him to. Leave 'em wantin' more.



The script, written by Bill Arnold, Michael Pearce Donley, and Bob Stromberg, provides tremendously entertaining set-pieces, and it's interesting that William Partlan directs every presentation of the show worldwide. (The show has long-running productions in Minneapolis and San Diego, plus assorted versions that tour.) And beyond the singing and magic and comedy, the actors take what I consider to be tremendous risks as they play out and resolve their conflict, often letting silence and stillness set in and introducing truly uncomfortable moments. Still, the story just didn't gel for me because I wasn't sure what I was watching. Much of it is told in a kind of flashback, but was it flashback, or were they really playing this stuff out or what? And was my confusion due to the script or to the way it was being handled, or was I just confused? While I never resolved those questions, they ultimately were of little consequence. The show is really about three expert entertainers having fun. And they do. And so did I.

– Barry Pineo

Theatre

OPENING

UIL TEXAS: ONE ACT PLAYS The University Interscholastic League presents 40 plays in three days as winning Texas high school teams battle it out all thespianly for a shot at national honors. Check the UIL Web site for complete details. *Thu.-Sat., May 4-6. UT campus. www.uil.utexas.edu.*

VIOLET CROWN RADIO THEATRE This vintagey costumed group of live-radio practitioners returns with more 1940s-era audio shenanigans in the form of serial characters "Sailor Steve Costigan" and "Molly McCoy, Air Ace" tearing up the waterfront and battling Nazis, respectively. *May 4-7. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Fri.-Sat., May 12-13, 8pm. The Hideout Theater, 617 Congress, 535-1929. www.violetcrownradio.com.*

4:48 PSYCHOSIS is an unnerving tale of suicide and mental illness, from playwright Sarah Kane (who killed herself at the age of 28) and your darkling pallies at the Vortex (who remain, happily, among the living). Directed by Bonnie Cullum and Lorella Loftus, with Loftus and Patricia Wappner performing within a new soundscape by Chad

Salvata. *May 5-28. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30. www.vortexrep.org.*

INTO THE WOODS The Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired's drama department presents this fabled-up and none-too-Grimm musical by Stephen Sondheim. *Fri.-Sat., May 5-6, 8pm; Wed.-Thu., May 10-11, 8pm. Audio described performance: May 5. TSBVI, 1100 W. 45th. 206-9234.*

MISFIT The Starlex Theatre Company presents a solo performance by the vivacious Alex Garza, creator of *Harry the Homeless Homosexual Explains the Meaning of Life*. In this show, Garza tackles homosexuality, religion, performing children's theatre, body image, dating, but, above all, his obsession with Olivia Newton-John. *May 11-28. Thu.-Sat., 10:30pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$5-20. www.vortexrep.org.*

CLOSING

CYMBELINE Spotlight Music-Theatre Company presents an outdoor, site-specific performance in which all of Shakespeare's plays are combined within the framework of his late work *Cymbeline*. Much dancing and "wild drumming" accompany the show. *Through May 7. Fri.-Sun., 8pm. South Court of the UT Tower, UT campus. Free.*

THE EXONERATED is a fine staging of the true stories of six Death Row inmates wrongly convicted of murder, who, in the face of new evidence, were freed with their innocence proclaimed and their lives reclaimed. Based on more than 40 interviews, rendered dramatic by scripters Jessica Blank and Erik Jensen, and directed by ZACH's Dave "Hard Workin'" Steakley. *Through May 7. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-37 (\$15, student rush tickets; other discounts available). www.zachscott.com.*

THE ODD COUPLE Felix is a neatnik, Oscar's a slob; now the two are post-divorce roommates and hilarity ensues in this revival of Neil Simon's classic comedy, directed by Don Toner and starring David Stahl and Michael Stuart. *Through May 7. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun. 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. www.austinplayhouse.com.*

STATIC is Ryan Pavelchik's enigmatic story of "A young man who, waking in a hotel room, uses the television, telephone, alarm clock, and his digestive tract to dissect and confront his past." Performed by Brent Werzner, directed by Jason Neulander for Salvage Vanguard Theater, and the show takes place in a hotel room. Thus, seating is extremely limited. *Through May 6. Thu. & Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 &*

8pm. The Woodward Inn, 3401 S. I-35. 474-7886. \$20-50 (with two-for-one matinees). www.salvagevanguard.org.

THE EMPTY BOWL This absurdist comedy, winner of the 2005 Artspark Festival, is the latest from those madcaps of Loaded Gun Theory. "A holy man, an exacting entrepreneur, and a committed nihilist, stranded in a decaying house built by sugar and slaves, struggle with the finer points of illumination through the measured consumption of rice." Written by Timothy Thomas and directed by Dolores Diaz. *Through May 6. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Arts on Real, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. \$10 (\$5-15, Thursdays). www.loadedguntheory.com.*

9 X 9 X 9: AN APOCALYPTIC FAMILY COMEDY is written by Randy Wyatt and directed by Josie Tucker for Coda Theatre Project. It's an apocalyp... oh, you already know that. It's about Vicki, specifically, and how she manages to deal with her dysfunctional parents and brother while the world is (literally, they say) beating down her door. *Through May 6. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. play!Theatre, 1204 Cedar, 468-5546. \$10 (\$8, students, seniors, ACoT; pay-by-the-dice, Thursdays). www.codatheater.org.*

★ THE ROSE OF TREASON is a play, written by James DeVita and here presented by AmeriCorps, about the true story of a group of German college students who formed a resistance to the Nazi movement during WWII. *Thu., May 4, 8pm; Sat., May 6, 9pm. Texas Hillel, 2105 San Antonio St. rose@texashillel.org.*

NOBODY KNOWS I'M A DOG Go AFK all the way to Lockhart to catch Alan David Perkins' comedy based on chat-room anonymity and what happens when that anonymity is shattered, and you'll possibly LOL. O RLY? YA RLY. *Through May 6. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Gaslight Theater, 204 N. Main, Lockhart, 512/376-5653. \$10 (\$6, students; other discounts available). www.gaslighttheater.com.*

ONGOING

TINTYPES is a nostalgic musical revue featuring America's turn-of-the-century music. (NB: Not the recent turn.) This show, written by Mary Kyte, Mel Marvin, and Gary Pearle, is presented by the Violet Crown Players as directed by Michael Stuart, with choreography by Toni Bravo and music direction by Jeffrey Jones-Ragona. *Through May 13. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra shows: Thu., May 11, 8pm; May 14, 2pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 301-3656. \$15. www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty.*

CHEATER is an anthology of eight short plays exploring what it means to be a cheater. "From a professional scapegoat to a hypnotist with something up her sleeve, from secrets in the bedroom to the highest levels of government, from the smallest cheat to the biggest, and from cheating another to cheating oneself." Written by George Brandt, Monika Bustamante, Michael Kranes, Robert J. LeBlanc, Gregory Romero, Andrea Skola, Mical Trejo, and Ken Webster, and featuring a fine cast, this is the latest from Shrewd Productions. *Through May 13. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY, 695-7405. \$15 (\$13, ACoT; pay what you can, Thursdays). www.hydeparktheatre.com.*

TRIPLE ESPRESSO is a popular, family-friendly touring show: a wacky, Vaudeville-inspired "rags-to-rags" story of an aspiring trio whose bid for showbiz fame and fortune ended in four minutes on national television." Hey, check their Web site. *Through May 14. Wed.-Fri., 8pm; Sat. 5 & 8pm; Sun., 2:30 & 7pm. The State Theatre, 719 Congress, 472-7134. \$36.50-41.50. www.austintheatrealiance.org.*

BAD DATES You think you've had a series of bad dates, sister? Some bad dates can be as painful as a broken foot. Let Haley (as played by the Jill Blackwood) give you an earful of Dating Hell in the Big Apple, in this comedy from the pen of Theresa "Omnium-Gatherum" Rebeck, directed by Dave Steakley. *Through June. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$28-37 (\$15, student rush tickets). www.zachscott.com.*

RICHARD III Guy Roberts is the crippled king. In this outdoor production capping Austin Shakespeare Festival's current season, featuring an excellent cast, scenery by Chase Staggs, costumes by Buffy Manners, and free admission by the grace of God. *Through May 13. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. Zilker Park Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr. www.austinsakespeare.org.*

DINNER THEATRE

MUSICAL MURDER MYSTERY EXPERIENCE Help unravel a mystery set in 1945, in which a USO troupe's magician has met his demise, while vocalists entertain with tunes by Gershwin and Porter, et al. And, mmm, a five-course Italian dinner. *Sun., May 7, 5-7pm. Tony's Vineyard, 2828 Rio Grande, 476-5600. \$39.95.*

THE FALSETTO is a Sopranos-like interactive comedy whodunit from the Capital City Mystery Players, featuring tasty Italian cuisine that provides an

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 May 19 issue is Monday, May 8.** 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 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail:

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DUST OFF YOUR BLUE SUEDE SHOES

Chuy's **23RD ANNUAL
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CHECK ONE

- KID K**
\$8 POSTMARKED BY 5K
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Austin Chronicle

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9x9x9

play! Theatre, through May 6

Running time: 1 hr, 30 min

In a universe not too unlike our own, a battle between the forces of good and evil plays out. A young woman finds herself accidentally stuck in a cosmic pre-apocalyptic game. One black box with the dimensions of 9-by-9-by-9 determines the outcome. Coda Theater Project extends an existential metaphor into literal doom in a new play by Randy Wyatt. 9x9x9, titled after this box of miraculous power, is a curious combination of absurdism dancing in the realm of theosophic speculation, with a dysfunctional family, a New Age neighbor, and an unfortunate pizza-delivery guy thrown into the mix.

The production is ambitious in its intersecting plotlines. Vicki, played by Zena Marie Franklin, unexpectedly received a black box in an airport, and ever since, she has been followed by every type of mercenary force seeking to acquire it. Now, she's locked herself up in her home, gun holster strapped to her chest, fully packing. Family wholesomeness is absent, with Mom and Dad separated but still living under the same roof and in turbulent communication. Dad (Zac Crofford) is cavalier in his rediscovery of playboy freedom. So immersed in libidinous urges is he that Vicki's best friend, Lenore (Kate Meehan), becomes his willful lover. Mom (Cynthia Mance) has taken to drinking with transcendental junkie Minerva (Lisa Scheps). To top it all off, a man dressed in a mock-up of Billy Idol or a 1950s greaser (Christopher Loveless) keeps mysteriously appearing in Vicki's home, demanding she hand over the box.

Eventually, we gather that the box is a missing particle of God that did not properly dissipate in its fall through Earth's atmosphere – a kitschy notion, but one that offers some philosophical fodder to chew on. However, the execution of the production falls short in places that could have used more focus. As an ensemble, the cast is comfortably cohesive, but, individually, each character seems intent on taking the spotlight from the others. Perhaps the point is this: We are selfish, cruel, and incapable of an intimate connection with another human being. But if that's the case, then it should be clarified in the presentation, through either excessively grand or intentionally

opportunity to twirl your vermicelli (or divide your veal parmesan or what-have-you) while trying to sleuth out the mobbish culprit. Who's responsible for this murder-spiced mass of mastication? Gary Payne's the lead suspect. *Sat., May 6, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. www.meatballs.com.*

AUDITIONS

KATRINA: THE GIRL WHO WANTED HER NAME BACK This is a drama, written by Jason Tremblay, to be directed by Jonathon Morgan for an October production, about a young girl named Katrina who becomes lost during the recent New Orleans disaster. They need: An "older African-American woman" and an "older Caucasian man." And musicians: trumpet, trombone, guitar, bass guitar, drums, accordion, washboard, any type of saxophone. Bring your instruments, be ready for cold readings from the script. *Fri., May 5, 6:30-10pm. Winship Bldg., Room 1.134, UT campus. 232-9399.*

THE HOLLOW This Agatha Christie mystery, to be directed by Norman Blumensaadt for Different Stages in June and July, will require performers to speak in British accents. They need men (ages 25-60) and women (ages 25-55). Call for appt. *Sat., May 6, 11am-2pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 453-7943. www.main.org/diffstages.*

RED CANS The fiercely innovative Rubber Repertory Company is looking for petite, movement-oriented, nonclaustrophobic performers for a production that will be co-produced by the Rude Mechs in August. *Sat., May 13, 10am-2pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 470-1735. www.rubberrep.org.*

RUMPELSTILTSKIN Scottish Rite Children's Theatre is looking for adult male and female character actors for this kiddie musical, to be presented in June and July. Prepare a one-minute monologue, be dressed to move. Bring a current headshot and résumé. Required: Call for appt. *Thu.-Fri., May 18-19, 7-9pm. Scottish Rite Theatre, 207 W. 18th, 786-9458. www.scottishritetheatre.org.*



diluted expression. (I am thinking of Hal Hartley's film repertoire.) The show hovers between what appears to be realism and a Beckett-like absurdism, which is okay, but I would have preferred an intentional exploitation of the genres so that I didn't have to guess at it. This discomforting confusion may be director Josie Tucker's problem to solve. The performances by Franklin, Meehan, Mance, and Loveless foster playful extremism in this kooky thought piece on life, death, and the power of God. The show's strengths are mostly represented in physical comedy, such as Cody Hudson's perpetually dead-then-alive body being tossed about and shoved into cramped spaces.

Conceptually, the premise is fascinating and contemplative. Coda Theatre Project is a company with loads of potential and a knack for choosing and offering theatre audiences fresh takes on classic themes. I hope that as their production résumé expands, so too does their depth in presentation. — Heather Barfield Cole

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research Blvd. #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Andy Ritchie has an opening act called only TBA. So we figure he must be a BFD when it comes to BTF. Uh, that's "Bringing The Funny," yes. And you know what? He does. He does bring the funny. *May 4-6. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Open Mic Comedy Sit back and relax with a cold one while you watch seasoned pros and up-and-comers knocking themselves out humor-wise for your benefit (and to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter). *Sundays, 8pm. \$2 (free, college students).*

Matt Bearden is a local fellow, and the word on the street is that he is a mighty funny local fellow. Which is why, we believe it follows logically, the fellow is headlining Cap City this week. Fellow. Fellow. *May 9-13. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Funniest Person In Austin Tournament And so it begins. In a world where comedians vie for the honor of making you laugh the hardest – in a world where funny men and funny women do their damndest to display just how hilariously fucked up our existence (or their perception of it) is – in a world where movie-trailer voiceover clichés are the last refuge of a deadline-skirting copywriter – comes the return of this much-ballyhooed battle of comedy. Who's gonna be the champ this year? Over the next couple of months, all manner of local stand-up comedians (professional, amateur, brilliant, pathetic) will take the Cap City stage to show you what they've got. You should check this shit out, friend. It'll take place on Monday nights through May. \$6.

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esterhoffies.com.

Esther's Follies wrecks some hilarious havoc with their usual fast-paced brilliance, featuring a preview of the upcoming governor's race, the South Austin Chamber of Commerce, Shannon Sedwick channelling Patsy Cline, an almost X-rated Dr. Suess, and so funnily on, with much comedy-riddled song and dance and that spectacular magician Ray Anderson. *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 THEATER 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.heroescomedy.com.

AUSTIN IMPROV: EVERYTHING FROM NOTHING The Hideout's the epicenter of all the best improv in Austin, and it's shifting into overdrive for 2006, presenting more shows, more styles, more wicked tasty off-the-cuff japey than you can find anywhere in Texas (or, for that matter, the Greater Southwest and Southeast Regions). Keep your eyes peeled to this section of the listings for what's, as they say, happening at Improv HQ. For instance:

THURSDAY: Lumberjack Match One representative from each troupe in Austin joins up to create, almost Voltron-like, an improvising supergroup. Fast, dense, and superluminal! *8pm.*

FRIDAY: IMPROV THREEFER Resident and guest improv troupes each perform a 22-minute set, providing audiences with a fresh variety of improv teams and approaches each week. This week: **Foohish Mortals, 1 A.M., and Massive** from Houston. *8pm. AUSTIN STYLE* Unlike in the Threefer, audiences are treated to two teams performing one specific style or form. This week: **The Knuckleball Now and McNichol & May, 10pm. THE CAGEMATCH** Two teams battle for improv supremacy by putting up their best work for the audience in 22 minutes. At the conclusion of the show, the audience decides the winner, who will return the following Friday night to defend their title. Lordy, it's almos' like wrasslin'! This week's challenger: **Dark Blood Lords. 11:30pm. \$7-10.**

SATURDAY: WHIRLED NEWS TONIGHT Because the Hideout doesn't rest on its laurels, no matter how comfortable those laurels may be, here's a new form of political and social satire, ripped (as they say) from the day's headlines and presented by the finest improv comedians in Austin. *Saturdays, 10:30pm. \$12 (\$10, seniors, students).*

SATURDAY: MAINSTAGE SHOW The **Heroes of Comedy**, who brought us *Start Trekkin', Giants of Improv*, and the wildly successful *Lyrix*, present original forms and classic shows in one to two month runs. Or, this week: **The Sicks, 8pm. MAESTRO** is the most audience-participatory show in the improv line-up. Performers play games and scenes scored by the audience, periodically eliminating low-scoring players until one performer emerges victorious and is crowned the Maestro. *10pm. LATE NIGHT HULLABALOO & IMPROV LAB* The audience takes the stage with experienced improvisers, trying out a series of games and gambits, lead by the wily veterans themselves. The Hullabaloo is scheduled the second, third, fourth, and fifth Saturday of each month, starting roughly 10 minutes after Maestro closes. (And it's free to anyone who has just seen the Maestro.) *The first Saturday? An experimental showcase. 11:30pm. \$7-10.*

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelvetroom.com.

Jeremy Neal moves through genres, one moment telling stories and the next flowing into crafted jokes and cultural satire. Frequent topics of his show are: racist turtles, abortions, and the various affects of plastic surgery on future generations' genitals. Nuff said? And Mike Creed and Seth Cockfield open. *Fri.-Sat., May 5-6, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

Open Mic Night, God Help Us All Think you have what it takes to knock 'em dead, comedy-wise, in three minutes? Some of your fellow citizens think so, and they (and you?) will be up there on the Cheese Palace boards, giving it their best shot. *Thursdays, 10pm. \$5.*

Dance

TAPESTRY DANCE COMPANY: AUDITIONS The company is looking for strong rhythm tap dancers with experience in modern and/or jazz, interested in new and master works. Positions offer a full season contract (September-May) with salary, workman's comp, and chiropractic care. Dancers must relocate to Austin and be available September 5, 2006 for M-F rehearsals. Upon hiring, transportation expenses for relocation will be reimbursed. (Interested dancers unable to attend the on-site audition should send bio/bodyshot/DVD or VHS of work by May 15.) *Sat., May 20, 2:30pm. Tapestry Dance Company, 507-B Pressler. 695-6560. www.tapestry.org.*

ACC DANCE DEPARTMENT: SPRING CHOREOGRAPHERS SHOWCASE An eclectic showcase highlights the work of faculty and student, as student performers dance under the direction of Roxanne Gage, Darla Johnson, and Heather Sultz, to benefit the Dance and Drama Scholarship Fund. *Fri.-Sat., May 5-6, 8pm; Sun., May 7, 6pm. Mainstage Theater, Austin Community College, 1212 Rio Grande. 223-3384. \$6 (\$3, students, seniors).*

ARIEL DANCE THEATRE: GYRE Gyre is a delightful story of science and magic, people, their memories, history, and the earth as choreographed by the inspiring Andrea Ariel aided by a collaborative Who's Who of local dance theatre and multimedia artists. *Through May 13. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sun., May 7, 2pm. The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 474-TIXS. \$12-25 (Sunday, pay what you can). www.austix.com.*

1,001 NIGHTS

CLEOPATRA Belly dancing with true Egyptian flavor. *Fri.-Sat., 8pm-2am. Cleopatra, 2620 S. I-35. 947-9462.*

DESERT PASSION MIDDLE EASTERN DANCE THEATER This month's alcohol- and smoke-free event features a bevy of local dance instructors doing as well as they teach. Also on the dance card: Drakon, Jeanette, Lizette, Lori Friedman, Melissa-Amira, Pat Taylor, Seichimat, Tashar, and Z-Helene. *Fri., May 5, 8pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 750-7037. \$10 (free, kids). www.desertpassion.com.*

TWO LEFT FEET

FIRST FRIDAY CONTRA DANCING Easy and fun, contra dancing'll put you in the swing of things. *Fri., May 5, 7:30pm beginners lessons; 8-11pm main dance. Carpenter's Hall, 400 Josephine. 970-4919. \$8 (discount for AFM members).*

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Open to current, former, and new students (DI, UT, and other), these Ballroom and Latin sessions are a great way to practice with your feet. Parties: *Sundays, 6-8pm*. Practices: *Tuesdays, 8-9pm*. 8611 Green Valley Dr., 32-DANCE. www.dancein.org.

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS Latin, swing, and other dance music in a nonsmoking, alcohol-free venue. No partner required, all ages welcome. *Saturdays, 8pm*. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek. \$6 (\$4, members, students). **ABD classes** Five-week sessions, beginners to advanced dancers. *Tuesday & Thursday nights*. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st. Prices vary. www.austinballroomdancers.org.

RELEASE INTO DANCE Skinner Releasing is a pioneering approach to dancing, turning our innate "bodily intelligence" into dance. This five-week class focuses on introductory pedagogy and is designed for dancers of intermediate or advanced level. It may also be appropriate for people of other movement or artistic backgrounds. *Through June 10*. *Saturdays, noon-1:45pm*. Heloise Gold's Studio, 2525 Wallingwood, Bldg 7A, Ste. 702B. 236-9338. \$5 for the series; \$12.50 per class.

AUSTIN SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Traditional Swedish and Norwegian dances. Beginners welcome, no partners needed. New classes start every month. *Thursdays, 7:30-9:30pm*. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598 or 453-9633. \$3.

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE You don't need a partner, and every dance will be taught before you stride out on your own. With live music. *Wednesdays, 7:30pm*. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 453-4225. \$3. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Learn a variety of couples and line dances from around the world before giving it a whirl during the open dance session. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner required. *Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons); open dance 8-11pm*. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5 at the door. www.yastreb.com/tifd/aifd.html.

AUSTIN SCOTTISH COUNTRY DANCERS Come alone or with a partner; beginners always welcome (kilts optional). *Thursdays, 7-9pm*. Quicksilver Dance Studio, 8711 Burnet. First session free. www.austinscd.org.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid*. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). www.austinswingssyndicate.org.



▲ Yes, it's Slaid Cleaves. With Strings Attached, this Friday.

they prepared to meet their match when they hit the stage with the even bigger, badder, hipper ASO? Swing, baby! This pop concert is sure to pack a punch. *Fri.-Sat., May 5-6, 8pm*. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 476-6064, 888/4-MAESTRO. \$25-40. www.austinsymphony.org.

TEXAS CHORAL CONSORT: MOZART'S REQUIEM This concert is a preview of TCC's upcoming tour to Wales and England and also features other modern, classical, and spiritual works. Barry Scott Williamson conducts. *Fri.-Sat., May 5-6, 8pm*. Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center Dr., 445-6151. \$20 (\$15, seniors, students; free, ages 9 and younger). www.txconsort.org.

STARLIGHT SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: A TOAST TO BROADWAY! Cina Crisara conducts the 55-piece regional orchestra, which performs selections from favorite Broadway musicals in an all-ages concert. Sunday's performance is outdoors. *Sat., May 6, 7:30pm*. Southwest Hills Community Church, 7416 Hwy 71 W. Sun., May 7, 4pm. EmilyAnn Theatre, 1101 FM 2325, Wimberley. 858-0324. Free. www.starlightsymphony.org.

WESTLAKE HIGH SCHOOL: SPRING JAZZ CONCERT The UT Longhorn Jazz Festival (Div. 5A) perform. *Sat., May 6, 7:30pm*. Westlake High School, 4100 Westbank. \$5. www.westlakeband.com.

ORPHEUS ACADEMY OF MUSIC: ANNUAL FACULTY BENEFIT CONCERT A bunch of short chamber music works for different ensembles makes for a kid-friendly concert, with proceeds going to set up a scholarship fund for promising young students to attend summer music workshops. *Sat., May 6, 7pm*. First Unitarian Church, 4700 Grover, 231-8999. \$12 (\$7, children). www.austinuu.org.

INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC CIRCLE OF AUSTIN: A GRAND MANDOLIN CONCERT ICMCA and South Asian Institute present U. Shrinivas in a blockbuster concert, accompanied by U. Rajesh on mandolin, Murugaboopathy on mridangam, and S.V. Ramani on ghatam. *Sun., May 7, 5pm*. Akins High School Auditorium, 10701 S. First. 448-6740. \$20-50 (\$10-25, seniors, students; \$5, ages 9 and younger; free, ICMCA members). www.icmca.org.

CONSPIRARE CHILDREN'S CHOIR: O'ER AIR, LAND, AND SEA Conspirare's younger set are joined by some of the men from the adult choir. *Sun., May 7, 4pm*. Central Christian Church, 1110 Guadalupe, 476-5775. www.conspirare.org.

AUSTIN CHILDREN'S CHOIR: SPRING FORTH IN SONG CONCERT Singers ranging in age from five to 15 perform works ranging from an international suite of folk songs to Irving Berlin numbers, with pianist Austin Haller and a jazz combo. *Sun., May 7, 6pm*. Congregation Agudas Achim, 7300 Hart. \$5. www.austinchildrenschoir.com.

Classical Music

NOTES & ENCORES

CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP AUDITIONS ACMC seeks student and adult amateur musicians to participate in its annual chamber music workshop in June and July, instructed by some of Austin's finest musicians and teachers, aided by excellent visiting artists. Call for appt. Auditions: *Sat.-Sun., May 20-21*. Ascension Lutheran Church, 6420 Hart, 454-7562. \$415, Primary; \$325, Adult; \$845, Young Artists. www.austinchambermusic.org.

OPENING

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC Among the highlights of UT's School of Music's great classical program this week: **Miro Quartet Celebrates Ten Years** and closes its third year as the UT Faculty String Quartet, performing works by Haydn, Shostakovich, and Schubert. *Fri., May 5, 8pm*. Bates Recital Hall. \$17 (\$15, faculty, staff; \$10, UT students). www.music.utexas.edu.

STRINGS ATTACHED: SLAID CLEAVES Each album from this acclaimed singer-songwriter is an exploration into new ways of writing and performing, from hard-rocking full-band jaunts to quieter acoustic outings. Here, Cleaves is backed by Will Taylor's chamber musicians, for yet another take on the performer's music. *Fri., May 5, 7:30 & 10pm*. University Baptist Church, 2130 Guadalupe, 477-9837. \$15-35 (\$8, seniors, students; \$5, ages 12 and younger). www.stringsattached.org.

AUSTIN SYMPHONY: BIG BAD VOODOO DADDY Big Bad Voodoo Daddy has been tagged as one of the hottest, hippest, coolest bands around. Are

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Peat Duggins: The Moment That Changed My Life Forever

Art Palace, through May 31

While Webster's first defines "reaction" as a simple "response to a stimulus," Peat Duggins' current Art Palace show, "The Moment That Changed My Life Forever," is reactionary in a way that reaches back to the origins of the word, back to the fundamentals of chemistry, where "reaction" is: "a change or transformation in which a substance decomposes, combines with other substances, or interchanges constituents with other substances." Now, this is not to say that Peat Duggins' work is radical or on the fringe of what the general public will accept. In fact, Duggins' work is that mix of mass culture and reaction that is driving postmodern art out of its modern, exclusive roots both into and through the general public.

So on to the exemplification of "reaction." To enter the Art Palace show is to again enter Duggins' animated world of Hickory Ridge, seen most recently in the 2005 Austin Museum of Art exhibition, "22 to Watch." Mixing his work as an animator and illustrator with his propensity for installation, Duggins combines imagination and substance to create a room inside a world. As the Art Palace scenery fades, the two human-scaled podiums that center the installation bring Hickory Ridge quite close to home. So close to home, in fact, that, even while facing each other and poised for debate, each anthropomorphic podium cannot escape its own introspection or run from its own false shadows. While one podium embodies a visual feedback loop, featuring a self-reflecting video camera where a microphone ought to be, the other is a microphone centered over its own speaker. The result is a politician's dream and, cunningly, most politicians' realities: an imaginary debate between two entities that can, in reality, only hear or see themselves. And as Duggins' painted shadows announce "All Debate on the Subject Ends," the viewer is instructed that in Hickory Ridge, as in Austin, the United States, Palestine, or Postmodernism (as Duggins would choose), power stops the voices of the populace just as it creates those voices from its own webs of meaning and signification.

Duggins' materials for the installation are the sort of low-budget items that represent both the reality of an artist's bank account and



the materials of the everyday Everyman. Yet while combining the gallery and the lumberyard, the exposed wiring, screens, speakers, and computer chips of the podiums show that Duggins and Hickory Ridge have at least a basic understanding of sophisticated computer circuitry. Mixing these mediums, metaphors, and meanings, the installation is at once the postmodern climate of techno-equality featured in pop bestsellers like Thomas Friedman's *The World Is Flat* and a critique of that distance and removal. Moving into the secondary room of the Art Palace, illustrations from Hickory Ridge tell the story of anthropomorphic Volkswagen Bugs who are subject to divisions reminiscent of the wall being built through Gaza, who are both the victims and perpetrators of car bombings and violence, and who are stricken by love, anger, and the full range of human feeling and emotion. Again in an alchemy of illustration, illusion, and eluding, Duggins' work looks at the reactions of those in power and contrasts them with the reactions of those who are immediately involved, not only in tragedy but in the very act of living, or say, reacting, where the result of mixing events, thoughts, and actions is the stuff of life and Duggins' art itself.

Peat Duggins graduated from the Rhode Island School of Design's film and video program in 2000. He is part of an artist's collaborative, Okay Mountain gallery, opening this month.

— Nikki Moore

CAPITAL CITY MEN'S CHORUS: NAKEDMAN CCMC and the Human Rights Campaign have joined forces to bring Austin the first full local performance of *NakedMan*, a landmark work born of the emotional power of the gay man's experience. CCMC is backed by full orchestra; the group also premieres "To Singing," by local poet George Klawitter, music by Karl Logue. Sun., May 7, 4pm. First United Methodist Church, 1201 Lavaca, 477-7464. \$20 (\$15, students). www.ccmaustin.org.

AUSTIN SINGERS: BRAHMS GERMAN REQUIEM AND LIEBESLIEDER Both works are performed in new English translations, with piano duet accompaniment (arranged by Brahms) by Martha Mortensen Dudgeon and Stephen Burnaman. Austin Singers' music director, Ara Carapetyan, conducts. Thu., May 11, 8pm. King-Seabrook Chapel, Huston-Tillotson University, Seventh & Chicon. Fri., May 12, 8pm. University Presbyterian Church, 2203 San Antonio. 314-5532. \$15 (\$12, seniors, students). www.austinsingers.org.

THE BREAD FACTORY: FIRST SATURDAY Keeping it toasty, this open-studio/sales event marks a new tradition for the contemporary fine artists and craftsman that reside in the former Mrs. Bairds factory. Hosted by Artillery Gallery and IDEA. Sat., May 6, 7-9pm. 701 Tillery.

IRON GATE STUDIOS: PROM NIGHT Now you'll have the opportunity to re-live prom night and do it like you always wanted! Wear your best duds, bring a date and wear dancing shoes. This event's strictly for ages 21 and older – bring your ID. Sat., May 6, 8pm-1am. 2205 E. Fifth, 495-9994. \$10. www.irongatestudios.org.

RT GALLERY: FIRST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION Rama Tiru and Jan Middleton Roset invite you to help them celebrate the first anniversary of their thriving gallery. Thu., May 4, 6-9pm. 3701 Guadalupe, 258-6486.

OPENING

AVAA: MOSTLY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SHOW Celebrating 29 years in the contemporary arts in Austin by featuring 60 local artists. Tim Pipe's "Art Bus," and music by John Pointer. Reception: Thu., May 4, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through May 29. 37th at Home Lane, 457-0075. \$5 (reception). www.avaaonline.org.

ART ON 5TH: STONES features the art of the Rolling Stones' Ronnie Wood and international caricaturist Sebastian Kruger. Curator Tours: Fri., May 12-13. Fri., 6-8pm; Sat., 2-4pm. Exhibition: May 5-15. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.

GALLERY LOMBARDI: JUSTICE FOR ALL? Artists reflect on the death penalty in this international call for works juried by Lora Reynolds, Annette Carozzi, and Malaquias Montoya. Visitors can call an 800 number and hear statements from the artists and jurors about the show. Reception: Sat., May 6, 7pm. Gallery talk with Annette Carozzi: Thu., May 11, 7pm. Exhibition: Through May 22. 910 W. Third, 481-1088. www.deathpenaltyartshow.org.

CREATIVE RESEARCH LAB: UT DESIGN SENIOR SHOW The only place where you'll be able to eat your words, learn Helvetica jokes, and annoy 22 senior designers with the question "Do you have a

job yet?" Reception: Sat., May 6, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through May 27. 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: ROOTS Artspoken is hosting this exhibition by "10 off the Edge" artists Martha Keating, Jan Know, Sue Tyson, and Deborah Willhite. Reception: Fri., May 12, 6-8pm. Exhibition: May 9-13. 1507 W. Koenig Ln.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: SUGARCOATED Art never tasted so good! Curated by Lisa Choinacky and Katherine McQueen, "Sugarcoated" features eight artists who address serious issues with a playful finesse. Be sure to look past the candy-coated exteriors to experience complex meanings. Reception: Thu., May 11, 6-8pm. Exhibition: May 11-June 17. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.

ARS IPSA COLLECTIVE: CALLING CARDS features new work in printmaking, mixed media, and sculpture by core artists Logan Hill, Laura Latimer, Ted Lier, Cliff Riley, and Emilio Villarruel. Also included are newest members, Michael O'Brien and Stephanie Strange, recently relocated from Chicago. Reception: Thu., May 11, 7-10pm. Exhibition: May 11-25. 2205 E. Fifth, 495-9994. www.irongatestudios.org.

VOLITANT GALLERY: GRAND OPENING New works by Trent Tate serve as a visual tribute to one of the most interesting and yet almost forgotten figures from Austin's past, William Radam. Reception: Thu., May 11, 6-9pm. Exhibition: May 11-June 3. 320 Congress Ave., #100, 236-1240. www.volitant.com.

CLOSING

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: ERIN CONE AND ALI CAVANAUGH The gallery invites you to view the works of two very exciting artists, perfectly paired in this double exhibition. Cone's art, especially, is something you never want to miss – unless you're an idiot with no visual taste at all. Through May 10. 1202-B W. Sixth, 472-7428.

BOLM STUDIOS "What If We Could Get It All Back?" features more than 20 new oil paintings from that gentle and loving soul, Michael Schliepke,

with a series of limited-edition prints created with the artists at Bearded Lady press. Through May 7. 5305 Bolm #10, 385-1670.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY presents the first solo exhibition by internationally recognized artist Robert Therrien. Through May 6. 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: SUPERSPACE Hanna Hillerova's solo mixed-media installation merges digital and analog modes of production, generating strange visual perspectives. Through May 6. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.

F8 FINE ART GALLERY: FOUR FEMME FATALES features works by oil painters Jill Pankey and Jennifer Balkan and photographers Dyanna Walker and Polly Chandler. And it's a bit eerie and very beautiful. Through May 6. 1137 W. Sixth, 480-0242. www.f8fineart.com.

FLUX GALLERY announces "Works on Wood," recent enamel-on-wood paintings by Lance Bradley. Through May 5. 2401 E. Sixth, Building 2, 320-0753. www.austinfluxstudio.com.

LA PENA GALLERY: PANTOMIME An exhibit of paintings by Esperanza Mendez, whose work is based on her experiences as a deaf Mexican-American. Through May 5. 227 Congress, 477-6007.

ONGOING

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS AUSTIN presents its "Spring Art Show." Through May 30. MOFAA, Lincoln Village, 6406 N. I-35 #2550. 297-2105. www.freewebs.com/mofaa.

