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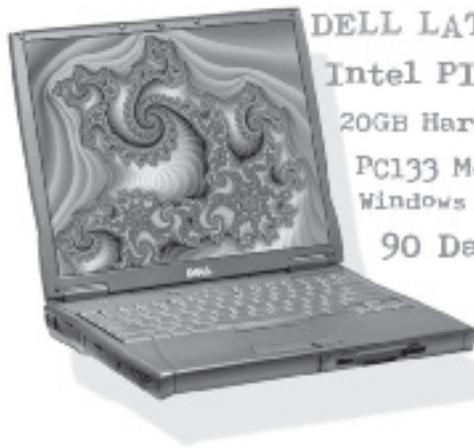
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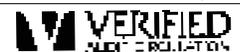
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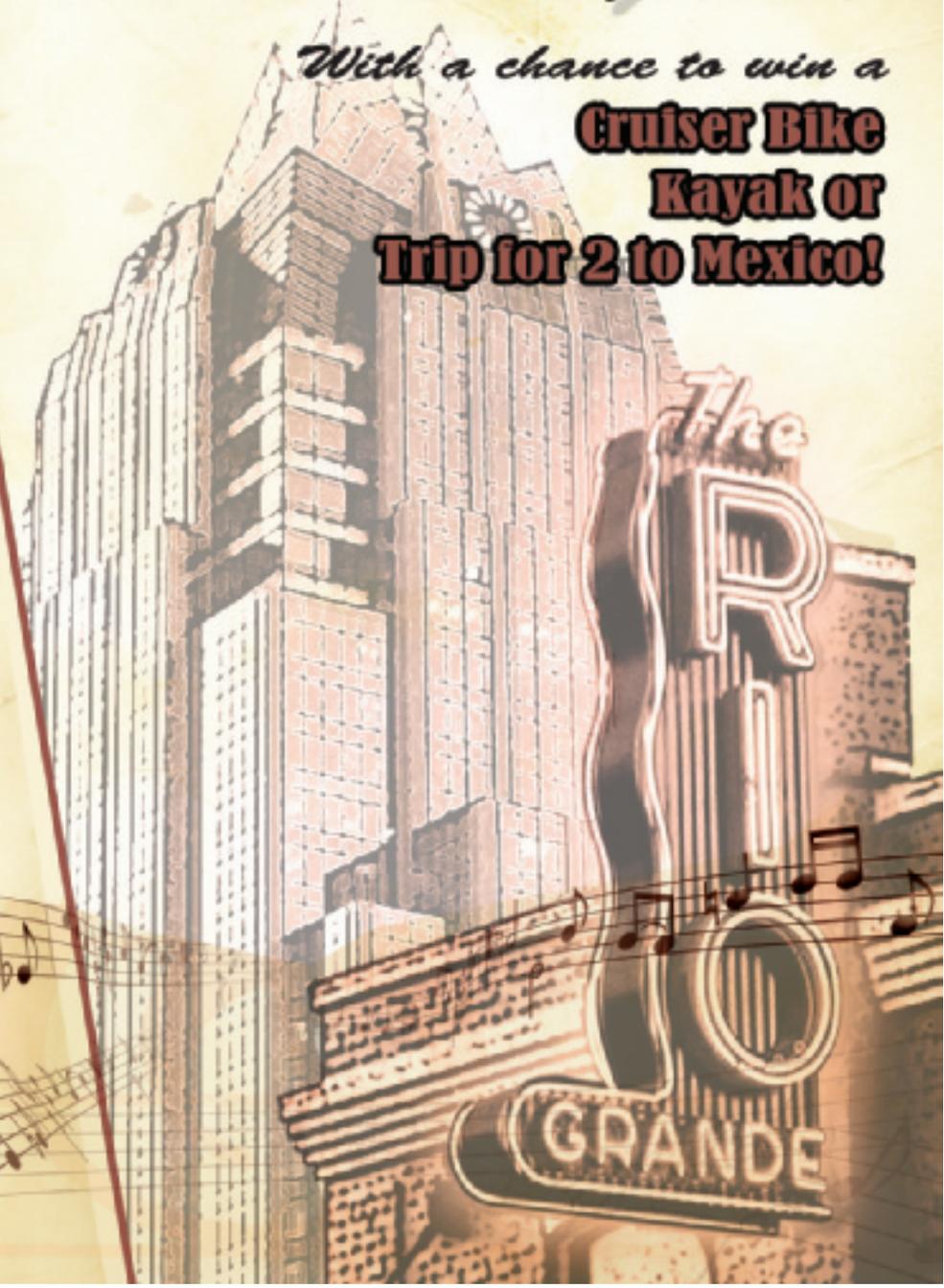
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Lost and Found

'Tis the season when the future is used up yet then renewed
by singing each morning out of each night

BY LOUIS BLACK

"Now Carol once told me
She dreamed she was pretty
And lived in a very cool part of the City
With a man who came home
Every evening at six
And begged her to play him
His favorite licks

On a steel guitar"
— Danny O'Keefe, "Steel Guitar"

The opening shot of Orson Welles' 1958 masterpiece, *Touch of Evil*, starring Charlton Heston and Janet Leigh, is one of the greatest long takes in the history of film. Minutes long, it starts as a man and his female companion get into his car and then drive across the border from Mexico into the United States (the scene was shot in Venice, Calif.). They stop briefly to say hello to the customs officials, then proceed into the States. Shortly after they cross the border, the shot ends as their car explodes into flames.

Immediately, there are the sounds of sirens, followed by fire trucks and city officials showing up. A car pulls into the frame, and the door opens. In a low-angled shot, we see Welles, as police Chief Hank Quinlin, getting out of the car. Welles is no longer the fresh-faced boy wonder of the industry at this point but has entered into his archetypal, enormously fat phase, his physical presence metaphorically in complete harmony with his grotesque outsider status.

Looking as deliberately ugly as possible, Welles plays Quinlin as a person so completely without moorings or hope that you can practically smell the putrid rot of his inner self dripping from every shot. The low angle introducing him emphasizes the contradictions between Quinlin's imposing physical presence and the inner man, hollowed out by physical and spiritual diseases. In the same way that Otis Redding, singing the word "weary" in the song "Try a Little Tenderness," so completely defines the state of "weary," Quinlin's presence in this shot defines "ugly." Not just as an abstract quality of physical unattractiveness, but in the most personal way, this shot captures a certain sense of self that I feel when I've not just hit but crashed through the walls that give my life purpose and by which I make meaning. All of my energy is gone, while my senses are shot. The dark seasons have come upon me; I don't want to be me but lack the imagination to be anything else. The days fade into weeks without any real definition, become times when I never wake up — even when I stop sleeping, even when I'm at work or driving. These are the twisted passages of my life. I can't get out of bed, even when I'm not in it — no matter where I am or what I'm doing, the sheets are torn and dirty, the pillows smell, and my body has abandoned me, growing into something foreign and twisted. I have no muscles, I can't remember belief, and hope isn't even present enough to be a contradiction.

All I want to do is rest, but I don't have even the energy to do that. I just wish I could wake up, that I could taste the day, ignoring the thousands of arrow pricks covering my body, out of which I am emptying. When sleep doesn't offer even the dimmest hint of rest, there is no way to escape except by accepting drudgery.

Later in *Touch of Evil*, there is a scene where Quinlin is talking to a gypsy fortune-teller with whom he was once involved romantically, played by Marlene Dietrich. There is no color but bare black and white. Her life seems to be there only because it is framed by the two-dimensional hollowness of his. The sheriff says to Tanya, "Come on, read my future for me."

"You haven't got any," she answers.

He asks her, "What do you mean?"

"Your future is all used up," is her reply.

In the dry seasons, I feel this way, and perhaps this way only — that the sole way to define myself is by accepting that my future is used up. The worst part of this means considering my past, because that is the only way there can be no future.

"What a Pippin!!"

— Bimbo about Betty Boop in "Bimbo's Initiation"

She was a long-stemmed, American beauty rose, so deeply attractive while still completely at ease with herself that she was way beyond my understanding. I was living in a farmhouse in southern Vermont, and she'd come over a lot to sit on the bed, reading or sketching while I pounded away with one finger at my typewriter, trying to put words together in a way that made sense. Often, when I looked over at her, it was as though I was looking at a painting, not a person, a situation further emphasized by her having a Vermeer forehead.

She was deeply in love with a painter friend of ours, and he was, if anything, even crazier in love with her. He was raised in very rural New Hampshire, and his brilliance was always as much in evidence as any kind of social skills were not. He was by no means the classic, alienated outsider of literature; small-town New Hampshire was actually accommodating of all kinds of eccentricities and behaviors. He was the only person I ever met who had any number of personal J.D. Salinger stories, because one of his childhood friends did handyman work for the author. The stories were not of metaphysical poetry or Glass personalities but of blowing up tree stumps and moving boulders.

In a way, this unchallenging hometown acceptance hadn't forced him to develop outside-of-himself coping skills and navigating tactics. He was working his way toward figuring out how to romance her but really had no idea, often falling back on a kind of elementary-school, hyperkinetic acting out. Despite their obvious electric attraction, their romance proved one of the most excruciatingly awkward that I would ever encounter. During this time of passion without focus, romance without eloquence, she and I hung out a lot together.

At some point, usually rather late in the evening, I would say it was time to call it a night, offering to drive her home. Mostly, she would quickly agree and gather her things. But some nights, while I stood there silent and unmoving, waiting for her to get ready, she would exasperatingly mutter, "Okay," as though I was besieging her both physically and verbally. But I was not. To my ever-renewed amazement, she would then spend the night.

In the morning, she would act as though I had overwhelmed her against her will, leaving

continued on p.8

Oops! Last week's story "What's Next for Bankrupt SOS?" reported in error that in its bankruptcy filing, the advocacy group cited more than \$200,000 in costs stemming from an unsuccessful lawsuit against the Rock Creek development in Dripping Springs. The judgment was actually for two suits, one against Rock Creek and another against the Belterra development, also in Dripping Springs. The *Chronicle* regrets the omission.

In last week's restaurant review of Uncle Boudreaux's, we listed their address as 11007 Hwy. 290 W. The eatery is on Highway 290 East in Manor. We apologize for the error.

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right after dawn, mad at me and, probably, at herself. If I really had pressured her in any way, then these would not be tales worth telling.

“Now her pa’d been a welder
During the war
And he played country music
Every night ’til four
With some drugstore cowboys
Who could pick and grin
And if you let it all out
They’d bring it all back in”
– Danny O’Keefe, “Steel Guitar”

Then there are the days when you awake into life as though the new day has sent a charge through your body, has cast out demons and welcomed in light. A couple of years before I moved to Vermont, I had listened to the Byrds cover Woody Guthrie’s “Pretty Boy Floyd” on *Sweetheart of the Rodeo* and had fallen in love with country music. There were long nights in Vermont that we’d sit around the living room listening to Hank Williams, Dolly Parton, Loretta Lynn, Roger Miller, Bob Wills, Johnny Cash, Merle Haggard, Patsy Cline, and Lefty Frizzell, among many others. Outside, it would be snowing, the flakes cast gentle in the moonlight; inside, listening to this music by a fire burning in the fireplace filled me with hope and nurtured belief. Listening became something more than just hearing music. I was a suburban kid, raised in New Jersey, so this was learning not just a new language but a whole, previously unknown way of life, of love, and of words.

I’ll never taste an orange, drink Dr Pepper, or stuff myself at an all-you-can-eat barbecue for the first time ever again. In the same way, I’ll never hear music again like I once did. There are things behind me that will always be dyed deeply by experience, any hint of innocence long gone.

Most days now are blessed; I love my work and the people with whom I get to do it. I can’t believe how kindly luck has treated me, that wonder touches almost everything I do. I am thankful to God for the unexpected gift that my life is still, if not more than ever, an adventure and a journey into the unknown. I wake excited to begin the day.

But I know that the darkness is there and that it will come again, that, though mostly I am found, I can still be lost.

“my father moved through dooms of love
through sames of am through haves of give
singing each morning out of each night
my father moved through depths of height”
– e.e. cummings

Right now, almost at the end of April, the cruelest month breeding lilacs out of the dead land, I know I need to go underground and get some heavy rest. It is time to accept the ugliness as a way of breathing, a time to stop my life – to close my mouth, shut my heart, and turn off my mind. Still, during the worst of the bad days, I remember both the good times and those when I was stuck in between. It can still get dark; it can always get very dark, when the memory of light is hard to come by. But the knowledge of the memory of light never completely leaves. ■

May 12 Joint and Special Election The ‘Chronicle’ Endorsements

It’s been low-key, but there is actually an election coming up, with early voting starting Monday, April 30. In Travis Co., aside from the constitutional amendment and AISD board, there are City Council, school board, and/or bond elections in Briarcliff, Cedar Park, Del Valle, Lago Vista, Lake Travis, Lakeway, Leander, Manor, Pflugerville, Rollingwood, Round Rock, Sunset Valley, Village of the Hills, Volente, West Lake Hills, the Travis Co. Bee Caves Road District, and Bastrop/Travis Co. Emergency Service District 1. See austinchronicle.com for a full list of candidates and ballot items.

Proposition 1: Yes

The constitutional amendment authorizing the Legislature to provide for a reduction of the limitation on the total amount of ad valorem taxes that may be imposed for public-school purposes on the residence homesteads of the elderly or disabled to reflect any reduction in the rate of those taxes for the 2006 and 2007 tax years.

We routinely advise rejecting state constitutional amendments (with predictably little success), as we believe the Texas Constitution has become a gargoyle of legislative dodges and regulatory adjustments. Far too often legislators would rather pass the buck to the voters (in loaded and obscure language) than make a decision (presumably their constitutional duty). In this instance, the likelihood of Texas voters rejecting a proposition so sympathetic on its face – who’s going to oppose an equity tax cut for the elderly and disabled? – is virtually nil, and we won’t argue with them ... much.

However, this proposition might also be called “the \$10 Million Screwup,” as that’s the estimated cost to counties saddled with make-up legislation from the last Lege session, a proposition that should have landed on the November ballot rather than May. (Travis Co. estimate: \$600,000.) Add in the estimated \$774 million

(over five years) in lost local tax revenue for schools (supposedly to be made up by the state), and you’re starting to talk real money. But if we’re all intended to get a tax break from the Lege’s dubious and shortsighted “generosity” to everyone but schoolchildren, who are we to say the old and the halt shouldn’t get a taste? Although their taxes are already capped, and the more property you own, the bigger your cut will be, we advise voters to count your change, consider your aging ancestors, and vote yes.

Austin Independent School District Board of Trustees, District 2: Sam Guzman

This is an unusual election, to complete the remaining year in resigning trustee Rudy Montoya Jr.’s four-year term, for the heavily Hispanic District 2. The early favorites were accountant and district volunteer Gerald Guerra, who was nearly appointed by the board for the expiring term (a step short-circuited by public opposition), and businessman Sam Guzman, recruited to run by local Hispanic leaders (e.g., Gonzalo Barrientos and Gus Garcia) who now appear prominently among his list of endorsers. Also running are Fred L. McGhee, an applied archeologist and commu-

nity housing consultant with a broad range of experience (including substitute teaching in AISD), and Gary Johnson, secretary of the Travis Co. Libertarian Party.

We believe Guerra is earnestly committed to improving the schools. But by his own acknowledgment, his family responsibilities have often had to take priority over his district involvement, and the trusteeship would mean an enormous additional commitment. So we’re glad the board decided to hold the election, because Guzman and McGhee have emerged as two intriguing candidates who have much to offer the district. Guzman has extensive experience, both in local business groups and as a community volunteer and administrator of various nonprofits, and has demonstrated his knowledge of District 2 and current challenges facing AISD. The younger McGhee has had an interesting career as a consultant on community projects in Austin, Houston, and Hawaii, and a fresh perspective on the district as someone who has worked as a substitute teacher in addition to a whole range of other work. (Indeed, it’s not immediately clear how he hopes to add the heavy burden of AISD trusteeship to his myriad pursuits, here and elsewhere.) Both appear fully qualified, and while Guzman has the longer local experience and demonstrated public involvement, McGhee offers both a unique perspective and fresh energy to a board that sometimes seems overwhelmed by its responsibilities.

It will be a tough choice for the few voters likely to turn out for an off-year election, but we urge Austinites to take the time to familiarize themselves with the candidates and get out and vote. On balance, we believe Guzman has earned the voters’ support, through his solid credentials and his record of long service to the community (recognized in his extensive list of prominent supporters). But we also urge McGhee to stay involved in the school district and its policy choices and perhaps run again.

Travis Co. Early Voting (April 30-May 8)

Travis Co. voters may vote at any early-voting location. On election day, voters must vote in their precinct. For a list of precinct locations, call 238-VOTE or go to www.co.travis.tx.us/county_clerk/election.

Polls are open Monday-Saturday, 7am-7pm, and Sunday, noon-6pm, for all locations, except malls, Howson Public Library, and mobile voting sites.

CENTRAL

Travis County Offices, 5501 Airport
Flesta Mart, 3909 N. I-35
Flawn Academic Center (UGL) Lobby,
West Mall, UT campus
Travis County Courthouse, 1000
Guadalupe
Howson Public Library, 2500 Exposition
(Mon.-Fri., 10am-8pm; Sat., 10am-5pm)

EAST

HEB, 2701 E. Seventh*
Northeast Health Center, 7112 Ed
Bluestein (Springdale Shopping Center)

NORTH

Northcross Mall, 2525 W. Anderson
(Mon.-Sat., 9am-8pm; Sun., noon-6pm)
Highland Mall, 6001 Airport (lower level
near Fun Zone; Mon.-Sat., 9am-8pm;
Sun., noon-6pm)

NORTHEAST

HEB, 9414 N. Lamar*
County Tax Office, 15822 Foothill Farms
Loop (just off Pecan Street),
Pflugerville

NORTHWEST

Randalls, 10900-D Research
HEB, 7301 FM 620 N.*

SOUTH

Randalls, 2025 W. Ben White
HEB, 2400 S. Congress*

SOUTHEAST

Albertsons, 1819 S. Pleasant Valley*
HEB, 6607 S. I-35*

SOUTHWEST

Randalls, 6600 S. MoPac
Randalls, 9911 Brodie

WEST

Randalls, 2303 RR 620 S.
Randalls, 3300 Bee Caves Rd.

* Temporary building in parking lot

MOBILE VOTING

MONDAY, APRIL 30

Rollingwood City Hall, 403 Nixon Dr., 8am-4pm
Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird St.,
8am-4pm
Bee Cave City Hall, 13333-A Hwy. 71 W.,
8am-noon, 1-5pm
Manor Middle School, 12900 Gregg Manor
Rd., 11am-7pm
Baty Elementary, 2101 Faro, Del Valle,
11am-7pm

TUESDAY, MAY 1

Rollingwood City Hall, 403 Nixon Dr.,
8am-4pm
Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird St.,
8am-4pm
Bee Cave City Hall, 13333-A Hwy. 71 W.,
8am-noon, 1-5pm
Conley-Guerrero Senior Center, 808 Nile,
9am-noon

Creedmoor Elementary, 5604 FM 1327,
11am-7pm

Heatherwilde Assisted Living, 401 S.
Heatherwilde Blvd., Pflugerville, 2-5pm

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

Rollingwood City Hall, 403 Nixon Dr.,
8am-4pm
Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird St.,
8am-4pm
Bee Cave City Hall, 13333-A Hwy. 71 W.,
8am-noon, 1-5pm
Bluebonnet Elementary, 11316 Farmhaven,
11am-7pm
Del Valle Elementary, 5400 Ross Rd.,
11am-7pm

THURSDAY, MAY 3

Rollingwood City Hall, 403 Nixon Dr.,
8am-4pm
Bee Cave City Hall, 13333-A Hwy. 71 W.,
8am-noon, 1-5pm
Manor Elementary, 12904 Gregg Manor
Rd., 11am-7pm
Loyalton of Austin, 5310 Duval Rd.,
9am-noon
Popham Elementary, 7014 Elroy Rd.,
11am-7pm
Westminster Manor, 4100 Jackson Ave.,
2-5pm

FRIDAY, MAY 4

Rollingwood City Hall, 403 Nixon Dr.,
8am-4pm
Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird St.,
8am-4pm
Bee Cave City Hall, 13333-A Hwy. 71 W.,
8am-noon, 1-5pm
Govalle Care Center, 3101 Govalle Ave.,
9am-noon
Brighton Gardens, 4401 Spicewood Springs,
2-5pm
Hornsby-Dunlap Elementary, 13901 FM
969, 11am-7pm

SATURDAY, MAY 5

Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird St.,
8am-4pm
Del Valle ISD Admin. Bldg., 5301 Ross,
8am-4pm
Crystal Falls Golf Course, 3400 Crystal
Falls, 9am-5pm
Volente Fire Department & City Hall,
15406 FM 2769, 9am-5pm
**Briarcliff Property Owners Community
Building**, 22801 Briarcliff, 8am-4pm

SUNDAY, MAY 6

Crystal Falls Golf Course, 3400 Crystal
Falls, noon-6pm
**Briarcliff Property Owners Community
Building**, 22801 Briarcliff Dr., noon-6pm
Northwest Rural Community Center, 18649
FM 1431 Ste. 6-A, Jonestown, noon-6pm
Englewood Estates, 2603 Jones Rd., 4-6pm
Lakeside Senior Center, 85 Trinity, noon-2pm
Parsons House, 1130 Camino La Costa,
noon-4pm

MONDAY, MAY 7

**Briarcliff Property Owners Community
Building**, 22801 Briarcliff Dr., 8am-4pm
Blake Manor Elementary, 18010 Blake
Manor Rd., 11am-7pm
LBJ Building, 111 E. 17th, 8am-6pm
Heritage Park Center, 2806 Real, 9am-noon
Hillcrest Elementary, 6910 E. William
Cannon, 11am-7pm
Heartland Health Care Center, 11406
Rustic Rock Dr., 2-5pm

TUESDAY, MAY 8

Travis Building, 1701 Congress, 8am-6pm
RBJ Residential Tower, 21 Waller, 8-11am
Summit at Lakeway, 1915 Lohmans
Crossing, noon-5pm
Decker Elementary, 8500 Decker, 11am-7pm
Smith Elementary, 4209 Smith School Rd.,
11am-7pm
Grace House, 11825 Bee Caves Rd., 2-5pm

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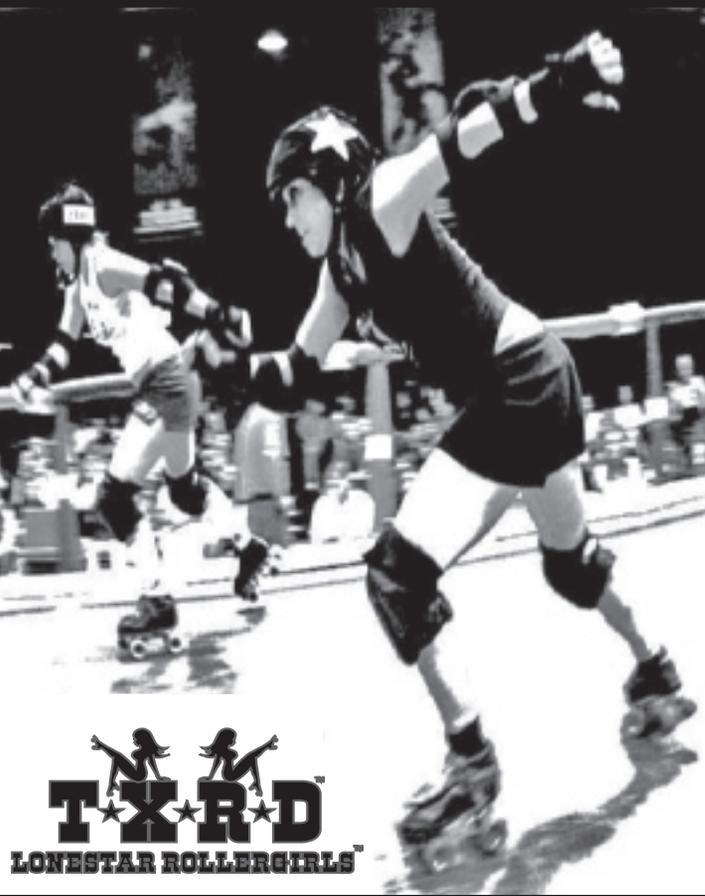
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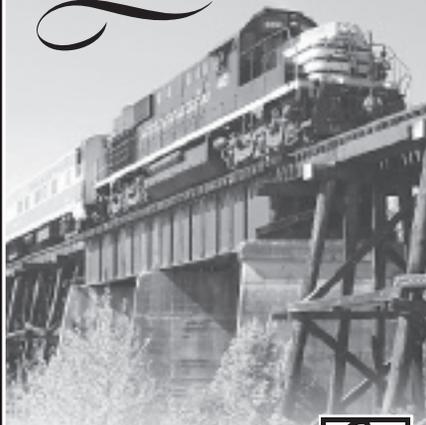
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Good Job Covering Situation

Mr. Michael King,
I am the president of the Austin Hotel and Lodging Association, and I wanted to express my thanks for your recent article on the Austin Convention Center and Bob Hodge ["Point Austin," News, April 13]. I do think your article was the most honest representation of the situation that I have seen in any news article to date, and I appreciate your insight regarding the situation.

Bob Hodge has always supported the tourism industry and the positive image of the city of Austin. The AHLA regrets the departure of one so committed to Austin and the tourism industry.

The current situation is obviously regrettable, but I do have confidence in the ACC staff, Rudy Garza, and our city government to place the correct internal controls over the system to make it work better.

Sincerely,
Jim Reist

Rollo Is Still Here ...

Dear Editor,
Rollo Banks: I only knew Rollo for about three hours, but I never forgot him ["Page Two," April 20]. He gave me my first tattoo. He had long since left Austin, but he was in town for South by Southwest and ran an ad that he was available for custom work at his discretion. I had three friends who had already contacted him and had been turned down. I called and rambled on about what I wanted on my arm and was ready for the gruff "nope, not interested," but after a pause, I was thrilled to hear, "Cool, come on over." I had never met Rollo, so I was a bit intimidated by the big, beefy bear who answered the door – but within minutes I realized he was very special. The stories he told, his sense of humor, and his way of looking at the world were unforgettable. After he was done, he handed me his card, slapped me on the knee, and said, "See ya around. That was fun." Not sure why Rollo figured it was time to check out. I am sure he had his reasons, but he is still here – right here on my arm.

Monty Newton

Rights of Man (or a Company Formed by Man)

Dear Editor,
I note with interest the following statement from Michael King in his recent article regarding the attempt of Wal-Mart opponents to rewrite the City Charter ["Point Austin," News, April 20]: "What we've got here is an old Texas conundrum: property rights (i.e., capital) trump civic rights, and big property rights trump all. I continue to wish RG4N godspeed in their challenge of that institutionally anti-democratic presumption, certainly much larger than the Austin city limits."

Hmmm ... well, the *Chronicle* is famously liberal, and I suspect many (most of your writers) would feel right at home with the majority of the tenets of socialism, so I'm a bit surprised King seems to be unclear on the difference between it and democracy.

Private property rights lie at the very heart of freedom – for if a man (or a company formed by man) is not free to dispose of his own property as he chooses (within the limits that he and his fellow men have defined in the laws they adopt for their society), he is not free in any real sense of the term.

The elevation of the "civic" over the individual is, in fact, the very heart of socialism, and at its extreme, communism. And there is nothing democratic about giving a disembodied "collective" primacy over individuals and the business organizations they form.

One need not be a fan of Wal-Mart, or unsympathetic to the plight of the Northcross neighborhood, to realize that, fundamentally, Wal-Mart (or the Marriott or Lincoln, if you prefer) has only the obligation to comply with the laws in place at the locale where it wishes to develop – and clearly, Wal-Mart has complied.

You might not like the result, but there is nothing undemocratic about exercising private property rights under the rule of law.

Mark Coffey
[Michael King responds: I'm sure the Northcross neighbors inordinately imposed upon by the corporate property owners in their midst (well, not exactly, since they hail from Dallas and Arkansas, respectively) would be amused to learn from Mark Coffey, for whom ideology apparently trumps reality, they've stumbled one step short of communism. The sleight of hand he performs between "a man (or a company formed by man)" – as though



there is no real difference – allows him also to blind himself to the difference between effective, substantive democracy and de facto corporate tyranny, unlike mythological "communism," a real and present danger to representative democracy. Moreover, it isn't even clear in the present case, as he insists, that Wal-Mart has in fact complied with the relevant laws or dealt honestly with the neighborhood and the city. Appeals to property rights in the abstract absolute are no more than special pleading for those who own the most property.]

Critics Shouldn't Criticize

Dear Editor,
Well well well ... another issue of the *Chronicle*, another mean-spirited review from the Cabinet of Dr. Jim Caligiuri [David Newbould, *Big Red Sun*, "Texas Platters," Music, April 20]. Imagine that! I thought the *Chronicle* was here to support and nurture the local music scene. If so, what is the purpose of Jim Caligiuri? He is obviously a frustrated musician who wants to get even for his own shortcomings by taking shots at people with more talent than he could ever hope for. What's the matter Jim Caligiuri, couldn't get the Drive-by Truckers to sign your Hondo III Les Paul copy? You know, the one you hold in front of the mirror while you lip-synch to your old Kiss records? You must be pretty fond of yourself.

Jacob Wright
Georgetown

Fantasy's Objection to Review

Dear Editor,
This is a letter to Darcie "Clueless" Stevens regarding our [the Small Stars] masterpiece *Tijuana Dreams* ["Texas Platters," Music, April 20]. How can you call *Tijuana Dreams* a "family-friendly album"? Here are some sample lyrics: "The bald policeman fingers/my Zig-Zag rolling papers/he says he wants to search the car" and "I had to buy someone else's piss to get the day job" and "They'll start their wars in the name of God/and drag you out to face the firing squad." I don't care if you like the record, but get your facts straight.

Guy Fantasy

p.s. We don't wear matching outfits.

Paper as Bad as Plastic

Dear Editor,
In response to the City Council considering banning plastic bags in Austin, I would hasten to add that paper bags are certainly not the answer, either ["Beside the Point," News, April 20]. They consume more natural resources to create, use 93% more energy to recycle, and also contain petroleum (in fact, more than plastic bags, because they're twice as big). Where everyone got the misguided notion that they're somehow better and more sustainable, I have no idea. If the City Council truly wanted to make an impact, they would continue to let consumers choose which bag they wanted but just add a tax to them: If you charged 20 cents for every paper bag and 10 cents for every plastic bag, I guarantee people would start using the much more efficient, sustainable, and convenient canvas bags. But alas, just like everything else in this town regarding the environment (the mythical regional rail, the joke that passes for "urban density," and the preservation of reservoirs), it's all a lot of smoke and lip service and no real action.