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and sometimes (in rotation) others. 12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577. www.eyeccontactart.com.

2040 GALLERY: LIFE STILL features new works by Stella Alesi, Gabel Karsten, and Mo Scollan. Through May 27. 2040 S. Lamar, 912-0902.

ART PAD: LATEST ADDITION TO THE GALLERY SCENE This new gallery space and art school offers classes to preschoolers through adults. Current artwork featured is by Martha League-Calhoun and Miriam Harris. Through May 31. 1403 W. 47th, 323-0802. www.artpadstudio.com.

ART PALACE: THE MOMENT THAT CHANGED MY LIFE FOREVER Peat Duggins populates Hickory Ridge, the fantasy community from his 2004 *The Battle of Hickory Ridge*, to explore its personal and spiritual aspects by examining the feedback loop created when tragedy leads to reactionary politics, which in turn yields further misfortune. Through May 31. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171.

AUSTIN ART GLASS This glassblowing studio and gallery offers functional and decorative glass art, as well as glassblowing classes and free demonstrations. 1608 S. Congress, 916-4527. www.austinartglass.com.

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry made by the staff and friends of the studio. 5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. 6601 Felix Ave., 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

CULTURAS DE ARTE is a new gallery featuring Mexican folk art (statues, paintings, home decor, masks, and more) as well as unique works by proprietor Julian Orozco. 3311 N. I-35 Ste. C, 473-2302. www.artcultures.com.

D BERMAN GALLERY: NO ONE PLACE This series of new paintings by Austin artist Jimmy Jalapeeno explores the convergences and rhythms in nature. Gallery Talk: Sat., May 6, 1pm. Exhibition: Through May 27. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.

DAVIS GALLERY: 54 DAYS IN ASIA In the last 10 years Bill Nowlin has replaced the tools and instruments of engineering with the tools of photography, discovering a creative freedom that serves his interests in both science and art. Through May 20. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929.

DIBONA STUDIO Here's a studio/gallery devoted exclusively to the work of Joyce DiBona, including her newest oil paintings and a sculptural tattoo series. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

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Visual Arts

EVENTS

ART ON 5TH: UNVEILING OF THE UT NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP COMMEMORATIVE PAINTING Witness the unveiling of the artwork selected by UT, painted by nationally known sports artist Opie Otterstad. Limited editions of the artwork will be available for sale to benefit UT. Ten originals by Otterstad will also be available. Unveiling: Sat., May 6, noon-4pm. Exhibition: May 6-7. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.

ARTHOUSE: AHEAD OF THEIR TIME This seventh annual juried exhibition gives advanced art students the opportunity to exhibit their work in a professional setting. This year's works were selected by Hana Hillerova, director of the Creative Research Lab. Reception: Sat., May 6, 2-6pm. Exhibition: May 6-14. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthouseatexas.org.

garden. Glassblowing demos: Saturdays, 9am-noon. 3401 E. Fourth, 389-1100. www.freislandglass.com.

FLATBED GALLERY : THE SKY SUITE In these four etchings, Susan Davidoff layers plant forms from the Davis Mountains and central Texas with diagrams of comets. Davidoff achieves an intriguing macro/micro effect of image and meaning. Exhibition: Through June 3. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328.

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY presents the photographic work of Kim Francois. 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

THE WOMEN PRINTMAKERS OF AUSTIN "Challenging Traditions" is an exhibition of contemporary printmaking by 32 artists from Texas, Oklahoma, Connecticut, Maine, New York, Georgia, Louisiana, Arizona, and California. Through May 13. 1165 Angelina.

TECHNOLOGIES OF WRITING AND THE IMAGE WROUGHT: HISTORICAL PHOTOGRAPHIC APPROACHES IN THE DIGITAL AGE "Technologies of Writing" explores the history, style, and technologies of writing from its earliest form to the present. "The Image Wrought" examines the seeming paradox of contemporary photographers embracing archaic photographic practices in today's digital age. Through Aug. 6. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.lib.utexas.edu/Libs/HRC/HRHC.

IDEA offers photography, encaustic painting, and concrete relief works by studio artists Jacqueline May, Deanna Miesch, Benné Rockett, Tina Weitz, and Elizabeth Underwood, on display in the Bread Factory, Suite A-3. 701 Tillery, 472-3349. www.idea-art.org.

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY features works by native Texan Kathy Womack. 411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: LOS HILOS DE OAXACA (THREADS OF OAXACA) features the traditional costumes of indigenous groups within the Mexican State of Oaxaca. Textiles and artwork featured are from the collections of Candy Becker, Susam Frost, Marcia Lucas of the San Antonio Museum of Art, UT, and Mexi-Arte's permanent collection. Exhibition: Through July 16. Free admission and family activities: May 7, May 21, June 11. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.

MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART has an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork and craft items on display. 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. www.mitchie.com.

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA: THE MACHINES SHOW The exhibition in this intimate, quirky gallery surveys technology from the industrial revolution to today, with an emphasis on wondrous instruments, technological utopias, and forgotten machines. Call for appt. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org.

OKAY MOUNTAIN: MAIDEN VOYAGE A solo exhibition of new works by Jason Villegas, "Repressed Burial Fantasy" features sculptural installations, works on paper, and video animation. Through June 3. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez, Ste. B. www.okaymountain.com.

ORANGE ART COLLECTIVE: FREAK SHOW Here's circus sideshow-themed photographs and sculpture by Austin artist Palmer Schallon. Through June 1. 2503-B E. Sixth.

PHOTOGECKO STUDIOS presents an array of film/digital artist John Campbell's black-and-white photographs. Monthly First Thursday events debut new images along with live music. 1413 S. First, 797-9375. www.photogeko.com.

THE STASH is welcoming children for "Child's Play," an exhibition exploring the ideas of children's dream and nightmare fantasies. Through April 10. 2209-J S. First, 448-7707. www.austinstash.com.

YARD DOG: SEATTLE ARTISTS Explore the Emerald City beyond the stereotypical images of coffee, rain, software, and grunge, as Yard Dog presents the innovative works of Deborah Mersky and Joe Max Emminger. Through May 21. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.

SPACES

BETH MCELHANEY GALLERY McElhane's hand-made jewelry *par excellence* is available at her new digs, which she shares with Pro-Jex Gallery in South Austin. 1710 S. Lamar Ste. B.

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artwork. 701 Tillery, Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

ARTWORKS GALLERY features tropical butterflies artfully displayed in plexiboxes designed by GW Clark. 1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.

CAFE JOSIE displays the innovative photography of Bruce Hop. 1200-B W. Sixth, 322-9226.

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 an, we guess you might say, average South Austin home. Hours: Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keepeaustinweird.com.

CONNEXION CAFE: WATERCOLORS In her first solo exhibition, local talent Libby Lefevre focuses on objects of architecture. Exhibition: Through May 27. 7600 Woodrow, 454-6641. www.crestview.net.

CORRIDOR OF ART: CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP SHOW From hobbyist to professional, this exhibition showcases diverse styles and a unique range of mediums. Reception: Sun., May 21, 3-5pm. Exhibition: May 8-July 1. 700 Lavaca.

CROFTS ORIGINAL presents new jewelry in gold and silver by local artist Michelle Podell of Zahava Kala. 1714 S Congress, 445-6308.

FAWTEL ART showcases photo and graphic impressionism by A.J. Montrose. 447-2790. www.fawtel.com.

HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL: POLLY JACKSON Figurative, interiors and classic automobiles paintings now showing. Exhibition: Through June 2. 4206 Duval St., 458-3168.

JEFFREY'S Figurative and abstract paintings by Marcela Kourkova and Roger Bohuslav. Through May 20. 1204 West Lynn, 477-5584. www.jeffreysfaustin.com.

LAS MANITAS AVENUE CAFE Artwork from fourth-grade students at Sanchez Elementary. Closing Reception: Fri., May 5, 4:30-6pm. Exhibition: Through May 5. 211 Congress, 472-9357.

NORTH HILLS GALLERY: ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL Juried by Dee Phillips. Reception: Sun., May 14, 12:15-1:30pm. Exhibition: May 3-July 3. 7050 Village Center Dr., 345-1743.

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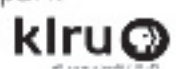
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The Devil and Daniel Johnston

D: Jeff Feuerzeig. (PG-13, 110 min.)

At various points in *The Devil and Daniel Johnston*, the once and forever Austin musical phenomenon is compared – and in some cases pronounced superior – to Robert Johnson, Bob Dylan, and Brian Wilson. The now 45-year-old, Waller, Texas-dwelling phenomenon is also a gifted and galleried illustrator and painter, so add Marcel Duchamp and Man Ray to the list. And damned if by the first of three endnotes to this keenly phantasmagoric music documentary naming Tom Waits, Pearl Jam, Beck, and Wilco among acts who've covered Johnston's off-kilter pop (don't forget TV on the Radio, Bright Eyes, and Death Cab for Cutie), you aren't snorting with a little less certainty. Not only does the literal and figurative institutionalization of the singer-songwriter unravel like a less severe Tennessee Williams gothic, to paraphrase one of the

film's chorus of interviewees, director Feuerzeig and his team of visualists cocoon it within a bedeviling sonic and scenic backdrop. (Full disclosure: Included among the many Austin observers interviewed in the film are *Austin Chronicle* editor Louis Black, former music columnist Ken Lieck, and occasional contributor Kathy McCarty.) The locations, sound design, and even the simplest mattes – pictures, postcards, a huge, heart-shaped pile of cassettes – complement the story like red on black. Super-8 slapstick by the young Johnston, who according to his family lived only “to make art and be John Lennon,” is accompanied by clacking spools of a film projector and his own spare piano, lending the first part of *Daniel Johnston* the aura of a 1920s silent. The black-and-white end-credit roll with a present-day Johnston fluttering soundlessly in his WalMart-issue Casper the Friendly Ghost costume borders on the supernatural. The all-too-brief animation of his surreal drawings proves no less effective. The most inspired instance of dramatic detailing allows Johnston to tell his own



tale through 20 years of taped diaries, letters, and ramblings. Hearing the subject read the clinical definition of “manic depression” elicits humor and pathos: “There you have it, I’m a manic depressive with grand illusions.” That Johnston’s wavering mental health feeds the “All great artists are crazy” bonfire – a cheeky line drawn here from Byron to Van Gogh, Virginia Woolf, Sylvia Path, and finally DJ – in no way minimizes the Everyman impact of Feuerzeig’s independent confirmation. For every idyllic childhood intruded upon by society’s unbending belief in “a productive life,” God only knows how many fragile psyches buckle and break. At the end of the day, Johnston’s childlike stream of unrequited love landed him on MTV, Atlantic Records, and now a feature-length theatrical recounting of his life. Take that, Satan. (See p.62 of this week’s Screens section for Louis Black’s feature on Johnston.)

– Raoul Hernandez

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor

New Reviews

AN AMERICAN HAUNTING

D: Courtney Solomon; with Donald Sutherland, Sissy Spacek, Rachel Hurd-Wood, James D’Arcy. (PG-13, 91 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. The twist in this satanic-possession thriller is that it’s set in 1817 and based on Brent Monahan’s novel *The Bell Witch: An American Haunting*, which recounts the story of the only known case in which the U.S. government acknowledged a death by supernatural forces. Again, it’s another horror film that wasn’t screened in advance for press. – Marjorie Baumgarten Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE CELESTINE PROPHECY

D: Armand Mastroianni; with Matthew Settle, Thomas Kretschmann, Sarah Wayne Callies, Annabeth Gish, Hector Elizondo, Joaquim de Almeida, Jürgen Prochnow, John Aylward, Obba Babatundé. (PG, 99 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. The gradual, city-by-city, independent release of this New Age metaphysics-cum-pulp thriller befits the the film’s origins as a self-published novel by James Redfield that slowly developed its cult standing throughout the Nineties. It tells the story of a man’s search for ancient, sacred manuscripts in the Peruvian rainforest. There were no advance screenings for press. – Marjorie Baumgarten Dobie

DARNA ZAROORI HAI

D: J.D. Chakravarthi, Manish Gupta, Sajid Khan, Jijy Philip, Prawal Raman, Vivek Shah, Ram Gopal Varma; with Amitabh Bachchan, Ritesh Deshmukh, Manoj Pahwa, Mallika Sherawat, Anil Kapoor, Rajpal Yadav, Makrand Deshpande, Bipasha Basu. (NR, 108 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. On the heels of *Being Cyrus*, another unusual Bollywood film comes this way. This is an anthology horror film with segments directed by seven different directors. – Marjorie Baumgarten AMC Barton Creek Square

★ L’ENFANT

D: Jean-Pierre Dardenne, Luc Dardenne; with Jérémie Renier, Déborah François, Jérémie Segard, Mirelle Bailly. (R, 100 min, subtitled.)

Please do not be fooled by the poster for this Palme d’Or darling: It is not a feel-good love story between the rumpled young couple you see in a clinch. Oh, no. Revolving around Bruno (Renier) and Sonia (François), *L’Enfant* is a maelstrom of grit, crime, poverty, and bureaucratic gridlock, seen through a documentary-style lens. It’s a marvelous, evocative, and well-acted film, but the Belgian Dardenne brothers tell about the dangers of life in Seraing, Belgium, an industrial bust town where love doesn’t necessarily conquer all. Sonia has just had a baby, but the titular child is actually Bruno, a small-time hoodlum who sells electronics heisted by his gang of chain-smoking grade-schoolers. “Only fuckers work,” Bruno tells Sonia – after she’s come home from the maternity ward to find that Bruno has sublet her apartment

in her absence. The problem is not that Bruno and Sonia are teenage parents. The problem is that Bruno is an opportunist and an abuser of goodwill, an emotional child who wheedles and schemes and squirms, and Sonia is too much in his sway. Everything around Bruno can be sold for a price, including Jimmy, their 9-day-old son. To say more would give away the plot, but the story picks up the pace in its second and third acts, transforming itself from a realist urban social drama into an ominous moral thriller about Bruno’s apparently fruitless attempts to undo his misdeeds. The Dardennes exploit their environment masterfully – the dank and shadowy interiors of semi-abandoned flats and garages where faceless hands collect payouts through rusty vents, a school yard more like a prison, and Bruno’s hideout by the Meuse, whose riverfront is seen here as a boneyard of mechanical waste, scrap metal, and hidden hollows for squatters. It’s a grim milieu, and the Dardennes photograph it unflinchingly. Renier has the hard face and pitted skin of a thug but the rounded shoulders and mop of blond hair of a younger boy; it’s a credit to his performance that despite Bruno’s callow, shiftless ways, hope for his redemption is not misplaced. The film isn’t perfect – its buildup is too long, with drawing scenes of the lovers tussling like puppies, while its final turn is too rushed – but it is an observant and effective study in character and setting, suitably grave and distinctively realized. – Marrit Ingman

★★★ Arbor

HOOT

D: Wil Shriner; with Logan Lerman, Brie Larson, Cody Linley, Jimmy Buffett, Luke Wilson, Tim Blake Nelson. (PG, 90 min.)

Walden Media, the bringer of all things feel-good and educational (*The Chronicles of Narnia, Because of Winn-Dixie*), presents its newest bit of sunshine with the somewhat endearing *Hoot*. The story follows Roy Eberhardt (the doe-eyed Lerman), a middle-schooler relocated from his beloved Montana to the pristine beaches of Coconut Grove, Fla. As the new kid, Roy faces angry bullies and more than one critical remark about his cowboy boots. Eventually, Roy’s only-in-the-movies investigative resolve propels him to explore the identity of a mysterious boy. Soon enough, Roy befriends the mystery boy, otherwise known as Mullet Fingers, a sun-bleached teen who sleeps in a boat, sprints his way around town, and lives to protect the Florida wildlife. Meanwhile, a corporate pancake house plans construction on land that happens to be the home to some adorable burrowing owls. A bumbling police officer (Wilson) investigates the incessant pranks designed to halt construction, including crocodiles in the toilets, deflated tires, and deadly snakes. And when we finally learn (surprise!) that Mullet Fingers and his plucky stepsister (Larson) are involved, the kids get into some hijinks, eventually emerging triumphant to save the owls. Based on the Newberry Award-winning novel by Carl Hiaasen (the first young-adult novel by the Floridian journalist and author), the film strives to live up to the quirkiness of the book but falls short. While the novel is drenched in Hiaasen’s wit, sense of adventure, and aggressive environmentalism, the film emerges as a vanilla comedy, only slightly more interesting than most. Previously released Walden films include the excellent *Holes*, but *Hoot* lacks the complexity and humor that made *Holes* such a joy. However, *Hoot*’s efforts don’t go completely unrewarded. Lerman is endearing as the spirited lead and Wilson brings charm and humor to his witless character. The reliable Nelson essentially repeats his role from *Holes* but is enjoyable nonetheless. First-time producer Jimmy Buffett takes a silly turn as Roy’s marine science teacher and contributes five new recordings to the soundtrack. And ultimately *Hoot* feels a bit like a Buffett song: kinda fun, but ultimately not contributing anything of significance or complexity to the world. Doubtless, the best sequences are the long sweeping nature shots: beautiful exposés of the Florida coastline. But, for all its environmental themes, the plot doesn’t deliver any substance about its namesake: the burrowing owls. Earnest, playful and eco-friendly, *Hoot* is a worthwhile visit for the tween set, but parents may role their eyes more than once at this flightless film. – Toddy Burton

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE III

D: J.J. Abrams; with Tom Cruise, Michelle Monaghan, Keri Russell, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Simon Pegg, Laurence Fishburne, Billy Crudup, Bahar Soomekh. (PG-13, 126 min.)

Poppycock is the bread and bloody butter of the superspy genre, and J.J. Abrams, the third director to helm this orgiastic action franchise (after Brian DePalma and John Woo), both recognizes that fact and milks it for all it's worth. *M:i:III* fairly lactates ordnance, spurting out gaudy ribbons of flaming, high tech explosivity, and some of the most hyperkinetic action sequences since Woo's beloved Hong Kong was still a Crown colony, and public praise for Chow Yun-Fat would net a befuddled, blank stare. Such is progress. Abrams cut his teeth on television's *Alias* and *Lost*, not to mention *Felicity* (an all-but-unrecognizable Keri Russell shows up here, too). Abrams works from a tight, serpentine script that never loses its rocket-sled forward motion – despite co-screenwriters, Alex Kurtzman and Robert Orci, grounding the proceedings in the realistic (so far as that goes) bedrock of Impossible Mission Force hotshot Ethan Hunt's (Cruise) personal life. As the film quickly reveals, Hunt has retired from fieldwork (aka "fun") and is preparing to marry fiancée Julia (Monaghan), a nurse, and settle down a tad (aka "even more fun"). She believes he spends his days working as a Virginia traffic controller, so when he's called back to action by IMF honcho (Crudup) and sent to rescue protégée Lindsey (Russell) from the clutches of evil arms dealer Owen Davian (Hoffman, considerably upping the ante on his long-running "I have a mouthful of mashed potatoes" vocal technique, to fine, creepy effect), she's blasé, or unwitting, or, and I think this is the most likely (having just been insta-married and consummated in a giddy-fun hospital supply room sequence that serves well to humanize the too-often robotic Hunt character), she's sore and just wants to go back to bed. Meanwhile, in Berlin/Shanghai/Wherever-James Bond-Isn't, Hunt and his trusty team are fighting enemies within the gates of the IMF and Davian, who, flaunting a steely mien Ian Fleming would've greatly appreciated, does tremendously bad things with the air of a man making out his shopping list. From thereon out it's kiss-kiss-bang-bang all over the place, but never with less than a full measure of chaos. Abrams, to his credit, has made what may be the best of the lot when it comes to these impossibly, increasingly over-the-top films: Unlike its predecessors, *M:i:III* occasionally stops to catch its breath – hence the fascination with and

Openings

An American Haunting (PG-13)

The Celestine Prophecy (PG)

Darna Zaroori Hai (NR)

The Devil and Daniel Johnston (PG-13)

L'Enfant (R)

Hoot (PG)

Mission: Impossible III (PG-13)

One Last Thing ... (R)

The Promise (NR)

Ratings

★★★★★ 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

fascinating depiction of Ethan Hunt's home life (who even surmised he might have one?) – and these smallish downtimes serve to ratchet up the surrounding fireballs all the more. Action connoisseurs will require defib after at least two of the set-pieces here, one involving a game of what can only be called Duck-Duck-Goose amidst a fluttery field of gargantuan windmills, and the other a smashingly well-edited battle between Hunt and the Bad Guys atop a doomed oceangoing causeway. It's all poppycock, of course, but it's done with such vim and vigor and both narrative and visual flair that you care not a jot. Summer has arrived. – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

Mission: Impossible III



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THE PROMISE

D: Chen Kaige; with Hiroyuki Sanada, Dong-Kun Jang, Cecilia Cheung, Nicholas Tse, Chen Hong, Liu Yeh. (NR, 102 min., subtitled)

Chen Kaige, the Chinese director of the masterful epic dramas *The Emperor and the Assassin* and *Farewell My Concubine*, tries his hand at a more fantastical story that seems to want to follow in the recent crossover footsteps of *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* and *House of Flying Daggers*. While always interesting, *The Promise* will never achieve the same kind of popularity in the West that greeted the other two films. Reportedly the most expensive Chinese film ever made, *The Promise* has been truncated by 18-19 minutes in an effort to clarify some of the action by Harvey Weinstein in his former capacity as head of Miramax before his distribution company dropped the film, which was later picked up by Warner Independent. The movie mixes sequences of romance, war, and magic for a blend that never quite feels like its whole heart is in any one of its modalities. Chen's frequently gorgeous set-pieces often have billowing fabrics, petals, feathers, and hair cascading across his images, and an epic cast of extras that must number near one thousand. Yet the film's essential CGI work will look dodgy by Western standards and has a deleterious effect on the magical illusions it is meant to convey. Plus, by my understanding of the story, the magical elements play it both ways: At the beginning, a goddess promises beauty, riches, and power to the little girl Qingcheng at the cost of never experiencing lasting love; at the end, the goddess reappears - after

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destiny has shaped and destroyed the lives of so many – to demonstrate the loophole available to alter one's fate. Following the prologue with the goddess, the movie jumps ahead 20 years to find Qingcheng (Cheung) a princess who turns on the king. She is saved by Kunlun (Dong-Kun), the slave of General Guangming (Sanada), and thus begins the mistaken-identity thread of this three-sided love story. Like its images, *The Promise* billows through the imagination as it unfolds but it leaves little lasting impression once its last feather has fluttered.

– Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square

RV

D: Barry Sonnenfeld; with Robin Williams, Jeff Daniels, Cheryl Hines, Kristin Chenoweth, Joanna "JoJo" Levesque, Josh Hutcherson, Will Arnett. (PG, 98 min.)

Isn't it time to put Robin Williams out to pasture? There's precious little mirth to be had via *RV* after the comically nasty opening set-up, during which harried soda-pop exec Bob Munro (Williams) watches his children (Hutcherson, Levesque) morph from cutesy moppethood to twin titans of teenage hellishness. When wife Jamie (Hines, of *Curb Your Enthusiasm*) inquires, "Talk to your daughter?" a chastened Bob mutters, "Yes. I'm still bleeding," a fractious throwaway line that nevertheless has the canny sting of real-world American families. After a contrived falling out with his boss, Bob is forced to cancel his family's summer vacation in Hawaii and instead rents a spectacularly garish RV, all the better to convince the hellish brood that his sudden "family bonding road trip" idea isn't exactly what it is: a dictate from said boss to be in Boulder, Colo., to deliver a key ad presentation or be fired. Hilarity, it must be noted, preferably from afar, does not ensue, unless your idea of jaunty hijinks includes draining a vehicular septic tank on your face or, possibly, palling around with Jeff Daniels beneath purpled mountain majesties. It will likely escape no one's attention that *RV* is a direct crib from the marginally more entertaining and kinda-sorta transgressive series of *National Lampoon's Vacation* films, which, at their very least, featured Chevy Chase, a comedian whose *Fletch-y*, SoCal comic tone often felt – refreshingly, I mean – as though it were being beamed in from planet Quaalude. They don't make comics (or drugs, I hear) like that anymore, which is almost certainly a good thing in the long run, but sad, bad news for *RV* audiences. There was a time not so long ago when Williams fairly seethed with a barely shackled comic madness that seemed as though it might, at any given moment, break free and run crazily, dangerously amok like one of *Forbidden Planet's* all-consuming monsters from the Id. Those exciting days of swine and roses appear passed, though (thanks, *Patch Adams!*), and what we and Williams are left with is a less-than-faint echo of former glories. On the plus side, he could always rent himself out to the inquirers at Gitmo as a wholly effective and nonbruising instrument of, shall we say, information extraction. Who knew torture could be so zany?

– Marjorie Baumgarten

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate



Park Row

Park Row (1952) D: Samuel Fuller; with Gene Evans, Mary Welch, Bela Kovacs. (NR, 83 min.) **Union Cinematheque.** Former newspaperman-turned-two-fisted filmmaker Sam Fuller wrote and directed this drama about rival newspapers in 1880s New York. This early Fuller film is rarely screened (and unavailable on home formats), and some aspects of the story have become dated. Yet it remains a rousing story of the introduction of linotype and newspaper stands and is as much a reminder of the necessity of press freedoms in our present day as it was when it was first released during the McCarthy era. @Texas Union Theatre, Friday, 7:30pm; free.

First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

AKEELAH AND THE BEE

D: Doug Atchison; with Laurence Fishburne, Angela Bassett, Keke Palmer, Curtis Armstrong, Erica Hubbard, J.R. Villarreal. (PG, 112 min.)

If you've seen the outstanding 2002 documentary *Spellbound*, you will perhaps recall Ashley White, the young spelling-bee contestant from the D.C. projects who cobbled together her training from word games and help from encouraging teachers, while the more privileged spellers enjoyed clubs, formal coaching, and other institutional advantages. *Akeelah and the Bee* is that movie, dramatized. It is, in most ways, a conventional Hollywood sports film, an against-the-odds story about an intellectual athlete, her coach, and her challenges with a big third-act showdown and an uplifting message. It is an excellent choice for tweenage audiences: Thoughtful, engaging, and with cross-gender appeal, it takes the problems of urban family life and education seriously and makes no villains of its characters. Atchison's dramatic hand is too heavy at times, especially when it comes to the backstory of Akeelah's tutor Dr. Joshua Larabee (Fishburne). However, his ensemble is wonderful. (04/28/2006) – Marrit Ingman

★★★ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

AMERICAN DREAMZ

D: Paul Weitz; with Hugh Grant, Dennis Quaid, Mandy Moore, Marcia Gay Harden, Willem Dafoe, Chris Klein, Jennifer Coolidge. (PG-13, 107 min.)

American Dreamz is all over the place. There's a guy like Simon Cowell (Grant), and he's really good at doing one particular thing. The film shows us that television executives are heartless and manipulative, which is kind of edgy, but it's also kind of just like, "Hey, Hugh Grant is being like Simon." We also know what to expect when the best karaoke singer in Padookie, Ohio, (Moore) gets her heart set on becoming a TV pop star. The film starts pulling together when it steps up the part of Quaid as the president of the United States – the current one. Without the ear transmit-

ter broadcasting from his chief advisor (Dafoe in his most terrifying role ever), the president can't keep that constipated smirk off his face. That's what this movie is really about. It's not about the vapidly of popular culture; it's about the country-fried jackass at the helm of our nation. You were this close. (04/21/2006) – Marrit Ingman

★★ CM Barton Creek

THE BENCHWARMERS

D: Dennis Dugan; with Rob Schneider, David Spade, Jon Heder, Jon Lovitz, Craig Kilborn, Molly Sims, Tim Meadows, Amaury Nolasco, Reggie Jackson. (PG-13, 80 min.)

The Benchwarmers is the latest comedy from Adam Sandler's Happy Madison Productions, otherwise known as the company started by a successful comedian in attempts to keep his unsuccessful friends employed. Schneider, Spade, and Heder star in this story about three hapless friends competing in a Little League tournament against all the bullying teams from around the state. Lovitz adds to this with a mostly uninspired performance as a billionaire ex-nerd who supports the team. Unfortunately, as our heroes gain a ridiculously massive following, the painful jokes keep piling up: booger eating, vomit, diarrhea, and titty twisters abound. Every turn is so jarringly predictable that watching the story unfold becomes a game of filling in the comedy blanks. The truly frustrating element is the presence of Heder in this film. After his iconic performance in the breakout *Napoleon Dynamite*, it's a sad sight to see this young comic pairing up with the faded presence of Spade and Schneider. (04/14/2006) – Toddy Burton

➔ AMC Barton Creek Square, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North

BRICK

D: Rian Johnson; with Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Lukas Haas, Nora Zehetner, Noah Segan, Noah Fleiss, Emilie de Ravin, Meagan Good, Richard Roundtree. (R, 110 min.)

Brick transfers Dashiell Hammett's hard-boiled universe to the modern high school campus with nary a clue that more than a half-century has passed since the Continental Op's heyday. Writer-director Johnson provides an original way to look at the world of high school with its bewitching young girls passing for femmes fatales and its lunkhead teen bullies filling in for professional mob muscle. There are drugs, a kingpin, and an intrepid young hero cherchezing his mysteri-

ously errant femme. Yet no matter how stellar Johnson's re-creation of the noir universe is, *Brick* comes across as more of an exercise than an emotionally invested drama. The staccato clip of the dialogue and the dated slang, although a good mimicry of Hammett's style, seem out of place in the otherwise contemporary milieu of suburban high school. Keeping the dialogue and doomed noir atmosphere afloat are the terrific central performances by Gordon-Levitt and Haas. (04/07/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Arbor

DON'T COME KNOCKING

D: Wim Wenders; with Sam Shepard, Jessica Lange, Tim Roth, Gabriel Mann, Sarah Polley, Fairuza Balk, Eva Marie Saint. (R, 122 min.)

A washed-up alcoholic loser, Howard Spence (Shepard) has tired of his bad-boy rugged individualism and taken off on horseback, searching for who-knows-what: some alternative to fleabag filmmaking, womanizing, and the drunk tank at middle age. Shepard (who also scripted) and Wenders are like celestial bodies who cross paths every 20 years – this is their first collaboration since 1984's *Paris, Texas* – but they work in remarkable accord, and *Don't Come Knocking* is a warm and sublime meditation on making a home out West and finding yourself after being lost and misguided. The characters are all in search of second chances, and *Don't Come Knocking* gives them beautiful possibilities without ever seeming soggy. With its wonderful veteran cast, its heart on its sleeve, and a love for the landscape that suffuses its technique, *Don't Come Knocking* is a peculiar but rewarding escape. (04/14/2006) – Marrit Ingman

★★★ Arbor

FRIENDS WITH MONEY

D: Nicole Holofcener; with Jennifer Aniston, Frances McDormand, Catherine Keener, Joan Cusack, Simon McBurney, Jason Isaacs, Scott Caan, Greg Germann, Ty Burrell. (R, 88 min.)

Forget friends with money – how about friends with husbands, kids, mortgages, and so-called life plans? That's the short list of differences between Los Angeles-based Olivia (Aniston) – a



Diary of a Lost Girl

Diary of a Lost Girl (1929) D: G.W. Pabst; with Louise Brooks. (NR, 100 min.)

Austin Film Society: Three Actresses Abroad – Anna May Wong, Josephine Baker, and Louise Brooks. Brooks plays a woman freed and empowered by her sexuality. As a beautiful naïf who, after a series of horrendous misadventures, finally finds true happiness and fulfillment working at a brothel, Brooks remains not only unrepentant but virtuous – the only truly strong character in a film populated by hypocritical moralizers. The silent film will have a live musical accompaniment by Graham Reynolds. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Tuesday, 7pm; AFS members free, \$4 general admission (online reservations at www.austinfilm.org).



Nudge 3.0: A Micro-Digital Film Festival

Nudge 3.0: A Micro-Digital Film Festival Reel Women and Austin FilmWorks. On Wednesday, Reel Women will co-sponsor the evening's screening of films made by local females, including Vicky Boone, Elizabeth Mims, Sherry Mills, Melissa Salpietro and others. A Q&A with some of the filmmakers will follow. The program is titled Chickflix06. Thursday night's program presents the premiere screening of the final-project films made by Steve Mims' Austin FilmWorks' Production 1 and Production 2 classes this spring. For more info, see www.reelwomen.org and www.austinfilmworks.com. @Arbor, Wednesday-Thursday, 7pm.

depressed, single stoner who cleans houses for a living – and her circle of affluent, slightly older friends. *Friends With Money* follows three couples and Olivia – forever the seventh wheel – as they navigate middle age in seemingly mundane ways. It's in these banalities that the characters' quirks and the couples' fissures are quietly revealed. Considering the film's relatively short running time, it's a wonder these characters feel so fully formed (not to mention near and dear) – it's in those barely-there details of a casual foot rub, or a casually dropped cruelty, that a couple's whole history is laid bare. The only weak link here is Olivia, who can't help but seem slight in contrast to her friends, the ones with money, husbands, and kids. Their desperation, quiet and otherwise, cuts to the bone. (04/21/2006) – Kimberley Jones

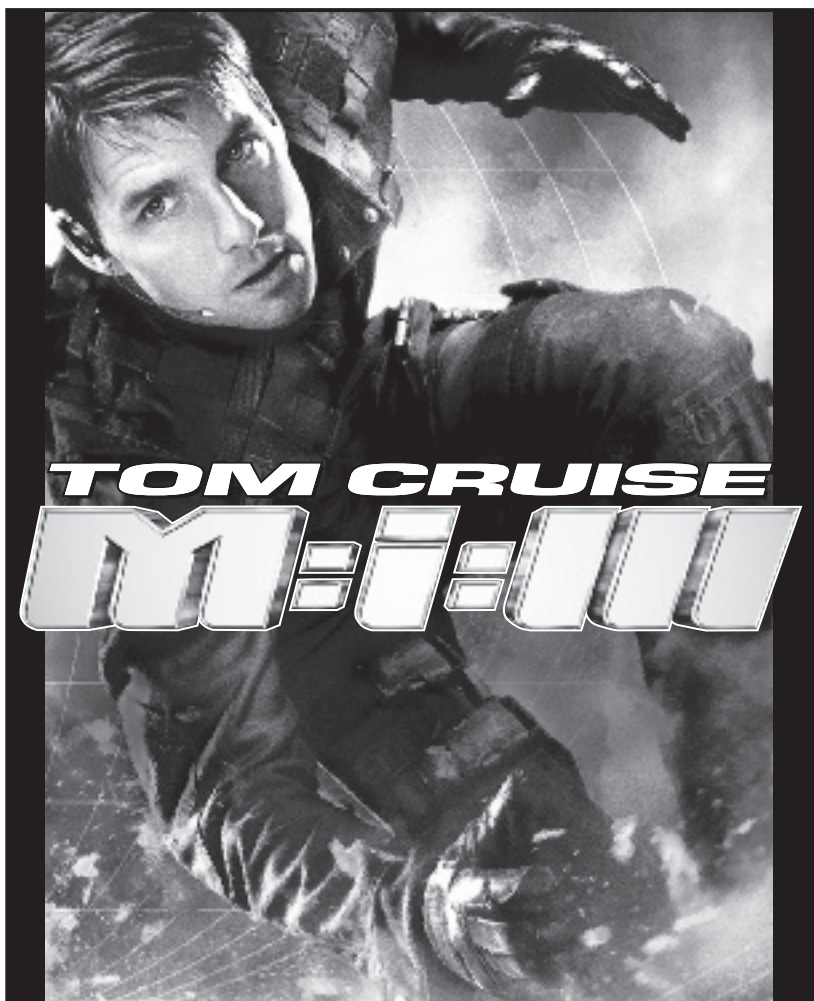
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Dobie, Metropolitan

HARD CANDY

D: David Slade; with Patrick Wilson, Ellen Page, Sandra Oh, Odessa Rae. (R, 103 min.)