Ryan Cox
[Wells Dunbar replies: A note of clarification: The city is not proposing an outright ban on plastic bags but is creating a 90-day study period in which to contemplate ways to lessen their use – possibly including the tax Mr. Cox mentions – followed by a public comment period at City Council. As strongly as he feels, we hope he speaks up then, too.]

Time to Lighten Up

Dear Editor,
This is a response to the letter to the editor penned by Ron Deutsch in the April 13 issue ["Postmarks"]. Mr. Deutsch obviously doesn't understand what the intent of *Grindhouse* was.

I am the editor/publisher of one of the most popular film and video trade magazine's in the world, *ICOM Magazine*. Film is my business. I generally have two words that come up frequently when I am discussing Quentin Tarantino, "insane" and "genius."

continued on p.12

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Tarantino is an amazing filmmaker, and I love his work. I believe that Tarantino's objective with *Grindhouse* was to put together two sub-B films with just enough insanity mixed in to have "Tarantino" written all over it. And I'm not ignoring Robert Rodriguez, maker of the incredible film *Sin City*.

I feel that Tarantino was probably solely behind the concept of *Grindhouse*. It's just so Tarantinoish. These films are supposed to resemble the cheap, quickly shot B thrillers of the Seventies. And I think they accomplished that in flying colors.

And there is a lot more to that film noise that Deutsch referred to as "film damage." It is a very complex process. Rodriguez shoots in pure digital. No film at play. The mathematics required to create those film-noise effects in the digital domain would bust a good calculator -- and it looked exactly like real film noise.

The coming attractions between the two films perfectly matched that Seventies feel, and they were absolutely hilarious. When I saw the films, the crowd loved those fake coming attractions. They laughed repeatedly and loudly.

So, Mr. Deutsch, lighten up. We only live once, and we need to enjoy each day. My advice, "Don't sweat the small stuff."

Jerry Jackson
Manor

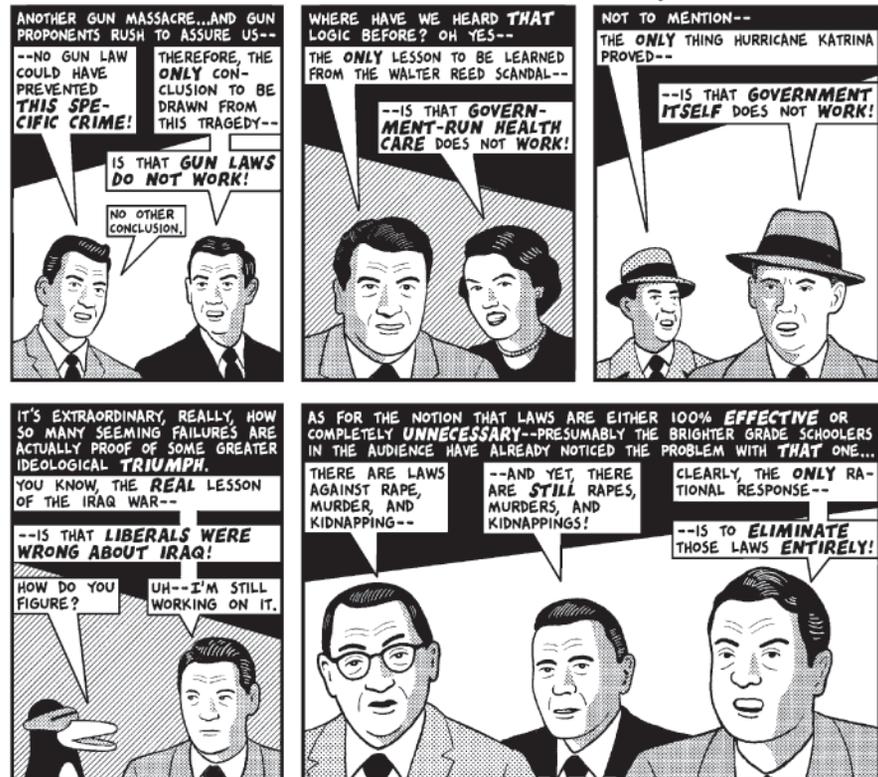
Road Bonds a Bad Deal

Dear Editor,

On May 12, Hays County residents will have an opportunity to defeat a very bad road-bond package designed to make lots of money for the road engineers, the megadevelopers, and the lawyers who represent them at the expense of the people and land of Hays County.

THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW



The Texas Department of Transportation -- along with its minions on the Hays County Commissioners Court, Will Conley of San Marcos, and Jeff Barton of Buda -- is trying to force some highly questionable and very expensive road projects down the throats of the citizens. They want to expand several state highways to near-

interstate proportions, and they want people to pay for these state highways with property taxes. We borrow the money, we build the roads, but we have no say in their locations, designs, or funding options. This is a bad deal for the people but apparently a great deal for the road interests who contribute heavily to Barton and Conley to

do their bidding. These road interests are the same ones who brought us Round Rock's overblown roads and development. Is this really the vision people have for Hays County?

Hays County is still largely rural and has great open spaces and clean water and quiet nights for all of us to enjoy; let's not pave it over and lose it forever. We need road improvements, yes, but not supersized "highways to nowhere."

The smart vote is "no" on the road bonds. Not everywhere has to look like Round Rock, does it?

Susan Cook
Driewood

Rollo Lives!

Dear Editor,

I was new to Austin in the 1980s. Just turned 30, turning over a new leaf, and I had some crude, old "bad boy" tattoos on my arms that needed covering up. Rollo Banks ["Page Two," April 20] was working here. He turned those ugly skulls and snakes into beautiful tribal designs. I came back to him for some dragons and other nicely done "oriental work." I remember our conversations about oriental art and of the great Hori Yoshi, the Japanese master tattooist. Who will forget the covers of the *Chronicle* on every Chinese New Year done by him ["R.I.P. Rollo Banks," April 20]? I have Rollo's art on me now and forever, and I'm proud of it. Long live Rollo!

Sincerely,
Gregory J. Gauntner

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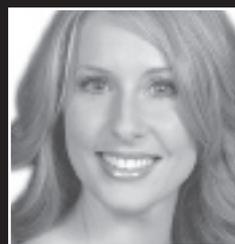


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ALL EARRS

Stage Two of the Hodge Affair less than meets the eye

BY MICHAEL KING

Although a few more sparks flared last week, the Convention Center's Hodge Affair thus far remains a whole lot of smoke with not yet much fire.

Responding to media requests, the city made available several years of accounting records for the Convention Center Department's equipment, acquisition, replacement, and repair, aka EARR, fund. Department director Robert Hodge, fired April 1 by City Manager Toby Futrell, managed the EARR account, generated from a percentage of the income of Convention Center caterers Aramark Inc. After employee allegations that Hodge was mishandling the fund, and after city auditors said they couldn't justify his accounting, the district attorney was called in to review the matter. According to a search affidavit filed by investigators, Assistant City Auditor Susan Wynne told them that "out of the \$1.07 million EARR fund expenditures for fiscal years 2004-2006, over \$600,000 of the expenditures appeared to be for non-catering-related and non-Aramark expenses, contrary to the contract" between the city and Aramark. That is, according to the auditor, Hodge appears to have used the EARR funds for apparently legitimate *departmental* expenses not strictly allowed for those funds under the Aramark contract.

I'm not an auditor, by a long shot, but I reviewed the available EARR documents (several hundred pages of invoice and payment records dating back to 2001) and was frankly underwhelmed by their potential to serve as criminally smoking guns. Much has been made of the fact that, for example, Hodge authorized the spending of EARR funds to host receptions and parties for major clients of the Convention Center, with special heavy breathing devoted to parties for the May 2006 World Conference on Information Technology (\$140,000), the South by Southwest Festival (\$12,500), the Austin Toros (\$12,500), and a few other soires. (*Disclosure: The SXSW Festival is owned in part by the same folks who own this newspaper. For the record, I wasn't invited.*) The suddenly notorious Any Baby Can charity buffet (December 2005) served 900 guests for the whopping sum of \$12,960, or about \$14.50 apiece. Should we call Homeland Security?

Umm, just what business do the reporters think the Convention Center is in? The five-day WCIT hosted 2,000 delegates (I don't have the figures on what they paid the city or spent in Austin individually and collectively, but I'm sure somebody does), and among the itemized costs to the EARR fund is \$6,700 Aramark laid out over several days for something called the "press room." In the interest of bookkeeping purity, do the reporters want to refund the coffee and crudité?

continued on p.16



JOHN ANDERSON

Members of the Texas State Employees Union converged on the Capitol April 18 to lobby legislators on how to improve state services – a key issue in the wake of the Accenture debacle, wherein the Legislature privatized the call centers for claiming state benefits, with disastrous results. "Our members, for the most part, are on the front line of service delivery," said Mike Gross, TSEU vice president, in a press release. "They know a lot about what works and what doesn't. Lawmakers and other officials can learn a lot about how to improve services by listening to them."



JOHN ANDERSON

HEADLINES

- ▶ **Early voting** begins Monday, April 30, for the May 12 special election. On the ballot in Travis County: a constitutional amendment proposition, an AISD District 2 seat, and various local officials and bond initiatives. For details, and the *Chronicle* endorsements, see p.8.
- ▶ Ten days of planned **demonstrations against the war** by members of Campus Antiwar Movement to End the Occupations began Wednesday, culminating in the arrest of two protesters at the U.S. Army Recruiting Office at Dobie Mall. See p.26 for more on this story.
- ▶ Following their annual performance review, the Austin Independent School District's board of trustees voted 7-1 to extend **Superintendent Pat Forgiione's** contract another year, through June 2011.
- ▶ A contentious and largely partisan state House debate ended Monday with passage of House Bill 218, the "**Voter ID**" bill that would require photo IDs or alternative identification of all voters on election day. Democrats hope to stop the bill in the Senate but anticipate parliamentary moves to enable passage of this national Republican priority. See p.19 for more on this story.

NAKED CITY

- ▶ On April 24, police charged 23-year-old **Jarel Arteace Lamar** with **attempted capital murder** in connection with a 16-hour incident that began Sunday evening with a call to police about a "disturbance with a gun" at 6220 Hyside in Northeast Austin. Two men were exiting the house when Cpl. Michael Barger arrived on the scene. He "issued commands" at the two men to stop – one complied, but Lamar pulled a gun and fired at Barger (and missed) several times. Barger returned fire, striking Lamar in the leg before Lamar fled, locking himself in a duplex on Edgedale Drive. The Austin Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics unit was called to the scene (and, eventually, the Travis County Sheriff's Office SWAT team was called to assist), and negotiators spent the next 15 hours talking with Lamar. Around 10am Monday, Lamar let an unidentified female leave the duplex. Negotiators continued talking with Lamar, until he set the house on fire. With the Austin

Fire Department at the ready, police used tear gas to force Lamar from the house, shot him with a Taser, and took him into custody at 11:27am. He was treated for minor injuries at Brackenridge Hospital before being booked into jail. Attempted capital murder is a first-degree felony, punishable by up to life in prison. Fourteen-year APD veteran Barger has been placed on restricted duty, pending the outcome of an investigation into the incident, standard procedure in any officer-involved shooting. — Jordan Smith

- ▶ The **Webb Middle School** task force presented its plan to improve the struggling school at a community forum this week. The improvement plan provides dozens of recommendations, everything from using new technology in the classrooms to offering incentives to retain qualified teachers. Science teacher Gerald Howard, who teaches in the English Language Learners Academy, said the plan would call for Webb to work closer with its feeder elementary schools. "Many of our kids took the [Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills] test in Spanish in elementary school," he says. "So they're not ready when they must take the test in English here at Webb. We need to greatly expand the programs for English learners here and see if we can find ways to work with the elementary school teachers as well." Parents and community members are now reviewing the plan before it is presented to the AISD board in mid-May. — Michael May

- ▶ Participants in a public hearing slated for 11am Saturday, April 28, in E2.028 of the state Capitol, are expected to rally support for **House Concurrent Resolution 64**, which calls for alternatives to jailing immigrant children. The resolution specifically censures **T. Don Hutto Residential Center** in Taylor, a joint venture of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Williamson County, and Corrections Corporation of America. The resolution "has lain dormant ... since February," according to Jane Chamberlain, a member of the activist group Free the Children. The issue of detaining children is hardly obscure by now, for after detainees filed federal lawsuits (some still pending), an international outrage ensued. The facility now languishes in a veritable hall of infamy – as public scrutiny has expanded its focus to the role corporate interest has

continued on p.17

QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"Racism is racism; xenophobia is xenophobia. It's too bad that we're going to see it enacted on the House floor again."

– Rep. **Lon Burnam**, D-Fort Worth, on the passage of a bill requiring a photo ID to vote. Republicans say it will prevent voting fraud; Democrats say it will disenfranchise many minorities, seniors, and the poor.

Leave 'Em Happy

One problem is the name of the fund, which implies hard goods (e.g., refrigerators) only, leading reporters to shorthand it misleadingly as the "equipment fund." In fact, the contract explicitly anticipates that the fund is for either catering-equipment repair and purchase "or the promotion of concessions and catering products and services" (emphasis added). The fund is as much for the benefit of Aramark as for the center, and when money was spent on wining and dining conventioners, generally at the inception of a convention, both caterers and Hodge obviously believed it was money well

Bob Hodge was fired for reportedly fudging conventioner surveys, but there's little evidence thus far to suggest broader financial misconduct.

spent for official institutional benefit. There are numerous omnibus invoices from Aramark to Hodge or his subordinates collating months of expenses for miscellaneous entertainment items, very few of which are "equipment." If the caterer thought Hodge was misusing the EARR fund against its interests, it was certainly free to complain. Instead, it filed without comment for reimbursement from the EARR fund.

I asked Assistant City Manager Rudy Garza if, based on his initial review, he had found any of the major expenses accounted in these documents or reported in the media as inappropriate for the EARR fund. He emphasized that he has not completed a full review and that the city is effectively staying out of the way of the DA's investigation. But thus far, he said, only the June 2006 retirement party for his predecessor Joe Canales struck him as possibly crossing a line. "I think [the party] was an appropriate event," Garza said, "but it's possible it should have been paid for out of the department's operating budget and not the EARR fund." Canales was stepping down after 27 years with the city, and the \$11,097 spent on his farewell reception entertained perhaps 1,000 guests, most of them city employees, at about 12 bucks a head. A bigger scandal would have been if they hadn't thrown Canales a party.

Garza also emphasized the competitive nature of the convention business, for which constant promotion of all kinds is a central element, and making conventioners happy enough to return is the name of the game. Judging from the Convention Center's receipts in recent years, Hodge was good at it.

Still Looking

Hodge was not fired for the unconfirmed EARR fund misappropriations but for reportedly fudging the conventioner surveys upon which departmental bonuses were partly based. If he did that, it was a firing offense on its face, and it may turn out to be criminal alteration of official documents – although basing the annual bonuses on the department's one-page "satisfaction" survey of departing conventioners (I'm sure you've seen such a survey) is frankly a bureaucrat's notion of pseudo-science. In the private companies I've worked for, if the company has a good year, the customers are presumed to have voted with their dollars, and at bonus time, all employees are presumed to have contributed to that success. Bad year, no bonus. (If the *Chronicle* instead based bonuses on averaging the praise and blame in our "Postmarks" letters, we'd all be broke.)

The auditors certainly had many more documents and much more knowledge than I do, and it may well be that the backup documents for these invoices set off accounting alarms much too high for me to hear. I'm no lawyer, either, but reviewing these expenditures, I'm betting that "the promotion of concessions and catering products and services" can be readily interpreted to cover a multitude of supposed sins, and perhaps rightly so. And nothing I see in these documents – as yet – suggests that Hodge's EARR fund management had anything to do with personal enrichment.

We've yet to get much detail on the more serious allegations: of alleged self-dealing by Hodge, the favored use of personally friendly contractors, and unauthorized use of "sole-source" contracts. If the DA finds hard evidence of that kind of deeper and wider corruption, there will be much more to say about the Hodge Affair.

In the meantime, I'm all ears. ■

Correction: In "Point Austin" last week, because of a confusion in my notes, I mistakenly attributed to Mark Yznaga the recommendation that the city auditor be an elected position. That recommendation came from another source, and I apologize for the error.

BESIDE THE POINT Chin-Up Push-Up

BY WELLS DUNBAR

Watching last week's City Council meeting wind down on Channel 6 was a surreal experience. With the exception of the feather-boasted ladies of the Red Hat Society, who were there to receive a proclamation (and joyously bewilder the rest of us), City Hall's chambers were nearly emptied by 6pm, with the meeting adjourning soon after – virtually the council equivalent of a half-day. But judging from the pileup in chambers earlier that morning, you can't blame everyone for escaping the wreckage. The council schism solidified in the **taxi franchise debate**, which returned for still-tentative passage on second reading, while dueling Eastside opinions debated the controversial men's shelter controlled by the **Push-Up Foundation**.

Push-Up's problems are numerous: Their buildings have been cited with dozens of code violations – electrical, infrastructure problems, and more – while the fundraising car washes they sponsor haven't sat well with some neighbors. With this history of problems, staff presented to council a four-month funding extension for the foundation – albeit to be renewed on a month-to-month basis.

Finding themselves on opposite ends of the argument were two Eastside political institutions: Push-Up received a scathing attack from **Lori Renteria**, saying that the car wash and code violations had been a blight and that the organization skirted scrutiny by changing its business status, most recently to some sort of faith-based agency – where, according to Renteria, you can't go without getting a Bible waved in your face. On the other side was El Concilio veteran **Gavino Fernandez**, who's recently adopted a jaunty fedora for his appearances before council and who said the shelter does a yeoman's job. While this writer is somewhat of a neophyte to the impenetrable politics and long-aged beefs of the Southeast neighborhood's political scene, methinks it no mere chance that Renteria and Fernandez were pulling opposite ends of the Push-Up. Foundation director **Ben Ogbodiegwu** seemed almost oblivious to the political fireworks, content with making his own case to the council.

It seemingly worked, for despite the decidedly mixed reviews – the repeated violations,

Renteria's case, and the foundation's history of receiving cash advances, not a terribly popular occurrence for a nonprofit, said Health and Human Services director David Lurie – council proceeded with the tentative contract, thinking it sends a strong enough message that the group needs to resolve its problems or lose funding. Just as long as they stay out of the bikini-car-wash business.

Dispatcher Dunkerley

The potholed road to a new taxi franchise was traveled once more, with the lines between **Mike Martinez** and **Betty Dunkerley** drawn even more sharply. Martinez led the insurgency on first reading, awarding the franchise to cab co-op **Lone Star**, while Dunkerley, a former city staffer accustomed to looking under the taxi businesses' hoods, wanted to stick with staff-recommended **Capital City Cab**. On second reading, Dunkerley made an amended motion for continuing with Lone Star but adding language to "clearly state" 51% of the company be owned by the co-op's owner-operators – seemingly to make certain a few big funders don't swoop in and buy up most of the company's shares, or at least to confirm that the business delivers on its promises to the council.

Martinez bristled somewhat at the new requirements, which would also codify the computerized dispatch system promised by Lone Star – indeed, if the other company were awarded the franchise, would it have to hop through the same hoops? "I'm not sure we can change criteria for awarding the franchise in middle of the game. ... I'm curious as to how we're able to issue additional criteria at that point," he said. Nonetheless, the franchise award again passed 4-3, with Dunkerley – the very motion's sponsor – voting no with Sheryl Cole and Brewster McCracken. No doubt the rumor meter keeps running until third reading, scheduled May 17, when Cap City CEO Zak Foto returns from family matters.

Council won't return until next week, May 3, when Lee Leffingwell's **citywide water-conservation initiative** will be presented. Start the waterworks!

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played in imprisoning children. Chamberlain says the hearing will cover "the abuses of the system of immigrant detention and the improper aggrandizement of private corporations." Filed by Reps. Eddie Rodriguez and Rafael Anchia, the resolution quotes government statistics that tally the policy's cost at \$1.2 billion annually. In addition, research cited in the resolution claims detaining families does not deter illegal immigration. "Every possible alternative to family detention should be ... exhausted," the resolution states. For more *Lege* news, see p.18. — Patricia J. Ruland

Zorica Vilotic was arrested April 20 on four charges of operating an **illegal gambling** operation at the Internet Cafe in Pflugerville, according to the Travis County Sheriff's Office. TCSO got a tip alleging the cafe was housing an "illegal casino styled business with eight-liner video gambling computer devices and/or slot machines," according to a probable-cause affidavit filed by senior Deputy Wayne Samson. Samson visited the cafe twice in March and twice paid \$20 to play the video eight-liners (in all, he won \$27), according to the affidavit. Samson says Vilotic told him that if he were to win more than \$600, he would have to return multiple times for the payout — in order to avoid detection by the Internal Revenue Service, she allegedly told him. Vilotic was booked on a \$20,000 bond; each charge she faces is a class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a \$4,000 fine. — J.S.

City Council renewed a contract last week with **KAZI 88.7FM**, Austin's African-American community radio, to broadcast the council's weekly meetings, continuing a partnership that has lasted almost 10 years. KAZI's coverage begins at noon every Thursday meeting, starting with citizens communications and lasting until adjournment. It's part of the station's ongoing history of news broadcasting and civic involvement; aside from the soul, hip-hop, and R&B the station is known for, it also broadcasts *Democracy Now!* and other programs. "As a community and education radio station, KAZI is excited that we are being given the opportunity to expand our relationship with the City of Austin and to provide additional news coverage to the citizens of Austin," says KAZI's David Burrell in a press release. "With the current renovations and expansions that are under way ... KAZI is now ready and equipped to expand the services offered under our contract with the City of Austin." — Wells Dunbar

Austin's public schools continue to show improvement in the number of Austin **fifth-graders** passing the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test, or **TAKS test**; 79% of the 5,000 fifth-graders who took the test passed this year, up two percentage points from last year though still trailing the state average of 85%. Still, the scores show that Austin is steadily improving its test scores, despite the fact that the district is facing an increasing number of students from poor homes. The number of economically disadvantaged students district-wide is 61%, an increase of 8% from 2003. In that time, the scores of economically disadvantaged students have increased 21%. Despite the increase, 1,200 Austin students must still pass the TAKS test on May 15 to be promoted to sixth grade. — M.M.

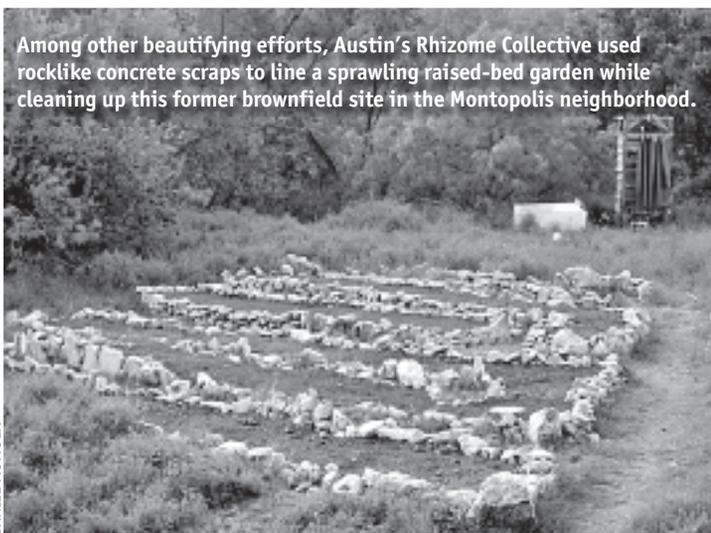
The **National Merit Scholarship Corporation** has released its national award-winners for this year, and 141 Austin seniors earned recognition for their performance on the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test; these students are now eligible for scholarships to colleges across the country. Austin schools produced 33 National Merit Finalists, three National Merit Semifinalists, 77 National Merit Commended Students, 34 National Hispanic Scholars, and five National Achievement Scholars. "We congratulate these students on earning this national-level recognition," said Superintendent Pat Forgione, "and express our appreciation for the honor they have brought to their schools and to the Austin school district." — M.M.

Austin Police are on the hunt for suspects in an April 21 **robbery-murder** of a young man who was walking with his father home from church. **Gamaliel Jimenez Bohorquez**, 18, was walking through a parking lot at 1101 Reinli around 10pm Saturday night, after leaving Austin Cornerstone Church, when he and his father, who was uninjured, were robbed by two men. Bohorquez and his father complied with the robbers' demands, police officials say, but Bohorquez was, nonetheless, shot. Police say the suspects are described as a black man between 22 and 25 years old, with short hair and medium complexion, and a Hispanic male also in his early 20s. They left the scene in a white vehicle, say police, who ask anyone with information about the incident to call the homicide tip line at 477-3588 or Crime Stoppers at 472-8477. — J.S.

Police are investigating a **bomb threat** at the **Texas School for the Deaf**, made around 2am on April 19. The school got a telephone threat from an unknown person, prompting school officials to evacuate two student dormitories while they searched the campus for suspicious "devices or packages." Nothing was found, the students were allowed to return to their dorms, and police are now searching for the caller. — J.S.

One of Fidel Castro's most vocal critics in the U.S. — his own daughter — will be in Austin next week conducting research for a book she's writing on Cuban exile and Austin resident **Carlos Lavernia**, who in 1984 was wrongly convicted of sexual assault and sentenced to 99 years in prison. **Alina Fernandez**, now a CNN commentator and radio personality, will appear at Cuba Libre, 409 Colorado, from 5 to 6:30pm Saturday. Lavernia spent nearly 16 years in prison before a DNA test determined he was not the notorious "Barton Creek rapist" but rather the victim of a case of mistaken identity. He had arrived in the U.S. in 1980 as part of the Mariel boat lift from Cuba. Freedom did not come easily for him; even after being cleared of sexual assault, he spent the next three years in the Travis County Jail as his lawyers fought federal deportation efforts. He eventually obtained legal residency here, as well as a \$435,000

Among other beautifying efforts, Austin's Rhizome Collective used rocklike concrete scraps to line a sprawling raised-bed garden while cleaning up this former brownfield site in the Montopolis neighborhood.



DANIEL MOTTOLA

judgment on a wrongful-conviction lawsuit he had filed against the state. Fernandez's Austin visit is co-sponsored by the local chapter of the National Association of Latino Independent Producers and Austin-based Floppy King Productions LLC. — Amy Smith

Austin's **Rhizome Collective**, a consensus-run center for urban sustainability headquartered in East Austin, has just officially completed its cleanup efforts at a nearby **brownfield site** (one that's deemed too contaminated for normal use) in the Montopolis neighborhood, with the help of a \$200,000 Environmental Protection Agency grant. The 9.8-acre site, bordered on three sides by the Colorado River Park, was a landfill from 1967 to 1970 and an illegal dump for another estimated 15 years. With the aide of a veggie-oil-powered tractor, Rhizome removed 680 tires, 10 tons of trash, and 31.6 tons of metal (recycled locally), as the group shaped its dream of making the property an environmental justice park and urban green space. The mountainous hillside dump site of construction refuse, roofing waste, and scrap wood — all wound together with tangled rebar — had to be cut free using oxygen-acetylene torches. All that remains now are rock-shaped concrete scraps, many of which were used to line a sprawling raised-bed garden on the site. Other points of interest: rainwater catching for irrigation, grease filtration, about a dozen chickens, a handmade shower and accompanying solar water heater fashioned from discarded refrigerator and water-heater parts, and innovative clusters of bio-remediating aquatic plants, tethered to rafts of recycled soda bottles afloat in the site's low-lying pond. For more info, see www.rhizomecollective.org. — Daniel Mottola

Local nonprofits worked to distribute 1,000 **compact fluorescent light-bulbs** on Earth Day, many destined for needy Austin families. The Gift of Light event, originating at University Presbyterian Church, sought in part to benefit Micah 6, (www.micah6austin.org) a coalition of 12 UT-area churches that operates a food pantry (behind University Baptist Church near 22nd and Guadalupe), which serves more than 200 families each week on Thursday evenings and Saturday mornings. Micah 6 visitors will receive packages of eight CFL bulbs. "Too often the environmental ministry is only available to those who can afford it," said Bee Morehead of Texas Interfaith Power & Light (www.txipl.org), a nonprofit religious education group that participated. "Providing CFLs to families who need assistance gives them dignity, empowers them to help care for God's creation, and be part of the environmental discussion." If every U.S. home replaced one lightbulb with a CFL, the country could light 2.5 million homes for a year with the savings and prevent 800,000 cars' worth of greenhouse-gas emissions, according to the EPA. — D.M.

The House Criminal Jurisprudence Committee heard testimony from Rep. Elliott Naishtat, D-Austin, on his proposal to ask voters to decide whether to grant the governor the power to impose a **moratorium on executions**. Even supporters of capital punishment realize the system has flaws, Naishtat told the committee, which called the proposed constitutional amendment, HJR 23, up for a hearing after 10pm Tuesday night. Under current law, the Texas governor is powerless to halt executions — a power granted to governors in most states. Indeed, since Naishtat first proposed the amendment in 2001, several governors — including former Florida Gov. Jeb Bush — have put a hold on executions in order to investigate alleged problems with the death penalty. Dallas Democrat Terri Hodge praised Naishtat for his "courage" in bringing the measure, noting that since reinstatement of the death penalty in 1972, more than 200 inmates have come off Texas' death row — including eight who were freed on grounds of actual innocence. Naishtat reminded the committee that a vote for HJR 23 is not a vote for a moratorium. Rather, lawmakers would simply be "voting to give [your] constituents" the chance to decide whether the governor should have that power. When asked why the legislation has failed in the past, Naishtat said he could only speculate. Perhaps it's easier for the governor to turn away calls for a moratorium by saying he doesn't have the power and, thus, his "hands are tied," Naishtat pondered aloud. "I assume the sitting governor doesn't want that authority." Otherwise, he said, "I'm clueless." The measure was left pending in committee. For more *Lege* news, see p.18. — J.S.

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ON THE LEGE

CHIP: How About Competence?

BY AMY SMITH

In a reversal of traditional Capitol good-cop, bad-cop roles, the House pulled off a remarkable feat early this month by overwhelmingly approving a bill to correct serious flaws in the reform-weary **Children's Health Insurance Program**. The decisive vote came four years after the Legislature slashed funding and imposed wayward privatization experiments on segments of the Health and Human Services Commission, which ultimately made Texas a poster child for how not to save a buck on the backs of kids.