Metaphorically speaking, Little Red Riding Hood eats Humbert Humbert in this story of an online predator and his jailbait, gamine prey. The film begins with a chat-room tease, during which adult photographer Jeff (Wilson) and 14-year-old Hayley (Page) make goo-goo icons at each other before meeting in the flesh at a local Los Angeles diner. The intellectually and (apparently) libidinally curious honor student allows this particular wolf to take her back to his place where he “does his work,” but the innocent has an agenda: She's more avenging angel than lupine side dish. *Hard Candy* wants to comment on the face of modern evil and, as such, there's no denying it's “ooky,” to use one of its protagonist's favorite words. Creepy to a fault and shot in a cool, clinically hip, and minimalist style, the film devolves into shrill, jittery horror-show theatrics by the third act. (04/28/2006) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Arbor



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Dirty Ho

Dirty Ho (1979) D: Lau Kar-Leung; with Gordon Liu, Wong Yue, Lo Lieh, Hsiao Hou. (NR, 103 min.) **Heroic Grace: The Chinese Martial Arts Film, Part II.** One of the masterpieces of Hong Kong martial arts cinema (and not the nasty American title it might sound like) provides a showcase for deft star Gordon Liu, who portrays a playboy prince who must keep his kung-fu mastery a secret. Presented with assistance from the Austin Film Society, this Thursday-night series has been selected and organized by the UCLA Film and Television Archive. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Thursday, 7pm.

LUCKY NUMBER SLEVIN

D: Paul McGuigan; with Josh Hartnett, Ben Kingsley, Bruce Willis, Morgan Freeman, Lucy Liu, Stanley Tucci, Michael Rubinfeld, Kevin Chamberlin, Oliver Davis, Sam Jaeger, Mykelti Williamson. (R, 109 min.)
This fun but ultimately disappointing mistaken-identity thriller has style galore, which may actually be the crux of its problem. A clever script by Jason Smilovic and a terrific cast keep this vehicle moving, and although it all adds up you may feel yourself snookered by the old Kansas City Shuffle, a criminal maneuver designed to distract attention that's explained at the beginning of the film. Everything about *Lucky Number Slevin*, especially the production design, is calculated to keep us unbalanced, from the loudly patterned wallpapers and flooring designs to the argyle sweater worn by Slevin (Hartnett) – who, in another move to perhaps keep us off-guard, wears nothing but a towel throughout a major chunk of the film. The film, which references a host of other films, suffers from such active overstatement of the company it wishes to keep. Still, the script is deft and abetted by some terrific dialogue. (04/07/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Lakeline, Tinseltown South

LA MUJER DE MI HERMANO

D: Ricardo de Montreuil; with Bárbara Mori, Christian Meier, Manolo Cardona. (R, 89 min., subtitled)
Soap masquerades as high art in this south-of-the-border romantic drama, which has nevertheless proved a huge hit during its Mexican and Latin American release. Essentially a gussied-up *telenovela*, this film about a love triangle is predictable and thin, even though the actors are polished and cinematographer Andres Sanchez provides the film with a handsome look. Popular Peruvian novelist Jaime Bayly adapted his own work for the film's screenplay but moved the story's setting to Mexico City. Fellow Peruvian de Montreuil directs with a sure hand, although he's unable to turn any of the three central characters into likable personalities. It's hard to have a rooting interest in any of their fates, and even less in the outcome of this movie. The likelihood of U.S. crossover success will rest primarily with Spanish-speaking audiences here that spark to this film's familiar melodramatic patterns and late-in-the-movie introduction of plot developments that involve abortion and homosexuality. (04/14/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★ Tinseltown South

THE NOTORIOUS BETTIE PAGE

D: Mary Harron; with Gretchen Mol, Chris Bauer, Lili Taylor, Jared Harris, David Strathairn, Sarah Paulson, Cara Seymour. (R, 100 min.)
Harron's movie is a splendid visual treat, but like Page herself, the film leaves you wanting more. Mol inhabits the role of the pinup like a second skin, and while she's not as curvy as the real thing, she's got the sassy, wide-eyed innocence down pat. Moving from Tennessee to New York to pursue a vague dream of acting, Page's life (before her 1957 rebirth as a devout evangelical Christian, anyway) is mapped out in a studious narrative line, moving from her "discovery" by the Brooklynese brother-and-sister photography team of Irving and Paula Klaw (Bauer and Taylor) to her eventual pairing with Floridian shutterbug Bunny Yeager and from there to Kefauver's Subcommittee and her eventual exit from the pinup world. The film raises more questions than it answers. Page herself remains a haunting, ethereal enigma. Less cheesecake than angel-food, the film is frothy, light, and delicious, but two hours later you're ready for something more substantive. (04/21/2006) – Marc Savlov
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

SCARY MOVIE 4

D: David Zucker; with Anna Faris, Regina Hall, Craig Bierko, Simon Rex, Anthony Anderson, Leslie Nielsen, Cloris Leachman. (PG-13, 90 min.)
Witnessing the malingering demise of a franchise can be an unnerving experience, but *Scary Movie 4* is hardly scary, or, despite its premise, very humorous. It's such a weak collection of strung-together gags that it would barely have filled an episode of *In Living Color*, much less merit its current running time. Director Zucker helmed the original *Airplane!* and *Naked Gun* films, but you wouldn't know it from *Scary Movie 4*, which seems adrift in an ocean of cheesy mimicry and bereft of any sort of thematic focus. Planted throughout, like defective comedy landmines that maim instead of kill, are satirical jabs at everything from *Saw* to *Brokeback Mountain* to Charlie Sheen's inexplicable love life. *Scary Movie 4* is so lazy it's downright boring, something not even a naked Leslie Nielson (!) can salvage. (04/21/2006) – Marc Savlov
★★ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE SENTINEL

D: Clark Johnson; with Michael Douglas, Kiefer Sutherland, Kim Basinger, Eva Longoria, David Rasche. (PG-13, 105 min.)
This serviceable action thriller about a Secret Service agent wrongly accused of conspiring to kill the president starts off promisingly but soon disintegrates into an implausible mess barely salvaged by the presence of old pros like Douglas and Basinger. *The Sentinel* has a provocative premise – what if there is a mole in the White House? – but it fails to fully deliver the goods, leaving you scratching your head about the whos, whats, wheres, and whys by the time of its climactic shootout. It's a B-movie that, in the end, aspires to be nothing more. If you don't think too much, however, there are simple pleasures to be had here, particularly in the sight of Douglas on the lam as a hard-nosed Sutherland (once again cast as a federal agent) is in hot pursuit. (04/28/2006) – Steve Davis
★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

SILENT HILL

D: Christophe Gans; with Radha Mitchell, Sean Bean, Laurie Holden, Jodelle Ferland, Deborah Kara Unger, Kim Coates. (R, 120 min.)
Imagine the town of Dante's Peak as envisioned by H.P. Lovecraft and you'll get a mental image of *Silent Hill*'s impressive art direction and production design. Now imagine it scored by German proto-industrialists Einstürzende Neubauten and helmed by the late Italian splatter legend Lucio Fulci. Then wrap your fist in barbed wire and punch the wall a few times, while reeling in a fit of existential despair. Whoa, there, big fella – we didn't say "Simon Says!" But that'll give you a nudge in the tonal direction toward which Christophe Gans (*Brotherhood of the Wolf*) is heading with this eerie but ultimately unengaging film adaptation of Konami's smash series of video games. Roger Avary's screenplay is a smart mélange of sequences lifted from the game and fleshed out with hell's



Granito de Arenas

Granito de Arenas (2005) D: Jill Freidberg. (NR, 62 min.)
From the director of *This Is What Democracy Looks Like* comes this award-winning documentary about Mexican schoolteachers fighting for economic and social justice. A Q&A with the filmmaker will follow. For more info on the film see www.corrugate.org. @Resistencia Bookstore, Saturday, 5pm; free.

Horrors of War

Horrors of War (2006) D: Peter John Ross and John Whitney; with Jon Osbeck, Joe Lorenzo, Daniel Alan Kiely, David Carroll, Chip Kocel, Kim Carey, Sean Velie, Jason Morris, Louie Cowan, Milan A. Cargould. (NR, 99 min.)
Filmed in Ohio, this ambitious indie film is holding a sneak preview here in Austin. Set in Europe during World War II, the story is about a group of GIs who are sent to seek out Hitler's secret weapons – a cache that combines elements of science fiction and horror films. The director will be in attendance for a Q & A. @Dobie, Wednesday, 7pm; \$10.



own jumble of demonic, pseudo-religious imagery, including some bizarrely unappetizing images of the damned (think of *Ghostbusters*' "Stay Puft Marshmallow Man" after a tanning-bed mishap and you're halfway there). (04/28/2006) – Marc Savlov
★★★ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

STICK IT

D: Jessica Bendinger; with Jeff Bridges, Missy Peregrym, Vanessa Lengies, Nikki SooHoo, Maddy Curley, Kellan Lutz, John Patrick Amedori, Jon Gries, Polly Holliday. (PG-13, 105 min.)
Bendinger, the writer of the hugely successful teen comedy *Bring It On*, debuts as the director of her own material with *Stick It*, a teen comedy set in the world of competitive gymnastics. In its favor, Bendinger refrains from taking the obvious Hollywood path and sublimating her story to the more immediate delights of watching limber teenage girls parading around in skintight leotards. There is actually a good story here about teenage rebellion and competitive drive and banding together to fight injustice – albeit the injustice of the judges who deduct points from a gymnast's perfect routine because of a visible bra strap. However, there's too much going on in *Stick It*, what with parent problems, boys, a mercenary coach, peer pressure, and snarky infighting. A few completely diversionary interludes that ape the elaborate choreography of Busby Berkeley sequences are delightfully out of place, although playful and inventive. (04/28/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★ CM Barton Creek, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

TAKE THE LEAD

D: Liz Friedlander; with Antonio Banderas, Rob Brown, Yaya DaCosta, Danta Basco, John Ortiz, Alfre Woodward. (PG-13, 108 min.)
There's nothing particularly revelatory about *Take the Lead*, which mines the battle-tested Hollywood chestnut of urban youth who find salvation, inspiration, and, in this case at least, more than a little perspiration from the most unlikely of sources, an adult who actually gives a damn. This time out, it's former guitar-slinging desperado and spy dad Banderas, whose character here, the suave ballroom dance instructor Pierre Dulaine, is based on an actual person, which adds a layer of compelling grittiness to the already gritty proceedings. It's Banderas' film all the way, of course. To no one's surprise, his inadvertent coupling of the foxtrot and bossa nova with the phat beats of puckish teen DJ Ramos (Basco) ends up saving the day. It's difficult to fault such a warm, bouncy, and, yes, occasionally funky genre stalwart such as this for being exactly what you'd expect. (04/07/2006) – Marc Savlov
★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South
★ UNITED 93
D: Paul Greengrass; with David Rasche, Ben Sliney, JJ Johnson, David Alan Basco, Trish Gates, Starla Benford, Christian Clemenson, Khalid Abdalla. (R, 111 min.)
United 93 is a sober, humanistic portrait of America's literal "first responders." While taking nothing away from the courage and quick thinking of

the doomed 9/11 passengers, *United 93* refrains from exploiting their heroism. What writer-director Greengrass captures best is the sense of chaos and panic that must have overtaken the passengers. What we witness is not so much an organized counter-attack as a panicked, last-ditch attempt at self-preservation. A good chunk of the film's first hour is devoted to watching the workings of the various air-traffic control towers and agencies as they struggle to gain an understanding of the events. The film's focus on the confusion and incomprehension makes it the story of all Americans. The rapid process these people went through as they shifted from frightened individuals to aligned activists is a speeded-up – and more costly – version of what we've all been going through as we struggle to come to terms with the day our world changed. (04/28/2006) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE WILD

D: Steve "Spaz" Williams; with the voices of Kiefer Sutherland, Greg Cipes, James Belushi, Janeane Garofalo, Eddie Izzard, William Shatner. (G, 81 min.)
That this Disney production treads familiar ground is itself no surprise, but what catches you off guard is how little story there appears to be. The animation is top-notch, and the film sports some of the most realistic and colorful fur, feathers, and hair this side of Fashion Week in Milan. However, *The Wild* feels as though much of its backstory, along with most of the good jokes, have been cut out along the circuitous path to your neighborhood cineplex, resulting in a finished film that will probably delight the under-10 set, while leaving everyone else marveling at how bored they are. Vocally, the cast is a keeper, but beyond that there's little to recommend of *The Wild*, which, despite its title, is about as pedestrian as you can get. (04/14/2006) – Marc Savlov
★★ CM Barton Creek, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

Also Playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

ATL ★★★ Tinseltown South

DOOGAL † Millennium

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ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN ★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

INSIDE MAN ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Tinseltown South

PHAT GIRLZ ★ Millennium

THANK YOU FOR SMOKING ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Dobie, Tinseltown South, Westgate

THE THREE BURIALS OF MELQUIADES ESTRADA ★★★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

V FOR VENDETTA ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown South

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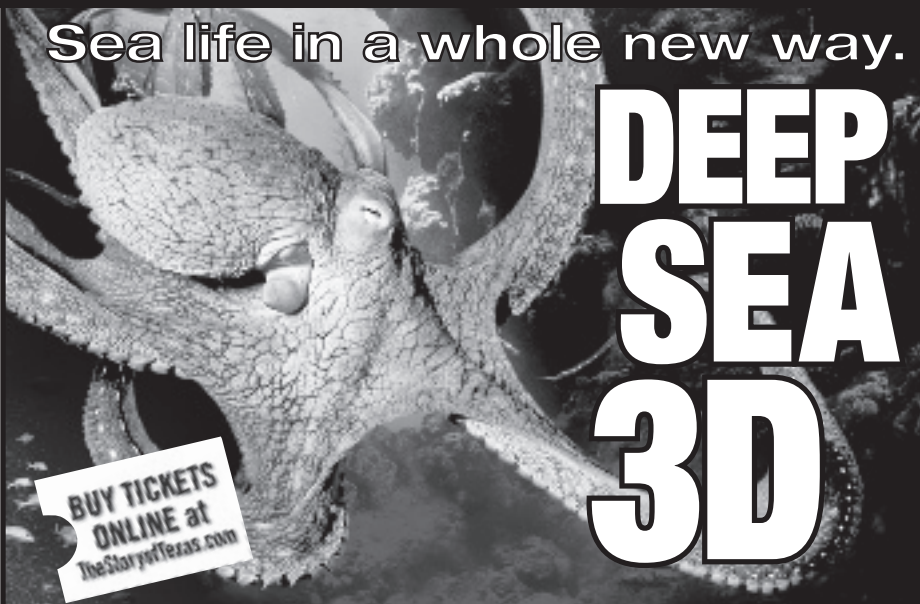
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Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

THURSDAY 04

Doctor Zhivago With Russian Feast (1965) *D: David Lean; with Omar Sharif, Julie Christie, Geraldine Chaplin, Tom Courtenay, Alec Guinness. (NR, 197 min.)* **Widescreen Classics.** The epic love story screens accompanied by a Russian-themed meal. See www.originalalamo.com for complete menu and reservations. @Alamo Drafrthouse South, 7pm; \$50.

Hedwig and the Angry Inch Sing-Along (2001) *D: John Cameron Mitchell; with John Cameron Mitchell, Michael Pitt, Miriam Shor, Stephen Trask, Andrea Martin. (R, 95 min.)* Adapted for film from the off-Broadway musical hit, this movie is a rousing screen spectacle about a surgically botched transsexual from East Germany (played charismatically by Mitchell, the show's creator and film director). @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

Legendary Weapons of China (1982) *D: Lau Kar-Leung; with Lau Kar-Leung, Lau Kar-Wing, Kara Hui, Gordon Liu, Alexander Fu-Sheng. (NR, 100 min.)* **Heroic Grace: The Chinese Martial Arts Film, Part II.** A martial arts master himself, director Lau Kar-Leung is one of the most inventive stylists of the form. He co-stars in this film, which builds to amazing fight sequences that use the 18 weapons of the title. Presented with assistance from the Austin Film Society, this Thursday-night series has been selected and organized by the UCLA Film and Television Archive. @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 7pm.

Zombie (1979) *D: Lucio Fulci; with Tisa Farrow, Ian McCulloch, Richard Johnson, Al Cliver, Annetta Gay. (NR, 91 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** Zombies do their thing in the Caribbean in this grisly tip of the hat to George Romero's *Dawn of the Dead*. (*) @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

FRIDAY 05

Park Row (1952) See p.96.

The Three Amigos: Uncensored Stand-Up (2003) *D: C.B. Harding. (NR, 74 min.)* Stand-up comedy routines by Carlos Mencia, Pablo Francisco, and Freddy Soto. A special Cinco de Mayo presentation with related menu items and giveaways. @Alamo Drafrthouse Lake Creek, 7pm.

Top Gun (1986) *D: Tony Scott; with Tom Cruise, Kelly McGillis, Val Kilmer, Anthony Edwards, Tom Skerritt, Michael Ironside, John Stockwell, Barry Tubb, Tim Robbins, Meg Ryan, Adrian Pasdar. (PG, 110 min.)* **Sinus Show.** Prepare for *Mission Impossible III* by taking to the sky with Tom Cruise and the Sinus comedy crew. For more on the Sinus Show see www.sinusshow.com. @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45pm.

Videoke Act out scenes from various movies and win prizes. See www.originalalamo.com for details. @Alamo Drafrthouse Village, 12mid.

SPACES

L.A. Confidential (1997) *D: Curtis Hanson; with Kevin Spacey, Russell Crowe, Guy Pearce, James Cromwell, David Strathairn, Kim Basinger, Danny DeVito. (R, 138 min.)* **I Luv Video.** Los Angeles police corruption and 1950s noir sexuality combine in this modern thriller. (*) @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1608 Barton Springs Rd.), 8pm; free.

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 May 19 issue is Monday, May 8.** 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 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

SATURDAY 06

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin *Rocky Horror* fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 28 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafrthouse Village, 12mid.

Top Gun (1986) @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45pm. (See Fri., 05/05)

SPACES

Granito de Arenas (2005) See p.98.

Letters From the Other Side (2005) *D: Heather Courtney. (NR, 74 min.)* **Austin Public Library.** This feature-length documentary, which played a sold-out screening here last month during the Mayor's Book Club events, interweaves video letters carried across the U.S./Mexico border by the film's director with the personal stories of women left behind in post-NAFTA Mexico. For more about the film see www.lettersfromtheotherside.com. @Big Red Sun, 8:30pm.

SUNDAY 07

Beats per Minute: 48 Hour Music Video Competition Screening Screenings of all the entries shot the weekend before will be hosted by Kier-La and Lars. The final best-of show and awards ceremony will be held on May 14. @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

The Boys of Baraka (2005) *D: Heidi Ewing and Rachel Grady. (R, 84 min.)* Winner of a Special Jury Award at the 2005 SXSW Film Festival, this documentary tracks the experiences of a bunch of "high risk" adolescent boys from Baltimore who spend a year at a Kenyan boarding school. @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 7pm.

MONDAY 08

Beyond Fear: Finding Hope in the Horror (2006) **Psychologists, Psychiatrists & Social Workers Without Borders.** U.S. premiere of this documentary, which explores the psychological impact of terror and trauma through the eyes of those who have suffered and those whose job it is to help them manage. The group's founder and eight board members will be present at the screening, which is a fundraiser for the organization. @Paramount, 7pm; free.

The Scott Walker Album Release Party To celebrate the release of *The Drift*, – Walker's first album since 1995 – the Alamo will screen some vintage Walker/Walker Bros. videos. @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

Wet Hot American Summer (2001) *D: David Wain; with Marisa Ryan, Michael Ian Black, Zach Orth, Victor Marino, Paul Rudd, Molly Shannon, Marguerite Moreau, Christopher Meloni, David Hyde Pierce, Janeane Garofalo, Michael Showalter. (R, 97 min.)* Spoof of old summer-camp sexcapades is performed by a sprawling cast of comedic hams, largely culled from the comedy troupe the State. (*) @Alamo Drafrthouse Village, 9:45pm.

SPACES

Anime Movie Monday Every Monday night. For more info, see www.ventanadelsoul.org. @Ventana del Soul (1834 E. Oltorf), 7:30pm.

Good Night, and Good Luck (2005) *D: George Clooney; with David Strathairn, Robert Downey Jr., Patricia Clarkson, Ray Wise, Frank Langella, Jeff Daniels, George Clooney, Dianne Reeves. (PG, 93 min.)* Thoughtful portrait of newsman Edward R. Murrow's confrontation with Sen. Joseph McCarthy. (*) @Cafe Mundi, 8pm; free.

L.A. Confidential (1997) @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free. (See Fri., 05/05)

School of Rock (2003) *D: Richard Linklater; with Jack Black, Mike White, Sarah Silverman, Joan Cusack, Maryam Hassan, Kevin Clark, Rebecca*

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Deep Sea 3D (2006) *D: Howard Hall; narrated by Johnny Depp, Kate Winslet. (G, 40 min.)* Fabulous underwater footage complements this educational documentary geared toward kids. Instead of using the dog-eat-dog approach common to nature docs, *Deep Sea 3D* emphasizes the harmonious balance of the underwater ecosystem. The playful narration by *Titanic* Kate Winslet and Caribbean pirate Johnny Depp – seaworthy celebs both – also highlights togetherness words like "symbiosis," "relationships," and "diversity." The revelatory images of kelp and crabs, jellyfish, squid, and coral reef regeneration will open the eyes of old and young alike.

Roving Mars (2006) *D: George Butler; narrated by George Butler. (G, 40 min.)* Finally, an IMAX space film whose sole objective isn't to overwhelm us with its vastness. This film uses animation to re-create the experience of the Mars rovers, Spirit and Opportunity, on the faraway planet. The film is ably directed by Butler, whose terrific previous documentaries include *Pumping Iron* and *The Endurance: Shackleton's Legendary Antarctic Expedition*. Also effective is the score by Philip Glass.

Texas: The Big Picture (2003) *D: Scott Swofford; narrated by Colby Donaldson. (NR, 39 min.)* Panoramic shots of Texas grace the screen as Texas is shown to be a land capable of growing everything from grapefruit to microchips.

Brown, Joey Gaydos Jr., Robert Tsai. (PG-13, 108 min.) **Waterloo Video.** In Linklater's comedy, Jack Black takes his rock & roll vibe to riff-needy prep students. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free.

TUESDAY 09

Beats per Minute: 48 Hour Music Video Competition Screening @Alamo Drafrthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Sun., 05/07)

Diary of a Lost Girl (1929) See p.96.

Wet Hot American Summer (2001) @Alamo Drafrthouse Village, 9:45pm. (See Mon., 05/08)

Widespread Panic: Earth to America Big Screen Concerts. In concert live via satellite from the Fox Theatre in Atlanta for this one night. @Metropolitan, 7pm; \$15.

SPACES

Documentaries and Short Films Screenings on the back patio every Tuesday. @Austin Java Cafe & Bar (1206 Parkway), 8pm; free.

Wet Hot American Summer (2001) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free. (See Mon., 05/08)

Offscreen

Austin Film Festival Screenplay and Teleplay Competition Submit early, submit often! Original screenplay categories: Adult/Family includes historical, Western, drama, family, romance, horror, thriller, etc. Comedy includes dark, satirical, slapstick, etc. Two additional categories: the Burnt Orange Award, the Sci-Fi Award. Teleplay categories: sitcom and drama. (All teleplays should be based on current network or cable programs.) For more information, check the AFF Web site. Screenplay deadline: *May 15, early; June 1, late.* Teleplay deadline: *June 1.* www.austinfilmfestival.com.

Daniel Johnston Day As part of the premiere of *The Devil & Daniel Johnston*, the Regal Arbor cinema will have reproductions of the musician's artwork displayed in the lobby. *Fri., May 5. Arbor Cinema @ Great Hills, 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742.*

The Devil and Daniel Johnston with Live Johnston Set Lucky ticket winners will be randomly selected from entries submitted by attendees during the first five days of release at the Alamo Drafrthouse South for a short set on May 11.

Fantastic Fest: Call for Entries The seven-day festival of horror, sci-fi, fantasy, and other genre films returns to astound and amaze with the (s)cream of the newest movie crop in September. The amount of film content's scheduled to double, and that's where you come in – by submitting your own hard-wrought shorts and features for consideration. Check their Web site for applications and details. Deadline: *July 15.* www.fantasticfest.com.

Reelwomen: Martial Arts Workshop Here's an afternoon of fierce training in stuntwork and stage fighting, led by world-renowned Grandmaster Wonik Yi. Bring a water bottle and be dressed for movement. Reservations required. *Sat., May 13, 1-4pm. 9185 Research Blvd #200. 339-2467. \$40 (\$25, RW members, AFS Filmmaker level).* www.masteryi.com.

Texas Filmmakers Production Fund The TFPF is an annual grant awarded to emerging film and video artists in the state of Texas. Awards are provided to artists whose work shows promise, skill, and creativity. Take advantage of these funds to create what the rest of us are yearning to see. Their Web site will provide the details and applications. Deadline: *June 1.* www.austinfilm.org/tfpf.

The 48-Hour Film Project Gather a team to write, shoot, edit, add credits and music to a film between 7pm Friday and 7pm Sunday. All films turned in will be screened the following week; films that are turned in on time are eligible for judging and a chance to be included in a "Best of Austin" screening. The filming will begin on June 23; check the Reel Women Web site for details. www.reelwomen.org.

The Austin Movie Show: Film Tournament 3.0 Submit your short films to the Austin Movie Show, for possibly screening on local access TV at 6-8pm on Sunday nights, with a live screening to follow. Drama, comedy, docs, you name it. For submission details, check their Web site. Deadline: *May 3.* www.austinmovieshow.com.

SPACES

What the Bleep!?: Down the Rabbit Hole (2006) D: William Arntz, Betsy Chasse and Mark Vicente; with Marlee Matlin. (NR, 156 min.) Essentially an extended, director's cut version of the specialty hit *What the #\$*! Do We Know!?*, which conflates quantum theory, biophysics, Buddhism, and self-actualization into one big spiritual continuum. A short Q&A will follow. Call 837-6225 for tickets. @The Unity Center, 7pm.

Über Goober (2004) D: Steve Metzke. (NR, 87 min.) In addition to examining the world of live-action, role-playing gamers, this locally made documentary also explores the negative media portrayals and features interviews with *Dungeons and Dragons* creator E. Gary Gygax, televangelist Bob Larson, author Mike Stackpole, and cartoonist John Kovalic. @Nueva Onda, 8pm; free.

THURSDAY 11

Dirty Ho (1979) See p.98.
Hedwig and the Angry Inch Sing-Along (2001) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Thu., 05/04)

Motel Hell D: Kevin Connor; with Rory Calhoun, Paul Linke, Nancy Parsons, Nina Axelrod, Wolfman Jack, John Ratzemberger. (R, 102 min.)
Terror Thursday. When spending the night at this place, don't opt for the smoked sausage. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

Nudge 3.0: A Micro-Digital Film Festival @Arbor, 7pm. (See Wed., 05/10)

Wet Hot American Summer (2001) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm. (See Mon., 05/08)

SPACES

Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (2005) D: Mike Newell; with Daniel Radcliffe. (PG-13, 157 min.) **Movies in the Park.** This fourth Potter film emphasizes the emotional over the gothic. Preshow begins at 7pm; movie begins at dusk. Pets, picnics, kids, and lawn chairs are welcome, but alcohol and glass bottles are prohibited. Refreshments on sale. For more info see www.austinparks.org. (*) @Republic Square Park, 8pm; free.



Key Largo (1948) D: John Huston; with Humphrey Bogart, Edward G. Robinson, Lauren Bacall, Lionel Barrymore, Claire Trevor. (NR, 100 min.)
American Screen Legends. A terrific cast does great things with this adaptation of a Maxwell Anderson play in which Robinson plays a gangster who holds several people hostage in a Florida hotel during a storm. @The Glenn at the Backyard, 8:45pm; free.

Roam DVD Release Party (2006) D: Darcy Wittenburg and Jamie Houssian. **Bicycle Sport Shop.** This new mountain bike film was made by a group of filmmakers, photographers, and mountain bikers. For more info about the film see www.thecollectivefilm.com/roam/index_roam.html. The proceeds from the evening will benefit the International Mountain Bicycling Association. @The Hideout Theater, 7pm; \$5, \$4 if you ride your bike.

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Sonya Kitchell CACTUS CAFE, THURSDAY 4 & FRIDAY 5

To quote Kip Winger (sorry), "she's only 17," but Sonya Kitchell sounds generations older. Her smoky voice floats down the jazzy gospel pews of debut *Words Came Back to Me* (Velour), and like certain ladies before her (Joni, Norah), the Massachusetts singer/guitarist has a certain infectiousness to her voice. Even when she simmers, "Honey, you kindle all my inner desire" on "Think of You," it doesn't sound creepy. Sahara Smith opens. — Audra Schroeder



Murs EMO'S, FRIDAY 5

Emo rap is the genre that isn't supposed to be, but MCs such as Murs laugh in the face of expectations that would peg them as ruthless villains by rule. Affiliated with California's Living Legends crew, Murs teams with Little Brother producer 9th Wonder for a second go-round titled *Murray's Revenge* (Record Collection), where he spins tales of elusive love and the incongruence of a mass culture that insists on misunderstanding him. — Robert Gabriel

Mogwai LA ZONA ROSA, SATURDAY 6

If 2003's *Happy Songs for Happy People* left listeners wondering if the Glaswegian quintet were veering into *Pure Moods* territory, their latest, *Mr. Beast* (Matador), finds the lads back in ear-drum-shattering territory. The same loud-quiet-loud formula applies here, but catharsis comes wrapped in feedback-drenched guitars and a bowel-shaking low-end, especially the devastatingly dirty-sounding "Glasgow Mega-Snake." Philly folkie Jack Rose opens. — Audra Schroeder

John Vanderslice, Laura Veirs EMO'S, SATURDAY 6

The intrepid Bay area indie rocker is still out on the road in support of last year's gorgeous, sometimes uncomfortably confessional *Pixel Revolt* (Barsuk); expect a remix sometime this year. What's more, Vanderslice plans to record a new full-length this summer. Seattle's Laura Veirs, whose *Year of Meteors* (Nonesuch) is reminiscent of her Emerald City brothers Death Cab for Cutie, opens alongside Lawrence, Kan., quartet Minus Story, who are bound and determined to be the next Neutral Milk Hotel. — Melanie Haupt

Vaz, Skullening, Oh, Beast! EMO'S, SUNDAY 7

A drum-and-guitar duo from New York that plays abrasive noise? Flashback to 2002! But no: Vaz has been emitting a glorious bombast since the late Nineties, when guitarist Paul Erickson and drummer Jeff Mooridian were tweaking in Amphetamine Reptile band Hammerhead. Their latest, *The Lie That Matches the Furniture* (Narnack), finds them as a trio with the addition of axeman Adam Marx, still churning out the buzzgrind. Helping out are locals Oh, Beast!; Skullening; and Red X Red M. — Audra Schroeder

Chingo de Mayo H&H BALLROOM, SUNDAY 7

H-town's Dean of Big Chile University, Chingo Bling, the "Geto Vaquero," oversees an empire of T-Churts, hot sauce, bobble-head dolls, and tamale smuggling that stretches from here to North Tamaulipas. Chingo radiates charisma without even opening his well-iced grill, but his bilingual rhymes are *muy caliente*, especially when concerning prize bird Cleto. Here he rolls his slab into the H&H Ballroom (4402 Brandt Rd.) with *la familia* (Stunta, Capone, South Coast, El Criminal, Ice, Skor, and I.T.) in tow. Call 462-2568 for ticket info. — Christopher Gray



Art Brut EMO'S, MONDAY 8

Like many punk bands of yore, Art Brut is talking to the kids. The British quintet's debut album, *Bang Bang Rock & Roll* (Fierce Panda), forthcoming on Downtown Records, queues up with punk rock excitability and charismatic singer Eddie Argos' matter-of-fact narratives, which border on the wit of two other Brits: Mike Skinner and Mark E. Smith. On opener "Formed a Band" he spits, "Yes, this is my singing voice, it's not irony," while on "Bad Weekend," he asserts, "Haven't read the *NME* in so long, don't know what genre we belong." The Brits call it taking the piss.

Art Brut songs are also about love, art, impotence, and dreaming about drinking Hennessy with Morrissey. During their several rambunctious SXSW 06 appearances, the crowds lapped it up. "It's funny, people already knew the words and the hand gestures that go with the songs," Argos says from London. "I had discovered Sparks beer, the energy beer, so I drank a lot of that and ended up running around in the street with a big red face."

That Sparks-fueled energy translates in Art Brut's live shows, which often find Argos immersed in the sweaty crowd. The group has also spawned several franchise bands, birthed from telling crowds to go start a band.



Argos says he's not being ironic. "People always think we're writing joke-y songs, but we're just trying to be human. That's what I like. People think we're being ironic, but a song like 'Modern Art' [about running head-on into a Matisse], I love it! It really makes me want to rock out!" — Audra Schroeder

San Francisco's Birdmonster and German dance punks the Robocop Kraus open.

James Brown STUBB'S, WEDNESDAY 10

One week north of his 73rd birthday, the Godfather of Soul (not to mention funk and hip-hop) returns to Austin for the first time in three years. Stubb's 2006 may not be the Apollo 1962 or the Olympia, Paris 1971, but James Brown is James Brown and you should go see James Brown because you don't want to be telling your kids you didn't go see James Brown when you had the chance. High notes and splits aside, he's still turning it looser at 73 than most of us could at 23. — Greg Beets

The Essex Green PARISH, WEDNESDAY 10

Like a bottled-up Coca-Cola in the back seat of a 1967 Cadillac Eldorado, the Essex Green is bouncy and happy. It's not what you'd imagine coming from Brooklyn, but Sasha Bell and friends lay some California on the pavement with their third full-length, *Cannibal Sea* (see "Phases & Stages"). At least locals Brothers and Sisters came from the sun. The still-new folk mix met up in Austin just last year and are already filling rooms with good-time pop. The equally fizzy Belaire opens. — Darcie Stevens



King Tears, Tammany Hall Machine, Grand Champeen

CONTINENTAL CLUB, THURSDAY 11

Never shy of a good cover, Grand Champeen recently broke out a set of vintage Soul Asylum on the Minneapolitans' home turf and not only made it back with their hides intact, but won praise from the local press and current members of the band. Even better, a preview of the ragged rockers' long-gestating follow-up to 2003's *The One That Brought You* is at www.myspace.com/grandchampeen. Or here, with exquisite local pop from Tammany Hall Machine, roots from King Tears, and rock from Batesville, Ark., quintet Gazer. — Christopher Gray

IN-STORES

Friday: **Sonya Kitchell**, Waterloo Records, 5pm; **Zom Zoms** CD Release, End of an Ear, 6pm; **No!**, the **Offisaurs**, the **Steps**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 8pm

Saturday: **Dave's Not Here**, Antone's Records, 3pm; **Klier Channel** CD and EP release, End of an Ear, 6pm; **Pretty Little Flower**, 50/50, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 8pm

Sunday: **Jay Rozen**, End of an Ear, 6pm; **Bullet Train to Vegas**, **Heist at Hand**, Snake Eyes Vinyl, 7pm

Monday: The **Lashes**, Waterloo Records, 5pm

Thursday: **Daniel Johnston**, Waterloo Records, 5pm

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

EISLEY, SIMON DAWES, BRIGHTEN

La Zona Rosa, Friday 5

The East Texas kids are still alright.

THE RAMONES NITE

Redrum, Friday 5 & Saturday 6

Brought to you by the punks-in-training at the Paul Green School of Rock.

KATHY MCCARTY, RITE FLYERS, MOONLIGHT TOWERS

Ego's, Saturday 6

Local indie pop explosion!

THE CHARLES POTTS MAGIC WINDMILL BAND, BASIC

Carousel Lounge, Saturday 6

Get weird with opening sets from Dallas' Silk Stocking and locals Count Dracula's Weed Smuggling Jam Engine.

WOLFMOTHER, PARCHMENT FARM

Parish, Sunday 7

Australian metal afros ascend to astral *Dimensions*.

WHIP-IN'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

Continental Club, Sunday 7

Grab a bottle with Cooper's Uncle, Texas Sapphires, James McMurtry, Heybale!, and more, starting at 2pm.

HONKY HAPPY HOUR

Woody's South, Monday 8

Shake a tailfeather with



Austin's favorite bearded boozeholds.

GUTBUCKET

Headhunter's, Tuesday 9

New York quartet scoops out everything from free jazz to Latin sax freakouts on *Sludge Test*.

FINALLY PUNK, RUA MINX, CRY BLOOD APACHE

Alley behind Fadó, between

Fourth and Fifth, Thursday 11

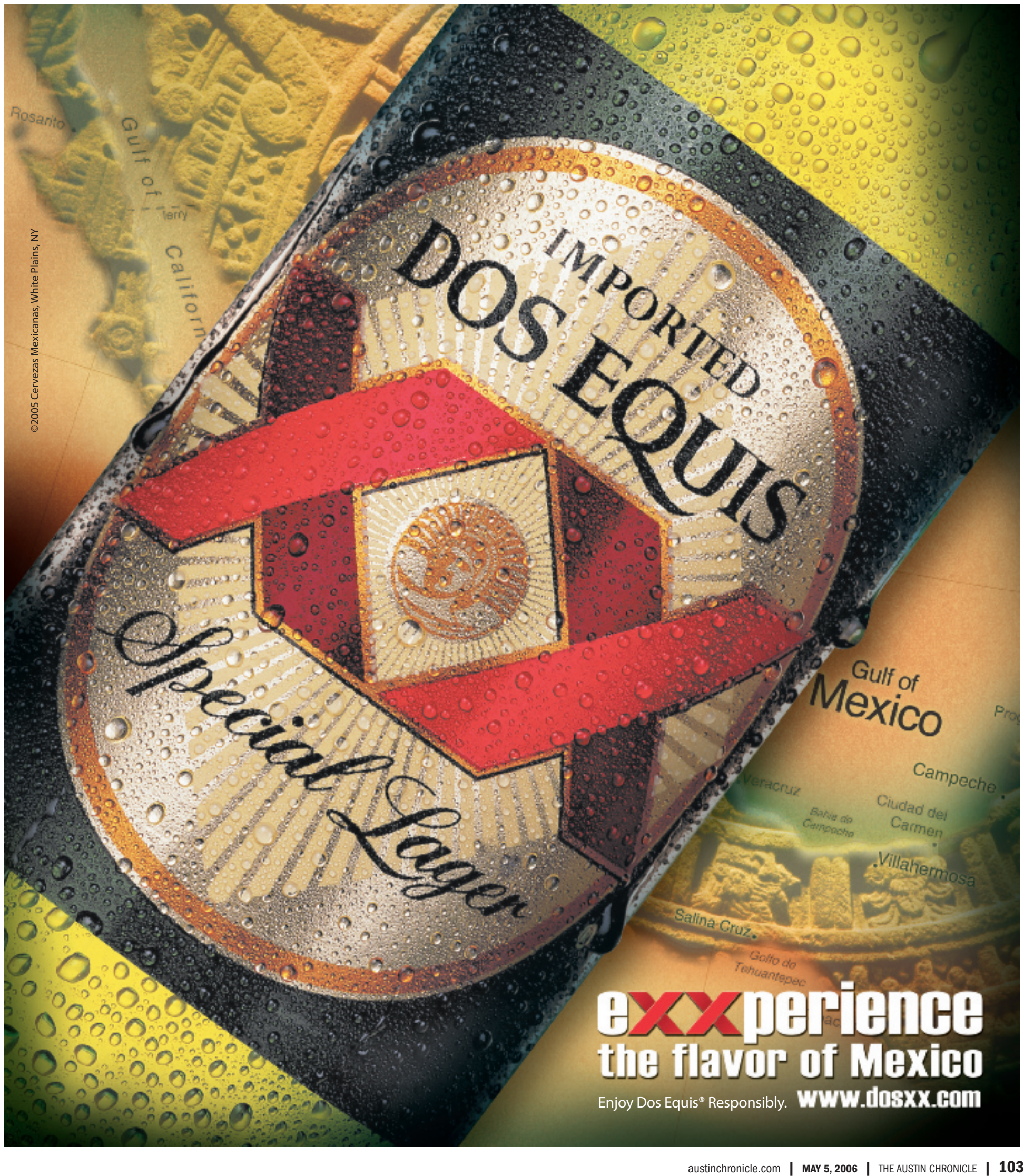
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MIDORI UMI, THE SWELLS, MAGNET SCHOOL

Parish, Thursday 11

Local melo-rock conflagration!

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SIXTEN
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MOGWAI
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SAT MAY 06 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM

Rek

SAT MAY 13

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Toby Lightman

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THE STREETS
Lady Sovereign

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SAT 06 MAY

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RICHARD SWIFT AND TALKDEMONIC

MON JUN 19 DOORS 8PM SHOW 9PM

FRI 19 MAY

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THU JUN 29

WED 20 MAY

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THU 15 JUN

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joe bonamassa

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WED 21 JUN

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CHRIS BERARDO 7:30-9PM
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club listings

Thu 04

- 311 CLUB** 3 Piece Special, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Shelley King (3:30)
ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR The Siekers (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR ON SIXTH Bruce Smith (12:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Flying \$ Bunkhouse Band, Lonesome Heroes
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Karaoke
ANTONE'S International Music Festival w/ Teabag, Derbin, acaeofmondays, Soul Strung, Blown, Stage of Existence, Bletzung, Course of Ruin (10:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Chris Gage & Michael Austin
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Poetry, Music Open Mic (8:00)
BARCELONA DJ Tats
BEAUTY BAR Martini & Manicure Happy Hour for AIDS Services of Austin (6:00)
BEERLAND Total Sound Group Direct Action Committee, Black Irish
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Open Mic w/ Sidney (6:00)
BOOMERZ Karaoke
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR mc.ripley
CACTUS CAFE Sahara Smith, Sonya Kitchell
CEDAR STREET LC Rocks (9:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Slaid Cleaves
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Mother Truckers (6:30), JB Beverly and the Wayward Sinners, Li'l Cap'n Travis (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Double Barrel
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR Open Mic w/ David John, Big Steve, Easy Dave (8:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Houston Marchman
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mary Welch y Los Curanderos (7:30)
EMO'S For Those Who Know, Crystal Skulls, the Helio Sequence
EVANGELINE CAFE Liz Morphis, Larry Lange's Lonely Knights
FLAMINGO CANTINA Ear to Anon, Tyler Wood, Bruce James, Mice & Rifles
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Rokkatone (8:00)
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
FRANK ERWIN CENTER Kid Rock & the Twisted Brown Trucker Band (8:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE Ed Jurdi (6:00)
GIDDY UPS Will Sexton (4:00), Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Kris Farrow (7:30), Noltey (9:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HEADHUNTERS Suicide Holiday, Peter Elliott & the Sellouts
SOLE IN THE WALL Alice Spencer & the Monkey Butlers, Stockton (8:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer
JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
KENNY DORHAM'S BACKYARD Ephraim Owens Group
LA PALAPA NTO's (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Sounds Under Radio (10:00)

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO, CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday. Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com.

- MOMOS** Ruse (12mid)
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (9:30)
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Open Mic w/ Big Jim
NATURAL EAR MUSIC CAMP Spring Showcase (6:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Nutty Karaoke
THE OAKS Todd Fritsch, James Hand (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Rocky
OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD Anniversary Party w/ Michael Fracasso, Uncle Lucius, Idgy Vaughn (6:00)
THE PARISH Aloe Blacc
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
THE PUB Karaoke
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)

roadshows

MAY

THU 4

Sonya Kitchell, Sahara Smith, Cactus Cafe
JB Beverly and the Wayward Sinners, Continental Club
The Helio Sequence, Crystal Skulls, Emo's
Kid Rock & the Twisted Brown Trucker Band, Frank Erwin Center
Aloe Blacc, the Parish
Suicide Holiday, Red Eyed Fly
Matt Costa, the 88, Stubb's Bar-B-Q
Matt Costa, Waterloo Records

FRI 5

After the Bombs, Contempt, 423 Tillery
Sonya Kitchell, Sahara Smith, Cactus Cafe
James Intveld, Deke Dickerson & the Eccofonics, Sugarballs & the 18-Wheelers, Continental Club
Murs, Emo's
Eisley, Simon Dawes, Brighten, La Zona Rosa
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Palmer Events Center
Mute Math, Lovedrug, Radiant, Stubb's Bar-B-Q
The Bluerunners, Threadgill's World HQ
Sonya Kitchell, Waterloo Records
SAT 6
Guafa Trio, Alice's Restaurant
Silk Stocking, Carousel Lounge

The Killdares, Central Market Cafe
Inside: **John Vanderslice, Laura Veirs, Minus Story**;
Outside: **The JonBenet, Steadlur, Dubb Sicks**, Emo's
Chris Berardo & the Desberardos, Jovita's
Mogwai, Jack Rose, La Zona Rosa
Cooper-Moore, Little City
Big Bad Voodoo Daddy, Palmer Events Center
Leo Kottke, Karla Bonoff, Paramount Theatre
Thesis, S'ence, Verbal Seed, Money Waters, Steve Austin, Matthew Knowles, Deloach, the Parish
Jodi Hates the World, the Parlor
Dave Insley, Riley's Tavern
Pretty Little Flower, 50/50, Snake Eyes Vinyl
Darlin' Maudie, Trophy's

SUN 7

Holy Mountain, Conflicto, 423 Tillery
Guafa Trio, Alice's Restaurant
James Blunt, Toby Lightman, the Backyard
The Mansfields, Beerland
Vaz, Skullening, Red X Red M, Emo's
Chingo Bling, Stunta, Capone, South Coast, El Criminal, Skor, I.T., H&H Ballroom
J.B. Beverly & the Wayward Drifters, Headhunters
Wolfmother, Parchment Farm, the Parish
Bullet Train to Vegas, Heist at Hand, Snake Eyes Vinyl

MON 8

Outside: **Art Brut, Birdmonster, the Robocop Kraus**; Inside: **Bullets & Octane, Valient Thorr, Damone**, Emo's
The Subways, the Parish
Stinking Lizaveta, Room 710
Early: **She Wants Revenge, OK Go, the Lashes**; Later: **Rock Kills Kid, Stubb's Bar-B-Q**
Seekonk, Trophy's
The Lashes, Waterloo Records

TUE 9

Gutbucket, Headhunters
The Cinematic Underground, Momos
Chris Berardo & the Desberardos, Saxon Pub
Seekonk, Triple Crown

WED 10

Houston Benard, Beerland
Vienna Teng, Cactus Cafe
Goatwhore, Vex, Emo's
The Fad, Stuck Lucky, Flamingo Cantina
Chris Berardo & the Desberardos, Hanover's
Dave Insley, the Oaks
The Essex Green, the Parish
The Amateurs, the Parlor
James Brown, Stubb's Bar-B-Q

THU 11

Daniel Johnston, Alamo Draffthouse South
City Mouse, Vibrolas, Beerland
Gazer, Continental Club
Sunburned Hand of the Man, Emo's
Rua Minx, Kunst Fascion, Fado
Imogen Heap, Zoe Keating, Stubb's Bar-B-Q
Daniel Johnston, Waterloo Records

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

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Sat.
May 6
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KLYMA**
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HOUR 5:30

**NICOLE
GILBERT** THURS.
MAY 4

**DAVID
DUCHARME JONES** 8-10PM
FRI.
MAY 5

**BRUCE JONES
AND THE MONOTONES** 8-10PM
SAT.
MAY 6

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JAMES MCMURTRY HEYBALE

SUN. MAY 7 CONTINENTAL CLUB
DOORS 2PM NO COVER

BREWS BY INDEPENDENCE GREAT DIVIDE LIVE OAK
REAL ALE ST ARNOLDS NEW BELGIUM NORTH COAST
PILSNER URQUELL RED HOOK SHINER

club listings << FROM THURSDAY

- RED EYED FLY** Smile & Nod, Flawed by Design CD Release, Black Earth, Suicide Holiday
- RED FEZ** Nuthin' New All-Stars (10:30)
- RED'S SCOOT INN** The Nortons, Joanna Ramirez
- REDRUM** Rend, Havoc Dose, Anahadonia, Lower Life (8:00)
- RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Brandon Jenkins
- ROADHOUSE** Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
- ROMEIO'S** Jacinta (6:30)
- ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** OJ Laird & Friends
- RUTA MAYA** Austin Daze w/ Jud Newcomb, Matt the Electrician, Kacy Crowley, Jon Dee Graham
- SAO PAULO'S** Aye Cafe (7:30)
- SAXON PUB** Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
- SHENANIGANS** Billy D
- SHOAL CREEK SALOON** Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends, the Gunhands (8:00)
- SKY LOUNGE** Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
- STARBUCKS** Jack & the Beanstalkers
- STUBB'S BAR-B-Q** The 88, Matt Costa
- TAMBALEO** Evan Felts (7:00), DJ Holland (10:00)
- TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Open Mic w/ Henry Craft
- TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL** Annoying Instrument Orchestra (7:30)
- TRIPLE CROWN** King Tears, Infidel, Mind Divided, Pushfactor
- TROUBADOUR SALOON** Euphoria, Raven, Portal (8:00)
- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Nicole Gilbert
- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH** The Hudsons (6:30)
- WATERLOO RECORDS** Matt Costa (5:00)
- WHISKY BAR** Things That Go Pop!, Lickety Splitz, Learning Secrets w/ Ian Orth, Ben Craven & Friends
- WOODY'S SOUTH** Happy Families, Pocket Symphonies

- AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR** Adam Carroll
- AUSTIN CITY HALL PLAZA** Haydn Vitera (noon)
- AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR** Jazzmer (6:00)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Kim & the Blues Boys
- BEAUTY BAR** Martini & Manicure Happy Hour for AIDS Services of Austin (6:00), Cinco de Mayo w/ Jeff Strange (9:00)
- BEERLAND** The Remainders, Bad Rackets, Amplified Heat, Ugly Beats
- BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega (10:00)
- BOUT TIME** DJ Kim Hicks
- BROKEN SPOKE** Heybale!
- BROWN BAR** DJ Gray, Late Night w/ mr.ripley (9:00)
- CACTUS CAFE** Sahara Smith, Sonya Kitchell
- CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Mad Cowboys (6:30)
- CEDAR STREET** Philip & Shawn (6:00)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Pauline Reese
- CIPOLLINA** Cienfuegos (8:00)
- CLUB ONE 15** Blend Fridays w/ DJ Inverse, DJ Casanova
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** The Blues Specialists (6:30), Sugarballs & the 18-Wheelers, Deke Dickerson & the Ecco-Fonics, James Intveld (9:00)
- COTTON CLUB** Texas Fever
- DAN MCKLUSKY'S** Bobby Doyle (7:00)
- THE DIRTY DOG** Rebecca Creek, Subtle Creeps, Grudgeawary (9:00)
- DIRTY MARTIN'S KUM-BAK PLACE** Better Day Maybe
- DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters
- THE DRISKILL** Kirk Hale, Suzi Stern, George Oldziej (6:00)
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mark Goodwin Trio (8:00)
- EGO'S** YarMigos Happy Hour, the U-Joints, JB Beverly & the Wayward Drifters
- EL SOL Y LA LUNA** Oliver Rajamani (7:30)
- ELEMENT DJ 2DQ** (10:00)
- ELEPHANT ROOM** George Carver, the Brew (6:00)
- EMO'S** Murs
- END OF AN EAR** Zom Zoms CD Release (6:00)
- EVANGELINE CAFE** Larry Lange's Lonely Knights
- FLAMINGO CANTINA** Shandon Sahm, Broken Teeth, SINIS
- FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Lanky (9:00)
- FLORES MEXICAN RESTAURANT** Johnny Gonzales (6:00)
- FREDDIE'S PLACE** Tracy
- GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE** Open Mic (7:30)
- GIDDY UPS** Bobby Pounds
- GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** The Moonhangers CD Release (9:00)
- HEADHUNTERS** Leo's Honey, Southern Drama, Black Joe Lewis & the Cool Breeze, Meatwood, Sun of Sultans

- HOLE IN THE WALL** Michelle Anthony, Hoe Slingers, Casting Couch (8:00)
- IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE** Luke Balencia (7:00)
- JC'S STEAKHOUSE** Adam Donmoyer
- JOHNNY FINNS** Undiscovered
- JOVITA'S** Melancholy Ramblers, Summer Erickson, El Tule (6:00)
- LA CABANA GRILL** Blues Jam w/ Li'l Steph (8:00)
- LA PALAPA** Karaoke w/ Big Jim
- LA ZONA ROSA** Brighten, Simon Dawes, Eislely
- LOVE** Patrice Pike, Martine Locke, Natalia Zukermann, Ginger Leigh (7:00)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Primm (8:00)
- MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Leeann Atherton (7:00)
- MOMOS** Rite Flyers, Coffee Sergeants, Fire Marshalls of Bethlehem
- NATY'S PUB** Graham Wilkerson
- NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Cornell Hurt Band
- THE OAKS** Cinco De Mayo w/ Los Pinkys (8:00)
- THE OFFICE LOUNGE** The Burners
- PAGGI HOUSE** DJ Skot Kees (9:00)
- THE PALLADIUM** Vibe
- PALMER EVENTS CENTER** Big Bad Voodoo Daddy w/ Austin Symphony Orchestra (8:00)
- PLUSH** Micasa Tu Casa w/ Tarek, MC Flint (10:00)
- POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Joe "King" Carrasco
- RACK DADDY'S** Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
- RAGGEDY ANNE'S** Karaoke
- RED'S SCOOT INN** Waxploitation w/ Obataallah, Little Danny, Greg Most, Dr. Rhythm, Waxploitation!
- REDRUM** Ramones Hoot w/ Paul Green School of Rock Music (5:00), Alternate 15, Sub-Natural, Lust Murder Box (9:00)
- REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB** Marc Devine, Cienfuegos (6:00)
- RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Thrillbillies, Ed Cooper
- ROADHOUSE** The Extractors
- ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE** Glen Collins, Son Geezinslaw
- RUTA MAYA** Ryan Young, Global Soul, About Blank (8:00)
- SAO PAULO'S** Members of Crying Monkeys (7:30)
- SAXON PUB** The Regulars (6:30), Slowburn, Tyler Wood, W.C. Clark (8:00)
- SHENANIGANS** 4:19
- SHOOTERS BILLIARDS** Karma Dogs
- SKI SHORES** Stephen Doster (6:00)
- SNAKE EYES VINYL** The Steps, Offisaurs, No! (8:00)
- STUBB'S BAR-B-Q** Radiant, Lovedrug, Mute Math (6:00, 10:00)
- TAMBALEO** DJ Holland & David Miranda (10:00)
- TEXAS BAR & GRILL** 8 Ball Down
- THE OASIS** Reunion

INFO LINE: 512-236-UGLY 501A E 6TH ST-AUSTIN, TX

Ranked Number 1 HAPPY HOUR*

MON-FRI 5-7PM SAT-SUN NOON - 7PM



Fri 05

- 219 WEST** DJ Trace
- 311 CLUB** 3-Piece Special, Joe Valentine and Lynn (8:30)
- 423 TILLERY** Architects, Army of Jesus, Contempt, After the Bombs
- ALICE'S RESTAURANT** Brian Cutean, Z Grass
- ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE** Fabulous Chevilles
- ANTONE'S** International Music Festival w/ Jolly Garogers, Meet on Denali, Dorkstar, Andice, Oklahomos, Billy Harvey, Devola, Emura (10:00)
- ARARAT** Cinco de Mayo w/ Ravner Salinas, Andrea Cortez (5:00)

featuring

thurs	Vehicular Nuchin' New All Stars	8:00-11:00 11:00-2:00
fri	I Need More Cow Bell DJ Gibb	8:30-10:30 10:30-2:00
sat	DJ Kurv	10:00-2:00
sun	DJ Kurupt	10:00-2:00
mon	DJ In/Verse with DJ Tats Motown & funk	10:00-2:00
tues	Twist Up DJ Manny	10:00 - 2:00
wed	Satisfaction DJ Shane	10:00 - 2:00

Thursday
May 4th

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MIKE FLANIGIN'S B-3 TRIO

CONTINENTAL Club

THUR. MAY 4
 HAPPY HOUR
THE MOTHER TRUCKERS

LIL' CAP'N TRAVIS
J.B. BEVERLY
 AND THE WAYWARD DRIFTERS

FRIDAY MAY 5
 H. H. THE LEGENDARY
 BLUES SPECIALISTS
JAMES INTVELD

DEKE DICKERSON
 AND THE ECCO-FONICS

SUGARBALL
 AND THE 18 WHEELERS

SATURDAY MAY 6
 MATINEE 3-7PM
REDD VOLKAERT

TONI PRICE

LEROI BROTHERS
 SUNDAY, MAY 7

20th ANNIVERSARY PARTY
 1PM-2AM
 FEATURING
HEYDALE
JAMES Mc MURTRY
 AND MANY MORE!

COMING SOON
 5/18 - **LEE ROCKER**
 5/19 - **MARTI BROM'S**
 FAREWELL SHOW
 5/22 - **DALE WATSON**

MON. MAY 8
 HAPPY HOUR 6:30
PARIS '49 HIGH FLYERS
 WITH **CINDY, ELANA & REDD**

TUES. MAY 9
 HAPPY HOUR
TONI PRICE
 + **DOAK SHORT**

J MOELLER
 AND THE SOPHISTICATES

WED. MAY 10
 HAPPY HOUR
GARY CLARK JR.
JAMES Mc MURTRY

JON DEE GRAHAM
 THURS. MAY 11
 HAPPY HOUR
THE MOTHER TRUCKERS

1AM
GRAND CHAMPEEN

12AM
TAMMANY HALL MACHINE
KING TEARS

11PM
GAZER

FRIDAY MAY 12
 H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
WAYNE HANGOCK
GATESVILLE

SATURDAY MAY 13
 MATINEE 3-7PM
REDD VOLKAERT
ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO

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Thurs. May 4
Carolyn Wonderland 8pm
George Devore 11pm
 Hhr. Doug Moreland Show 6pm

Fri. May 5
W.C. Clark 11pm
The Godfather of Austin Blues
Tyler Wood 9:30pm 8pm **SIO-BURN**
 Hhr. The Regulars 6pm

Sat. May 6
 11pm
STEPHEN BRUTON
 9:30pm **Bruce Smith** 8pm **The Dime Store Poets**
 Austin Songwriter Showcase 6pm

Sun. May 7
The Resentments
 w/ Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, 7pm
 Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham & John Chipman
Walter Tragert 12am **Jay Thomas** 10:30pm

Mon. May 8 8:30pm
Bob Schneider's Lonelyland
Matt the Electrician 11pm
Brandon McHose 7pm

Tues. May 9 8pm
MONTE MONTGOMERY
Chris Berardo & The Desbarardos 11pm
 Hhr. Denim 6pm

Wed. May 10 8pm
Paula Nelson 10:30pm
The Salingers 12am
Bruce James
 Hhr. Pauline Reese 6pm

Up Coming Shows
 5/12 - 8 Million Stories & Omar & the Howlers
 5/13 - Guy Forsyth
 5/15 - Alpha Rev

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 FRI 5/5 DOORS 9PM

HOUSEHOLD NAMES
 CD RELEASE PARTY
 SAT 5/6 DOORS 9PM
MR. BLAKES AND FRIENDS
 SUN 5/7 DOORS 8PM

WOLF MOTHER
PARCHMENT FARM

ADV TIX @ WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM & WATERLOO RECORDS
 WED 5/10 DOORS 8PM
THE ESSEX GREEN
BROTHERS & SISTERS BELAIRE

THURS 5/11 DOORS 8PM
MIDORI UMI
MAGNET SCHOOL THE SWELLS
 FRI 5/12 DOORS 8PM

ZYKOS
QUIEN es BOOM THE LEMURS
 5/18 DOORS 9PM
SPOONFED TRIBE
 5/19 DOORS 9PM

LIVING LEGENDS
 5/20 DOORS 9PM
ALPHA REV
 5/25 DOORS 9PM

ZOOKEEPER
 5/26 DOORS 9PM
DJ A-TRAK
 5/27 DOORS 9PM

PREFUSE 73
 5/28 DOORS 9PM
EAGLES OF DEATH METAL
 5/30 DOORS 9PM
SCION - METRO
 6:2 NIGHTMARE OF YOU 6:3 BUTTERCUP 6:9 TWILIGHT SINGERS 6:10 RADIO 4 6:25 BAND OF HORSES 7:13 POWERMAN 5000 7:27 DIPOLO OF HOLLETRONIX / GSS / BLONDE DO ROLE

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FRI 5/5 > SUN OF SULTANS, MEATWOOD, BLACK JOE LEWIS-Patio, SOUTHERN DRAMA, LEO'S HONEY-H Hour
SAT 5/6 > TEABAG, BLACK EARTH, CRITICAL ASSEMBLY, HARD KNOCKS & THE HEADS-Patio, MDSSM, PORK CHOP SALAD
SUN 5/7 > JERRY ZEINFELD'S ATROPHIED SACKQUE, FULL STRIDE-Patio, J.B. BEVERLEY AND THE WAYWARD DRIFTERS, THE SOUTHERN HUMONGOUS-Patio, GATESVILLE, HOUSEWRECKER-Patio, TEST TUBE PIMP-Patio
MON 5/8 > LUMBER JACKIES B-DAY, 13TH VICTIMS B-DAY, PANTHER ZORA, KEG CHARGE
TUE 5/9 > HEAD PANIC, GUT BUCKET, PERMAKIDS
WED 5/10 > LIONS OF TSAVO, CONDITION OF SALE, SLUGGARD, EYERETT ROCK N ROLL KARAOKE-Patio

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FRIDAY-MAY 5 *HAPPY HOUR W/ JESSIE LUIS*
TESLA'S, FRANK HANNON BAND, THE GUEST, DEEJER

SATURDAY-MAY 6 *HAPPY HOUR W/ MR. GREGG*
DRIFTER, DEVOLA, RIVERSIDE, BRICKS ATK

SUNDAY-MAY 7
KELLER, DANCE LIKE ROBOTS, MODICO

MONDAY-MAY 8 *In The Lounge/No Cover*
ONE TRICK MONKEY, OUB TRAVELER, BIGHOLDS

TUESDAY-MAY 9 *In The Lounge/No Cover*
HAVILAN TOWER, JOHN ALANVA, THOMAS O BRADY

WEDNESDAY-MAY 10
COURTNEY IN THE MOUNTAIN, ANDERSON, THE BELLWORKS, THE BEE, SCORPION, SHERIFF, SCHEISS, SC, CASH GALLERY, SLOW MOTION PICTURE, SOUNDS UNDER THE RAIN

THURSDAY-MAY 11 *BOULEVARD HAPPY HOUR*
RAW DEAL PRODUCTIONS, PINEAPPLE, AS THE PHOENIX RISES, THE DAYNAIDE, STARKIN' GUN, NATHANS STUPID DRAMA

FRIDAY-MAY 12
HONKY, AMPLIFIED HEAT, THE IRISH BROS., THE EXCUSES

SATURDAY-MAY 13
GLASS INTERPID, DAWN OVER ZERO, ULTRASONIC, PANDE WHITE, DOUGLAS FIE

UPCOMING SHOWS
5-14 RHINO BUCKET, BROKEN TEETH, THE GENTLEMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB, LYING IN STATES
5-17 SCOTT N. BIRN, SEAROCK CLAM DISCERS
5-19 RALPH WHITE OF BAD LIVERS AT MIDNIGHT IN THE LOUNGE
5-19 SYLVAN (CD RELEASE), POPPER, KONG (CD) AND SPY
5-20 POKERFUL OF BLOOD (CD RELEASE), AIR TIGHT ALBA, BAY HENRI, THE BANGLES, KOT THE BUN, FRENCHBROS, STEAN TRAIN MUSIC

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THE TOTAL FOXES
FOOT FOOT
MOUSE ABOUT

FRI 5.5
THE FLASHBOYS
PETER ELLIOTT & the Sellouts
THE HOT RAILS
8pm: Sado-Massachusetts

SAT 5.6
ARMS IN DANGER
THE FOUR
GO NOVA!

SUN 5.7
HECTOR FACEPLANT
THE JONX
LOS HISPANOS, U.K.

MON 5.8
DIXIE WITCH
STINKING LIZAVETA
LA MANCHA
INVINCIBLE CZARS

TUE 5.9
SLAB TRASH
BABYMAN
SUNTORY

WED 5.10
BACKSLIDER
PEYTON GIN
SYBIL

UPCOMING SHOWS
5.11 Ugly Beers, Chedd Thomas & the Crazy Kings, 5.12 Golden Arm Tito, Churchbus, 5.13 Graves At Sea, Pleasant Valley, 5.14 Voodoo Organist

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TRASHY
Fashion Show

SAT HAVEN MAY 6
goth, industrial, synthpop, & eurodance
DJs VOID & THE GOTHEATHER

SUN retro 80's MAY 7
REGRESSION
DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

TUE lesbian night MAY 9
SAPPHO'S ISLE
DJs AMERYKAH & DOJA

WED NO COVER MAY 10
MID*WAVE
dark 80's retro & old school goth
DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

UPCOMING EVENTS
Thu May 11 * TBA
Fri May 12 * TBA
Thu May 18 * TBA
Fri May 19 * TBA

21+ only, doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified
more detailed information available at:
www.elysiumonline.net (512) 478-2979

th 4 eeSpies, Black Irish, Total Sound Group Direct Action Committee @10
Tonewheel Collective @ 7pm

fr 5 Ugly Beats, Amplified Heat, Bad Rackets, Reminders
Last Straw Happy Hour @7pm

sa 6 Flametrick Subs, Satan's Cheerleaders, Blue Flames

su 7 Texas Rollergirls afterparty
The Mansfields

mo 8 Rock and Roll Karaoke
1000+ songs--no cover

tu 9 Mr. and Mrs. May, Dirty Hearts, The Normans
Live Comedy @8

we 10 Houston Bernard, Tuna Helpers, Stanley Roy & the Pigfuckers

th 11 Sexy Finger Champs, City Mouse, Vibrolas

fr 12 Mullens, Nervous Hospital, Jungle Rockers, Deadly Companions, Shimmy Girls

sa 13 White Ghost Shivers, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral 5, John Schooley's One Man Band
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THURSDAY, MAY 4

HELIO SEQUENCE
CRYSTAL SKULLS
FOR THOSE WHO KNOW
TICKETS AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, MAY 5

MURS

(OF LIVING LEGENDS)

SUPREME • CLEVER MONKEYS
CEREBRAL VORTEX • NOTION
TICKETS AVAILABLE

SATURDAY, MAY 6

JOHN VANDERSLICE
LAURA VEIRS

MINUS STORY

TICKETS AVAILABLE

SEPARATE OUTSIDE SHOW:

AT ALL COST
THE JONBENET
DUBB SICKS • ASSACRE
TICKETS AVAILABLE

SUNDAY, MAY 7

VAZ • OH, BEAST!
SKULLENING • RED X RED M

MONDAY, MAY 8

SEPARATE INSIDE SHOW:

EARLY DOORS 5PM / MUSIC 5:30PM
BULLETS AND OCTANCE
VALIENT THORR • DAMONE • FAR LESS

LATE SHOW:

ART BRUT

BIRDMONSTER
THE ROBOCOP KRAUS

TUESDAY, MAY 9

CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

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THURSDAY, MAY 11



SUNBURNED HAND OF THE MAN

PETER & THE WOLF • RUBBLE
TICKETS AVAILABLE

FRIDAY, MAY 12



BLOOD ON THE WALL

PSYCHIC ILLS
MY EDUCATION • UME
TICKETS AVAILABLE

SATURDAY, MAY 13

IN THE EMO'S LOUNGE AT 8PM
SCREEN DOOR FILM
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WORD ASSOCIATION
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SUNDAY, MAY 14

HAGFISH
SABATEUR • DRIVER F
TICKETS AVAILABLE

MON., MAY 15 - TUE., MAY 16

CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17

ELF POWER
THE INSTRUMENTS
THE PAPER SOUTH • PEEL
TICKETS AVAILABLE

THURSDAY, MAY 18

Chaos in Tejas Festival
Day 1 DOORS @ 8PM

THE DICKS

LIMP WRIST • THE VICTIMS
THE PEDESTRIANS • ARMY OF JESUS
IRON AGE

TICKETS AVAILABLE

SEPARATE INSIDE SHOW:

FLAMETRICK SUBS
WITH SATAN'S CHEERLEADERS
VON EHRICS • BLACK IRISH

FRIDAY, MAY 19

Chaos in Tejas Festival
Day 2 DOORS @ 7PM

DEAD MOON



SEVERED HEAD OF STATE
CAREER SUICIDE • THE MARKED MEN
CRIMINAL DAMAGE • SIGNAL LOST
BASTARD SONS OF APOCALYPSE

TICKETS AVAILABLE

SEPARATE INSIDE SHOW @ 9PM:

CRUISERWEIGHT
FEABLE WEINER • SEAN DYNAMITE
PAPER AIRLINE • FRIENDS OF LIZZY

SATURDAY, MAY 20

Chaos in Tejas Festival
Day 3 DOORS @ 6PM

TRAGEDY

FORWARD • WARHEAD
FUCKED UP • LOOK BACK AND LAUGH
THE BAYONETTES • THE KRUM BUMS
THE MANIKIN

TICKETS AVAILABLE

SEPARATE INSIDE SHOW:

THE BUSINESS
ROGER MERIT AND THE DISASTERS
BRAIN FAILURE • TBA
TICKETS AVAILABLE

SUNDAY, MAY 21

THE ARM
COUGARS • CAMP X-RAY

MONDAY, MAY 22

CLOSED

TUESDAY, MAY 23

OUTSIDE:

MONO



PELICAN

WITH **THE LIFE AND TIMES**

TICKETS AVAILABLE

SEPARATE INSIDE SHOW:

SHOPLIFTING

(MEMBERS OF GOSSIP/
CHROMATICS - KILL ROCK STARS)
FINALLY PUNK • TBA

WEDNESDAY, MAY 24



EPOXIES
PHENOMENAUTS
TEENAGE BOTTLEROCKET
TICKETS AVAILABLE

THURSDAY, MAY 25

OUTSIDE:

PRELUDY GALS MAKE GRAVES



GIANT DRAG • THE JOGGERS
TICKETS AVAILABLE

SEPARATE INSIDE SHOW:

ZIG ZAG LIVE PRESENTS



THE COURT AND SPARK
BROTHERS AND SISTERS
PINK NASTY • ADELINE • SHILOE
TICKETS AVAILABLE
9PM / 18+ ONLY

← **Coming soon:** 5/26 PINBACK / MARY TIMONY (OUT)* / LIARS / THE APES / DEERHUNTER (IN)* • 5/27 OCTOPUS PROJECT / ZYKOS (OUT)* / PONG / WHITE GHOST SHIVERS (IN)
• 6/2 COUNTRY TEASERS* • 6/3 FILM SCHOOL* • 6/6 THEO AND THE SKYSCRAPERS* • 6/7 YAKUZA • 6/9 SHELLAC / THE NEW YEAR* • 6/10 RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS (OUT)* / CEX (IN)* • 6/15 CONSTANTINES*
• 6/21 NEKROMANTIX* • 6/22 BOWLING FOR SOUP (EARLY)* / THE COUP (LATE)* • 6/23 BE YOUR OWN PET* • 6/26 DRI* • 7/1 TILLY & THE WALL • 7/2 MAGIK MARKERS • 7/3 QUINTRON & MISS PUSSYCAT*
• 7/6 CARLA BOZULICH (EX- GERALDINE FIBBERS)* • 7/7 DANIELSON* • 7/9 RANCID (TIX ON SALE 5/12)* • 7/12 BRIGHTBLACK MORNING LIGHT* • 7/14 SHEARWATER* • 7/26 ONEIDA* • 7/27 MINDERS*

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SA **SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND**
MO **BIG JOHN MILLS**
TU **TEXAS RENEGADE**
WE **EVERY WED. KENT FINLAY'S SONGWRITERS CIRCLE**

coming soon 5/11 STONEY LARUE
5/12 RAY WYLIE HUBBARD & BOBBY BARE JR.
5/13 ADAM CARROLL & JAMES MCMURTRY
5/14 KEITH SYKES & BILLY JOE SHAVER - NOON

BECKS ON Congress

THUR **GRAHAM WILKINSON 8PM**
FRI **AMANDA CUNNINGHAM 8PM**
SAT **6 JAMES MORAN 8PM**
SUN **7 AIMEE BOBRUK 7PM**
TUES **9 CHAD & JANE BOND 8PM**
WED **10 IDGY VAUGHN 8PM**
THUR **11 TIM SCOTT 8PM**

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club listings <<< FROM FRIDAY

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Summer Wardrobe, the BlueRunners (10:00)
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Thrillbillies, Hognose, the Spiders
TROPHY'S Darling New Neighbors, Just Guns, the Normans, Benko
TROUBADOUR SALOON Dylan Sneed, ODS, Saints & Sinners, Both Feet (7:00)
UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH Will Taylor & Strings Attached w/ Slaid Cleaves (7:30, 10:00)
VUE Mumbojumbo w/ DJ Supafly, Nathan Castle, Mike C.
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Lana Anderson, Matt Deaton & Front Porch Texas
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE David DuCharme-Jones (8:00)
WATERLOO RECORDS Sonya Kitchell (5:00)
WHISKY BAR DJ Tats, DJ Hannibal Berretta
Y BAR & GRILL Reel Sheboygans (7:00)

BARCELONA DJ Berlin
BEAUTY BAR Martini & Manicure Happy Hour for AIDS Services of Austin (6:00)
BEERLAND Oil Pan Sluts, Blue Flames, Flametrick Subs
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOUT TIME DJ Kim Hicks (9:00)
BRENTWOOD PARK Violet Crown Festival w/ McCallum Steel Drum Band, Cowboy Johnson, Abra Moore, Susanna Sharp & Catavento, Bruce Robison, Jim Stringer & the AM Band, Mother Truckers (noon)
BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow
BROWN BAR mr.ripley (10:00)
CACTUS CAFE Sam Baker, James McMurtry
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Count Dracula's Weed Smuggling Jam Engine, Silk Stocking, Charles Pott's Magic Windmill Band, Basic

CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Texas Community Music Festival w/ the Polkadillos, Lisa Escamia, Austin New Music Co-op, Chamber Soloists of Austin, Austin Jazz Orchestra, Austin Civic Wind Ensemble, the Killdares, Puerto Rico Folkloric Dance Co. (10:30 am)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Grant Ewing
CLUB 21 Ricky Calmbach (9:00)
CLUB ONE 15 Uptown Saturday w/ Cut Creator (9:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd Volkaert (3:00), Toni Price, the LeROI Brothers (10:30)
COTTON CLUB Pete Benz
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)
THE DIRTY DOG 6 Easy Pieces, J. Price, Brian Bayer, Permakids, Bright Shadow, WT Special (2:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Albert & Gage
THE DRISKILL Pat Griffin, Suzi Stern, George Oldziej (6:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Abra Moore (8:00)
EGO'S Moonlight Towers, Rite Flyers, Kathy McCarty
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mary Welch y Los Curanderos (7:30)
ELEMENT DJ 2DQ (10:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Gnappy (9:30)
EMO'S Inside: Minus Story, Laura Veirs, John Vanderslice; Outside: Assacre, Dubb Sicks, Steadurl, the JonBenet, At All Cost
END OF AN EAR Klier Channel CD, EP Release (6:00)
FIRST UNITARIAN CHURCH Orpheus Academy of Music Faculty Concert (7:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Gentlemen's Social Club, Oklahomos, SINIS reunion
FLIPNOTICE COFFEESPACE Cheryl Bliss (9:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE Sarah Glynn (6:00)
GALAXY CAFE Paul White Quartet (7:00)
GIDDY UPS Clay Harrell (9:00)
THE GLENN AT THE BACKYARD Carolyn Wonderland, Ruthie Foster (7:00)

LIVE MUSIC

OOH DADDY, IT'S LITTLE WOODROW'S

477-BEER WEST SIXTH

3RD ANNUAL CRAWFISH WEEKEND

TEXAS

MAY 5TH, 6TH & 7TH

WEDNESDAY NIGHT **CHICKEN BY RAZZOO'S** DJ **GEORGE**

FRIDAY NIGHT **CHICKEN BY RAZZOO'S**

SATURDAY & SUNDAY **UP IN THE AIR**

Sat 006

219 WEST DJ Trace
311 CLUB Altar Boys, On Tap
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Alteza, Guafa Trio
ANTONE'S International Music Festival w/ No Such Thing, Kinetik, Subtle Creeps, Phoenix Down, Tastydactyls, Amy Wallace, the Everyday People, Prime Element (10:00)
ANTONE'S RECORDS Dave's Not Here (3:00)
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings
AUSTIN FARMERS MARKET DOWNTOWN Sara Shansky (10:00 am)
B.B. ROVERS Steve Syxx (9:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Joe Richardson Express

CD RELEASE

DAMES VIOLET

TWO GUY TRIO

Saturday, May 6th @ Stubb's
Doors open at 9:00 p.m.