Now, with the economy more flush and the House uncharacteristically owning up to its CHIP mistakes, the Senate leadership, ordinarily known for its calm, rational approach to tackling sticky issues, is going to the mat over House Bill 109, the fixer-upper bill brought by Houston Rep. **Sylvester Turner** (one of a minority of Democrats who broke party rank to vote to re-elect Republican Speaker Tom Craddick, thereby keeping his position of speaker pro tem). Turner's bipartisan House success means little in the upper chamber. The Senate, led by Lt. Gov. **David Dewhurst**, is resisting House efforts to return CHIP to its original 12-month enrollment plan, which proponents say is necessary to replenish the CHIP insured rolls and avoid losing precious matching federal dollars. With his eye on a 2010 gubernatorial run, Dewhurst favors the current six-month enrollment requirement, which health-care advocates say defeats the program's purpose, because it leaves too many children in the lurch when paperwork processing goes awry or a deadline is missed. The HHSC implemented the six-month requirement in response to the Legislature's slash-and-burn directives on social-services programs. Drawing on the knowledge that 25% of CHIP recipients either leave or are dropped from the program at the end of each 12-month period, HHSC officials came up with a strategy for unloading even more kids from its rolls – reduction by regulation.



The CPPP's Anne Dunkelberg criticized the Lege's whittling of CHIP rolls.

JOHN ANDERSON

"They reasoned that if you doubled the number of children [dropped from CHIP] by having families enroll every six months, you'll have twice as many kids leaving the program," said **Anne Dunkelberg**, a health-care policy expert with the Austin-based **Center for Public Policy Priorities**. As a consequence, Texas CHIP enrollment is currently 184,000 children below the levels of September 2003, when the health-insurance program was just beginning to blossom. With the Republican takeover of the Legislature, down went CHIP. In the long run, the six-month rule threw a wrench into the state's goal of whittling down the state's grotesque number of uninsured children, which currently tallies 1.4 million. "Not only did they open a second drain in the bathtub without turning up the faucet," Dunkelberg said, "they turned the faucet down."

It's unlikely that the Senate Finance Committee will schedule a hearing on HB 109 before Dewhurst finalizes his position and gives committee Chair **Steve Ogden** the green light to proceed. Like Dewhurst, Ogden and other GOP Senate leaders are reluctant to sign off on a bill that would provide 12 months of continuous CHIP coverage, although **Jane Nelson**, who chairs the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, appears more open to the proposal.

There is a strong political flavor to the whole CHIP debate, especially since Dewhurst could draw U.S. Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchison** as a gubernatorial opponent. Hutchison has been extremely critical of the Legislature's missteps on CHIP, which

only recently led to the firing (by "mutual agreement") of **Accenture**, the contractor hired to make the eligibility component of CHIP and Medicaid run more efficiently. Her arguments for shoring up CHIP don't square well with the conservative Republican base that opposes more social spending, but they would presumably play better in the general election.

Dewhurst wants to position himself somewhere to the right of Hutchison to appeal to the GOP base without looking like a complete bad guy. But his resistance to a proposal that would provide continuous health coverage to low-income kids contradicts his **Texas Children First** legislative program. Instead, the centerpieces of Dewhurst's "child-friendly agenda" are his proposals to send pedophiles to death row (which won Senate approval on Tuesday) and to throw the book at cyber-sex junkies. Dewhurst spokesman Rich Parsons says that while his boss does prefer the six-month enrollment plan, the question remains under ongoing discussion with legislative leaders. "What he's really interested in doing," Parsons said, "is looking at a system that takes the debate away from six months versus 12 months and goes to a continuous enrollment with periodic status checks." No one is certain how that would work, exactly. "It's all still very conceptual," Parsons said.

Meanwhile, the legislative clock is moving ominously toward the end of the session, May 28, and there is a gnawing fear among legislators that they'll have very little to show for one of the headiest, yet least productive, sessions in recent history. One major waste of time has been the legislators' fixation with assigning blame on the CHIP goofs instead of looking for ways to get the program back on track, Dunkelberg said. "At this point, I'm very, very concerned that we're going to come out of the session without addressing the fact that we don't have either a private or a public component of our eligibility system for CHIP or Medicaid that works."

Another problem is the lack of adequate staffing to handle the eligibility process, thanks to the state's premature pink-slipping of thousands of state employees. "We have an eligibility system that is barely functioning with 6,800 workers" – down from an estimated 8,000 in 2004 – "and about a quarter of them are temporary employees with a lack of expertise," Dunkelberg said.

"We're not talking about progressive politics here," she added. "We're talking about competent government." ■

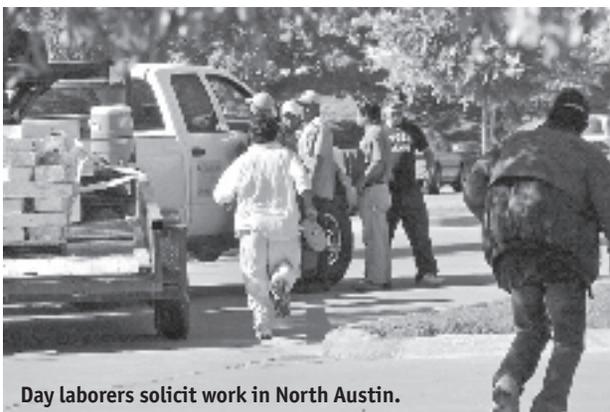
Immigration Folly at the Lege

Sweeping immigration reforms passing through the Texas House could severely affect the way the city does business. On April 16, the **House State Affairs Committee** discussed eight bills that covered such issues as banning local government from accepting consular documents as ID and auditing how much is spent by each agency on providing services to undocumented migrants. On the list was **House Bill 904**, by Rep. **Bill Zedler**, R-Arlington. Opposed by the cities of Austin, Houston, San Antonio, and Plano, it would ban local governments from using public money to set up **day labor camps** used by undocumented migrants. If passed, the attached fiscal note says, cities would have to screen all laborers and absorb all the costs.

"This is not a blanket prohibition on day labor centers. This is a prohibition on using public funds to support a day labor center that knowingly facilitates the employment of undocumented workers. In legal parlance, *that knowingly* is an important definer in the bill," said Zedler staff member **Shannon Duffy**. (Note: The word "knowingly" does not appear in the text of the bill.)

In a statement, Rep. **Eddie Rodriguez**, D-Austin, called HB 904 "punitive legislation ... which targets immigrants." He added that it would "impact our local economies and not address the underlying issue of needing comprehensive immigration reform." Rodriguez has his own day labor bill, **HB 456**, which would protect day laborer wages.

HB 904 could directly affect the **First Workers' Day Labor Center**, run by **Austin/Travis Co. Health and Human Services**. Located on North I-35, the center provides a covered area where day laborers can meet potential employers. The city does not get involved in any transactions or check IDs. It simply provides police officers for safety purposes, a license-



Day laborers solicit work in North Austin.

JOHN ANDERSON

plate-watch service, and referrals to advocacy and law enforcement in cases of abuse or nonpayment. According to city figures, around 150 workers use the center every day; it's been so successful that the city is looking for a second site in South Austin.

David Lurie, Austin/Travis HHS director, spoke before the committee against the bill. In an interview, he said, "It would impede on our ability to operate a facility that has been to the benefit of our community. We feel we should have the flexibility at the local level to decide what's best for us." He said the day labor center is "not an immigrant program, so we have no way to check where anyone is from. It's open to everyone, and we've found that the people who use it reflect the city's demographics and diversity." He called the center a safe alternative to the unofficial, impromptu street-corner pickup points, which were "very chaotic, very unsafe, and not something we're like[ly] to go back to."

Many of the bills before the State Affairs Committee are either badly written, pointless, or redundant, said **Luis Figueroa**, legislative staff attorney for the **Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund**. "A prime example is **HB 2998**, which gets peace officers to verify immigration status and then report this to the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services. This is not the right agency. It's supposed to be ICE [Immigrations and Customs Enforcement]," Figueroa said.

The **Travis Co. Sheriff's Department** has no policy on asking about immigration status prior to arrest. Only when a person reaches jail do they have to say where they were born. If they are from outside the U.S., the department contacts ICE. "But there's no database available to us," said **Roger Wade**, public information officer for the Sheriff's Department. The **Austin Police Department** declined to comment about its policy on checking immigration status.

According to **Michael McDonald**, assistant city manager for public safety, Austin does not inquire about immigration status because "historically, we really haven't seen it as our responsibility. What we concentrate on is violent and property crimes, and we leave immigration to the federal authorities."

Asking people about their immigration status could even get in the way of essential policing. "What's most important to us is that victims and witnesses feel comfortable coming forward to us," McDonald said. "If they feel we're going to arrest them for something that is a federal issue, that gets in the way."

For Figueroa, HB 2998 is typical of many of the bills. "It's putting somebody else in the role of immigration officer, when they don't have the expertise to do that," he said. "There are provisions that have employees of the state verifying documents that they don't understand or know how to verify. It seems a waste of resources." – *Richard Whittaker*

House: Squeeze the (Dem) Voters

After every election, much public wailing and hand-wringing is devoted to the sad voter-turnout rates in America. So on Monday, the Texas House took action ... to make it even harder to vote. Almost strictly along party lines, representatives passed House Bill 218, which would require either a photo ID or two forms of nonphoto ID to vote. Currently, simply producing one's voter-registration card or one form of nonphoto ID is sufficient.

Republicans claim the **voter-ID bill** is needed to preserve the integrity of the ballot. Lead author **Betty Brown**, R-Athens, raised the specter of mobs of noncitizens and dead people heading to the polls and tipping elections. Her evidence that this might be a problem was pretty slim: testimony by the Harris Co. voter registrar that he had identified "at least" 35 foreign nationals who either applied for or received voter-registration cards and that one Brazilian woman registered and voted "at least" four times - in a county with almost 2 million registered voters. Of that handful of examples, of course, none was an actual attempt at the voter-impersonation crime that the bill purports to address.

And that, said the bill's opponents, pulls the mask off Republicans' real intentions. HB 218 is simply a solution in search of a problem, they say; it will actually discourage voting by groups less likely to have forms of photo ID - minorities, the poor, and seniors - and in those groups are a lot of potential Democratic votes. "Let's be clear about this: There is no voter-impersonation problem or voter-fraud epidemic in this state as the authors of this legislation are misleading us to believe," said **Roberto Alonzo**, D-Dallas. "This is part of a much larger problem - their partisan disenfranchisement effort to keep seniors and minorities from voting."

The floor fight was led by Democrat **Rafael Anchia**, also of Dallas. He claimed that Brown's Brazilian woman actually presented photo ID when she voted, so the bill would

have had no effect. He demanded Brown present evidence of hordes of dead voters, and she held up a thick stack of papers; Anchia said he had reviewed the same papers and said they bore no such evidence. A major Dem attack was to paint the bill as a poll tax, since photo IDs usually require a fee of some sort. Brown accepted an amendment by Dallas' **Yvonne Davis** to waive such fees if the person is applying for an ID solely to vote.

Dems also pointed out the ease with which one can obtain fake IDs - any beer-seeking frat boy can tell you where to buy one. Workplace IDs are also acceptable under the bill. "No matter how much training you do with poll workers, no matter how much training you do of election judges and election officials, it will be impossible for them to discern what is a valid employment identification and what is an invalid employment identification," Anchia said.

Thirty amendments were thrown at HB 218 as Democrats desperately tried to ameliorate the worst effects, but the only 13 that stuck were those that Brown accepted, included waiving the ID requirement for people over 80, victims of weather disasters, and war veterans and their widows. The bill passed 76-68 with Democrats united against it; Lubbock's **Delwin Jones** and Longview's **Tommy Merritt** were the only Republicans to vote nay. After 6½ hours of bitter debate, a similar bill - which would require photo ID to register to vote - was mercifully postponed until this Monday.

"Racism is racism; xenophobia is xenophobia," said Fort Worth's **Lon Burnam** in closing. "It's too bad that we're going to see it enacted on the House floor again."

It's uncertain whether HB 218 can survive the Senate - Houston's **Rodney Ellis** says he has united all 11 Democrats against voter-ID bills. If that bloc holds, it would be enough to keep the bill from ever reaching the Senate floor, unless it arrives as an amendment to another election-related bill. - Lee Nichols

CAPITOL BRIEFS

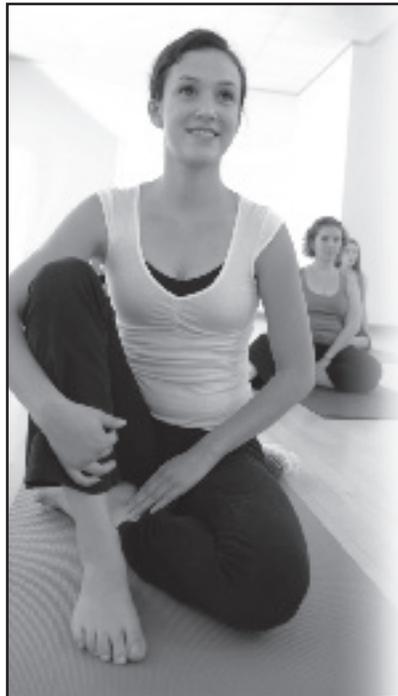
The Texas Senate has passed a measure by Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, that would increase the amount of state compensation to those who have been **wrongfully convicted and imprisoned**. Senate Bill 262 would allow for \$50,000 in compensation for each year of wrongful imprisonment or \$100,000 for each year on death row. It also eliminates the \$500,000 compensation cap. According to the Legislative Budget Board, the state would likely pay out more than \$3 million in compensation through Aug. 31, 2009, and another \$1.5 million per year thereafter. Currently, the state pays on average \$985,000 per year in compensation for wrongful imprisonment, according to the comptroller. According to the New York-based nonprofit Innocence Project, nationwide 198 people have been exonerated based on post-conviction DNA testing, including 29 in Texas. Ellis noted that 38% of those exonerated are unemployed, 43% earn less money than they did before being sent to prison, and 54% are without health care. - Jordan Smith

The House Tuesday tentatively approved a **campaign finance bill**, but it's less than what reform advocates wanted. The bill, by Rep. Leo Berman, R-Tyler, clarifies how corporations can use the money they raise through their political action committees. Campaign finance watchdog groups say Berman, who chairs the House Elections Committee, should have also addressed spending limits as well as the controversy surrounding "issue ads," which are designed to promote or

slam a particular political candidate without instructing voters to vote for one candidate over another. - Amy Smith

The Texas Senate approved a defanged version of **Jessica's Law** on Tuesday. This was crucial to Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, who campaigned heavily on the theme that he would pass Jessica's Law as part of the Session of the Child. Under a compromise drafted by Sen. Bob Deuell, R-Greenville, the death penalty for repeat offenders would not be mandatory but left to the discretion of the prosecutors. Other provisions include enhanced penalties for aggravated and repeated sex offenders, a mandatory 25-year sentence for aggravated sexual assault of a child under 14, and no statute of limitations for prosecution of childhood sexual assaults. Sen. Rodney Ellis, D-Houston, who considers the use of the death penalty to be too liberal in Texas given the number of recent exonerations, was the lone vote against the measure. - Kimberly Reeves

With little fanfare, the Senate passed legislation Monday to reverse Gov. Rick Perry's directive requiring girls to be vaccinated against **human papillomavirus**, which can lead to cervical cancer. The ban against the mandate would expire in four years, during which time more money will be spent on providing educational info about HPV to students in public schools. The House similarly approved a bill against the vaccination mandate. It is uncertain whether Perry intends to veto the bill, but odds are that he won't. - A.S.