Front Gate TICKETS

Detour SPORTS BAR AND GRILL

MONDAY 9-Ball Pool Tournament w/ Cash Prize
TUESDAY \$5 Burgers & Beer All Day
2 For Tuesdays: 7-10 2 for 1 Dinners
WEDNESDAY Ladies Night 5-10 \$10 Martinis & Manicures
THURSDAY Open Mic 8PM. Pool Tournament w/ Cash Prizes. **BIKE NIGHT!**

FRI. & SAT. AT 7 & 10
SUNDAY AT 4 & 7
AND MONDAY AT 6 & 9
CASINO TRIP TO GRAND CASINO COUSHATTA IN LOUISIANA
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T 2.75 ALL PINTS
W Free Pizza
TH 2.25 House Beers
F 2.75 Independence Ale
S Free Bratwurst
S 1.75 Domestic Pints

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SUN 5/7 **OPEN MIC W/ GLENN ALLEN & KIM MCKENZIE**
MON 5/8 **BEVERLY HENSELY**
TUE 5/9 **KARAOKE**
WED 5/10 **DUNCAN WALTERS**

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FRIDAY MAY 5
A CINCO DE MAYO CELEBRATION
BETO & THE FAIRLANES
latin jazz

SATURDAY MAY 6
TEXAS COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL
www.tcmfest.org STARTS AT 10:30 AM
6:00 pm **KILLDARES** Celtic, folk, rock
8:00 pm **PUERTO RICO FOLKLORIC DANCE CO.**
an extravaganza of music and dance

SUNDAY MAY 7
BATTLE OF THE AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL
JAZZ BIG BAND PROGRAMS
11:00 am **KEALING MIDDLE**
12:30 pm **BOWIE HIGH**
2:00 pm **LAKE TRAVIS HIGH**
3:30 pm **LBJ HIGH**
5:00 pm **LBJ HIGH**
6:30 pm **MCCALLUM MIDDLE**
8:00 pm **ALL CITY JAZZ BIG BAND**

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WIN A TRIP FOR 2 TO LAS VEGAS!

FRIDAY 5/5
BENT EYE BOLT 8PM
DROUGHT 10PM
HEADLIGHT BLIND 11PM

SATURDAY 5/6
BACKSLIDER 10PM
PUSHMONKEY 11:30PM

SUNDAY 5/7
FREE POKER 5PM & 8PM

TUESDAY 5/9
PETE BENZ 7:30PM
KEVIN HAVRON 7:30PM

WEDNESDAY 5/10
CHRIS BERARDO & THE DESPERADOS 7PM

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5/4 THURSDAY
Patrick Fleming 10PM
5/5 FRIDAY
DJ Gerry
5/6 SATURDAY
The Blaggards
5/7 SUNDAY
Emerald Exiles 8PM
5/8 MONDAY
Texas Hold 'Em Poker Final
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NEW HAPPY HOUR
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Tea Merchants
5/10 WEDNESDAY
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CHRONtourage

Thursday, May 4, 8pm

Kid Rock Live Concert   

The Theatre at the Frank Erwin Center,

1701 Red River

www.uterwincenter.com

the **THEATRE**
at the Frank Erwin Center.

Come to the following events this week, and register for a chance to win a \$50 gift certificate to El Chile!



Paggi House

Friday, May 5, 7pm

eisleywithsimondawes

La Zona Rosa,

612 W. Fourth

www.lazonarosa.com



Sunday, May 7, 2pm

austinwranglersgame

The Frank Erwin

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Monday, May 8, 5pm

thelashesinstore

Performance

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www.waterloorecords.com



Monday, May 8, 8pm

17th Annual "Funniest Person in Austin" Contest

Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research Blvd. #100.

Check out the last round of contestants before the finals! www.capcitycomedy.com



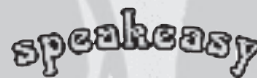
Wednesday, May 10, 9pm

Latin Jazz Wednesdays

Speakeasy, 412 Congress,

Free salsa lessons.

www.speakeasyaustin.com



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The Austin Chronicle is currently seeking summer interns to work in the marketing department for approximately 4-6 hours a week. Flexible hours depending on schedule. This internship is unpaid but includes association with a prominent publication and other perks.

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THU MAY 18



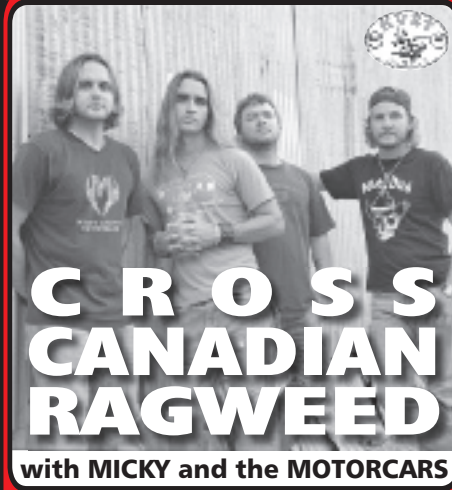
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25TH ANNIVERSARY

VIOLENT FEMMES

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FRI MAY 19

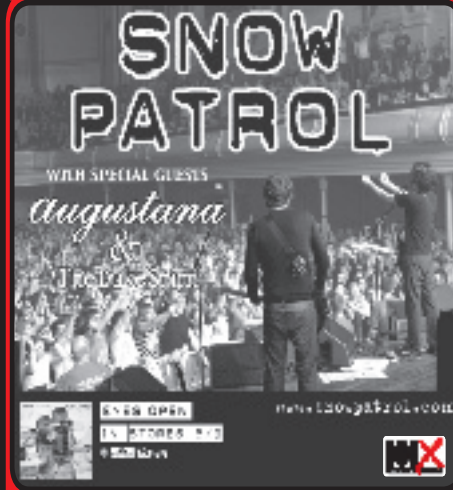


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FRI MAY 26



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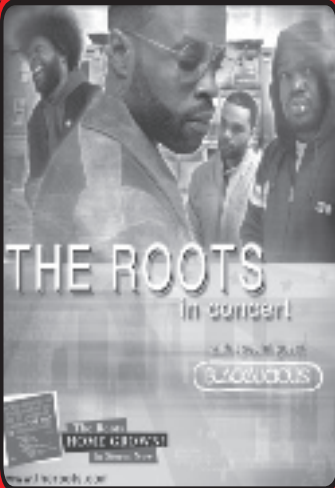
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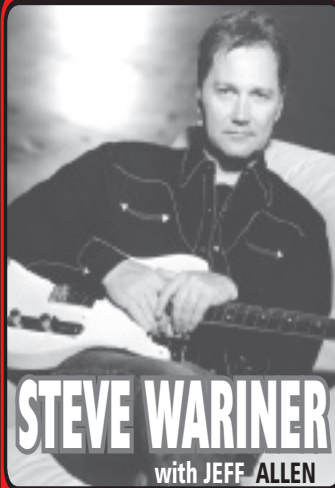


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In concert!

THE ROOTS HOME GROWN!

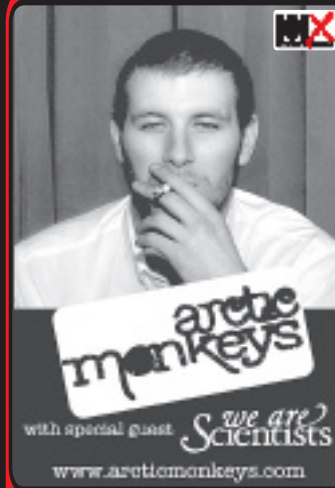
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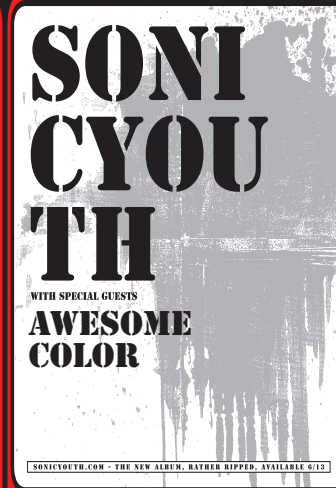


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SAT MAY 13

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WED MAY 24

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TUE MAY 30

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GORDY QUIST @ 9PM

SUN. 5/7 @ 11AM

FREE **Gospel Brunch**
with **BRENNEN LEIGH**

MON. 5/8 @ 8PM

FREE **ELIZABETH MCQUEEN & JASON ROBERTS**
From *Asleep At The Wheel*

FRI. 5/12

TODD POTTER and **VAN WILKS**
FORMERLY OF BUBBLEPUFFY
7PM

10PM



SOUTH AUSTIN JUG BAND
SAT. 5/13

FRI. 5/19

Blue Highway



JIMMY LAFAVE
SAT. 5/20

Mexican American Cultural Center Fundraiser

FRI. 5/26
ROSIE FLORES and **PATRICIA VONNE**

SAT. 5/27
MONTE MONTGOMERY

SUN. 5/28
Coming Soon
6/3 - **Grupo Fantasma**
6/22 - **The Greencards**
6/23 - **Billy Joe Shaver**
6/29 - **Tom Russell**
6/30 - **James McMurtry**

CYRIL NEVILLE

SUN. 6/11
Tickets on Sale thru Front Gate
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WED. 5/10 @ 7:30PM **JOE & ELLEN**

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club listings << FROM SATURDAY

HEADHUNTERS Pork Chop Salad, MDSSM, Hard Knocks & the Heads, Critical Assembly, Black Earth, Tea Bag
HOLE IN THE WALL Parker Worsham, Pocket Symphonies, Kissinger (8:00)
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Wayward Pony (7:00)
JOHNNY FINS Sprung
JOVITA'S Jesse Ellis, Chris Berardo & the Desberardos, Shelley King (6:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
LA ZONA ROSA Jack Rose, Mogwai
LITTLE CITY Creative Music Workshop Little Series #2 w/ Cooper-Moore (9:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Matt White (8:00)
MOMOS Midnight to 12, Wendy Colonna CD Release, 8 Million Stories
NAT'S PUB Moving Matter
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Legends of Texas Music Festival w/ Moonshine, Allie Danielle, Doug Moreland, Bobby Flores, Billy Joe Shaver (noon)
THE OAKS Rosie Flores, Wayne Hancock
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Fastrack

OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (8:30)
PALMER EVENTS CENTER Big Bad Voodoo Daddy w/ Austin Symphony Orchestra (8:00)
PARAMOUNT THEATRE Karla Bonoff, Leo Kottke (8:00)
THE PARISH Element7d, D-Madness, DJ Phytten, Bavu Blakes, Deloach, Steve Austin, Money Waters, Verbal Seed, S'ence, Thesis, Matthew Knowles
THE PARLOR Jodi Hates the World, Preserve the Sound
PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tatts, Dirty Harry
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Chili Cold Blood
PROGRESS COFFEE Navajo Radio, Acadia, Peel (8:00)
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Billy D.
RED EYED FLY QuarterShackle, Devola, Drifter
RED FEZ DJ Kury (10:30)
REDRUM Ramones Hoot w/ Paul Green School of Rock Music (5:00), Habitual, Shrapnel, D.I.D.L.Y., Mewyn (9:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Just Released (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Dave Insley
ROADHOUSE Rhythm Dawgs

ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Lofton Kline
RUTA MAYA The Normans, Sparkwood, the Alice Rose, Bellfuries, Argives (8:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Rick-N-James (9:00)
SAO PAULO'S Three (7:30)
SATELLITE CAFE Sheridan, Erik Hokkanen (8:00)
SAXON PUB Dimestore Poets, Bruce Smith, Stephen Bruton (8:00)
SHENANIGANS The Buzz
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Bakin' Brownies
SHOOTING STARS COFFEE Obatallah (1:00)
SKI SHORES The Flyin' A's (noon), Red Dawg (6:30)
SKY LOUNGE Sin Again w/ DJ Manny (10:00)
SNAKE EYES VINYL 50/50, Pretty Little Flower (8:00)
ST. JOHN'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Texas Community Music Festival w/ Tapestry Singers Spring Concert (7:30)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Two Guy Trio, Damesviolet, Plane of Existence CD Release
TAMBALEO DJ Kurupt, DJ Inverse (10:00)
TERRAZAS LIBRARY Grand Reopening w/ Mary Welch y Los Curanderas, Mariachi Relampago (10:00 am)

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THURS 5/14 COUNTRY/SOUL/FUNK DOORS 830, SHOW 9
MICE AND RIFLES (FEAT. MEMBERS OF MANEJA BETO)
BRUCE JAMES QUARTET
TYLER WOOD, EAR TO AN ON (EX-MATSON BELLE)

FRI 5/5 - ADV TIX ON SALE — DOORS 830, SHOW 9
SINIS
BROKEN TEETH
SHANDON SAHM

SAT 5/6 - ADV TIX ON SALE — 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
SINIS
DIXIE WITCH
OKLAHOMOS
GENTLEMEN SOCIAL CLUB

WED 5/10 - SKA/PUNK — 830 DOORS, 9 SHOW
THE FAD (NY)
CAPT. BRINGDOWN
RUINS OF BROADWAY AND MORE

THURS 5/11 - POP — DOORS 830, SHOW 9
GO NOVA
WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

5/12 - Maneja Beto, Consider the Source, Palo Viejo
5/13 - haunting obse music, prayer for animals, orange, til we destroy you
05/17 - the model un., happy families, a single ton
05/18 - dj dub show w/EXSTUS, cbist soundsystem
joe average 05/19 - catch a fire cancelball
soundsystem 05/20 - grimy styles, shantytown
underground 05/23 - c. murry mckinly presents
gameshow! 05/25 - feat records show w/
handsome charlies, casting couch, e. azarian
05/26 - old haunts, nudgy carrots, horse + donkey,
strange boys 05/27 - MISPRINT shindig w/ pink
nasty, channel, acadia, golden bear 05/31 red team
go, secular end, rishloo, arms in danger, under the
gun

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EVERY TUESDAY NIGHT

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								4	Gaila Kenneally
5	Shawn & Phil	●	KTEL Hit Machine						
6		●	Calico Kings						
7		●	Les & the Funk Mob						
8	Kevin Ahart	●	Elias Haslanger						
9	Seela & Friends	●	ROCKSTAR karaoke						
10	Trent & Dave	●	Spazmatics						



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EMERGENZÄ

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SEMIFINAL # 1 THURSDAY MAY 4TH 20:00 TEABAG Alternative Rock 20:30 DERRIN Indie Rock 21:00 ACASEDFMONDAYS Rock 21:30 SOUL STRUNG Rock 22:00 BLUJVM Rock Jams 22:30 STAGE OF EXISTENCE Heavy Rock 23:00 BLETZUNG Rock 23:30 COURSE OF RUIN Metal	SEMIFINAL # 2 FRIDAY MAY 5TH 20:00 JOLLY BARDGERS indie/alt rock 20:30 MEET ON DENALI indie rock 21:30 DORRSTAR rock 22:00 ANDICE alternative rock 22:30 OKLAHOMOS hardcore rock 23:00 BILLY HARVEY alternative pop 23:30 DEVOLA hard rock 23:30 EMURA metal	SEMIFINAL # 3 SATURDAY MAY 6TH 20:00 NO SUCH THING (revisited) rock 20:30 KINETIX hard rock 21:00 THE SUBTLE CREEPS hard rock 21:30 PHULMIX DUNN rock 22:00 TASTYDACTYLS indie 22:30 AMY WALLACE acoustic rock 23:00 THE FRYDAY PEOPLE rock 23:30 PRIME ELEMENT metal core	SEMIFINAL # 4 SUNDAY MAY 7TH 20:00 MONUMENT new metal 20:30 LIVE OAK DECLINE rock progressive 21:00 NAYIN'S THERMOS metal cross over 21:30 TEAGUE live indie pop 22:00 ANAVOA LEPRE conceptual 22:30 ULTRA HYDE rock alternative 23:00 A POCKETFUL OF DENG indie rock 23:30 EL CHARCO experimental rock
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MONDAY MAY 8TH

Brandon Rhyders
TEXAS COUNTRY FRIENDS
with DREW WOMACK & RYAN TURNER

TUESDAY MAY 9TH
EARLY SHOW • DOORS 7PM • SHOW 8PM

JUPITER SUNRISE
DAMESVIOLET
KADISFLY • LET GO EARLY

LATE SHOW • 10:30PM

Blue Tuesday WITH SPECIAL GUEST
GARY CLARK JR

THURSDAY MAY 11TH

DIANGO WALKER
TRAVIS MITCHELL • BUSTER JIGGS

FRIDAY MAY 12TH

DIRTY WORMIZ
with FIRE KILLS

SATURDAY MAY 13TH

wideawake
with stereovolt

THURSDAY MAY 18TH

COODER GRAW
THE GREAT DIVIDE

FRIDAY MAY 19TH

SALIVA
BLACK STONE CHERRY

SATURDAY MAY 20TH

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5/25: JAMES HUNTER*
5/26: CRACKER with O.A. ON SALE 5/17
5/28: EDWIN McCAIN with GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS*
6/28: SUE FOLEY
7/11: INDIGENOUS with TAYLOR HILLINGSMITH*

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12:30
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FRIDAY MAY 5 / \$5

THE FIRE MARSHALLS OF BETHLEHEM 12
THE COFFEE SERGEANTS 10
THE RIGHT FLYERS 8

SATURDAY MAY 6 / \$5

WENDY COLONNA

CD RELEASE PARTY 10
8 MILLION STORIES 12
MIDNIGHT TO 12 8

SUNDAY MAY 7 / \$5

WARREN HOOD

& THE HOODLUMS 9:30
ROBERT SOCIA 8
TYLER WOOD 11

MONDAY MAY 8

UT ETHNOMUSICOLOGY ENSEMBLE
THE MARIACHI PAREDES 8
UT BRAZILIAN ENSEMBLE 9
AFRO POP EZ MOTION TOURISTS 10
SALSA BAILENGA DE SALSA ORCHESTRA 11
AND MANY MORE!

TUESDAY MAY 9 / \$5

QUITZE

12
PORTER DAVIS 10
THE CINEMATIC UNDERGROUND 8

WEDNESDAY MAY 10 / \$5

THE HEATHERS

9:30

W/ BRIAN KEANE, COLIN BROOKS, ELDRIDGE GOINS, GORDY QUIST, ED JURDI & SETH WHITNEY WITH SPECIAL GUESTS

RACHEL LOY 8
THE BOURBON LEGENDS 12:30

UPCOMING SHOWS

JOHNNY GOUDIE

05/12

NINI CAMPS & KACY CROWLEY 05/18

HERB N PIPELINE

05/19

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Th 4 King Tears 6pm
Pushfactor, Mind Divided, Infidel 9pm

Fr 5 The Thrillbillies 6pm
The Spiders, Hognose 10pm

Sa 6 Word Association, Cerebral Vortex, Nosaprise 10pm

Su 7 Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly or Nate

Mo 8 Pat Pankratz & Gerry Burns 6pm
Scott Biram 9pm

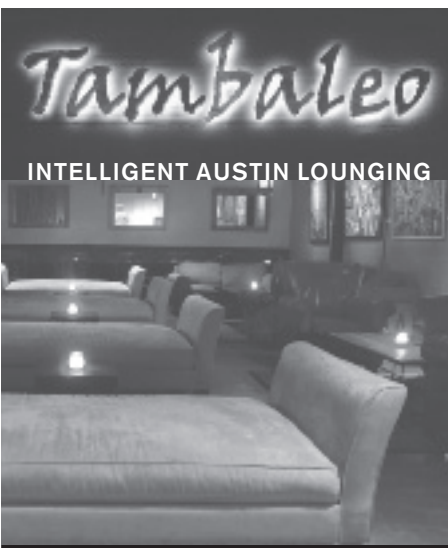
Tu 9 Slowtrain 6pm
Seekonk, Boone Graham, Mastertape, Gil San Marcos 9pm

We 10 Greg Klyma 6pm
Ricky Stein, Stuart Burns 9pm

Th 11 Nathan Hamilton 6pm
Ka-Tet, Three Leaf, The Swanderers 9pm

Fr 12 Eric Hisaw 6pm
Happy Families, Model UN, So Far Gone 9pm

Sa 13 Kallisti Gold, The Neo Lebro 10pm



INTELLIGENT AUSTIN LOUNGING

THURSDAY
Evan Felts ----- 7:00
DJ Tats ----- 10:00

FRIDAY
DJ Holland ----- 6:00-10:00
DJ's Mel & David Miranda -10:00

SATURDAY
DJ's Kurupt & Inverse --- 10:00

SUNDAY
Bring your own iPod ----- 9:00
ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR

MONDAY
Open Mic night ---- 8:00-10:00
Calvin Russell, Brad ---- 10:00
Brobisky & Friends
ALL NIGHT HAPPY HOUR

TUESDAY
JJ Usher ----- 10:00
\$2 TECATE AND LONE STAR

WEDNESDAY
Hip Hop on Hump Day --- 10:00
w/ DJ Mike Swing & Tee Double
\$2 TECATE AND LONE STAR

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club listings << FROM SATURDAY

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Digital Juke
THE OASIS The Eggmen
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Gordy Quist, Guy Forsyth (9:00)
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Lucky Strikes (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Nosaprise, Cerebral Vortex, Word Association
TRIUMPH CAFE Brian MacLeod's Hi-Fi (7:00)
TROPHY'S Handsome Charlies, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral Five, Darlin' Maudie
TROUBADOUR SALOON Aaron Franz, Both Feet, burning Warm, Justin Brown Translation, Liars Den, Muchos Backflips (2:00)
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ R.J.
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH Barry Sell, Greg Klyma & Green Mountain Grass
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Bruce Jones & the Monotones (8:00)
WHISKY BAR Prince Klassen vs. Donny D.
Y BAR & GRILL G-Man & the Enforcers, Dan Carpenter (7:00)

Sun 07

219 WEST DJ Trace
423 TILLERY Conflict, Architects, Tolar, Krum Bums, Holy Mountain
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Byrd & Street (noon), Rick & Tracy, Guafra Trio (4:00)
ANTONE'S International Music Festival w/ Monument, Live Oak Decline, Navin's Thermos, Teague, Amanda Lepre, Ultra Hyde, A Pocketful of Deng, El Charro (10:00)
ARARAT Teri Staton Memorial Service (2:00)
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Jay Webber
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Jazz Brunch w/ Kinket (11:00 am)
B.B. ROVERS Jollyville City Limits Open Mic w/ Brian Shirk; Austin Songwriters Group Open Mic w/ Missoula Slim (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tune Session (8:00)
THE BACKYARD Toby Lightman, James Blunt
BEERLAND Rollergirl Afterparty w/ the Mansfields
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller
CEDAR STREET Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET CAFE Texas Community Music Festival Battle of the High School Jazz Bands w/ Kealing Middle School, Bowie High School, Lake Travis High School, LBJ High School, McCallum High School, All City Jazz Band (11:00 am)
CONNALLY HIGH SCHOOL Connally High School Band Benefit w/ Grupo Fantasma (7:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Whip In Anniversary w/ 1001 Nights Orchestra, Rumbullion, Combo Mahalo, Cooper's Uncle, Gene Taylor, Texas Sapphires, James McMurtry, Heybale w/Redd & Earl (2:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (5:00)
THE DIRTY DOG DB Martin Group, 21 Black, Battle of the Bands (2:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Darin Layne Trio (9:30)
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
EMO'S Red X Red M; Skullening; Oh, Beast!; Vaz
END OF AN EAR Jay Rozen (6:00)
FADO Emerald Exiles (8:00)
FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Walter Higgs (9:00)
GIDDY UPS Karaoke w/ Steve Douglas
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Ted Hall's Blues Church/Jam
H&H BALLROOM Chingo de Mayo w/ I.T., Skor, Ice, El Criminal, South Coast, Capone, Stunta, Chingo Bling
HEADHUNTERS Test Tube Pimp, Housewrecker, Gatesville, Southern Humpungous, J.B. Beverly & the Wayward Drifters, Full Stride, Jerry Zeinfelld's Atrophied Sackque
HOLE IN THE WALL Rebecca's Ragtime Revue, the Stingers, Ricky Stein (9:00)
JO'S HOT COFFEE Sinner's Brunch: Tina Rose & the Jo's House Band (12:30)
JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)
JOVITA'S Burton & the Freefallers, Pop Stars (2:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Everyday People (10:00)
MANUEL'S Acoustic Jungle
THE MEAN EYED CAT Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (9:00)
MOMOS Warren Hood, Tyler Wood, Robet Socia
MOONRIVER Swingin' Johnsons, Big Daddy (4:00)
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Austin Celtic Assn. Meeting, Brunch w/ the Tea Merchants (noon), Karaoke w/ Edie (9:00)
NUOVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Open Mic w/ Jimi Lee (9:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mrs. K
PAGI HOUSE DJ Tomas Muniz, DJ Skot Kees
PALMER EVENTS CENTER Texas Rollergirls Bout w/ the Panties, Household Names (6:00)
THE PARISH Parchment Farm, Wolfmother
PLUSH Car Stereo Wars
POODLE DOG LOUNGE Sunny Sweeney (8:30)
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RAIN Hedda Layne (5:30)
RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic
ROADHOUSE Open Mic w/ Josh
RUTA MAYA Monster Big Band (7:00)

SAXON PUB The Resentments, Walter Tragert, Jay Thomas Band (7:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D
SKI SHORES Stephanie Fix (noon), Elizabeth McQueen (5:30)
SNAKE EYES VINYL Heist at Hand, Bullet Train to Vegas (7:00)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Gospel Brunch w/ Bells of Joy (noon)
THE CROSSINGS Sunday Singing at Seven w/ Wait & Tina Wilkins (7:00)
THE OASIS The Brew
THINGS CELTIC Celtic Song Session (2:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Molly Hayes (9:00)
TROUBADOUR SALOON Emile, Caldwell Shine
THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/ Patrick
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra
WHISKY BAR DJ Kon Karne, DJ Cebolla
WOODY'S SOUTH Southside Sunday Brunch (11:00 am)

Mon 08

ABIA: HILL COUNTRY BAR Cabo Bay (3:30)
ANTONE'S Brandon Ryder's Texas Country Friends (8:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Trent Turner
BABY ACAPULCO'S #3 Mary Welch y Los Curanderos (8:00)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Margaret Miller
CEDAR STREET Kevin Ahart (6:00), Jukebox Heroes (9:30)
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Rich Demarco (6:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Paris '49 (6:30), the High Flyers (10:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Country Night w/ Boy Wonder (8:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle (7:00)
EGO'S Sigmond Fraud, Uncle Lucius
ELEPHANT ROOM Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (9:30)
EMO'S Outside: The Robocop Kraus, Birdmonster, Art Brut; Inside: Endingsilence, Damone, Valient Thorr, Bullets & Octane
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sumner Erickson, BettySoo (8:00)
FRIENDS Eric Tessmer (7:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Uranium Savages
HEADHUNTERS Keg Charge, Panther Zora, 13th Victim, Lumber Jackies
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic Poetry & Reading (7:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Pamela Ryder, Cheryl Murdock (9:00)
HYDE PARK THEATRE Eddy Hobizal (7:30)
JACK'S BACKYARD Karaoke w/ Stars Across Texas (9:00)
LONGBRANCH INN Singer-Songwriter Night
MOMOS UT Ethnomusicology Ensemble
MOONRIVER Dawn Maracle

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THU., MAY 4 CHAPARRAL w/ JEFF HUGHES

FRI., MAY 5 HEYBALE

SAT., MAY 6 ALVIN CROW

TUE., MAY 9 HONKY TONK PIANO NIGHT

WED., MAY 10 NATURAL EAR CONCERT

MAY 4TH

CINCO DE MAYO w/ RUMORES, AT BOYS, AND DAVID LEE GARZA - *Fiesta Gardens*

GRUPO FANTASMA - *One World Theater*

MAY 5TH

ALFONSO RAMOS - *Live From the Plaza*

CINCO DE MAYO w/ DAVID MARES, FAMA, SUNNY SAUCEDA - *Fiesta Gardens*

MAY 6TH

PECAN STREET FESTIVAL w/ MYRNA CABELLO & GRIS GRIS, EDO, BLETZUNG, AND BARBARIANS OF SEVILLA - *6th & Neches*

MAY 7TH

PECAN STREET FESTIVAL w/ ZAMORA FAMILY CONJUNTO, LATIN AT HEART, TUMBATEO, CERRONATO, FLYING CLUB - *6th & Neches*

CHINGO BLING - *H&H Ballroom*

MAY 10TH

LOS FLAMES - *La Palapa*

VALLEJO - *Scholz Garten*

MAY 11TH

TEYE - *Austin Bergstrom Airport: Hill Country Bar*

ALTEZA - *Club 115*

MARIACHI GARIBAY - *Azul Tequila*

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Music
Month

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THURSDAY MAY 4 8PM
GO NOVA
THE STORY OF STOCKTON
ALICE SPENCER & BEN MONKEY OUTLETS

FRIDAY MAY 5 8PM
CASTING COUCH
HOE SLINGERS
MICHELLE ANTHONY

SATURDAY MAY 6 8PM
KISSINGER
POCKET SYMPHONIES
PARKER WORSHAM

SUNDAY MAY 7 1PM
RICKY STEIN
THE STINGERS
REBECCA'S RAGTIME REVUE

MONDAY MAY 8 1PM
SUNKEN TREASURES
CHERYL MURDOCK
PAMELA RYDER

TUESDAY MAY 9 10PM
GABBA ABBA HEY
DARLING NEW
NEIGHBORS

WEDNESDAY MAY 10 7PM
LUCAS HUGGINS & HIS FIRST COUSINS
MOONHANGERS
DAMPNATIONS
ROGER WALLACE

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LIVE MUSIC SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, MAY 4 • 7PM
LIZ MORPHIS

FRIDAY, MAY 5 • 10PM **\$5 Cover**
LARRY LANGE'S LONELY KNIGHTS

TUESDAY, MAY 9
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
GENE TAYLOR 8PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10 • 6PM
COWBOY JOHNSON

FRIDAY, MAY 12 • 10PM
L.Z. LOVE

THE OAKS
Classic Texas Ice House & Music Venue

Thursday, May 4
JAMES HAND
Opening: Todd Fritsch • 8pm - \$6

Friday, May 5
Cinco de Mayo
LOS PINKYS
Austin's #1 Conjunto Band • 8pm - \$6

Saturday, May 6
ROSIE FLORES
WAYNE "THE TRAIN" HANCOCK 8pm - \$10

Thur., May 11
ASLEEP AT THE WHEEL

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5/19: ROTEL & THE HOT TOMATOES
5/20: MONTE MONTGOMERY
5/26: BUCKWHEAT ZYDECO

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the Rust Tones

FRIDAY May 5 - 10:30
KIM & HER BLUES BOYS

SATURDAY May 6 - 10:30
JOE RICHARDSON EXPRESS

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club listings ◀◀ FROM MONDAY

Tue 09

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB
Singer-Songwriter howcase w/
Stephen Doster (8:00)
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS
John Wilson, Je Renee, Carl
Koonce
NASTY'S DJ Mel, Jahmighty
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Butt
Rockin' Blue Monday w/ the
Texcellorators (10:00)
PARDNERS Karaoke
THE PARISH The Subways
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL
Blues Night w/ Price Porter
POODLE DOG LOUNGE The
Stepviders (9:30)
RED FEZ Motown w/ DJ Inverse,
DJ Tats
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB
Marc Devine (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Beverly Hensley
ROOM 710 Stinking Lizaveta
RUTA MAYA Carolyn Wonderland
(6:00), Hip Hop Monday
w/ Trip 7, Pride & Shawn B,
NGOK, Blacklisted, the Word
Association, DJ Quan (8:30)
SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician
(7:00), Bob Schneider, Brandon
McHose (8:30)
**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &
GRILL** Chris Boss
SPEAKEASY James Gossett (9:30)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Early: OK Go,
She Wants Revenge; Later: Rock
Kills Kid
TAMBALEO Open Mic, Calvin Russell,
Brad Brobisky & Friends (8:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ
Elizabeth McQueen & Jason
Roberts
TRIPLE CROWN Pat Pankratz &
Gerry Burns, Scott H. Biram
TROPHY'S The Meshbanes, the
Earhtone Players, Damage
Pants, Seekonk (9:00)
THE WATER TANK Acoustic Jam
Open Mic w/ Tony Fant
WATERLOO RECORDS The Lashes
(5:00)
WHISKY BAR Hip-Hop w/ DJ Tako,
DJ Notion
WOODY'S SOUTH Honky Happy
Hour

219 WEST Crucial Prophet
311 CLUB 3-Piece Special (8:30)
ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ John
X. Reed, David Holt, Tommy
Shannon, George Rains, Derek
O'Brien (8:00)
ARARAT Righteous Tidings (7:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time
Fiddlers Jam
B.B. ROVERS Buster Gutbucket,
Gail March, David Patrick Dunn
(7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open
Mic (7:30)
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The
Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
BECK'S ON CONGRESS Chad
Tracy & Jane Bond
BROKEN SPOKE Honky Tonk Piano
Night
BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)
CACTUS CAFE Danny Schmidt, the
Hudsons
CEDAR STREET Selia, Rockstar
Live (6:00)
CHARLIE'S Margaret Wright
CONTINENTAL CLUB Doak
Short (5:30), Toni Price (6:30),
Barfield (11:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Open
Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Jazz Jam
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the
Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE
Bobby Doyle (7:00)
EGO'S Shawn Nelson & the
Ramblers, Bill Kirchen
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE
"Writers Who Rock" Songwriters
Night w/ Melissa Mullins (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith
(4:00), Hamilton Price, Stan
Killian (6:00)
ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ
Amerykah
EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh,
Gene Taylor (6:00)
FADO Tea Merchants (8:00)
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Deep
Sessions w/ DJ Toddy B
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik
Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad
Habits, Alan Haynes (7:30)
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN
SALOON** Billy Dee (9:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Mau Mau
Chaplains
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open
Stage w/ Felix the Kid
HABANA CALLE 6 Trey Lanshe
(8:00)
HANOVER'S Pete Benz & Kevin
Havron (7:30)
HEADHUNTERS Permakids,
Gutbucket, Head Panic
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE
Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Josh
(8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter
Night w/ Leo Stokes
HOLE IN THE WALL Amanda
Cunningham, Darling New
Neighbors, Gabba Abba Hey
(9:00)
IT'S ITALIAN "Frankly Singing" w/
Ken Kruse (6:30)
JOVITA'S Ethan Azarian, Grassy
Knoll Boys (6:30)
LA PALAPA Brewer Nation
LUCKY LOUNGE Pilaseca (9:00),
Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa, John
Pointer (10:00)
MOMOS The Cinematic
Underground, Porter Davis,
Quitze
NUNO'S ON SIXTH Jo Hell, the
Altar Boys
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/
Billy D
PARDNERS Open Mic w/ the
Michael Petty Band (7:30)
PLUSH Mentalnote
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL
Troubadillos
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the
First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny
(10:15)
RED'S SCOOT INN Joanna
Ramirez (8:30)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB
Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine
(6:30)
RHINOS & JOCKS ROUND ROCK
Karaoke w/ Mr. K
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
ROADHOUSE Dragon
ROMEIO'S Jacinta (6:30)

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Thu 5/4
Rend, Havoc Dose,
Anahadocia, Lower Life

Fri 5/5
EARLY SHOW, 7pm
Paul Green School of Rock Music Presents
Ramones (Day 1)
LATE SHOW, 9pm, INDUSTRIAL NIGHT
Lust Murder Box, Sub-Natural, Alternate 15

Sat 5/6
EARLY SHOW, 6pm
Paul Green School of Rock Music Presents
Ramones (Day 2)
LATE SHOW, 9pm
Meyvyn, D.I.D.L.Y., Shrapnel, Habitual

Sun 5/7
Wed 5/10, It's Jared's infamous LOUNGE NIGHT!
Thu 5/11
So Far Gone, Kitsch (Goodbye Show),
Rochester

Fri 5/12
EARLY SHOW, 7pm
Paul Green School of Rock Music Presents
Funk & Reggae (Day 1)
LATE SHOW, 9PM
Jonny Danger's Pajama Party
Downsiid, Gang Culture

Sat 5/13
EARLY SHOW, 6pm
Paul Green School of Rock Music Presents
Funk & Reggae (Day 2)
LATE SHOW, 9PM
The Debut of Bangladesh

the paul green
school of rock music

Paul Green
School of Rock Music
Presents: Ramones
Friday, May 5, 7:00pm
& Saturday, May 6, 6:00pm

Paul Green
School of Rock Music
Presents: Funk & Reggae
Friday, May 12, 7:00pm
& Saturday, May 13, 6:00pm

NO COVER

NO COVER

THURSDAY, MAY 4
TOPAZ NO COVER

FRIDAY, MAY 5
LONE STAR PORN STAR

SATURDAY, MAY 6
STARCHILD

SUNDAY, MAY 7
CLOSED

MONDAY, MAY 8
AUSTIN INDIE ALLIANCE PRESENTS
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TUESDAY, MAY 9
NOWHERE TEXAS BAND
TREY STAPLETON BAND

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10
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THU. MAY 4: **WES COX**

FRI. MAY 5: **BETTER DAY MAYBE**

WED. MAY 10: **JASON FREED**

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Thur 4 Rokkatone 8pm

Fri 5

Chris Montgomery
Lanky 9pm



Sat 6

Bellevue Jubilee
Cheryl Bliss 9pm



Ave Elle 8p

Mon 8 Stayton Bonner with guests 8pm

Tues 9 Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory 9pm

Wed 10 David Hamburger 8pm

thur 11 Ethan Azarian ~ TBD

fri 12 Molly Venter ~ Steve Poltz

sat 13 Asylum St. Spankers ~ Nicholas Ginbey

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Thursday May 4th
9:30pm- Will Sexton &
Stephen Doster

Sunday May 7th
12-3pm- Irish Sunday
Brunch With The Tea
Merchants
9pm- Karaoke With Edie

Monday May 8th
8pm-Stephen Doster
Singer/Songwriter
Showcase

Tuesday May 9th
7:30pm-Mother Egan's
World Famous Trivia

Join us for Saturday Evening
on the Patio: 8-11pm
*small cover charge applies
May 13th-Chrissy Flatt,
May 20th-Band Together
Benefit for Austin
Children's Shelter w/Jon
Dee, Van Wilks, and
more(1-5pm), May 27th-
The Drams (only Austin
summer appearance),
June 3rd-Jon Dee Graham

THE BACK ROOM

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THURSDAY, MAY 4

LOWER 4th
REV TENSION SPEAK
MUPPLETONE

FRIDAY, MAY 5

BY ANY MEANS
NECESSARY
BURIED IN FIRE
SIX PAST HELL
KILLING IN APATHY
PEYTON GIN

FREE SHOW IN BEER GARDEN, 7-9p
SHELLY KNIGHT

SATURDAY, MAY 6

ROCKLAND EAGLES
JOLLY GAROGERS
DAVE'S NOT HERE
STRUCTURE

BE PRESENT TONIGHT & REGISTER
TO WIN 2 TICKETS TO SEE
ILL NINO ON MAY 19!

SUNDAY, MAY 7

OPEN MIC NIGHT
RAP / HIP HOP / INDIE

TUESDAY, MAY 9

POOL TOURNAMENT NIGHT

WEDNESDAY, MAY 10

CAPT. PHLEABAGS
NEW BAND
NIGHT UNDERGROWTH
PLAYING SYX

THURSDAY, MAY 11

FAIRDAY
SONS OF KORA ANDICE

FRIDAY, MAY 12

DRIFTER TRIBUTE TO IRON MAIDEN
SAD WINGS TRIBUTE TO JUDAS PRIEST
JASON McMASTER AS ROB HALFORD
STONE FREE TRIBUTE TO JIMMI HENDRIX
DEAD SKIN MASK SLAYER TRIBUTE

FREE BEER GARDEN SHOW 7-9p:
THE CITADEL

SATURDAY, MAY 13

TEXAS METAL COALITION 3 PRESENTS:
NUMERIC PLAGUE, INDISGUST,
DISFIGURED, WILL TO LIVE, STANGLE
CHELSEA, BLOOD OF THE LAMB, KAST
REGISTER TO WIN ILL NINO TICKETS!

SUNDAY, MAY 14

CHINGO BLING & CARNIVAL BEATS
FREESTYLE BATTLE & SIDE SHOW

MAY 19, DAG PRESENTS

ill nino
GOD FORBID
SILENT CIVILIAN
BLEED THE SKY
EYES OF FIRE

MAY 20, DAG PRESENTS

U.S. BOMBS
THE HOLLOW POINTS, APE SHITS

SUNDAY, MAY 21

R.I.P. HAWK TOUR
LIL' KEKE
BIG POKEY
J CAPONE

6/9: Taylor Booking presents VITAL REMAINS



Live Music
Early ...

Late Night
Loungin'

Lucky lounge

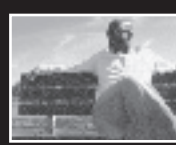
NO COVER • FREE SHOWS

THU, MAY 4, 10PM



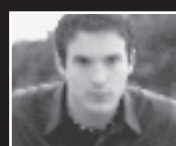
SOUNDS
UNDER RADIO

FRI, MAY 5, 8PM



PRIMM

SAT, MAY 6, 8PM



MATT WHITE

SUN, MAY 7, 10PM



EVERYDAY
PEOPLE

TUE, MAY 9, 9PM



PILASECA
OPENS FOR ...

WED, MAY 10, 9PM



ALPHA REV
FEATURING
CASEY
MCPHERSON

THU, MAY 11, 8PM



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10PM



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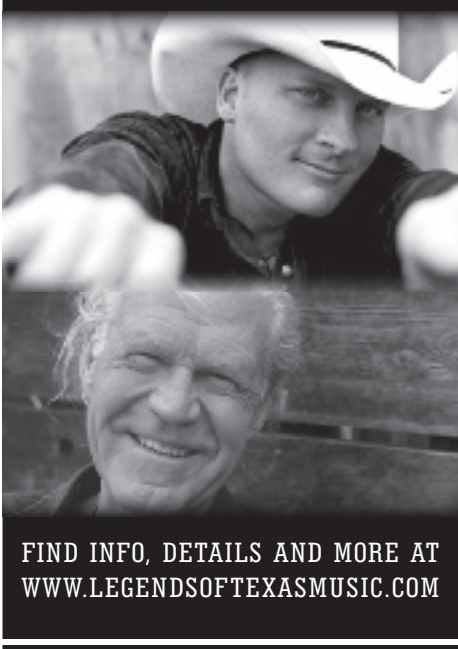
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SATURDAY, MAY • 6

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club listings ◀◀ FROM TUESDAY

ROPER'S NIGHTCLUB Open Mic
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Chip Sneed
RUTA MAYA Poetry, Music Open Mic (6:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon & the Heathens (9:00)
SARADORA'S COFFEEHOUSE AND EMPORIUM Jim Ivy's Jinxstreet Band (7:00)
SAXON PUB Denim (6:00), Chris Berardo & the Desberardos, Monte Montgomery (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Redd Volkert (8:00)
SPEAKEASY KKQ (9:30)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Micky & the Motorcars CD Release
T.C.'S LOUNGE DK Little's Mambo Combo (9:00)
TAMBALEO JJ Usher (10:00)
TAVERN ON THE GRUENE Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Raquel
TRIPLE CROWN Slowtrain, Gil San Marcos, Mastertape, Boone Graham, Seekonk
TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis
TROUBADOUR SALOON Atypical, Eibol/DJ Gyro, Vehicular
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ RJ
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Dunlap
WHISKY BAR D Madness, DJ Aquaman, DJ Birds

Wed 10

219 WEST The SG Project (7:00)
311 CLUB Syndrome (8:30)
AGAVE Eric Tessmer (9:00)
APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL Marty Linville
ARARAT Siddhah (7:30)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland
AUSTIN MUSIC CO-OP Laydeez Open Mic
AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB The Rustones (10:00)
BEERLAND Houston Benard, TunaHelpers
BENNIGAN'S Chad Hebert (6:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Natural Ear Showcase (6:00)
BROWN BAR DJ Manny
CACTUS CAFE Vienna Teng
CAFE MONDI Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)
CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave, Spazmatics (6:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Jacinta (7:00)
CIRCLE COUNTRY CLUB Karaoke (8:00)
CLUB ONE 15 Groove Attack w/ DJ Skorcha D. (9:30)
COFFEE CREATOR Je Renee, Cherilyn, John Wilson (8:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gary Clark Jr. (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (11:25)
CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee
THE DIRTY DOG A Crack in the Wall (9:00)
DIRTY MARTIN'S KUM-BAK PLACE Jason Freed
DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the Station Masters
THE DRISKILL Kirk Hale
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Bobby Doyle (7:00)
EGO'S Austin Poetry Slam, Aaron Franz (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Crying Monkeys (9:30)
EMO'S Disfigured, Vex, Goatwhore
EVANGELINE CAFE Cowboy Johnson (6:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Ruins of Broadway, Capt. Bringdown & the Buzzkillers, Stuck Lucky, the Fad
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE David Hamburger (8:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Ian of Echosystemz (8:00)
HANOVER'S Chris Berardo & the Desberardos

HEADHUNTERS Everett's Rock & Roll Karaoke, Sluggard, Condition of Sale, Lions of Tsavo
HOLE IN THE WALL Roger Wallace, Damnations Acoustic Hellfire Hour, the Moonhangers, Lucas Huggins & His First Cousins (7:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer
JOVITA'S John Bardy, Seth Walker (6:00)
LA PALAPA Los Flames (7:00)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Alpha Rev. w/ Casey McPherson (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem
MOMOS Rachel Loy, the Heathens, Bourbon Legends
MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Jay Webber (6:30)
THE OAKS Dave Insley (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE The Invisibles
OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD Sigmund Fraud (8:00)
PARDNERS Kara
THE PARISH Belaire, Brothers and Sisters, the Essex Green
THE PARLOR The Amateurs
PLUSH Original Block Party w/ DJ Tats (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones the Singing Bartender
THE PUB Jam Session w/ Frank Ragedy Anne's Karaoke
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED EYED FLY Sounds Under Radio, Slow Motion Picture, Crash Gallery
RED FEZ Satisfaction w/ DJ Shane
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio (7:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Duncan Walters
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Glenn Collins Open Mic
RUTA MAYA The Mad Dukes, Consumption Hooks (8:30)
SAKE ON SIXTH Get Broke Wednesdays w/ Merrick Brown
SAM'S TOWN POINT Ramsay Midwood & the Scientists (8:30)
SAXON PUB Pauline Reese (6:00), Paula Nelson, the Salingers, Bruce James (8:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke
SOUTH FORTY Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (9:15)
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q James Brown
TAMBALEO DJ Mike Swing, Tee Double (10:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Greg Klyma, Stuart Burns, Ricky Stein
TROPHY'S Stone Dakota, Melanoma
TROUBADOUR SALOON Devola, Stoic Falls, Tangle (8:30)
VENTANA DEL SOUL Songwriter Showcase w/ Mr. Gregg (6:00)
VICTORY GRILL Blues Specialists (6:30)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan
WHISKY BAR Sketches Of Change w/ Luther & Jeff
Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bruce Newton, Jarry Wayne Cook (6:30)
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Friends (6:00)

Thu 11

311 CLUB 3 Piece Special, Joe Valentine & Lynn (8:30)
ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE SOUTH The Devil and Daniel Johnston w/ Daniel Johnston (7:30)
ALICE'S RESTAURANT Flying \$ Bunkhouse Band, Warblers
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Poetry, Music Open Mic (8:00)
BARCELONA DJ Tats
BEAUTY BAR Martini & Manicure Happy Hour for AIDS Services of Austin (6:00)
BEERLAND Vibrolas, City Mouse, Sexy Finger Champs
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL Open Mic w/ Sidney (6:00)
BOOMERZ Karaoke
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR mr.ripley

CACTUS CAFE Slim Richey & Friends
CEDAR STREET LC Rocks (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Mother Truckers (6:30), Gazer, King Tears, Tammany Hall Machine, Grand Champeen (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Leo Stokes
DARWIN'S PUB J.T. Coldfire
THE DETOUR Open Mic w/ David John, Big Steve, Easy Dave (8:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S The BellFuries, 2 Hoots & a Holler
ELEPHANT ROOM Liz Morphis, Birthday Jazz
EMO'S Rubble, Peter & the Wolf, Sunburned Hand of the Man
FADO Chico y Chico, Kunst Fascion, Cry Blood Apache, Rua Minx, Finally Punk
FLAMINGO CANTINA Go Nova
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Ethan Azarian (10:00)
THE FOUNDATION Coy West
GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Ted & Roy (8:00)
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Kris Farrow (7:30), Noltey (9:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke
HEADHUNTERS Queen Anne Revenge, Backslider, ESE, Mr. Outlaw, S&M
HOLE IN THE WALL Alice Spencer & Her Monkey Butlers, Sarah Glynn, Echaset, Adrian & the Sickness (8:00)
JC'S STEAKHOUSE Adam Donmoyer
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
KENNY DORHAM'S BACKYARD Alex Coke, Tina Marsh, Rich Harney (8:00)
LA PALAPA NTO's (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band (6:00), Anagen (10:00)
MOMOS Shesells, Jade Day, Brandon McHose, Come Latelys
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (9:30)
MOTHER'S CAFE Doc Grauzer (6:00)
NAT'S PUB Open Mic w/ Big Jim
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Stephanie Fix (6:30)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Nutty Karaoke
THE OAKS Texas Pioneers, Asleep at the Wheel (8:00)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Rocky
THE PARISH The Swells, Magnet School, Midori Umi
THE PARLOR The Quicks
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
THE PUB Karaoke
RANCH 616 Lucas Huggins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Nuthin' New All-Stars (10:30)
RED'S SCOOT INN The Nortons (8:30)
REDRUM Rochester, Furthest From the Star
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Texas WettneX
ROADHOUSE Open Jam w/ Mojo (8:00)
ROMEO'S Jacinta (6:30)
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE OJ Laird & Friends
SAO PAULO'S Aye Cafe (7:30)
SAXON PUB Ginn Sisters (6:00), Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy D
SKI SHORES Aimee Bobruk (6:30)
SKY LOUNGE Retro Thursdays w/ DJ Def M
STUBB'S BAR-B-Q Zoe Keating, Imogen Heap
TAMBALEO Evan Felts (7:00), DJ Holland (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Henry Craft
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Boomer Norman (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Nathan Hamilton, the Swanderers, Three Leaf, Ka-Tet
TROPHY'S Surrender Avenue, Late Fees
TROUBADOUR SALOON The Earthtone Players, Moving Matter (8:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Nicole Gilbert
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH The Hudsons (6:30)
WATERLOO RECORDS Daniel Johnston (5:00)
WHOLE FOODS MARKET Ephraim Owens Quartet (6:00)
Y BAR & GRILL Amanda Cunningham (7:00)

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COMICS

How to Be Happy

by Shannon Wheeler

THE OVERTHINKER

MONEY DOESN'T LEAD TO HAPPINESS, BUT BEING POOR SUCKS...

WORKING SUCKS BUT IT GIVES YOU MONEY.

I NEED MONEY BUT I DON'T WANT TO WORK.

NOT WORKING CAN MAKE YOU UNHAPPY, WORKING CAN MAKE YOU UNHAPPY...

I NEED TO FIND A BALANCE BETWEEN WORK, PLAY, REST, AND EMOTIONALLY FULFILLING RELATIONSHIPS...

WHICH MEANS I'M GOING TO HAVE TO LEAVE MY HOUSE SOON.

TELL HER NO...

THE GIRL NAMED APRIL IS GLAD IT'S MAY, COULD BE MY IMAGINATION BUT SHE SEEMS IT, WHEN THE MONITOR SAYS THE DATE NOW, SHE DOESN'T LOOK HARD AT HER FINGERS.

I ASKED MOM IF APRIL COULD STAY OVER. MOM SAID, WHO? THEN, NO, SHE WORKS WITH APRIL'S MOM AND SHE'S HOPPED-UP ON DIET PILLS. DON'T GET TOO ATTACHED TO THAT APRIL... SHE WON'T BE LIVING HERE FOR LONG.

SHE LOOKS MY WAY BUT NOT AT ME WHEN SHE SAYS I HAVE TO TELL APRIL NO. I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY TALKED TO APRIL EXCEPT IN MY IMAGINATION AND NOW I HAVE TO TELL HER NO.

MOM SAYS APRIL'S HOPPED-UP MOTHER HAS NO INTENTION OF STAYING AT THE CAMPERY, STAYING IN OUR TOWN. MOM TALKED MORE. I LOOKED HARD AT MY FINGERS.

MOM SAYS APRIL'S HOPPED-UP MOTHER HAS NO INTENTION OF STAYING AT THE CAMPERY, STAYING IN OUR TOWN. MOM TALKED MORE. I LOOKED HARD AT MY FINGERS.

SHE LOOKS MY WAY BUT NOT AT ME WHEN SHE SAYS I HAVE TO TELL APRIL NO. I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY TALKED TO APRIL EXCEPT IN MY IMAGINATION AND NOW I HAVE TO TELL HER NO.

SHE LOOKS MY WAY BUT NOT AT ME WHEN SHE SAYS I HAVE TO TELL APRIL NO. I'VE NEVER ACTUALLY TALKED TO APRIL EXCEPT IN MY IMAGINATION AND NOW I HAVE TO TELL HER NO.

BITTER YETI IN THE CITY BY JASON STOUT

BITTERYETI@EARTHLINK.NET

WOW. THE LAKE IS NICE. ALL THE BEER CANS AND CIGARETTE BUTTS -- THEY'RE LIKE GLITTER.

I SHOULD LIGHTEN UP. EVERYONE IS HAVING A GOOD TIME IN THE SUN. I HOPE IT DOESN'T TRAUMATIZE THEM WHEN I JUMP IN AND LET MYSELF SINK TO THE BOTTOM.

IT'S NOT SUICIDE. MY COMPLEXION REALLY RESPONDS TO THE POLLUTION IN TODAY'S LAKE BEDS...

THE "CAGE" QUEST HAIR TRIANGLE

TROUBLETOWN

BY LLOYD DANGLE

I AM ADDICTED TO BOOZE

AW, GEEZ, THAT'S TERRIBLE. YOU OUGHTA QUIT. ANOTHER ROUND?

I HAD NO IDEA. THAT'LL BE FORTY-SIX DOLLARS FOR THE BOOZE.

QUIT? HOW CAN I? I NEED BOOZE TO GET TO WORK IN THE MORNING AND TO TAKE MY KIDS TO SCHOOL.

I'M INSULTED! BASTARD! IT WAS TWENTY-TWO YESTERDAY!

I DON'T WANT DRAGONFLY BOOZE. I'M GOING TO QUIT.

OF COURSE YOU ARE.

DRUNKS! ALWAYS THE SAME BUT THEIR MONEY'S STORY.

GOOD, CHARLIE, VERY GOOD.

MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



Keith Moon (drummer for The Who) and "Mama" Cass Elliot (of the Mamas & the Papas) died in the same apartment - flat No. 12 on the top floor of building No. 9 in Curzon Place, Mayfair, London.

According to one Hebrew linguist, "Suri" means "a person from Syria" and "go away" when addressed to a female.

In most people, the id (impulse) is held in check by the superego (societal rules) while the ego (in between) mediates between the two.

In 1775, it was Israel Bissell who traveled 350 miles from Boston to Philadelphia to warn, "The British are coming." Paul Revere only went 19 miles from Boston to Cambridge. (Thanks a lot, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.)

The idea that people are supposed to hold a rose in their mouths while dancing the tango is completely made up by Hollywood.

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.

SHOESHINE MAN OR WOMAN wanted N.W. Austin, instant clientele, 40 hrs. per week, off-days Sun. + Mon. Bill: 585-6940

TROPICAL PLANT TECHNICIAN Full or PT, experience and vehicle required, benefits paid. Call 385-5421

YOUTH COUNSELOR Do you love the outdoors and helping troubled teens? Immediate entry-level openings at Eckerd outdoor therapeutic programs in Florida, Tennessee, and North Carolina. Year-round residential position, free room/board, competitive salary/benefits. Info and application: <http://www.eckerderyouth.org>. Fax resume to Career Advisor/AN. 727-442-4911. (AAN CAN)

ALL Wanted LCDC's, C I's, LPC's, & LMSW's for adolescent chemical dependency treatment center located in the Corpus Christi, Tx area. Competitive salary & benefits. Call 1-800-628-3265 between 8am - 5pm Monday - Friday or fax resume to 214-757-8592 code TM

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CARE GIVER NEEDED to live in with a quadriplegic male. Work 10pm to 9am in exchange for room. Utilities paid and kitchen privileges. Ronnie 442-0556

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PHARMACIST s needed for relief work Great pay and travel packages PharmStatStaffing.com (281) 348-9114

PHYSICAL THERAPIST/PTA Part-time w/Benes for SNF-Bartlett PRN also available for PT/PTA & OT/SLP Call Sherri at: 1-888-SYNERTX 1-888-796-3789

TEAM Relocate to the mountains of Asheville, North Carolina! Families Together Inc. Provides a unique and innovative approach to working with family systems who are accessing Mental Health Services. Families Together Inc. Seeks team members who enjoy a flexible, diverse, and supportive work culture. www.families-together.net

ALL SERVERS. 1 yr exp. Immediate openings! Flexible schedule. Las Palomas Restaurant/Bar, Westwood Shopping Center, 3201 Bee Caves #122. Apply in Person Tues.-Sat.

ALL 360 Uno is now hiring baristas, waitstaff and cooks for the COOLEST coffee-house/wine-bar in town! 3801 Capital of Texas N. #G100. Apply at mail@360uno.com or call 512-327-5505

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• Lifeguards
• Kids Club
• Lead Locker Rm. Attd.
• Spa Retail Attd.
• Greenskeepers

Apply in person Monday-Friday 8:30-5PM, 8212 Barton Club Drive, Austin, Texas 78735. Email resumes to jobs@bartoncreek.com or fax your information to 512-329-4014. Website: <http://www.bartoncreek.com> Barton Creek offers a complete benefits package & competitive wages. EOE

ASST. MANAGER 360 Uno is now hiring an Assistant Manager for the COOLEST cafe/wine-bar in town! 3801 Capital of Texas N. #G100. Apply at mail@360uno.com or call 512-327-5505

BARRISTA/COUNTER SERVER Cheerful, exp. only, P/T, must be flexible and be available for weekends. High volume. Apply at Quack's Bakery @ 411 E. 43rd

BARTENDER \$300/day. No experience necessary. 1-800-965-6520 x207

BARTENDERS Many great opportunities. Part time and full time shifts available. Make \$200-\$300 per shift. No experience is required, training provided. Call (877) 966-9266 ext. 1000. (AAN CAN)

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COCKTAIL SERVER Upscale sports bar in the warehouse district now hiring for cocktail servers. Restaurant/Bar experience a plus. Please apply in person at 415 Colorado St. Monday through Friday only between 2 and 4 pm.

COUNTER STAFF Now accepting applications PT and FT! We are looking for responsible, reliable, outgoing, customer-oriented individuals. If you think you are qualified and can contribute in a team oriented environment, come by our location at Lincoln Village, North IH35 opposite Gold Gym. We are looking for someone to work evenings and weekends. Competitive salary plus tips and sales incentives. **Must be punctual and a team player!** Soothie King 512-452-3558

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MAKE LOTS OF MONEY! and have lots of fun as an Entertainer or Waitress at Joy of Austin Men's Club. No experience necessary. Will train. Apply in person, Exit 250 IH35. 218-8012.

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GENERAL MANAGER
Texadelphia
TEXADELPHIA, Home of the original Texas cheesesteak is currently seeking individuals with integrity, work ethic, leadership ability, and a results-driven mindset for the position of General Manager. Please fax resume to (512) 236-1234, Attn: Stephanie.

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MANAGER Hardworking hospitality professional who is dedicated to customer service and has a relentless attention to detail. If you enjoy taking care of customers for their special occasions (Holidays) this may be an ideal position for you. Fax resume 441-0218

MANAGERS/ASSISTANT MANAGERS Amy's Ice Cream is hiring for Managers & Assistant Managers! Email tnoll@amysicecream.com

PT LUNCH HOST/WAITSTAFF/DINNER COCKTAIL COUNTY LINE ON THE HILL, 6500 Bee Caves Rd. Daytime lunch WAIT and LUNCH HOST plus DINNER COCKTAIL positions open immediately. Wage + tips and starting bonus. Call Dee Dee at 327-1742.

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Public Job Fair for **CERTIFIED** Candidates
Palmer Events Center
Saturday, May 13th
900 Barton Springs Rd
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

- Representatives from 107 elementary, middle and high school campuses from across the District will be available to meet you!
- Candidates will only be admitted by showing proof of certification. Student teachers can bring a copy of a transcript showing enrollment in student teaching. ACP participants can bring a letter from ACP program showing proof of participation.
- A **Certified** Candidate is an individual who currently holds a standard, provisional or professional Texas certification or who is fully certified in another state.
- A completed application with the Austin ISD Office of Human Resources is recommended. You may apply on-line by visiting the Web site listed below.
- Please bring several copies of your résumé.

Additional information and driving directions to Palmer Events Center can be found on the Austin ISD Web site at: www.austinisd.org

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• Representatives from 107 elementary, middle and high school campuses from across the District will be available to meet you!

• Candidates will only be admitted by showing proof of certification. Student teachers can bring a copy of a transcript showing enrollment in student teaching. ACP participants can bring a letter from ACP program showing proof of participation.

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• A completed application with the Austin ISD Office of Human Resources is recommended. You may apply on-line by visiting the website listed below.

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Additional information and driving directions to Palmer Events Center can be found on the Austin ISD website at: www.austinisd.org

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All calls are confidential.

165
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- Golf Shop Clerk
- Golf Range Attds.
- Camp Counselors
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Apply in person Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm, 8212 Barton Club Drive Austin, Texas 78735.
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For more information, please call (512)232-4805
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CENTRAL Snappy Allendale Condo in smartly redone complex. Tile counter/floors Berber carpet W/D 2210 Cullen Ave #123 \$750 Call Agent/Lizanne 608-2428

CENTRAL Zilker Park STUDIO... \$475, 1BDrm, huge deck... \$659! 2BDrm FLAT... \$739! Large pets welcome. Team Leasing, http://www.austindowntownliving.com (512) 416-8333.

CENTRAL Small hidden 70-unit condo community. 1/1 \$560. Faux-wood floors available, built-in bookshelves. Mandy, agent 468-7891 austinapartmentsguide.com

CENTRAL 693-7231 http://austincool.com Dntrn Living at finest! Cool SoCo crtyd \$850



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CENTRAL 2316 Enfield unit #101, 3/2.5 condo, avail mid May, \$1395, hard tile dwnstairs, nestled in Tarrytown, next to dwntrn 474-1470, Beck & Co. Brad@beckandco.com

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- Downtown New York-style studio with private balcony on Congress shopping district \$555
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- On Town Lake Hike and Bike Trail, 1 bedroom \$505, 2 bedroom \$615. Ceramic tile and free cable!
- Studio flat on Barton Springs, walk to Chuy's ... \$475!
- Historic Travis Heights, 1 bedroom \$525, 2 bedroom townhouse \$695, walk to SoCo!

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CENTRAL 5205 Leralynn 3-2 plus bonus, CACH, hardwoods, high ceilings. \$1500 Avail. 6-1. 603 Franklin 2-1 Hardwoods, CACH \$1000 Avail. 8-1, 5004 Grover Large 4-3 plus utility hardwoods, CACH \$2250 Avail as early as 6-1 or 8-1. 1002 East 47th 2-1 hardwoods, CACH, yard maintained \$750, available May 6th. 658-9493 www.cbimanagement.com

CENTRAL Clarksville 3-2 house, you have to see this one, avail Aug, only \$2200 472-0048

CENTRAL 704 W 34th St., 2/1 house, hrwds, detached garage in back, small fenced yard, \$1200, Avail mid April, 474-1470, Beck & Co. Brad@beckandco.com

CENTRAL 3/1 house, \$1200/Mo, June 1-Aug 1, bills incl, no pets/smoking

CENTRAL San Pedro town-home/condo 2704 San Pedro spacious and private efficiency. Shoal Creek view with caring neighbors. \$495/mo. Call Lizanne, agent 608-2428

CENTRAL Very nice 4 BR house for June 1st. \$1200 for 3, \$1400 for 4. CACH, W/D conns., appliances, FP Italian tile/hardwoods. Great neighborhood. 1206 Fairwood. No pets/smokers, Owner 479-6153, 658-4257

CENTRAL Cute W. Campus condo, 1-1, w/d, free parking, some bills paid, 472-0048

CENTRAL 919 East 40th St. 3/2, CACH, W/D, Big Yard, Pets OK, 2 Blks to Red River Shuttle \$1680/month, August 1 (512) 231-1007

CENTRAL New 1400 sqft 3/2 Duplex ready 4 move-in. New appliances Cable ready! Washer&dryer hookups Close 2 dwntwn, St.Eds, UT& shops. Low sec/pet deposit Sec8/FEMA OK 6111 Caddie st. Call 925-963-1043

CENTRAL Cool modern 2-2 in W Campus, w/d, free parking, wood floors, now or August 472-0048

CENTRAL 3 & 4 BR houses/dplx \$1100-\$1500, June 1st or Aug 1st. No pets/smokers, Owner 479-6153, 658-4257

CENTRAL Cute, new Efficiency! Stained glass, saltillo tile, private yard, E. 51st near Park, \$495. Ownr/Agt. 933-1311

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CENTRAL 2/1 central/east. 1307B Concho St. 750/month. June 1-aug 1. tarynfi@aol.com

CENTRAL 1907 "A" W 38TH, Mopac/UT, upstairs, spacious, brick 2/1, dining room, blinds, hrwds, AC's, 1000 sqft, \$950 472-2097

CENTRAL Nice, remodeled, very clean 2-1, fourplex, 2013 Cullen Ave, W&D, most pets ok; online pictures. Call Agent Linda 423-6843


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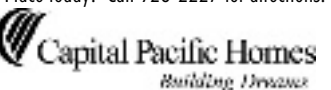



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Area W, MLS# 7418441, \$169,500. 3BR/1.5B, 1,539 sq. ft., new septic system, wood floors, 2 fireplaces, large country kitchen and a huge 2-car garage with room for a workshop. Pictures at cristinavaldes.com. Call Cristina for more info at 512-789-0309.