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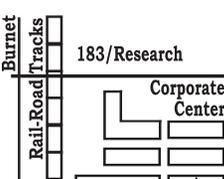
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Supremes Chip Another Brick out of 'Roe' Wall

In a 5-4 decision, the U.S. Supreme Court on April 18 upheld a federal ban on so-called "partial-birth abortion," even in cases where the health of the mother is at issue – a ruling that reverses longstanding precedent essentially mandating the exception in order to pass legal muster.

Not surprisingly, staunch abortion foes applaud the decision, which represents a significant victory on the road to challenging the fundamental right to reproductive choice as determined by the Supremes in the landmark case **Roe v. Wade** – Justice **Anthony Kennedy's** majority opinion offers something of a formula for crafting narrow, and likely legal, proposals that chip away at *Roe's* foundation. For supporters of reproductive choice, however, the decision comes as a serious blow – one that, with time, could jeopardize the basic idea that a woman has the right to control her reproductive destiny and to make medical decisions in confidence with her doctor. "Today's decision is alarming," Justice **Ruth Bader Ginsburg** wrote in a dissent (joined by Justices John Paul Stevens, David Souter, and Stephen Breyer). "It tolerates, indeed applauds, federal intervention to ban nationwide a procedure found necessary and proper in certain cases ... for the first time since *Roe*, the Court blesses a prohibition with no exception safeguarding a woman's health."

At issue in two specific cases addressed in the Wednesday ruling is an abortion procedure typically performed during the second trimester of pregnancy, known as either an "intact dilation and evacuation" or D&E, "dilation and extraction" or D&X – or, as it has been graphically dubbed by foes, partial-birth abortion, wherein a doctor dilates the cervix, partially extracting the body of a (usually) live fetus before crushing its skull in order to complete removal from the womb. In part, the question before the court was whether this procedure – admittedly, neither common nor pleasant to contemplate – is ever medically necessary or nothing more than gruesome infanticide.

The government's position on the matter, reiterated by U.S. Solicitor General **Paul Clement** during oral argument in November, is that intact D&E is completely unnecessary because a doctor always has the option of performing a regular D&E, where "fetal demise" happens in utero – usually by injecting drugs into the heart – before the fetus is disarticulated and removed. But reproductive health-care advocates – represented in these two cases by **Planned Parenthood Federation of America** and Nebraskan Dr. **LeRoy Carhart** – argue that there are cases when intact D&E is medically necessary – circumstances that might not result in the mother's death but would nonetheless pose a serious threat to her future health as a result of the repeated insertion of medical instrumentation necessary in a standard D&E. Therein, at least on its face, lies the controversy.

In 2000, the high court struck down a similar Nebraska state law, in part because it contained no exception for the mother's health but also because it implied that all forms of D&E could be banned. In that decision, Kennedy sided with the majority. In the wake of that ruling, Congress crafted the narrower **2003 Partial-Birth Abortion Ban**, affirmed last week, which plainly outlaws "intentional" intact D&E and contains an exception only in cases where the mother would die. The narrowness of the language in the 2003 law – only banning intact D&E and only allowing for the prosecution of doctors who intentionally perform it – might explain Kennedy's migration to this majority, though that does not quash advocates' fears of a further erosion of reproductive freedom. In his carefully worded opinion, Kennedy mentions time and again that only an intentional intact D&E is banned – if a doctor were to undertake a dismemberment D&E and wind up performing an intact procedure, the doctor could not be held criminally liable. Because the intact procedure is so rare – some 90% of abortions occur within the pre-



JANA BIRCHUM

Planned Parenthood's Sarah Wheat says the Supreme Court has opened the door to politicians interfering in women's health decisions.

viable first trimester through a procedure plainly protected by *Roe*, he explained – and because there is no consensus that the intact D&E is ever medically necessary, Kennedy opined that outlawing the procedure places no undue burden on a woman's access to safe and legal abortion. The 2003 law is "more specific concerning the instances to which it applies and in this respect more precise in its coverage," he wrote.

Still, that reasoning – even narrowly tailored – is no comfort to the court minority, represented by Ginsburg. Women's "ability to realize their full potential ... is intimately connected to their ability to control their reproductive lives," she wrote. "Thus, legal challenges to undue restrictions on abortion procedures do not seek to vindicate some generalized notion of privacy; rather, they center on a woman's autonomy to determine her life's course, and thus to enjoy equal citizenship stature." As such, the court has consistently held that a woman's health must be safeguarded. That the state might have an interest in regulating medical practice does not give the government the right to interfere in

individual medical decisions, thereby trumping a woman's right to equal protection. Although Kennedy's opinion suggests that an individual woman could seek a court waiver to have the intact procedure should it be deemed medically necessary, it is hard to see how in an emergency it would be viable to first roll her on a gurney up the courthouse steps.

Indeed, local reproductive-rights advocates see the ruling as a signal to abolitionists that if an exception is crafted narrowly enough, it will pass legal muster – and, in time, multiple exceptions could cripple *Roe*. "There's no question," says **Sarah Wheat**, director of public affairs for **Planned Parenthood of the Texas Capital Region**. Kennedy basically says, "'Hey politicians, if you feel there's a reason to interfere in a woman's private health decisions, go for it.' The implications are enormous," she says. "In Texas ... [on] the one hand, we're cutting family-planning resources and making health care more inaccessible, and at the same time, we're saying, 'Great, let's do away with abortion,'" she continues. "We see [this as] a collision course for women's health." – Jordan Smith

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Anthony Graves Update

Unbelievably, a retrial of the capital murder case against **Anthony Graves** is set to go forward this summer, even though a special prosecutor admitted on April 13 that crucial evidence in the case – including the alleged murder weapon – is lost and likely will never be found.

Graves' 1994 conviction in connection with a gruesome multiple murder in Burleson County, was overturned last year by the **5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals** upon a finding that the state had committed prosecutorial misconduct, in part by keeping from the defense crucial witness statements that could have affected the outcome of the trial.

In the wake of the appellate-court opinion, the **Burleson Co. District Attorney's Office** stepped aside – after a judge disqualified one of the office's attorneys – prompting the appointment of special prosecutor **Patrick Batchelor** to take over. Batchelor is likely best known as the attorney who secured a death sentence for **Cameron Todd Willingham**, who was executed in 2004 even though evidence suggests that he was wrongfully convicted. (Indeed, there's little evidence to suggest that there was even a crime for which to convict. Willingham was tried and convicted of the arson-murder of his three children, but an investigation led by the **Innocence Project** determined the fire was likely accidental.)

Batchelor told District Judge **Reva Towslee-Corbett** that he will "account" for the missing evidence by May 1, reports the *Houston Chronicle*, but made no assurance that the evidence would actually be found. Among the missing, and crucial, pieces of evidence are the skullcaps of the victims, their clothing, fin-

gerprints, bullets taken from the victims, and a bloody hammer and knife that prosecutors allege are the murder weapons. In short, the state is seeking to retry Graves – and is seeking the death penalty – without the benefit of any **physical evidence** to back up its theory of the crime. It is a stunning admission – but one that sources tell us is not exactly new information. Sources say there have been rumors around Burleson Co. since late last year that the county deliberately destroyed evidence in the case. Batchelor noted the "change of jail [facilities in the county] and personnel" since Graves and co-defendant **Robert Carter** were arrested in 1992 for the murder of six people in Somerville. Carter initially implicated Graves in the crime but subsequently recanted that claim on numerous occasions, including just before his execution in 2000.

Defense attorneys have been seeking access to the now-reportedly-missing evidence: Attorney **Jeff Blackburn** says Graves' legal team wanted to conduct DNA testing on the victims' clothing – DNA analysis wasn't available at Graves' first trial, but blood-typing analysis did not link Graves to the scene – and to analyze fingerprints found at the murder scene, which at this point have not been matched to anyone involved in the case – including Graves. Now, Batchelor says, the only answer he may have to give the defense is that the evidence is simply "gone."

Unless the charges are dismissed – and, despite a total lack of solid evidence, it seems likely the state will push on with this increasingly embarrassing prosecution – Graves' trial is set to begin July 10. – *Jordan Smith*

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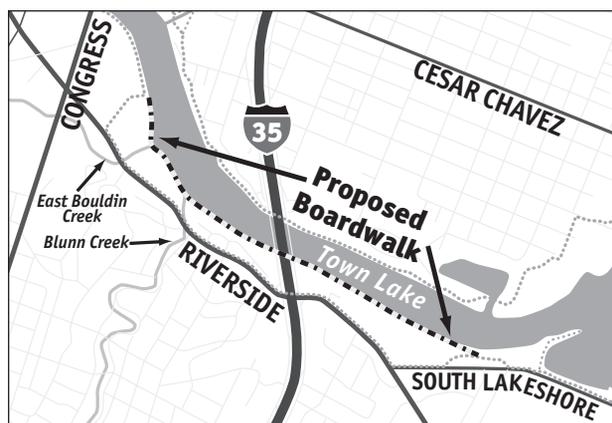
DEVELOPING STORIES

Town Lake Trail: Closing the Gap

Long a civic dream, the completion of a continuous **Town Lake Trail** – a 10.1-mile hike-and-bike loop from **MoPac to Longhorn Dam**, connecting the river's north and south shores – is taking an aerobic sprint toward reality. With funding in hand from private donors, a number of whom received a personal call from the mayor, the nonprofit **Town Lake Trail Foundation** has commissioned the first step in the project: the **Riverside Boardwalk Investment Study**.

The problem: a 1.1-mile gap in the trail, along the river's south shore, where land is privately owned on both sides of I-35. The gap makes it difficult, unpleasant, and dangerous for recreational runners, walkers, bikers, and trail commuters to use the full trail as a continuous loop. The lack of connectivity between the east and west sides also contributes to congestion on the more heavily traveled west end of the trail; as many as 15,000 people hit the trail on a nice day, and it has up to 1.5 million visitors a year. The waterfront trail currently dead-ends near the *Austin American-Statesman*, not to reappear again until Lakeshore Boulevard. Determined aerobicizers must use surface streets, including a potentially dangerous and decidedly soul-dampening crossing of I-35 and its frontage roads.

Ideally, some missing trail segments can be completed on land, if easements can be acquired from the landowners. But other portions – due to topography, existing structures, or obstinate owners – will require an overwater boardwalk trail. This more-expensive solution would drive the project's total cost to more than \$10 million, a daunting price tag that had stalled serious pursuit of the project, which was first envisioned in the mid-1980s. But the recent energetic advocacy of



the young Town Lake Trail Foundation (www.townlaketrail.org) and its partners – serendipitously converging with a strong economy and a marathon-runnin', Downtown-revitalizin' mayor – has brought the project back to life, with the support of the **Parks and Recreation Department**. The Riverside Boardwalk Investment Study, estimated at \$40,000, will be executed by Austin's own **SEC Planning**; the consultant will create a master trail map for land/boardwalk solutions and designs, engineering, public involvement, costs, and funding. A first draft is expected within six weeks.

"Finishing the Town Lake Trail is really important, not just for me personally but for our entire community," said **Will Wynn**, discussing why he shook the cup for the investment study. "I've been running the trail since first coming to Austin in 1981 and have been an avid, almost daily runner on the trail these past few years. I know firsthand what a crummy experience it is to have to leave the trail and run along Riverside Drive and cross I-35."

Donors for the study include **Luci Baines Johnson** (whose mother, **Lady Bird Johnson**, chaired the 1971 **Town Lake**

Beautification Committee, which initially drove creation of the trail), greenifying **AMD**, and the **Downtown Austin Alliance**. Notable among several development and real estate community donors is attorney **Richard Suttle** – who represents **CWS Capital Partners** in negotiating an easement with PARD to extend the trail on CWS' land (wanting, in exchange, a variance to encroach on the **waterfront overlay**). Big chunks of the needed \$10 million-plus could come from developers seeking increased entitlements to build bigger, higher projects along Town Lake; the developers asking council for a Lakeshore planned unit development, for example, potentially could give upward of \$1 million to be earmarked for the Riverside Boardwalk. **Constellation Property Group**, developers of the high-rise **Star Riverside condos**, recently pledged to give as much as \$250,000 toward the cost of a boardwalk under I-35, adjoining its site.

The Town Lake Trail Foundation has recently completed numerous trail-improvement projects, including **Lou Neff Point** and the **Zilker Bluffs Tree Grove**. "We've been encouraging people to be healthier, and it's worked; there's now more people out on the trail than ever before," said foundation board Chair **Griffin Davis**. Beyond the boardwalk project, said Davis, the trail has many other needs for repair and improvement. "The \$1 million in the [2006 voter-approved park] bonds gets us about 10 to 15 percent of the way there. It's a great start, but by no means does it take care of all the existing needs on the trail."

In early March, **Jose Pablo Agundiz**, 32, was fatally struck by a car while walking on the I-35 frontage road over Town Lake. His body was later found underneath the interstate. "We can get the Riverside Boardwalk built and help prevent further fatalities like this one," Davis said. "We need the public to understand the danger the pedestrian crossing at I-35 represents. We had three fatalities before we got the **Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge** built. I hope Mr. Agundiz's tragedy is the last one we have to face at this location." – *Katherine Gregor*

Balcones Canyonlands Preserve Still Struggling

You could say it's near, yet so far away. **Austin and Travis County** have diligently gathered land for the federally stipulated **Balcones Canyonlands Preserve** for at least a decade. With only 2,500 acres to go in the full 30,000-acre preserve, however, Travis Co. has realized that its anticipated dollars won't go far enough fast enough to meet the federally mandated 2016 deadline set by **U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service** under the preserve's permit application.

That means the county is going to have to look for new money, and quickly. It could involve expanding the current **tax-increment financing district** over the preserve or seeking additional **bonds** from county voters. At a work session last week, County Judge **Sam Biscoe** said he would want to take any pro-

posal for financing out to the voters.

"It seems to me we have a whole lot of options to work on," Biscoe said. "Some are going to be a dead end quick, and others are going to require quite a bit of work."

Kevin Connally, who is on the county team that manages the BCP, says the problem is threefold: First, the county dropped its price on participation certificates early on in order to encourage greater landowner participation. Second, the fat federal grants that once fueled major land purchases for the county are dwindling as a growing number of preserves have swallowed up dollars. And, third, the price of land in Western Travis Co. is up, way up. Land that was an average of \$5,500 an acre is now \$28,000 an acre, a fivefold increase. Connally estimates it would take

almost \$74 million to complete the preserve or up to \$115 million if the county fails to get that land purchased quickly.

That's far more than the city or county has spent on preserve land to date – especially the city, which bought its land at fire-sale prices during the collapse of the local real estate market a decade ago. The county won't see all of the necessary funding for another 12 or 13 years, which misses the preserve completion date.

Missing the mark for the BCP is not an option, for either the county or developers. If the preserve is not completed by 2016, the management of the land could revert back to FWS. Developers would have to pull individual permits on development, permits that often take up to four years to complete. Development would likely grind to a halt in western Travis County, Connally predicted.

The county is not expecting much help from the city, which considers its part done, since

it paid to acquire 13,000 acres of the preserve. The county, by comparison, has acquired 5,000 acres but at a much steeper price. Other entities, such as the **Audubon Society** and the **Land Conservancy**, manage the balance of the current preserve.

New strategies discussed by commissioners include the **conservation easement** recently acquired from **Concordia University** and 819 acres in **Steiner Ranch** that are still privately owned but managed by Travis County. Commissioner **Sarah Eckhardt** mentioned the possibility of trusts. And commissioners also talked about expanding the tax-increment financing district to include additional properties that benefit from the preserve but are not located in the preserve area; as those lands increased in value, part of the increased tax revenue would go to additional preserve land purchases.