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TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF MASSAGE THERAPISTS CODE OF ETHICS

AS A MEMBER OF THE T.A.M.T. ALL TEXAS REGISTERED MASSAGE THERAPISTS SHALL:

- Provide quality care to those who seek professional massage therapy and maintain high standards of professional competence.
- Recognize the scope of massage therapy and refer to other health care professionals when appropriate for the client's/patient's health and well-being.
- Administer all treatments in a professional manner with respect for client-patient confidentiality, boundaries, safety and privacy.
- Maintain honest and accurate records, a clean and professional work environment, and high standards of personal hygiene.
- Respect the client's/patient's right to continue, modify, or discontinue massage therapy at any time, and respect the integrity of each person by avoiding any sexual conduct or activities involving their clients/patients.
- Respect all ethical health care practitioners and work together amicably to promote health and natural healing.
- Invest in their communities by fostering an understanding and acceptance of massage therapy as a valuable health service, abiding by all laws governing the practice of massage, and working for the repeal of revision laws detrimental to the legitimate practice of massage.

FILING A COMPLAINT
Individuals wishing to file a complaint against a massage therapist, massage therapy school, massage therapy instructor or a massage therapy establishment may call: (800) 942-5540



are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
SIGNED on the 5th day of May, 2006
Christine P. Larson
Attorney for Guardian
State Bar No.:11956500
2210 Hancock Drive
Austin, Texas 78756
Telephone (512) 450-0844
Facsimile (512) 459-6436

NO. 84,153
GUARDIANSHIP OF SHERRY PEARSON, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON
IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Published Notice to Creditors
Notice is hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of SHERRY PEARSON, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on February 24, 2006 in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAMILY ELDERCARE, INC. as Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of Sherry Pearson, 2210 Hancock Drive, Austin, Texas 78756.

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.
SIGNED on the 5th day of May, 2006.

Christine P. Larson
Attorney for Guardian
State Bar No.:11956500
2210 Hancock Drive
Austin, Texas 78756
Telephone (512) 450-0844
Facsimile (512) 459-6436

NO. 84,456
GUARDIANSHIP OF JO CLARE, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON
IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Published Notice to Creditors
Notice is hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of JO CLARE, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on April 25, 2006 in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAMILY ELDERCARE, INC. as Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of Jo Clare, 2210 Hancock Drive, Austin, Texas 78756.

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.
SIGNED on the 5th day of May, 2006.

Christine P. Larson
Attorney for Guardian
State Bar No.:11956500
2210 Hancock Drive
Austin, Texas 78756
Telephone (512) 450-0844
Facsimile (512) 459-6436

NO. 84,458
GUARDIANSHIP OF CHARLES H CLARE, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Published Notice to Creditors
Notice is hereby given that Letters of Guardianship for the Person and Estate of CHARLES H CLARE, An Incapacitated Person, were issued on April 25, 2006 in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas to FAMILY ELDERCARE, INC. as Guardian of the Person and Estate.

The office of Guardian is in Travis County, Texas, and the mailing address is: Family Eldercare, Inc., Guardian of Charles H Clare, 2210 Hancock

Drive, Austin, Texas 78756.
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.
SIGNED on the 5th day of May, 2006.
Christine P. Larson
Attorney for Guardian
State Bar No.:11956500
2210 Hancock Drive
Austin, Texas 78756
Telephone (512) 450-0844
Facsimile (512) 459-6436

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned motor vehicle act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by Central Towing, 7400 FM 969, Austin, TX 78724 unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.
1. 1982 Chevy LL 1G8EK18H3CF136148 H81T4U (AK)
2. 1994 Dodge 4dr 1B3ES67C05D377041 DPT292 (IL)
3. 1984 Honda MC JH2PC1008EM103363 309125 (VA)

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.
1. owner: David Roa
1994 Plymouth Grnd Vvgr VIN: 2P4GH253RR560942 LP: K97SHZ
AUCTION: May 19, 2006 @ 6:00 AM
About Town Towing
2905 W. Howard Lane
Austin, TX 78728
(512) 835-5444

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.
1. owner: Allyson Legg
1987 Nissan LP: 4BCX75; VIN: JN6ND16S5HW015365
AUCTION: May 12, 2006 @ 6:00 AM
About Town Towing
2905 W. Howard Lane
Austin, TX 78728
(512) 835-5444

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned vehicle motor act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by the Travis County Sheriff's Office unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.
1. owner: unknown
1992 Pontiac GA VIN: 1G2NE5433NM037508 LP: WHF551 (OR)

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation:
Stop Sign Regulation on Olympus Drive 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 to satisfy landlord's lien under the act of chapter 59. Sale is to be held at 2725 Lyle Road, Del Valle, Texas 78617 at 10:00 AM, May 6, 2006. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash, cleanup and removal deposits are required. Final sales are AS IS. Seller reserves the right to cancel, withdraw or refuse any bids of all property from the sale. Property includes contents of spaces of the

following tenants: Martin Lopez-carseat and cover, small toolbox w/ few tools. **SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748 (512)282-9990;** Shannon Underwood, Vickie Thatcher, Wesley York, Sandra Rush, Sylvia Olguin, Dan Irons, John Baumann.
SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 2121 IH 35 South, Austin, TX 78741 (512)693-9733; Dawn Lansdon-Rector.
SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 13675 N. Hwy. 183, Austin, TX 78750 (512)249-0085; Veronica Dimon, Sean Garner, Hasnain Bajwa, Deborah Gilbert, Thomas Balli.
SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 10001 N IH 35, Austin TX, 78753 (512)837-6516; Ryan Hughling, Javier De Luna, Kim Davis.
SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS, 1517 Round Rock Ave, Round Rock, TX 78681 (512)255-7050; Raul Martinez, Marshall Hussain, Marilyn Richmond.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
SHURGARD STORAGE CENTERS
Shurgard Storage Centers wishing to avail themselves to the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of public sale under said Act to Wit; this sale will be held on **May 22, 2006 beginning at 10:00 am at the Shurgard Storage Center located at 9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, Texas.** This sale will continue to each designated address listed below after the completion of each location sale. The property in the storage units at each location in the tenants' name is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's lien. The property contents of all storage units sold at this sale are purchased "AS IS", "WHERE IS" for CASH to the highest bidder. Shurgard Storage Centers reserves the right to refuse any bid or to cancel any public sale advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials. All spaces contain

household furniture unless otherwise noted.
B067 KRISTI GARCIA, GOLF CLUBS, FAN, LAMP
B069 GREGORY HEARN, LOVE SEAT, STEREO, LAMP
B092 CONNIE FREEMAN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
B103 CONNIE FREEMAN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
D056 WAYNE JONES, COOLER, CLOTHES, MONITOR
D131 JEFF STANSELL, BOXES, CHAIRS, COOLER
E043 JOHN COZZALES, SOFA, LOVE SEAT, TABLE
E057 RODERICK WASHINGTON, WASHER, DRYER, DRESSER
10:30 a.m.
23 MAY, 2006
Public Storage @ 937 Reinli, Austin, TX., 78751
245 BRANDON WUESTE, LP's, BOXES, VCR TAPES
392 ROBERT JACKSON, BOXES, CLOTHES
723 JAMES ANDERSON, BOXES, BAGS, PICTURES
926 RHONDA ALEXANDER, DRYER, TV, DRESSER
11:30 a.m. 23 MAY, 2006
Public Storage @ 8101 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
520 RITA JORDAN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
542 LATASHA JOHNSON, HEATER, DRESSER, TRUNK
1341 GEORGIA DAVIDSON, CHAIR, BAGS, BBQ
N2226 LAKAII JOHNSON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
N2336 ASHLEY MUNOZ, TOTES, TABLE, CHAIRS
3166 PETER MARIS SALME, TV, STEREO, BOOKS
3170 STEVEN TIDWELL, CLOTHING BACK PACK, CD PLAYER
1:00 p.m. 23 MAY, 2006
Public Storage @ 8525 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
A002 DEMEKIA DEWITTY, BOXES, SPEAKERS, TOTES
A005 ELODIO JAMIES, TIEL, GROUT, HARDY BOARD

PS Texas Holdings, LTD., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to chapter 59 of the Texas property code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards. **NO CHECKS,** with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 23rd of MAY, 2006 at each self-storage facility at which it is described below: **NO CHILDREN PLEASE.**
9:30 a.m. 23 MAY, 2006
Public Storage @ 10
100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

A067 DORA RAMIREZ, BOXES, WINDOWS, GUN CASE
A077 ANITA MILLER, BOXES, DRESSER, STOOL
A100 AARON HIGHTOWER, BAGS, SPEAKERS, SUITCASE
B056 NORMAN ARMSTEAD, BIKE, DRESSER, COFFEE TABLE
G025 TEXAS MOBILE CLEAN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
H005 ANGIE FOLLIS, AMOUIRE, SOFA, TRUNK
H023 TERRANCE MULLER, BAGS, MONITOR, FAX MACHINE
H030 ROMAN QUIRINO SALOME, READY MIX JOINT CEMENT, DRY WALL SEAMS
3:00 p.m. 23 MAY, 2006
Public Storage @ 8128 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753
D006 RAMONA COOK, BAGS, MICROWAVE, TV
D066 MELISSA KEYSER, SOF, TABLE, COOLER
E096 CRYSTAL ESTRADA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
G060 ED WILLIAMSEN, CLOTHING, SUITCASE, TOTES
4:00 p.m. 23 MAY, 2006
Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78757
D032 CHRISTINE BODILY, CLOTHING, BOXES, SUITCASE
D087 BRIAN JEFFERS, COFFEE TABLE, TOTES, BOXES
D112 TORI HARPER, DRESSER, TABLE, SOFA
E066 WYNTER TURNER, BOX, DRESSER, TV
5:00 p.m. 23 MAY, 2006
Public Storage @ 12318 N. Mopac Expwy., Austin, TX 78758
D616 PAUL CARMACK, AIR HOCKEY TABLE, VACUUM, BOXES
5:30 p.m. 23 MAY, 2006
Public Storage @ 10931 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759
A04G CHAD SKIPWORTH, CLOTHING, STEREO, AQUIRIUM
B018 BILL MORRIS, MICRO-WAVE, WASHER, BOXES

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The *Chronicle* accepts legal notices for publication at a rate of \$1.80 per line, \$21 per col. inch. The *Chronicle* provides a notarized affidavit of publication for each notice at no additional cost. The legal requirements for such notices may vary, so we can't confirm if the *Chronicle* meets your needs; please check the requirements for your notice prior to running. Upon request, the *Chronicle* will provide its most recent independently audited circulation report.

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THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com/class

Car Talk
by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

DON'T WASTE MONEY ON A "GOOD" OIL CHANGE

Dear Tom and Ray:

I just had an oil change, and the dealer recommended that I pay an extra \$10 to have a "good oil change." This involved flushing out the old oil rather than just draining it and replacing it with new stuff. The dealer claims it will increase the life and operating quality of the engine. I have never done this with my cars in the past and have never lost an engine in action yet. Was I taken, or is there some merit to the claim?

— John

TOM: Yes, and maybe. You were probably taken, John, although only for 10 bucks. This guy is obviously an amateur! And yet there might be some merit to his claim.

RAY: This is sort of the automotive equivalent of an enema, John.

TOM: In fact, we understand that the product they use is manufactured by the Ex-Lax Corporation.

RAY: Not really. For 10 bucks (three bucks retail), he was probably using a bottle of Motor Flush, made by Radiator Gunk Company, or some similar product. You dump this stuff in, run the engine for five minutes and then drain it out, along with the old oil. It's a solvent of some kind, and, presumably, it helps remove any sludge or deposits that are inside your engine.

TOM: Whether it works or not, we don't know. In theory, it could do what it claims to do. But there are two things that make us wary of using this stuff.

RAY: One is, if you change your oil on a regular basis, you shouldn't HAVE any meaningful sludge or deposits built up in your engine. And two, while it's working, this stuff dilutes your oil and interferes with the lubrication process, so you might even be harming your engine while you're supposedly cleaning it.

TOM: In fact, on the bottle of Motor Flush, you are warned not to drive the car while this is in your engine. That suggests to me that they're at least aware that damage can occur.

RAY: So, unless you know that you have a problem with sludge or deposits, or your engine's on its last legs and you've got nothing to lose, I'd stick with the good old "bad" oil change, John. This is a case where bad is good enough.

* * *

Changing your oil regularly is the cheapest insurance you can buy for your car, but how often should you change it? Find out by ordering Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, 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 Web site at www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on

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AUSTIN TEXAS

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#1

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1995 Honda Del Sol SI, V-tec, 5 sp., alarm, cold air. \$5500

1993 Nissan Sentra, 5 sp., 2 dr., runs, drives super \$2950

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CONTINUED **545**
LEGAL NOTICES

B035 GWEN OLSON, BOXES,
COOLER TOTES
G004 VICTOR VALDEZ, TV,
LAMR, DRESSER

5:30 p.m. 23 MAY, 2006 Public
Storage @ 12915 Research
Blvd., Austin, TX 78750

2082 LISA CANNAN, BABY SEAT,
HIGH CHAIR, SKATE BOARD

3082 ERIC KNOX, ALL ITEMS IN
UNIT

4024 JOHNNY TUMLINSON,
FISH POLE, TOOL BOX, BOXES

4093 LEDA NORRIS, BOXES

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF HETTIE
ELLEN STEWART, DECEASED**

Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Hettie Ellen
Stewart, Deceased, were issued
on April 19, 2006, in Cause No.
84647 pending in the Probate
Court No. 1 of Travis County,
Texas, to Marion Bodden, a
resident of Travis County, Texas.

The mailing address for the
presentation of claims is:

c/o Krista A. Chacona
The Law Office of Krista A.
Chacona

701 Brazos, Suite 500
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.

DATED this 5th day of May, 2006.

Krista A. Chacona

State Bar No. 24029478

Attorney for Executor

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS
HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF RUFUS LEE
THOMPSON, DECEASED**

The administration of the estate of
Rufus Lee Thompson, Deceased
has been commenced by the
issuance of original Letters
Testamentary to Roberta
Thompson Halverson, whose
address is 2803 Live Oak Street,
Round Rock, Texas 78681 on April
3, 2006 by the Williamson County
Probate Court, County Court No.
4 acting in Cause No. 06-0313-
CP4, styled IN RE: ESTATE OF
RUFUS LEE THOMPSON,
DECEASED, in which Court the
matter is pending. All persons
having claims against the estate
are hereby notified to present
them within the time prescribed
by law, addressed to the
representative of the estate at the
address shown above.

Dated this 5th day of May, 2006.

Respectfully submitted,
LAW OFFICE OF JOHN F.
CAMPBELL, P.C.

1601 Rio Grande, Suite 405
Austin, Texas 78701

(512) 476-6036

(512) 478-8919 (Fax)

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS NO.
84596 NOTICE OF**

APPOINTMENT Notice is
hereby given that Letters
Testamentary for the Estate of
Russell G. Goodnight, De-
ceased, were issued on April 18,
2006 in Cause No. 84596 in
Probate Court No. 1 of Travis
County, Texas, to:

Antoinette C. Goodnight
Independent Executor

The address of the Independent
Executor is in Austin, Texas; and
the mailing address is c/o
Antoinette C. Goodnight, 11411
Charred Oak Drive, Austin,
Texas 78759.

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 25th day of April,
2006/s/ Ernest J. Altgelt,

Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that
original Letters of Administration
for the Estate of David Ray
Klepac, Deceased, were issued on
April 7, 2006, under Docket No.

84497, pending in the Probate
Court No. 1 of Travis County, Tex-
as, to Victoria Anne Guffey.

Claims may be presented in
care of the attorney for the
estate, addressed as follows:
Representative, Estate of David
Ray Klepac, Deceased

c/o Forest D. Cook

The Law Offices of Forest D. Cook
P.O. Box 1482
Austin, Texas 78767-1482

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 April 27, 2006.

Law Office of Forest D. Cook
By: /s/ Forest D. Cook, SBOT#
04728000

Katherine S. Cheng, SBOT#
24040679

ATTORNEYS FOR APPLICANT

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Administration of the Estate of
Walter Raymond Cogburn,
Dec'd, was commenced by the
issuance of original Letters
Testamentary to David Michael
Cogburn, Independent Executor,
on April 13, 2006 by the Probate
Court No. 1, Travis Co., Texas in
Ca. No. 84,489, styled Estate of
Walter Raymond Cogburn,
Dec'd. All persons having
claims against the Estate should
present same within the time
prescribed by law in care of the
attorney for said executor,
William Apt, Attorney at Law,
1609 Shoal Creek Blvd., Ste. 300,
Austin TX 78701.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Andrew A. Castillo,
Deceased, were issued on
March 21, 2006, in Cause No.
82505, pending in the Probate
Court No. ONE, Travis County,
Texas, to: Rose Cardenas.

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: Frank B. Walker

Attorney at Law
900 Congress Avenue,
Suite 250

Austin, TX 78701

DATED the 28th day of April,
2006.

/s/ Frank B. Walker

Attorney for Estate

State Bar No.: 20700000

900 Congress Avenue

Suite 250

Austin, Texas 78701

Telephone: (512) 477-6200

Facsimile: (512) 477-1188

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that
original Letters of Testamentary
for the Estate of Olive Gertrude
Nations, Deceased, were issued
on April 12, 2006, in Cause No.
84587, pending in Probate Court
Number One of Travis County,
Texas, to: Lester Bryant Nations,
Independent Executor.

The mailing address of the
Independent Executor is in
Travis County, Texas; the post
office address is:
Lester Bryant Nations
c/o Joseph S. Babb

Kiester, Lockwood & Babb, L.L.P.
611 West 14th St., Suite 100
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.

DATED the 27th day of April, 2006.

KIESTER, LOCKWOOD & BABB,
L.L.P.

By: /s/ Joseph S. Babb

State Bar No. 01478700

ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE
OF OLIVE GERTRUDE
NATIONS, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Martha Louise
Grothaus, Deceased, were issued
on April 18th, 2006, under Docket
No. 84582, pending in the Pro

bate Court of Travis County,
Texas, to Lawrence F. Haass.
Claims may be presented in
care of the attorney for the
estate, addressed as follows:

Estate of Martha Louise
Grothaus, Deceased
c/o Burt A. Holland
Attorney at Law
9901 IH-10 West, Suite 795
San Antonio, TX 78230

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.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that
original Letters Testamentary for
the Estate of Sol Smith,
Deceased, were issued on April
25, 2006, in Cause No. 84657,
pending in the Probate Court
No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to:
Larry P. Smith. All persons
having claims against this
Estate are required to present
them to the representative of the
estate at the following address:
Larry P. Smith, 5151 Edloe
Street, Apartment 3101,
Houston, Texas 77005.

DATED the 25th day of April,
2006.

/s/ Kristin L. Lemke

Attorney for Larry P. Smith

State Bar No.: 00795399

700 Lavaca, Suite 405

Austin, Texas 78701

Telephone: (512) 478-0006

Facsimile: (512) 495-9284

**OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
IFB NUMBER: B060209-JW**

Notice is hereby given that
sealed bids for **Airport
Boulevard Metal Building
Roof Replacement** located in
Austin, Texas, will be received
by Cyd Grimes, Travis County
Purchasing Agent, at the **Travis
County Purchasing Office, 314
West 11th Street, 4th Floor,
Suite 400, Austin, TX 78701**
until **2:00 P. M., CST, May 17,
2006**, then publicly opened and
read aloud. **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
bids.**

A copy of Project Manual may
be obtained by visiting our web
site:
www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp
and downloading it, or by visiting the
**TRAVIS COUNTY PUR-
CHASING OFFICE, A re-
fundable deposit of \$25.00** in the
form of a cashier's check,
money order, or company check
payable to "Travis County" will
be required for each set of bid
documents that is obtained
directly from the Purchasing
Office. **The deposit will be
refunded if the drawings and
specifications are returned in
good condition within 21
calendar days of the bid
opening.** Copies of plans and
specifications may be viewed
free of charge in the Travis
County Purchasing Office. In
addition, plans and speci-
fications will be made available
for viewing free of charge at
various Austin-area Plan Rooms
indicated in Exhibit 1.

A bid security in the amount of
five percent (5%) of the total bid
amount will be required.
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. Bidder should
use lump sum pricing.

Historically Underutilized
Businesses including Contractors,
Subcontractors, and Suppliers are
encouraged to participate in this
project consistent with the goals
of the 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 BIDDERS**

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that
sealed bids will be accepted by
Travis County for the following
items:

1. Insulation Services, B060177-
NB

Opens: May 22, 2006 @ 4:00 p.m.

**AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID
CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD
ON MAY 10, 2006 @ 10:00 A.M.**

2. Boat, Boat Motor, and Marine
Component Maintenance Repairs-
Time and Materials, B060190-NB

Opens: May 22, 2006 @ 2:00 p.m.

**AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID
CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD
ON MAY 11, 2006 @ 2:00 P.M.**

3. Automotive OEM Parts and
Maintenance Labor, B060228-LD

Opens: May 22, 2006 @ 2:00 p.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 ob-
tained 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. Bid-
ders should use unit pricing or
lump sum pricing, if ap-
propriate. 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
TO ENGINEERS**

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that
qualification statements will be
accepted by Travis County for
the following items:

1. Construction and Geotech-
nical Testing Services, RFQ
Q060173-DG

Opens: May 17, 2006 @ 4:00 p.m.

Qualifications statements
should be submitted to: Cyd
Grimes, Travis County Pur-
chasing 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.

POUND SALE Pursuant of
Texas Abandoned Vehicle Act,
the following vehicles will be
auctioned off by the City of
Austin Police Dept. unless
charges are satisfied.

Garagekeeper:

**Chote's Wrecker Service
10717 Research Blvd.
Austin, TX 78759**

- 1990 Ford Probe B54DTM
1ZVPT20C4L5211069
- 1983 Ford PU 7HFD79
1FTDF15G0DRA23887
- 1991 Chevy Camaro 419FMK
1G1FP23E4ML17850Z
- 1989 Honda Accord X47TSC
1HGCA6182KA022596
- 2001 Hyundai ACL 440BNF
KMHCF35G016081543
- 1989 Chevy Caprice Y86KRN
1G1BL51E2KR168687
- 2002 Chevy Cavalier S01ZWX
1G1JC124727217470
- 2002 Mitsu P61MZZB
4A3AA36G02E103140
- 1987 Buick EPF TONLY10
1G4CW5132H1413301
- 1990 Lincoln N84YMC
1NLN1M9744LY679819
- 1986 Cadillac 802HXD
1G6DW69Y7G9733036
- 2002 Dodge 515GGG
1B3EL36X2N25756



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610 CARS

BMW 325I 2003 2003 BMW 325i, Auto, Silver Ext., Leather, Factory Warr., 45k mi., \$21,900. Call 512.535.0846.

BMW 330CI 2001 Warranty, Sports & Premium Pkg, Sunroof \$18k. Call 656-3337

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CHEVY CAVALIER 1999 4 dr., AT, 108K, Drives fine, clean, \$2950. Warranty. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

NISSAN SENTRA 1993 5sp., 2 dr., runs, drives super. \$2950. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

OLDSMOBILE CUTLASS 1972 Great ride. No rust. Super clean. 419-7286

SUBARU LEGACY LSI 1996 4 cylinder, 2.5 ltr, 5 spd, auto trans, power windows, locks, sunroof. Roof racks, CD/tape player, good stereo sound. 130,000 miles. 24 mpg city/29-30 mpg hwy. Have all maintenance records, brand new front tires, oil change every 3000 miles and much more

TOYOTA 4RUNNER 2000 70K. Limited. Loaded/leather. \$13,900. Can trade. Call Jim @ the Auto Depot 836-9767 or 402-1454 (Nights before 9PM or Weekends)

TOYOTA CAMRY 1988 1990 Toyota Camry, \$1000, call 512-944-6670.

VOLKSWAGEN GOLF 2000 Forest Green 4 Door w/85K miles. Great gas mileage, still under factory warranty Asking \$7500 obo call Annette hm: 264-0655, cell: 832-645-7054

VOLVO 740GL 1989 gray, 221,000 miles, engine runs XLNT, \$2000 obo. tj 512 415 0548

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FORD F-250 1983 Work truck. 280K mi. diesel eng. runs, needs some repair. 977-0007.

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FORD EXPLORER XLT 1992 Michellin XC LT4, no dents, Champagne, Cloth Int., 163K.

INTERNATIONAL SCOUT II 1979 4X4, auto, 345-V8, too many new parts to list here. \$3,000 obo. LOOK! MAKE OFFER! 512-784-8263/512-587-8046.

635 PARTS

FORD TRUCK F-250 diesel, runs, needs work. Repair or parts. \$750. 977-0007.

PONTIAC GTO 70-72 rear bumper assembly, complete. \$150 OBO. 977-0007.

640 REPAIRS

AUTOMOTIVE SERVICES Lugnuts. We have moved to 6212 Manchaca Rd. 445-NUTS (6887) Locally owned.

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AUDIO INTERFACE M-Audio FireWire 410. Never used. wshngmchne@yahoo.com.

CRATE GUITAR AMP FOR SALE GFX 30 GUITAR AMP 512.428.9698.

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DRUM SET MAPEX M Series 7pc kit. Includes hat stand, 2 boom stands, ride/floor tom stand, throne, Iron Cobra Double Pedal, Zildjian ZBT 8" splash, 14" crash, 18" ride. Great condition. Hard cases for 5 pc. \$800 o.b.o. 512-787-8716 or pariahdrums@aol.com.

GIBSON GUITAR 1957 ES-225T Rare Blondel! Bigsby! Grovers! case 512-658-1854

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Greg: 693-4673

I PLAY CLASSIC country lead guitar, and i'm searching for other musicians into the same.. call kevin@448-3740

LOOKING FOR A drummer and bassist to finish writing the music. Inft: Tool, 30Seconds To Mars, Deftones, God Speed.

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KEYBOARDIST SOUGHT FOR Austin Echoes. Rock&dance, 70s-now, gigs. Practice Leander/Georgetown austinechoes.com

KEYS/GUITAR-US: TELEVISION, XTC. The Presets, Moving Units YOU: 22-27yrs. proGear, 5yrs exp., vocals, style. 512-665-1592.

BAND SEES MALE singer www.go4brokeband.com We have rehearsal space e-mail me at rychemind@yahoo.com for info

BASS NEEDED FOR ROCK. Be creative. 20s-30s, attitude, style, ability, and ROCK. We have rehearsal space, gigs, sponsors, mgmt.

BASS WANTED. We are a guitarist and drummer and we already have many years exp. Influences are: Neurosis, Isis, Mastadon, Relapse Records bands. Creative/ExperiMetal. Call 402.4726 (leave msg if you are interested)-Thanxz

METAL DRUMMER NEEDED: 18-27, double bass in the vein of lamb of god, atreyu, megadeth, DARKEST HOUR. Aaron 786-9427

NEED FOR hardcore band. www.myspace.com/myeverest

DRUMMER needed for electric lounge rock trio. Creative minimalist. Have gigs, 30 tunes ready. Listen to demo 497-6093.

DRUMMER SEEKING MUSICIANS to form band. Blend of rock, classical, & folk. Influences: late 'sixties groups. Return to melodies! Chuck (512)828-0648.

FEMALE VOCALIST PUNK/REG/BLUES, MUST have stage presence we have space, thezombiesrule@yahoo

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KEYBOARDIST SOUGHT FOR Austin Echoes. Rock&dance, 70s-now, gigs. Practice Leander/Georgetown austinechoes.com

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LEAD GUITARIST SOUGHT 21+, influences AliceInChains Pantera Soundgarden GNR Ozzy etc. gear/transportation. call Joe. 512-300-8001 madhatterq@yahoo.com

MALE VOCALISTS: PAYING studio work. Style similar to Phish, must harmonize & have demo. lizindia@flash.net

METAL DRUMMER NEEDED: 18-27, double bass in the vein of lamb of god, atreyu, megadeth, DARKEST HOUR. Aaron 786-9427

NEED BAND UNRAVEL rock band Unravel Mars, inft: tool, apc, AIC, STP, prac 1-2x a wk, myspace.com/unravelmars for demos/info

NEW AUSTIN CHRISTIAN Big Band. Instrumentalists needed. Advanced players only. Call Phillip Smith at 512-292-6800 for an audition.

NEW INDIE ROCK Bassist & Drummer Needed ASAP! www.myspace.com/TheMentals E-mail: Steve_oo_7@yahoo.com

NOONER NEEDS SECOND co-rhythm/lead guitarist. Power pop/rock with big hooks. Cheap Trick, U2 and Fools. 2nd full length CD recently released. Out of state tours booked. www.myspace.com/nooner for music. Contact via myspace or whatsapp@noonerrock.com

SEARCHING FOR PRO bongo player. No drugs, no drunks, no smokers. We play Cuban, Puerto Rican Music.

SINGER FEMALE VOCALIST wanted for paid studio session work in May-June. R&B or gospel experience a big plus. E-mail a single MP3 demo to rw_rushing@yahoo.com.

SMOOTH JAZZ, GUITARIST seeking key members: drums, bass, keys. Influences: Fourplay, The Crusaders, Lee Ritenour, Paul Jackson Jr., Norman Brown, Kirk Whalum, Jeff Lorber. I am located in San Marcos. Call Brandon 512-394-2231 or wesbound335@yahoo.com

THE BACKROOM NEEDS bands of all styles to play Wednesday and Thursday nights. phleabag@sbcglobal.net

TUBA! JAZZ & blues band seeks tuba. Will need to work from chord charts most tunes. Guitarzant@gmail.com

TUNGSTEN COIL NEEDS collaborative bass player w/backing vocals. Looking to reinvent 80's Hair Metal w/Industrial in a new genre. Up to the challenge? eric@tungstencil.com or 512-656-4336 (Eric)

TUNGSTEN COIL NEEDS collaborative guitar player w/backing vocals. Looking to reinvent 80's Hair Metal w/Industrial in a new genre. Up to the challenge? eric@tungstencil.com or 512-656-4336 (Eric)

TUNGSTEN COIL NEEDS collaborative keyboard player w/backing vocals. Looking to reinvent 80's Hair Metal w/Industrial in a new genre. Up to the challenge? eric@tungstencil.com or 512-656-4336 (Eric)

WANTED RYTHM GUITAR for Beatles Tribute band. Must be serious and show up for practice. 243-1916

WORKING ROCK BAND (covers and originals) seeks second guitar for touring and recording. vocals a plus and good hard working attitude a must. Make money and have some fun!!!!!! Abe (512)779-9827

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NEED DOMDADDY 4PRINCESS

I am in need of a discrete DomDaddy. I am a cute slutty princess who needs a lesson. Let me please Daddy. I am waiting on hands and knees. kiss!
taytum, 39, ☎, #116756

GOOD TIMES

Tired of being mommy all the time, just looking for good clean fun. **MsKitti**, 26, ☎, #116739

SINSUAL DOMN8RIX

You: SWM-Submissive overly eager to please-and-pamper me. My rule is absolute and punishments are swift... However the rewards are incalculable.
MIStyrrs_WyND, 27, ☎, #116714

CHUNKY CHARMER!

Pretty face, glowing skin, nice hair. I'm pushing 30, drunk, poor with a terrible attitude and no patience. Giving it away hand over fist. You be: young, endowed, dumb.
Dranogirl, 29, ☎, #116612

HERE

There is only one happiness in life, to love and be loved. Marriage is not a ritual or an end. It is a long, intricate, intimate dance together and nothing matters than your partner.
silviacom, 24, ☎, #116549

BLONDE

Just back to Austin from the wilderness. Looking 4 sum fun and excitement, adventure, sexual experiences and am sexually liberal, curious, exhibitionist. Come on down if you like to play.
PLeiMe, 40, ☎, #116416

SEEKING SWEET DADDY

28 yo professional black female. Looking for a professional white gentleman 35-50 to take on the role as my sweet daddy. Looking for mutually satisfying sexual relationship. Discretion a must.
curvy1, 29, ☎, #116196

CURIOUS, BEGINNER, READY

I am too new at this and want to have some fun, meet new people and LET'S LET THE GOOD TIMES ROLL!:) Wanna help me?
niteowl, 35, ☎, #115822

WANTED, GOODTIME GIRL

Cute, fun couple. Sexy latina and gorgeous well endowed black male, loves having fun. Looking for a fun, cute girl. Nothing serious. Occasional drinks and some fun back at home.
Nic27, 26, ☎, #115526

HOT AND READY

About myself, black female with short brown hair, full figured professional attached. Looking for a very pretty full figured female also attached for discreet fun.
Hottie, 35, ☎, #115154

INTELLIGENT WOMAN

Are you an intelligent, liberal, stable, humorous woman? Seeking true friendship and romance. I'm voluptuous, seeking same. Your situation's ok with me long as it's healthy and you have some time.
Gen28, 29, ☎, #115038

MORTICIAN SEEKS DEAD...

I'm not looking for commitments just fun, friends and maybe more.
madammortician, 26, ☎, #116219

MILF SEEKS SAME

I'd like to get naked with a woman like me and see what happens under the sheets. Anyone else having the same thought?
CreamyPeaches, 39, #115834

WANTS YOUNG GUYS

Couple seek young guys Black or Hispanic, 18-24 for wife. Lockhart, Lyton Springs area. She is 40, 5ft8. Loves sex. Husband is straight and likes to video her in action.
hotlynn, 40, #115758

ROMANTIC NERD

I am a big nerd, I enjoy intellegent debate, gaming and a little romance. I'm cuddling and long makeout sessions. I am always looking for new adventures in bed.
AmbyRhodes, 18, #115371

READY TO PLAY

Intelligent professional, ready to play at the edges. Handsome; physically fit; dancer/conversationalist; humorous; widely traveled; emotionally stable. Get in touch to add excitement and fun to your sexual play-pen.
satyrs, 54, ☎, #117073

HAVING FUN

I love outdoors, sports, chemistry, sex, exercise, adrenaline, hip-hop, rock-n-roll, heavy metal, rap, concerts, vodka, bars, cooking, building, swimming, the beach, rollercoasters, computers, trying something new.
SPPI178, 33, ☎, #117060

DEAL OR NO DEAL

Tall, straight, generous, sexy, loving, experienced SWM Texan looking for fun with female who knows how to live. Let's see where it goes.
SUMMERWIND, 48, ☎, #117048

DOGGIESTYLE

5 10 175 reddish dirty blond liberal music playing optimistic outdoorzy professional fine dining wine champagne hung nasty like all give first only then receive courteous gentleman love muffin.
laidbackdude, 42, ☎, #116665

ENERGIZER BUNNY

Decent looking guy interested in meeting a woman for sensual fun. Would like to get to know you and hopefully lead to long term, rather than a one time thing.
Kilroy, 34, #117041

ALMOST DIVORCED.. :)

I'm a 22 year old man finishing up w/ a rocky marriage... Not looking for anything long term.
jaketg99, 22, #117027

COME ON EVERYBODY

i am a 25 years old sex machine, i am a tourist here at austin and i'm gonna be here for 3 months. very open minded and sexy.
judas_horse, 25, #117016

PLEASUREMAN

Bisexual male in great shape, nice looking, clean, healthy. Well endowed, shaved. Seeking bisexual, male or couple, in shape 30-50 years old. Lets get naked together. Only serious replies, please.
Indigo, 47, #115943

ROCK N ROLLER

BI dudes wanted. Rock N Roll, swimming at my home, beer drinking . No drugs or std. Attractive 42 male. Evenings and weekends. Tired of hangin alone.
Badrocker, 42, ☎, #116804

PASSIONATE, LOVING, INTENSE

GWM Looking for Friends... Very Passionate, Loving, and Intense... if that's what interests you then send me a message.
austxnative, 36, ☎, #116791

SEXUAL FULLFILLMENT DESIRED

looking for women interested in sexual liasions, and partying. Open minded and uninhibited.
heybra, 33, #116763

FLOAT WITH ME

I am 60, young bod, seeking a "pretty white boy" 20-30ish, anglo, slim, smooth, toned, more is better, to make love at 3am on clean sheets with incense floating about.
joSoGOOD, 60, #116696

LETS PARTY

easy going guy who likes to have fun with people.
marvbmf, 46, #116142

MWM BOTTOM HERE

MWM bottom seeks ONE similar MWM top for occasional get togethers. I'm educated, fit(6'/175), DDF, and discreet. If you fit the bill, have a place and are serious, contact me.
private2006, 43, #116537

SWEET T-GIRL?

I am looking for a beautiful t-girl for discreet encounters. I like conversations, long passionate kisses, and getting to know you. Lets trade and fulfill each others fantasies.
LookinForT, 39, #117076

ALWAYS HORNY

Im a busy professional male in austin. I work hard i like to play hard. I love being in threesomes and love to satisfy women.
motorjk, 42, #117075

SEX LOVER

I am always horny and looking for an outlet! I like anything that feels good!
cosmo069, 34, #117036

CLEAN LATIN GUY

I love sex, watch, orgies, etc. Sex for fun, for pleasure and for sport. i am very discreet. I love white, asian and latin women..doesnt matter age.
jfk_horny, 27, #117011

ATTRACTIVE TALENTED BLONDE

I'm a nice looking sensual 35 yr old blonde; I love pleasing older men, am very open to new ideas.
Cheyenne1970, 35, #117000

FUN TIL MORNING

Hi, I like tvs and enjoy group sex, and spend all nite havin fun, like to give and receive. please contact me to share our pics & experiences.
karl_laguna, 32, ☎, #116992

MUTUAL ADULT FUN

Energetic, Uninhibited, Respectful, Athletic, Clean, Drug/Disease Free, 33 Hispanic Male. Experienced in the Art of pleasure. Love to please and be pleased. Great skills and long lasting. Discretion Assured.
AustinAdultFun, 33, ☎, #116956

SEXKITTENLOOKING4PLAYMATE

Married and eager to share some of the mind numbing, lip quivering, whole body tingling ecstasy that has been our own private retreat. We want someone fun to share...
kittyneedsaplaymate, 38, ☎, #117042

ATX BLK CPL

Looking for mature female HWP; that is open minded and looking for some good clean fun with no strings attached.
austinblkcp1, 33, #117019

ANY NAUGHTY GIRLS??

If you're a sexy butch Or fem.No MEN!! Let's have drinks 1st then see what happens???? We are both cute girls, open minded you be also. We are both tattooed.
missthorne, 31, ☎, #116931

SEXY SCORPIO COUPLE

Looking to meet other sexy, interesting couples for friendship first, maybe more if there's a connection. We are both concerned with safe sex & our privacy.
darkangel77, 28, ☎, #116817

WANNA PLAY TODAY?

We're a fun couple she is 43 I am 40. We're looking for a couple or single female for playing after going out for drinks/music. Must be discreet & clean.
sex4us, 40, ☎, #116746

COUPLE SEEKING MAN

Seeking select male to join him in pleasuring her. She:42 5'3" 125 lbs, he:46 5'10" stocky. You: Normal DDF/NS decent looking kinky guy(age:30-49), no hangups, average to plus (working) endowment.
puddles, 46, ☎, #116732

KINKY COUPLE LOOKINGFORFUN

We are a fun loving couple looking to explore all sex has to offer. We are looking for some friends with benefits. Hope to hear from you soon.
pandabear2025, 21, #116670

ADVENTUROUS, DISCREET, FUN

Experienced couple that loves to play with adventurous couples. Select bi, single males and females welcome. We are very clean, DDF, and expect the same. We require extreme discretion.
kulcp1, 37, ☎, #116581

POMADE FETISH FEELLLL

indulge me in my fetish. i love pomade. if it were a drink, it would be in the other aisle. what.
dickie, 29, ☎, #117052

CUTE GUY

I am a bisexual male searching for a transgendered female(bisexual) for a long term relationship. I like doing anything thats fun and I am a hard core music fan. join me.
silent_train, 30, ☎, #117026

CD FOR MAN

Submissive CDer looking for man who knows how to please a 'woman'. Love to dress, not totally passable, but make up for it with passion.
jfox, 41, #116776

GROUP LOOKING

Just looking to start a safe, comfortable, discreet group of locals (5 to 10 people) who are like minded that get together to explore their sexuality.
curious28tx, 28, #115213

SEXY TS

i'm a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. i'm 5'10" 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. i'm very classy, too, and dress very provocatively.
erotic_anais, 29, ☎, #115140

EROTIC NATURISM

Do you find nature; the sun, water, the earth erotic? Seeking couples and select singles who want to explore, center on nature, the earth and the body, pushing limits, always remaining appropriate.
taylor2006, 36, #115059

PANTYHOSE/BOTH/PARTY

My body is not a temple it's an amusement park! My park has a theme, I'm a sexy crossdresser, love pantyhose sex, very clean/healthy, seeking females, cd/tv, couple into same party attitude over looks, BBW in pantyhose sexy.
terrytxcd, 51, #114980

KITTYNEEDSAPLAYMATE

SEX KITTEN LOOKING 4 PLAYMATE

We are a married couple who has more fun than we can contain. Married ten years and are eager to share some of the mind numbing, lip quivering, whole body tingling ecstasy that has been our private retreat until recently. We are fun and we play well with others.
YOU WILL BE PLEASED!

read the rest of **KITTYNEEDSAPLAYMATE's** profile or enter your own profile for **FREE** online at austinchronicle.com/easystreet

THE LUV DOC

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At the very, very least, relaxing immigration will broaden and deepen the dating pool ... so thumbs up, right? So thought the Wampanoag Nation until they found out that Pilgrims didn't put out. Not only that, but Pilgrims were pretty much useless at anything except freestyle theology and moral condemnation. Either the Wampanoags were greatly impressed with firearms or just plain sick and tired of staring at each other across the campfire and wanted some company... probably the latter. To add injury to insult, the Wampanoags got diseases and Jesus without the benefit of a reach-around. The lesson to be learned is that Americans, native and non-, are rightly suspicious of immigrants who refuse to assimilate into the existing culture. Sure they bring alcohol, firearms, and funny hats, but they also shoot up all your buffalo and steal your land. Thanks, but no thanks. Things might have been different had the Pilgrims been less stuck up. Maybe they could have offered to translate the Wampanoag National Anthem into English, or cleaned the longhouse, or maybe took a turn or two on the leaf blower, who knows? The point is that ever since the immigrant Europeans exterminated and subjugated all the Native Americans, immigration has turned out to be a good thing in America. Why stop now? America is a mutt, not a whimpering, anemic purebred. We should celebrate the fact that our flavor is in the mix. This Sunday, you can celebrate it with the Topiwala family, owners of Travis Heights' famous Whip In convenience store. For 20 years these Indians have been selling alcohol to the white man, and they're celebrating it at the Continental Club with a multiethnic extravaganza that includes bands like Rumbullion, Combo Mahalo, James McMurtry, Heybale!, and the Texas Sapphires, among others. Don't be stuck up. Whip in.

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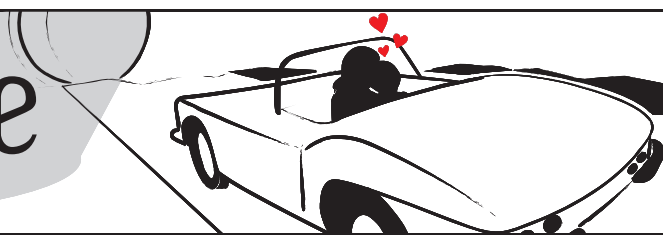
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women SEEKING men

BOHEMIAN SOCCER MOM
punk sorority girl-type who grew up but hasn't forgotten how to be a kid, cautious but curious, a trifle wild...tentatively looking to date someone who's eclectic but not scary. **newtothis**, 48, ☎, #117081

SPICY AUSTIN CHIC
Professional woman. Love animals, enjoy music immensely. Hippie at heart, materialistic individuals bore me. Open minded - free spirited, seeking the same. Kinky is good. Don't let age fool you! **SpicyAustinChic**, 50, ☎, #117006

CLASSY YET GROUNDED
I'm laid back, open minded & sweet. I'm honest, very straight-forward and random. I'm looking for someone who's conversational, has fun and loves to laugh.... **Sarah Marie**, 22, ☎, #116999

HOPEFUL RENASCENT ROMANTIC
If you are kind, respectful, witty, and are curious to explore an honest spiritual romance, then consider the possibility that I could be the next love of your life. **Zany_Curls**, 45, ☎, #116968

27SWF PRETTY BBW
27SWF, TALL BBW, curly redhead, nonsmoker, educated, employed, fun, outgoing, opinionated, love indie rock and film, seeking a single guy between 25 and 35 that's nonflakey, funny, outgoing, and employed. **chickfactor**, 27, ☎, #116980

JUST ABOUT ANYTHING
Hey everyone!! try anything once. I love to travel. im looking for someone whos touch will send shivers threw my whole body, can cook & loves to travel. **redhazel925**, 20, ☎, #116969

LOYAL, LOVING, TEXAN
I love Austin, it's a beautiful city. I love my dog, kids, and all things out doors. I was ment to live on a tropical island Move over Jimmy Buffett! **kan-sas_girl46**, 60, ☎, #116940

OUTGOING YOUNG FEMALE
Just moved to austin trying to meet new people. I am in college and studying business-marketing. I am creative and outgoing. I love to have a good time-outdoors, downtown, dining and comedy!! **leannie302**, 21, ☎, #116878

WHERE AM I?
Just lookin for that right man that has enough balls to be rude, and enough heart to love.. If you get the point of what I mean... hit me up!! **sweet2bme88**, 23, ☎, #116850

SPURS FAN
Moved from San Antonio to Georgetown. Looking for someone to enjoy the scenery and life. Love to see Spurs games and enjoy water sports(cancer sign). **LOVE TRAVELING!** **gospursgo**, 48, ☎, #116798

NEUROTIC NEW YORKER
funny, funky, friendly (i like illiteration). **kates**, 26, ☎, #116762

SEEKING LONGTERMRELATIONSHIP
hi my name is juliet, well i hope we can start as friends then we can let our friendship grow. **juliet_brown600**, 23, ☎, #116752

FUN CRAZY BLONDE
Friendship, adventure, wild side. Dogs are my kids. Movies, eating out, meeting people, bar-be-queing, watering holes, ocean, reading, bars, music, and some travel. Dream is to visit Costa Rica. Check me out if interested in exciting fun times. **stormi**, 40, ☎, #116410

PHOENIX SEEKS DRAGON
New Zealand Shaman seeks spiritually minded playmates for Grand Adventures. Tall, dark and handsome a plus, sense of humour and spontaneity important, open mind and open heart essential. **kiwi**, 43, ☎, #116400

I LOVE HUGS
am a true Austinite. Born and raised. My dog is my life. very close to my family, lots of hobbies and am always looking for new ones. jewelry fabrication and design major. **StarEyz21**, 23, ☎, #115287

MALADAPTED ZOMBIPHILIC POLYMATH
Bright, good-looking chemistry PhD candidate seeks humane, intelligent, sci-fi/horror loving forthright groovy chick for intelligent dinner and post-movie conversation, possibly more. People shouldn't be reduced to checklists, don't you think? **ZombieSlayer5**, 30, ☎, #116948

NEEDED: MISGUIDED VIXEN
Drunken scribe. Enjoy company, whiskey and intimate, meaningful conversations. Authentic Austinite. Love peaceful outings especially live music. Anyone who can stimulate the brain, to me has the potential. **scilentone**, 22, ☎, #116946

BYE BYE BLACKBIRD
Ridiculously philosophical searcher seeking connection. Either in the midst of drifting or just navigating the river as always. At the least would enjoy music/movie/walking friend (one of 'em), or more. **matando**, 42, ☎, #116939

NEW TO AUSTIN!
... Hey Im 24 and I just moved to Austin from Beaumont. Im looking forward to meeting new friends and going to new places. **curty1107**, 24, ☎, #116876

YUPER,
Single Hispanic male, very liberal, seeking someone to relate to. Nobody likes me - are there any caring women out there? **johnx80**, 44, ☎, #116875

GUY FINISHES LAST
I'm 25 I have short dark blond hair with light blond highlights my eyes are blue in color I stand 6'4" I weigh 220 pound. **bakerman1225**, 25, ☎, #116759

WAYNEDYERLIKEGUY
I am open-minded, responsible, honest, caring, athletic, sexy, outdoorsy, a writer, a traveler, spiritual, happy, grateful, love animals, nature and the whole universe, and am, above all, a faithful friend. **WayneDyerLikeGuy**, 31, ☎, #116841

COOL LONELY BRAZILIAN
I live in Rio and I am occasionally in Austin for work. Fun, easy-going, love to go out and meet new people. New experiences are sought. Wanna try? **cool_brazilian**, 35, ☎, #116821

women SEEKING women

RESTLESS, CURIOUS DREAMER
I'm bi & have a bf: if you have a problem with that, don't bother. I'm studying nursing @ ACC. I like chocolate icecream, Aerosmith, good literature, and sushi. **shadowclad17**, 18, #117079

GOOD CATCH
Looking for friends and my soulmate. Some favorite things: visiting historic places, traveling to exotic lands, walking a creek bed to look for fossils, camping. **rockhoundngal**, 41, ☎, #116619

SEXY VAMP MUSICIAN
Looking for a girl 18-25 who loves all kinds of music, movies, is laid back, enjoys dancing and just wants to have fun! **slp_with_a_musician**, 20, ☎, #116738

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!
austinchronicle.com/loverslane

men SEEKING women

SEEKING A CO-CONSPIRITUER
I like truth and dogs but love woman, hate air conditioning. I try to live a relaxed lifestyle. I am seeking a person who has no qualms about being her self. **East_wind**, 48, ☎, #117066

SIMPLE MINDS
Let's see what gets YOU going. I am open to most anything. Wine, dine, or sit on the balcony and watch the downtown action. **WHISPERJET**, 48, ☎, #117049

HERE IN AUSTIN
Didn't ever expect to place a personal ad. If you never expected to respond to a personal ad, then maybe we match? **Snowman42**, 46, ☎, #117024

CUTE, SWEET, FUNNY
I love women. I am seeking an innocent crush. I love finding that great chemistry... I'm a flirt, love to laugh, be silly... be myself. Seeking cute, bubbly, smart 27-35 yrs. **Pitter09**, 36, ☎, #116928

LET'S HAVE FUN
None smoker. No cat. Looken for opened minded person. Hight sex drive. Fun to hang out with. No drama, D/D free. and a friendship. **iceman**, 40, ☎, #117017

DEVISHLY HANDSOME LAD
New to Austin. Originally from Los Angeles. I'm a brutally honest lad with loads of sarcasm. I'm looking for a gal who is sexy and fun. **BabyFace**, 32, ☎, #117013

FRIEND AND PARTNER?
I'll keep you laughing and smiling; I'm programmed to do that. I'm happiest when I'm sharing my knowledge. **Bob-byB**, 41, ☎, #116962

LOTS OF FUN
I have many tattoos and piercings, total animal lover who isn't afraid to talk to anyone. Love good beer. If you like what you hear e-mail me. **wildchild**, 23, ☎, #116743

MICHIGANDER FLIES SOUTH
Slender, 5'9", with reddish brown hair. Friends describe me as funny, sincere, creative and easy going. Looking for someone intelligent, tall, humorous, genuine and communicative who likes to travel. **rotel87**, 53, ☎, #116049

SWEET SASSY GAL
I think my friends would say I'm stable, loyal, caring, loving, dependable with a great sense of humor. I would rather talk for hours over coffee than watch tv. **nativeaustingal**, 33, ☎, #101367

KID AT HEART
Variety is the spice of life. I think the saddest thing in the world is someone who doesn't know how to laugh. I'm a crazy goofy girl. **Javeing**, 23, ☎, #116590

FUNNY, ATTRACTIVE 24YR OLD
Hi I'm Amy, 24 years old, I am 5'6, 112 lbs, black hair brown eyes! I'm looking for a nice guy to hook up, be friends with at first maybe more. **plamy**, 24, #116472

CUTIE PIE... EAT
Looking for a sexy, smart and sensitive lady who will show my new things and be ready to do whatever, whenever... just friends, welcome. **fjkdghkljha**, 19, ☎, #116539

HI GIRLS SUP?
hi my namw is natalie. i live in manchester new hampshire with a friend. i like to play pool and go shopping. i would like to meet someone who's nice. **crazycatlady**, 24, ☎, #116630

NEW TO AUSTIN!!!
I am 21 I love live music meeting new people and having drinks with friends. Im looking for a woman between the ages of 20-30. **emeralleyes**, 21, ☎, #116623

ON THE VERGE
I'm very down to earth, loyal and interested in anyone, regardless of their interests. I'm obsessed with indie music, cinematography, art and randomness. **tigerbeat**, 23, ☎, #116582

SPONTANEOUS & SMOOTH
i love having fun and doing all i can. i've had my share of huge responsibilities and still do, i'm just taking a break to see what life is about. **rockinsocksoff**, 22, ☎, #116574

men SEEKING men

HEREANDNOW
Mature, loving, compassionate Looking for a Man with simillar qualities. Prefer dating, strongly believe in Chemistry and Compatibility. Be yourself, i'll be understanding as i would want you to be. **olamarina**, 46, ☎, #116726

ART GUY
I'm a smart masc guy who likes good conversation over a morning coffee/taco. Love all music. Artist (Acrylic) Prefer Mex/Amer to date but open for friendships. Ages 30-38. **Texan1969**, 36, ☎, #116722

SNUGGLE BUDDY WANTED
I like quiet nights at home snuggling watching a movie or a football game on Sunday afternoon. You: kind, gentle, patient, honest, and a sense of humor, smooth slim perfered. **TxChubStud**, 47, ☎, #116567

QUALITY4SAME
I think I'm a catch. Why am I still single? I'm a prof gl 32 yo wm 5'10", 160, 31w, slim build, brown hair/green eyes. I'm very laid-back and easy-going. **Quality4same**, 32, ☎, #116316

LOOKING FOR EINSTIEN/AFFLECK
Would like to meet a smart, geeky, cute, and pretty laid back, sensitive guy with a nice smile. **spyderboi1985**, 20, ☎, #116165

DOG LOVER
I'm a sincere, warm-hearted, animal rights guy who would like to be the vegan meat in a Matt Damon and Joaquin Phoenix sandwich. **doglover**, 39, ☎, #116160

SINGLE IN AUSTIN
Hopeless romantic, laid back, down to earth guy, interested in dating, new friendships, and more along the way. Im looking for guys with good hearts, good head over their shoulders. **juan41381**, 25, ☎, #115939

IT'S ALL GOOD!
Looking for a boyfriend? I am 48 yr. old Hispanic with a lot to offer. I am looking for someone who is SINGLE and honest, no drugs, is that you? Let me know. **HubandMaterial**, 49, ☎, #115672

ON THE MARKET
I am an honest professional person looking for the same. If your life revolves around the gym and the clubs, we would not connect. Give me something better to do! **ronintex**, 55, ☎, #115402

PLAYS WITH CARDS
Lookin' for a masculine guy from mid 20's to early 50's to get to know and hang out with in Round Rock. See online loverslane ad for more on me. **freshsteeds**, 48, ☎, #115162

OPEN, WORTH IT
Looking for friendship or dating. I like travel, dogs, Book People, South Congress Cafe, running, weekends with friends. Music? **Andrea Bocelli**, Kenny Chesney, Cher. **Runner**, 48, ☎, #114896

PLAYFUL LIVING CONSCIOUSLY?
New experiences together. Vulnerable, Strong, Optimistic, Thoughtful, Exploratory. I enjoy both good passionate times and slow sensual times with a man who seeks fun, foreplay, adventure, touch, intelligence and self-expression. **nowliveit**, 45, ☎, #101288

JUST friends

OLDER HOTTIE W/FLAVOR
I'm a fun-loving dude into music and photos. I'm not looking for marriage, but, if I meet the right girl/woman/lady? I'm in Houston but considering moving to Austin. What matters is Soul, not "First Glance Packaging". **hookman14**, 53, ☎, #116870

WANTED: FRIENDS
Looking for down to earth, true to themselves, hippie-esque friends. People to chill with and share thoughts and ideas. **rambleonrose**, 28, ☎, #116839

RABIA HELLO FELLOW AUSTINITES

A couple that I am friends with met each other on this site, so I decided to give it a try. My loves are music, the outdoors, the people I know, and great food. In my spare time I have been hiking, biking, doing home repairs, cooking for friends and trying to make myself play some music. You: You love your life too. You work to keep healthy. You understand British comedy. You are as comfortable in a dive bar as you are at a cocktail party.

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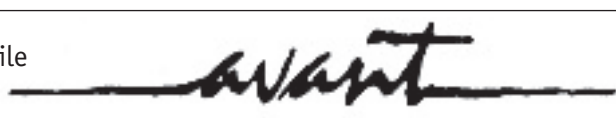
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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznys for May 5 - May 11

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): New Rule: During the next two weeks, you're not allowed to think any thought or feel any feeling you've experienced a million times before. If you detect one of those stale ingredients bubbling up into the mix, it's your sacred duty to immediately substitute a fresh-from-the-garden idea or feeling that you've never entertained before. It's the season of novelty, Taurus – time to compost the old ways and revel in raw innocence. Invite the universe to gorge you with virginal blessings.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): In the entire history of the world, there has never been a time that neglects dreams more than ours. Every other culture has paid more attention to the information that's available to us while we're sleeping. This enervating ignorance incurs a personal cost. If you're one of those who rarely recalls your dreams, you're suffering a grievous loss of connection with the wisdom of your unconscious mind. And even if you do stay in touch with your dreams, most of the people around you aren't connected to theirs, and that generates stupendous stupidity. Want to remedy the problem, Gemini? It's a perfect astrological moment to improve your relationship with the realm where you spend one-third of your life. Here are a few resources: the book *Living Your Dreams* by Gayle Delaney; the book *Radical Dreaming: Use Your Dreams to Change Your Life* by John Goldammer; the Lucid Dream Institute (www.lucidity.com); and dream interpretations by Jonathan Zap (<http://snipurl.com/paar>).

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): Pathologist Paul Wolf has suggested that some of history's great artists may have never created their masterpieces if the wonders of modern medicine had been available to them. For example, what if doctors had cured van Gogh's mental illness with a regimen of drugs like Prozac and Xanax? Maybe he would have been spared the torment that goaded him to the outbursts of genius that erupted on his canvases. It's an interesting theory – one that I invite you to apply to your own life history. Are there ways in which the very things that have driven you crazy have played a role in your finest accomplishments? This is a perfect time to acknowledge and celebrate that ironic miracle.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): Let's talk about the gift that it is your destiny to offer the world. Are you still struggling to figure out what it is? Here's what storyteller Michael Meade advises: You'll know it's the gift you were born to give if your energy is renewed, not exhausted, by giving it. It so happens that the coming weeks will be a perfect time to make dramatic progress in exploring this crucial truth, Leo.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): According to research done by *Forbes* magazine, more billionaires are Virgos than any other sign of the zodiac. A disproportionate 12% of the world's wealthiest people are members of your tribe. I hope this startling fact inspires you to be more proactive in cultivating your natural advantages. It's high time for you to prime your cash flow. Now please promise that you will say the following affirmation three times a day for the next 30 days: "Because I am shrewd, analytical, practical, attentive, and strategic, I possess all the necessary qualities to become a wealthier. I am a money magnet. Money is my servant. O monnee gimmee summ."

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Espertantina, a town in Brazil, celebrates May 9 as Orgasm Day. As much as I'd love to import this enlightened holiday to my home country of America, it might be difficult in the foreseeable future. Why? Because religious fundamentalists have been spreading their infectious mental disease, seducing people into mistrusting their bodies' natural urges. Meanwhile, the advertising and entertainment industries try to sell us on the glamour of being in a chronic state of titillation without satisfaction. I'm calling on you Libras to do what you can to resist these cultural trends. The astrological omens say this is an auspicious time for you to seek out, cultivate, and honor your own orgasms.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): I have a rabid appreciation for your efforts to make this world a steamer, wilder, more lyrical labyrinth. Thank you for all the entertaining mysteries you conjure so regularly. You are a true Puzzle Master, both in the sense that you create beautiful enigmas and that you solve seemingly impossible riddles. Having said that, though, I want to beg you to ease up on the drama for a while. Now and then there come times when you get so heavy and thick with obsessive longing and complicated emotions that you're in danger of imploding. This is such a moment. So lighten up, please. Consider indulging in the pleasures of harmless fun and frivolous diversions for a few days.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): I would never make light of your pain, Sagittarius, but it's my duty to inform you that you now have a rather amusing opportunity to capitalize on it. You may have heard that Star Trek actor William Shatner sold his kidney stone to an online casino for \$33,000. In a comparable, though perhaps more metaphorical, way, I foresee you being able to cash in on, or at least make very good use of, something that once hurt you very much.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): Your meditation for the week comes from playwright Bertolt Brecht. "Art is not a mirror held up to reality," he said, "but a hammer with which to shape it." This is an excellent idea to keep in mind even if you're not a writer, painter, dancer, filmmaker, actor, or musician. What it means is that you now have the duty and opportunity to fully unleash the creator in you. Don't be satisfied with the world the way it is; don't sit back and complain about the dead weight of the mediocre status quo. Instead, stir up your curiosity and charisma and expressiveness and lust for life. Then rebuild everything you see so that it's in greater harmony with the laws of love.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): "People seem not to see that their opinion of the world is also a confession of their character," wrote Ralph Waldo Emerson. Your assignment in the coming week, Aquarius, is to take inventory of your opinions about the world, and then analyze what they reveal about your character. Here are some questions to guide your explorations. How do the feelings and theories you carry within you get projected onto the life you find around you? Do your prevailing attitudes help shape the experiences you attract? Is the reality you've built in your psyche at least partially responsible for creating the reality you encounter everywhere you go?

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Whenever I'm on top of the world and able to see for miles, it's easier for me to view the big picture of my life. That's why I rode my bike to the crest of the mountain today. I wanted to meditate on a certain personal problem that has had me stumped. But when I arrived there after a long ascent, a frigid, relentless wind was blustering so hard that I could barely think. Reluctantly, I came down the mountain and did my meditation in the valley below, where a mild, warmer wind posed no aggravation. There I was able to get the insight I needed. Now I'm passing my lesson on to you, Pisces. You may not be able to accomplish your current goal where you thought you could, but you can do it in a different place. Be flexible about the setting.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): "Any idiot can face a crisis," said Russian writer Anton Chekhov. "It is the day-to-day living that wears you out." Your main assignment in the coming weeks, Aries, will be to use your ingenuity to keep from being burned out by the subtle and minor trials of the daily grind. It won't be as dramatic a challenge as some of the epic travails you dealt with in March, but in my opinion it will be just as heroic.

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ADVENTUROUS, MUSICLOVER
Laid back, honest, down-to-earth gal, great sense of humor. Like attending KGSR events. Love live music, real partial to local Texas musicians. Enjoy reading, walking. Looking for a playmate. Long Tall Texan, 53, austinchronicle.com, #116729

DAMN YANKEE
Live in Burnet, work in Austin just out of a bad relationship, looking for someone to be friends with. like camping and walks in the country. JJC, 42, austinchronicle.com, #116356

OUTDOORSY TYPE
Curious, enthusiastic outdoorsy type with a penchant for traveling, camping, bookstores, good conversation and yummy food seeks same. I'm 22, female, and new to Austin as of last week. NewAustinite, 22, austinchronicle.com, #116340

PASSIONATE ABOUT LIVING
a human, who attempts to maintain individuality, silliness, honesty and an open mind while partaking in, and learning about, life. Silly, good-hearted...w/a touch of dumb-ass, stubbornness, and carpe diem. eccentricguy, 27, austinchronicle.com, #116336

DANCIN' WITH MYSELF
Dancin' with myself for the past four years, and although it has become a bit monotonous, I'm still not ready for romance. So, let's keep it light and breezy. 98point6, 54, austinchronicle.com, #116271

CITYGIRL GONE SOUTH!
Would like to meet some friends around town for dinner out, an occasional movie, a band or two, or to just hang out. WorkinProgress, 36, austinchronicle.com, #116265

DO YOU LIKE Pina Colodas and getting caught in the rain?
WALKING ON AIR, over water, inside your mind, across your heart.

HEY YOU MUNDIS! I see you looking at the shot in the darks and horoscopes.

SOUL FRIEND LOVE tastes like snowflakes sparkling in the sunshine.

I HAVE BARELY begun to see the beauty around me. look with me now.

MESSAGES

CHUGGING MONKEY 4/29
Got you a vodka and cranberry and held you 4 a few. Would like to know you better. Me: Guy drinking at bar. U: on hen night so hot dancing. **When: Saturday, April 29. Where: Chuggin Monkey. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900582**

SLIPPERS AND MERINGUE
somewhere in a kitchen on the eastside saturday i saw the cutest girl wearing cheetah slippers and whipping up little lemon meringue pies... i am smitten. can we have a date? **When: Saturday, April 29. Where: east side kitchen. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900581**

SOUTH LAMAR CHAT
You asked if I was married and we talked briefly. You work in Austin/Dallas. Tried to call, but number incorrect. Email before noon, Saturday, May 6. **When: Tuesday, April 18. Where: Walgreen's Parking Lot. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900580**

LOOKED LIKE CINDERELLA
You: Beautiful blonde in white dress Me: Tall, long-haired guy in a tux We shared a moment in the aisle and on the dance floor. Spend your life with me? **When: Saturday, May 7, 2005. Where: Federation of women's club mansion. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900579**

GHOSTLAND OBSERVATORY
you gave me your number at ghostland observatory show, told me to put it in my pocket. like an idiot, i lost it. im skinny w/short brown hair. contact me! **When: Friday, April 28. Where: emo's. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900578**

AUSTIN MUSIC HALL
you: tall, blonde. hot security guy during the soapnet auditions. me: tall, blonde, upset that i didn't audition.. i need a drink.. you should join. meant to give my number **When: Friday, April 28. Where: Austin Music Hall. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900577**

WAL-MART/SLAUGHTER LANE
I am the girl who was reading up on the latest tabloid blether and stocking up on cleaning supplies. You were next in line wearing a white t-shirt. **When: Thursday, April 20. Where: wal-mart slaughter lane. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900575**

SYMPATHY BANDAID
gave you sympathy bandaaid when you cut your foot. you thin, short blonde hair. me mexican glasses short hair. you told me you always wanted this, so here you go. **When: Friday, April 28. Where: hospital. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900574**

PRORESULTS TRUE DREAM
YOU: Connie. ME: Kit. Met you while looking for Ray 4/27/06 afternoon! Can we meet for coffee? Please? **When: Thursday, April 27. Where: ProResults. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900573**

JEN, I MEAN SISSY.CALL Bud! I lost your #.J

DANCE WITH ME spin me. dip me. twirl me. more. more. more. i love you.

BRIDGETTE WOULD IT b wrong 2 say i luv u?i think ur beautiful.:

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CHRISSEY! your best friend loves you.:]

PIXIE SISTER GIGGLES wiggles squiggles smirkslees starshiny spangles.

SWEETMEAT! YOU FINE rowing woman, always a winner in my heart.

HONESTLY! YOU ARE too good to me.

WRITE YOUR LIFE. sing it. dance it. paint it. play it. run with it. live brightly.

PIXIE SISTER LOVE. sending kisses, adoration, and giggling delight.

KRUM BUMS, YOU'RE home, let's party!

YOU ARE MY sunshine, my only sunshine...

STUNNINGLY BREATHLESS
Noticed you in HEB, tall, darkbrown hair, killer smile! Me, tall, brownish hair. Our eyes met, but we were at different check-out lines. Let's meet for coffee? **When: Wednesday, April 26. Where: HEB @ Great Hills / Arboretum. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900572**

CLARKE KENT PLUMBER
Sams Club- Hottie working on the soda machine. still waiting. Destiny **When: Tuesday, April 25. Where: Stasney Sams Club. You: Man. Me: Man. #900571**

GERMAN POETRY SOCOBUS
4/26 #1Bus. You: dreadlocks/glasses, reading German poetry, next to bald guy. Me: Not bald guy; but next to him (glasses/beard). Let's have coffee and talk poetry (and everything else) sometime. **When: Wednesday, April 26. Where: #1 Bus South Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900570**

U ROCKED WORLD
U: blonde, named Joe at my best friend's wedding. I invited U to sit with me in rockers in front of hall and U obliged. Would like to meet U. **When: Saturday, April 15. Where: TUSCON HALL. You: Man. Me: Man. #900569**

HOT FOR TEACHER
Saw your Toyota Tacoma in the Crock-et parking lot. Teacher or student? Still want to know who you are. Can I bring you an apple? **When: Monday, April 24. Where: Manchaca Rd.. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #900568**

JENNY @ROACH
i saw you again and new hairstyle.you are so hot it doesn't matter what you do! i saw your friend last night but not you.:you:sexy me:6'2 tattooed **When: Tuesday, April 25. Where: the roach. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900567**

4/25/06, 5PM-ISH, CAMPUS
24th and Guadalupe. You: cute, jewish boy with afro. Me: shy brunette. I was wearing a magenta shirt. We made eye contact, kept glancing over. Check me out again? **When: Tuesday, April 25. Where: 24th and Guadalupe. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900566**

HOT CABBIE
you made me explode on goose island you're gorgeous kisses delicious and magic hands i adore you -a~ **When: Sunday, April 23. Where: in my tent. You: Man. Me: Man. #900564**

HEB PARMER MOPAC
You- White top, cargos. Me- Blue and white shirt. I wanted to talk to you but got all swerwy when you looked at me. Please, may I have another chance?

SHAMROCK PLEASE CONTACT ME
I stick, too. But only for you. Your Deb

NATE, CALL LATE, text often, take naps, more love money, kiss me.

WELCOME BACK, BOBBY! austin loves you, soul friend.

I'LL BE AT all the usual places, doing the usual stuff, only without you. I hate that.

ANOTHER DAY IN paradise; loving you and your memory, gone from my life now

WHERE'S THE SHOW, Deb? You said there was a show.

UNBELEVIABLE - YOUR call reminds me of how much my heart hurts!

I LOVE YOU my sunshine

CHARISSA BIRTHDAY GODDESS, living becomes much juicier and sexier at 29.

BRIDGETTE RU EVER goin 2b single again?so i can ask u out:)

When: Monday, April 24. Where: HEB Parmer MOPAC. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900562

HEB PARMER/MOPAC
You- Black hair, white top, cargo pants, sparkly eyes, gorgeous. Me- Blue and white shirt, dork. I got swerwy when you looked at me. Please, may I have another chance? **When: Monday, April 24. Where: HEB Parmer MOPAC. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900561**

ACU JILL PROGRESS
Jill you rocked my world and beat me up verbally. You ran off before I could get your number.I want to take you out for fried chicken and biscuits. **When: Monday, April 24. Where: progress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900559**

SEARCHING FOR MEREDITH
How did the ladder work out? Can I have my bungee cord back? I wish I would've given you my number. I've regretted it all day. Perhaps you have too. **When: Saturday, April 22. Where: Home Depot. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900558**

DOC'S SOCONGRESS 4/14
You met 2 friends... a guy and red haired woman at picnic table. I was at 4 top with friend in a wheelchair. You left before I could flirt withcha. **When: Friday, April 14. Where: Doc's on So Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900557**

BRACKENRIDGE BABE
You: Beautiful but broken, asleep in a revealing gown. Me: Enough nerve to post this ad, but not to wake you. Let me help you heal... **When: Friday, April 21. Where: Brackenridge. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900556**

TE ESTOY BUSCANDO
You-curlly dark hair, tall. Bumped into eachother April 2 after church at a Portuguese service. You spent time in Spain & Paraguay. Me-tall, dark hair, asked if you spoke Portuguese. **When: Sunday, April 2. Where: Church. You: Woman. Me: Man. #900555**

SUSHI ANYONE?
you: dark hair, white button down shirt. with a guy and a girl. me: sitting alone at the sushi bar. blonde, couldn't help but glance over.. a couple of times **When: Friday, April 21. Where: Musashina. You: Man. Me: Woman. #900554**

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