– *Kimberly Reeves*

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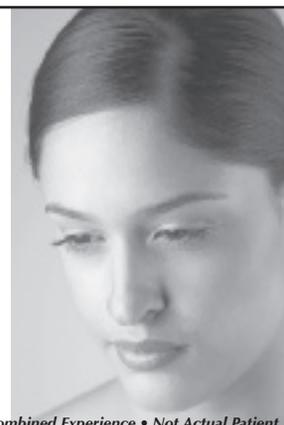


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Days of Our Minimum-Wage Workers' Lives

'The hour glass is running out of sand ...'

ANNOUNCER

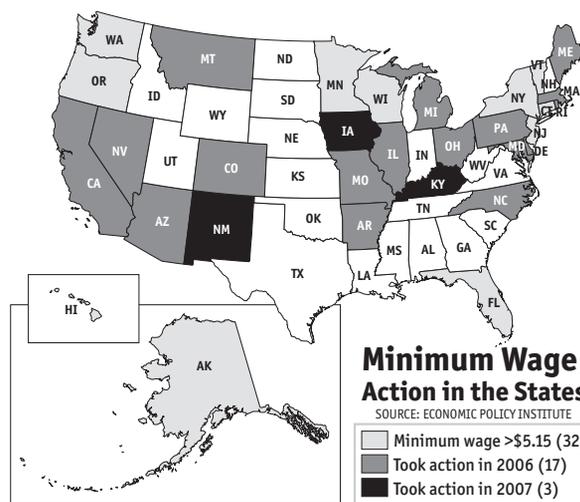
Like sands through the hourglass, so are the days of our minimum-wage workers' lives.

[MELODRAMATIC MUSIC PLAYS]

Last time we tuned in to the **minimum-wage raise debate**, we were clinging to the edges of our seats, wondering when stubborn congressional negotiators would sit down to reconcile differences between House and Senate versions of minimum-wage legislation. Both propose raising the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 an hour, the first increase in more than nine years; however, the Senate's version includes \$8.3 billion in tax breaks, while the House's version only includes \$1.8 billion. The Associated Press reported back in February that "Senate Finance Committee Chairman **Max Baucus**, D-Mont., said House and Senate negotiators could reconcile differences in the bills within two or three weeks," quoting Baucus as saying, "The minimum wage provision is going to trump all of this and is going to drive us to get this thing done pretty quickly."

Well, several weeks have passed and negotiations still haven't occurred.

"The theatre of voting for the raise and getting credit with the public seems to have been more important than actually getting money into the pockets of the working poor," said **Ross Eisenbrey**, vice president and policy director at the **Economic Policy Institute**, a D.C.-based think tank that focuses primarily on labor issues, in an e-mail to the *Chronicle*. "There's no good excuse for the Democrats' failure to work out the tax package that's part of the MW deal. They could have simply split the difference between the House and Senate. The Democrats don't want to have a big ugly fight with the



Senate Republicans and multiple cloture votes that they might lose. But if that's what it takes to embarrass the opponents of a minimum wage increase and wake up the public about what's going on, they should do it."

Meanwhile, the list of states that have gotten tired of waiting on the feds to do something continues to grow, as EPI analyst **Liana Fox** notes in a recent policy brief. "Since the beginning of the year three states have, for the first time, raised their **state minimum wages** above the federal level of \$5.15 per hour: Iowa (\$7.25 by 2008), Kentucky (\$7.25 by 2009), and New Mexico (\$7.50 by 2009). That brings the count of states that have raised their minimum wages since the beginning of 2006 to an even 20," Fox says. "This has raised the wages of over 7.5 million workers. Thirty-one states plus the District of Columbia now have minimum wages above the federal level."

Of course, **Texas** isn't one of those states, and the chance that it will become one is growing more unlikely by the day, as only a month remains in the 80th legislative session. The

identical companion bills of Houston Democrats **Rodney Ellis** and **Senfronia Thompson** – **Senate Bill 95** and **House Bill 451**, respectively – the only minimum-wage-related companion bills filed this session and therefore the legislation initially considered to have the most promise of becoming law, appear to have gotten stuck – SB 95 in the **Business and Commerce Committee** and HB 451 in **Economic Development**. HB 451 received a hearing, but SB 95 hasn't even gotten that far. "It's hard to swallow," said **Jeremy Warren**, spokesman for Ellis.

Any hopes of getting a minimum-wage raise in Texas are now pinned on **HB 49** – a joint bill authored by **Norma Chavez**, D-El Paso, along with **Joe Deshotel**, D-Beaumont; **Robert Puente**, D-San Antonio; **Harold Dutton**, D-Houston; and Thompson – which makes the radical proposal of increasing the minimum wage to \$7.25 over a two-year period. Out of the handful of minimum-wage-related bills filed this session, HB 49 has waded the furthest through the legislative process. But after it was stuck in **Calendars** for a few weeks, committee members voted on April 19 not to place it on the House calendar.

Despite the setback, a Chavez staffer said her office remains hopeful that the bill will get on the calendar before lawmakers run out of time. "It has another 30 days," the staffer said. When asked about HB 49, a staffer with the office of Houston Republican **Beverly Woolley**, chair of Calendars, said Woolley generally doesn't comment on bills under consideration. On the slim chance that the bill makes it out of the House, Ellis will more than likely pick it up in the Senate, said the **Center for Public Policy Priorities' Don Baylor**.

"The hour glass is running out of sand, and Texas workers desperately need a raise," said Baylor, echoing the comments of EPI's Eisenbrey. "Every week of delay is tens of millions of dollars denied to poor workers who need the money."

ANNOUNCER

Stay tuned for the next *Days of our Minimum-Wage Workers' Lives*.

– Cheryl Smith

For more on the minimum wage, see "Hope on Minimum-Wage Horizon," Feb. 2, 2007.

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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

WHAT'S HAPPENING TO OUR BEES?

Bees are dying. Dying all across America. Lots and lots of bees.

Starting in Florida last fall, the great bee die-off has spread to 24 states. Whole colonies are dying. In Western states, commercial beekeepers report up to a 60% loss of their bees, with losses at 70% in Texas and on the East Coast. It's unprecedented.

Who cares? Well, few people realize that many of America's food crops – from almonds to watermelon – rely heavily on commercial honeybees for pollination. No bees, no fruit. One study finds that these bees pollinate every third bite of food that we consume.

Another little-known fact is that bee pollination is increasingly a highly concentrated industry. Rather than a dispersed system of local hives, a few commercial operators now haul tens of billions of bees from coast to coast, trucking their hives in 18-wheelers.

Colony Collapse Disorder, as it's now called, could be the result of this industrialized model of pollination. First, the bees themselves have been bred into single-purpose superpollinators, rather than bees with multiple functions (make honey, feed the queen, maintain the hives, and extend the species). The industrial bees have lost the diversity and natural traits of wild bees.

Second, constant trucking puts stress on the bees, suppressing their immune systems and making them vulnerable to viruses, mites, and diseases. Also as part of their forced migration, the bees are fed a limited diet of high fructose corn syrup – about as healthy as humans trying to live on Cokes. Other research is indicating certain pesticides and genetically altered organisms that have been artificially spliced into many field crops.

Once again, we have the heavy hand of mankind messing with Mother Nature in ways that come back to mess with us – big time. It's not just bees these food industrialists are messing with – it's our food supply.

ROMNEY GOES HUNTING ... FOR VOTES

When George Romney ran for president in 1968, he opposed the war in Vietnam. When it came out that he'd earlier supported the war, he blamed that on having been "brainwashed." At the time, Sen. Gene McCarthy, noting that Romney wasn't known for being too bright, commented that brainwashing him wouldn't have been necessary, since "I would have thought a light rinse would be sufficient."

Now comes a chip off the old block, George's son, Mitt Romney, presently running for president. Mitt's a Republican, so he's trying to show the extreme right wing in his party that he's one of them. Abortion? Agin' it! But, oops, running for office in Massachusetts, Mitt was pro-choice. Gay marriage? No way, says Mitt. But, oops again, he previously embraced gay rights.

The most fun, however, is Romney's macho assertion this year that he has "been a hunter pretty much all my life." This is an important claim, since he wants the National Rifle Association to endorse him. But – oops – his campaign had to admit that, well ... he'd actually gone hunting only twice in his life.

He later made this blunder worse by saying, "I've always been a rodent and rabbit hunter. Small varmints, if you will." Rodents? Not exactly Teddy Roosevelt big-game stuff! And, "if you will?" What NRA member talks like that? Still, Mitt brags that he's an NRA member. Yeah, he joined eight months ago. And, in Massachusetts, he supported gun-control laws the NRA hates.

Well, he declared this year, "I have a gun of my own." Uh ... not exactly. Mitt, your son owns a gun, not you. Still, he claims that he keeps his son's gun in his home. Which one? He owns homes in three states.

Worse than a flip-flopper, Mitt Romney simply can't shoot straight with the American people. Haven't we had enough of that from our current president?

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – visit www.jimhightower.com.

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MEDIA WATCH

Katie Couric's Pretend Blog

BY KEVIN BRASS

For the record, **KVUE** anchor maiden **Christine Haas** actually wrote, all by herself, her recent blog entry on the station's Web site, detailing her 16-month-old son's prowess at peeka-boo. In fact, for any disillusioned viewers wondering, she really does have a son; she's not making it up. Her postings about li'l Petey may not solidify her reputation as a crusading journalist, but at least she's not "pulling a Katie."

The reference is to serious **CBS** news icon **Katie Couric**, who was ensnared recently in yet another embarrassing brouhaha. One of her producers was fired for plagiarizing a *Wall Street Journal* story on libraries, which Couric used in a **video blog**. Although coverage focused on the act of **plagiarism**, the real revelation was that Couric, who makes something like \$15 million a year, doesn't even write her own blog. Even worse, the offending "video notebook" item was framed in the style of a personal remembrance, beginning with, "I still remember when I first got my library card." In other words, not only was Couric okeydokey with someone else writing her personal journal, she was equally okeydokey with the writer making up her childhood memories.

This is dangerous territory for TV news. While it's not exactly breaking news that anchors don't write their own material, it's assumed they are at least actively involved in what comes out of their mouths. Their hair, lips, breasts, smiles, noses, wardrobe, skin tone, personalities, and enunciation may be fake, but it's taken for granted that newsreaders are at least real people who are not actively making up stuff about themselves. *L'Affaire* Katie may make loyal viewers wonder if the role of news anchor is inching a tad closer to spokesmodel, the type of free thinking that should scare TV news executives.

The pooh-bahs of TV are still convinced that there's an audience out there that believes anchors are serious news hounds, working over informants in dark alleys to bring you "coverage you can count on." They spend big money to pose the anchors and promote them as trustworthy journalists – all to appeal to the sensibilities of their target demographic, i.e., the people who watch **KTBC** because they think anchor dude **Mike Warren** is "hunky."

But it all falls apart if you pull back the curtain and reveal a starving, underpaid, caffeine-riddled producer pulling the anchor's strings. Thanks to Katie's damn blog, anguished viewers might now reasonably wonder if any of it is real. After all, blogging is pretty simple. If Katie can't manage it, how are all the stressed, rabid news wolverines of the local anchor desks supposed to cope with it? Maybe KVUE's Haas, one of the few local anchors to have a blog, is just a station creation, her maternity leave concocted as a media stunt. Does she even have a kid?

Haas, who insists Petey is real, said she finds the Couric tale "kind of disheartening." Management urged her to focus the blog



DOUG POTTER

on her son, but she claims she's written every one of her blog entries – all five in the last nine months – on her own. "I would feel very uncomfortable with somebody coming to me and saying we're going to write a blog for you," she said.

Haas is not the only local anchor wading into the blogosphere. What about well-coiffed **KXAN** anchorman **Robert Hadlock**, who blogs to his fans at the feverish pace of one entry a month? (Sample item: a response to a viewer who begged him to no longer wear a pin-striped suit.) Hadlock assures us that he does write his blog, without any assistance, although he admits blogging is still not a high priority in his news day. "Finding time to get in there and work on it is tough," he said. Like Haas, Hadlock expressed dismay that Couric apparently was uninterested in even proofreading her own journal. "Ultimately it's her responsibility," he said.

In every way, Couric's willingness to let a producer make up her personal history strikes to the heart of anchordom. The introduction to **KEYE** morning guy **Fred Cantú's** technology blog says, "he started building radio kits as a child." Right. Could be. Or maybe some **KEYE** intern with dreams of reading the news himself one day is writing Cantú's blog for him. After all, Cantú writes two blogs, each updated once a week, and what anchor could keep up that pace without serious help?

Cantú contends he actually likes writing his blogs. "Just being able to say something on my mind that may not be appropriate on the air, that may give people insight into what I'm thinking," he said. "I think it's important to show another side of you."

Most local anchors have shied away from blogs, apparently wary of expressing opinions or showing personality, traits that are not encouraged by consultants. Or maybe the stations couldn't find anybody to write it for them. Either way, thanks to Couric, now crazed fans of local TV news are even less likely to read KVUE's **Tyler Sieswerda's** blogging on Iraqi religious strife or **KTBC** anchor **Loriana Hernandez** recounting her own first trip to the library. Katie, once America's sweetheart, has ruined it for everybody.

Kevin Brass can be reached at kbrass@austinchronicle.com.

Military Recruitment Protesters Arrested

A protest against military recruiting resulted in two arrests after members of **Campus Antiwar Movement to End the Occupations** and **CodePink** attempted to storm the **Army's recruitment station** inside **Dobie Mall** on Tuesday. Around 20 protesters brandishing signs and shouting slogans descended on the mall only to find the recruiting station locked and guarded by four APD officers, who ordered protesters to leave the premises immediately or face arrest.

The demonstrators regrouped outside, where they decided a change of tactics was in order. Hoping to trap more flies with sugar, some of them abandoned their signs and entered the mall once again – this time with a little less flourish. Finding the door unlocked, a few entered the offices and began talking to some of the recruiters, who were none-to-happy to find their offices infiltrated by peaceniks. The protesters were once again told to take it outside, and most decided to cheese it before the fuzz showed up. One **CAMEO** member, **Spencer Crowl**, stayed behind and continued

arguing with recruiters. When the police inevitably returned, they arrested Crowl for criminal trespassing, along with **CodePink** member **Sylvia Benini**, who had also returned to the recruiting station. Later that evening, anti-war groups gathered outside the police station to demonstrate in solidarity with the two jailed activists, who were released Tuesday night.

The event was part of a week of anti-war and counter-recruiting events sponsored by **CAMEO** and dubbed "**10 Days of Defiance**." The group was given criminal trespassing warnings in April 2005 after a similar event. After that protest, APD Officer **Jonathan Martin** warned, "We'll let them voice their opinion and go home, but they'll get arrested if they come back." **CAMEO** member **Tabitha Spencer** noted the irony, "The purpose of the war is to bring freedom and democracy to **Iraq** and we aren't even free to express ourselves at home."

– Justin Ward

For more on "10 Days of Defiance," see www.cameo-ut.blogspot.com.

HAPPENINGS

For more on these and other events this week, see *Community Listings*, p.72.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

AUSTIN CLEANTECH FORUM: THE FUTURE OF BIOFUELS Learn about biofuel technologies, the bioenergy supply chain, U.S. policy, and biofuel's impact on Central Texas. Register online. 6-8pm. *MCC Building, 3925 W. Braker. \$20 (\$15 advance).* www.austintechnologycouncil.org.

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

ACLU'S CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION SERIES workshop, taught by attorney Rita Lucido: Reproductive Freedom: Helping Minors Obtain Judicial Bypasses. Call or e-mail to register. Noon-1:30pm. *Carmelo's Italian Restaurant, 504 E. Fifth, 478-7300 x104. \$30.* kstotak@aclutx.org.

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

AFRICAN-AMERICAN MEN & BOYS/WOMEN & GIRLS CONFERENCE Monthly gathering brings young and old together for workshops, discussions, and lectures on issues affecting African-Americans. 10am-2pm. *Connally High School, 13212 N. Lamar. mrltoftalkshow@sbcglobal.net.*

ALINA FERNANDEZ: POST-FIDEL CUBA The CNN commentator, writer, and daughter of Fidel Castro, is in town working on a book about Cuban exile Carlos Laverna, the wrongly convicted "Barton Creek rapist." She's giving a talk on her father's recent public re-emergence and on Cuba's post-Fidel future. 5-6:30pm. *Cuba Libre, 409 Colorado.*

LAWN MOWER TRADE-IN DAY Trade in your gas-powered mower for a discounted electric one, and take a step toward lightening your carbon footprint. 8:30am-2:30pm. *Home Depot, 3600 S. I-35.* www.cmpbs.org/electriclawnmower.

SPELL IMPEACH DAY Bring a blanket and a picnic lunch for an afternoon of making signs that call for the impeachment of President Bush. Noon. *Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd.*

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

LAST SUNDAY Today's gathering, the last of the current series, will focus on economic justice. Speakers include the Rev. Jim Rigby, UT professor Robert Jensen, Cristina Tzintzún of the Workers Defense Project, and Louis Malfaro, president of both Education Austin and the Central Labor Council. Eliza Gilkyson performs. 6-8pm. *Saengerrunde Hall, 1607 San Jacinto. Free.* www.thirdcoastactivist.org/lastsunday.html.

LIVEABLE CITY Unitarian Universalist's speaker series presents Liveable City's Robin Rather, who will discuss how Austin's "livability" compares to that in other U.S. cities. 11:30am-12:30pm. *First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free.* www.liveablecity.org.

RALLY FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE Join Health Care for All Texans and Physicians for Social Responsibility in support of a single-payer system for universal health care. 4pm. *Texas state Capitol.* www.healthcareforalltexas.org.

ONGOING

ANNUAL HEMAN SWEATT SYMPOSIUM gathers legislators and educators to discuss this year's theme, the State of African-Americans in Texas. Don't miss the keynote speech from Olympic gold-medalist Jackie Joyner-Kersey. *Thursday-Friday, April 26-27. UT campus, and Texas state Capitol. Free (registration required for some activities).* www.utexas.edu/events/hemansweatt.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CONFERENCE features four days of workshops and seminars addressing this year's theme, Diversity vs. Affirmative Action: Where Do They Meet? Keynote speakers include Louis Gossett Jr., former HUD Secretary Henry Cisneros, and Sen. Royce West. *Through Saturday, April 28. Hyatt Regency Hotel, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 477-1234.* www.affirmativeaction.org/alerts.html.

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Ted Westhusing was a true believer. That was his fatal flaw. A lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army, Westhusing had a good job teaching English at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He was a devout Catholic who went to church nearly every Sunday. He had a wife and three young children.

He didn't have to go to Iraq. But Westhusing was such a believer that he volunteered for what he thought was a noble cause. At West Point, Westhusing sought out people who opposed the war in an effort to change their minds. "He absolutely believed that this was a just war," said one officer who was close to him. "He was wholly enthusiastic about this mission." His tour of duty in Iraq was to last six months.

About a month before he was to return to his family – on June 5, 2005 – Westhusing was found dead in his trailer at Camp Dublin in Baghdad. At that time, he was the highest ranking American soldier to die in Iraq. The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command's report on Westhusing's death explained it as a "perforating gunshot wound of the head and Manner of Death was suicide."

Westhusing was 44 years old.

In the ever-expanding disaster of the second Iraq war, the tragedy of Ted Westhusing is just one among tens of thousands. Four years of warfare have decimated Iraq. Its economy and infrastructure are in ruins. Tens of thousands, perhaps hundreds of thousands, of Iraqis are dead. Hundreds of thousands more have fled the country. More than 20,000 American soldiers have been wounded and more than 3,000 killed. Yet among all of those tragedies, amid all the suffering and heartache, Westhusing's story stands out. It shows how one man's life and the fervent beliefs that defined it were crushed by the corruption and deceit that he saw around him.

The disillusion that killed Ted Westhusing is part of the invoice that America will be paying long after the U.S. pulls its last troops out of Iraq.

Duty, Honor, Country

Some 846 American soldiers died in Iraq in 2005. Of those, 22 were suicides. Westhusing's suicide, like nearly every other, leaves the survivors asking the same questions: Why? And, what was it that drove the deceased to such despair? In Westhusing's case, the answers go far beyond his personal struggles and straight to the heart of America's goals in Iraq.

When he was in Iraq, Westhusing worked for one of the most famous generals in the U.S. military, David Petraeus. In January 2007, Petraeus was appointed by Bush to lead all U.S. forces in Iraq. As the head of counterterrorism and special operations under Petraeus, Westhusing oversaw the single most important task facing the U.S. military in Iraq then and now: training the Iraqi security forces.

All of the declared goals set out by George W. Bush and his band of neoconservative backers – a democratic Iraq, a safe and secure country that can support and govern itself, a country able to rebuild itself on the back of its vast oil wealth, a place ruled by pro-Western secular rulers that can provide a counterweight to the Islamic extremists in the region – depend on America's ability to "stand up" the Iraqi army and the Iraqi police force. Without a dependable security apparatus, none of those goals are achievable.

But when he arrived in Iraq, Westhusing discovered that, just like the rest of Iraqi society, the Iraqi military and Iraqi police have been riven by religion. That religious hatred, Sunni vs. Shiite – combined with the corruption that permeates the U.S. war effort and, increasingly, Iraqi society – made his an impossible job.

Two years before Westhusing left the U.S. for Baghdad, he had finished his doctoral dissertation in philosophy at Emory University in Atlanta. The focus was on honor and the ethics of war. Westhusing wanted to understand *arete* – the ancient Greek word meaning virtue, skill, and excellence. His quest for understanding the concept was, he believed, a central part of his existence. "Born to be a warrior, I desire these answers not just for philosophical reasons, but for self-knowledge," he wrote.

Westhusing did not find excellence or virtue in Iraq.

'I Am Sullied – No More'

Col. Ted Westhusing chose death over dishonor in Iraq

BY ROBERT BRYCE



Westhusing's story stands out. It shows how one man's life and the fervent beliefs that defined it were crushed by the corruption and deceit that he saw around him.

That fact is evident in a 2-inch stack of documents obtained over the past 15 months under the Freedom of Information Act that provides many details of Westhusing's suicide. The pile of papers includes interviews with Westhusing's co-workers, diagrams of his sleeping quarters, interviews with his family members, and partially redacted reports from the Army Criminal Investigation Command and the Army's inspector general. They echo the story told by Westhusing's friends. "Something he saw [in Iraq] drove him to this," one Army officer who was close to Westhusing said in an interview. "The sum of what he saw going on drove him" to take his own life. "It's because he believed in duty, honor, country that he's dead."

He went on, saying that "strength of character was Ted's defining characteristic. It was unflinching integrity." And that same integrity, he said, was also Westhusing's great flaw. "To be a true flaw, the personality has to have great strength. And that characteristic caused his downfall."

A Just War?

Westhusing was born in Dallas, one of seven children. He went to grade school in La Porte, near Houston, until the seventh grade when his family moved to Tulsa, Okla. He was an outstanding student. He was the starting point guard on the basketball team at Jenks High School, a National Merit Scholar, and a devout Christian. He was a hard worker. He was so devoted to basketball that he would shoot 100 jump shots each morning before school started. His work ethic, grades, and reputation gave him his pick of schools. He was accepted at Notre Dame and Duke. But he chose West Point. Westhusing's father had served in the Korean War and had later been in the Navy Reserve.

Westhusing got to West Point in 1979 at a time of major upheaval. The academy was still going through the aftershocks of a major cheating scandal. There was a tremendous emphasis on ethics and truthfulness. Westhusing loved it. As an underclassman, he was his company's honor representative on the cadet committee. In 1983, during his senior year, he was selected as the honor captain for the whole school, a position that made him the highest-ranking ethics official within the cadet corps. In that position, Westhusing helped adjudicate all of the honor violations that came before the committee. That year, he graduated third in his class.

From West Point, he went on to serve in the 82nd Airborne Division. He went to Ranger and Airborne schools and did stints in Italy, South Korea, and Honduras. He learned to speak Russian and Italian. And he continued his quest for intellectual excellence. In 2000, he went to Emory for a master's degree in philosophy. In 2002, he moved to Austin so that he could take a six-week class in classical Greek at the University of Texas. Westhusing and his Greek teacher at UT, Thomas Palaima, worked as consultants on a television documentary about the Trojan horse. (See "Ted's Ghost," p.32.)

At West Point, Westhusing was comfortable in his teaching job. He had no reason to do anything else. He was at the pinnacle of his profession and doing a job he loved. But in late 2004, he got a call from a former commander in the 82nd Airborne Division asking if he wanted to go to Iraq. Westhusing didn't hesitate before saying yes. Westhusing's father, Keith Westhusing, would later tell T. Christian Miller, a reporter for the *Los Angeles Times* and author of a recent book about corruption in Iraq, *Blood Money*, that his son wanted to go to Iraq to

continued on p.30



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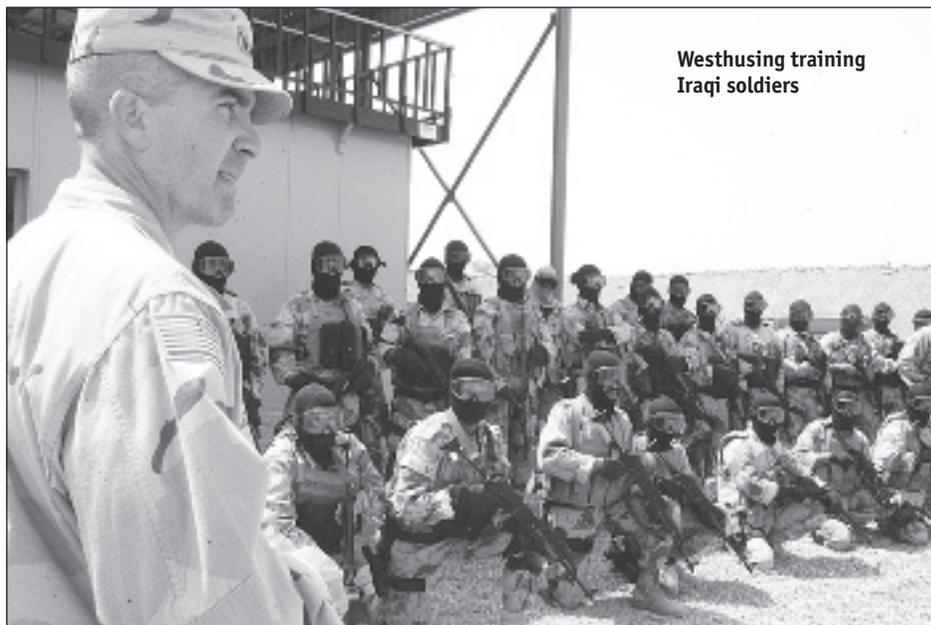
“obtain verification.” Going would make him a better soldier. As his father told Miller in *Blood Money*, a stint in Iraq would “lend authenticity to his status, not only as a soldier, but as an instructor at West Point.”

A fellow officer who worked with Westhusing at West Point said in an interview that prior to leaving for Iraq, “Ted never swayed in his belief that the Iraq mission was both just and being performed correctly; he told me personally that he would stay longer than the assigned six months if necessary. Before leaving, he was engaged in intense debate with the senior philosophy professor in the department. Ted believed in the mission, while his counterpart had several questions as to whether Operation Iraqi Freedom met the standards of a just war.”

Westhusing’s wife, Michelle, later told investigators that her husband believed “going to Iraq would make him a better professor when he taught cadets who would likely be going over there. ... He thought we were doing a great thing in Iraq.”

High Adventure

The first stop on Westhusing’s deployment was Fort Benning, Ga. There, he went through his medical exams, collected his equipment, and worked on his shooting skills. After so much time in the classroom, those skills were not sharp. According to documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act, Westhusing scored just 170 on the combat pistol range when he was tested on Jan. 15, 2005. If he had scored just 20 points lower, he would not have qualified.



Nevertheless, Westhusing’s first few weeks in Iraq were, he wrote to a friend, “high adventure.” His formal title was director, counterterrorism/special operations, Civilian Police Assistance Training Team, Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq. He liked working closely with his Iraqi counterparts and seemed to get along well with the contractors from Virginia-based USIS, a private security company, which had contracts worth \$79 million to help train Iraqi police units that were conducting special operations. (The owners of USIS include the Carlyle Group, the powerful private equity firm whose investors formerly

included George H.W. Bush and former Secretary of State James A. Baker III.) In another message to a friend back home, he said that “if you are not of strong character and know right from wrong, you will leave this place devastated in personal esteem and priceless human beings will be harmed.”

Westhusing worked under the supervision of two army generals: Joseph Fil, a major general (two stars), and Petraeus, a lieutenant general (three stars). Petraeus was impressed with Westhusing. By 2005, Petraeus had become a darling of the U.S. media thanks, in part, to his success helping stabilize and rebuild northern Iraq. Petraeus liked what he saw in Westhusing and promoted him immediately from lieutenant colonel to full colonel. In a March 2005 e-mail, Petraeus told Westhusing that he had “already exceeded the very lofty expectations that all had for you.”

While the promotion was an important one, Westhusing was increasingly isolated. He did not have, as his fellow officer from West Point put it, a “battle buddy” a person who “looks out for his friend both physically and psychologically.” The lack of personal support began to wear on Westhusing. His friends in the U.S. began seeing a darkening of his mood. His e-mails became less frequent and more ominous. Westhusing began having increasingly contentious conflicts with the contractors from USIS. There were ongoing problems with USIS’ expenses, and Westhusing was forced to deal with allegations that USIS had seen or participated in the killing of Iraqis. He received an anonymous letter that claimed that USIS was cheating the military at every opportunity, that several hundred weapons that had been assigned to the counterterrorism training program had disappeared, and that a number of radios, each of which cost \$4,000, had also disappeared. The letter concluded that USIS was “not providing what you are paying for” and that the entire training operation was “a total failure.”

Westhusing was devastated by the letter. Even if the charges were accurate, there was little that could be done. Iraq had no functioning judicial system, and there were questions about jurisdiction in case the contractors were indicted. Westhusing wrote back to his family,

telling them about the problems with the contractors, and said he needed to talk to a lawyer about the issues he was handling.

By late May, Westhusing was becoming despondent. Steeped in – and totally believing in – the West Point credo that a cadet will “not lie, cheat, or steal, nor tolerate those who do,” Westhusing found himself surrounded by contractors who had no interest in his ideals. He asked his family members to pray for him. In a phone call with his wife, Michelle, who was back at West Point, Westhusing told her that he planned to tell Petraeus that he was going to quit. But she pleaded with him to just finish his tour and return home.

Westhusing quit exercising, started chewing tobacco, and was increasingly withdrawn. His co-workers noted that he was fidgety. On the night of June 4, one of the female contractors who worked with Westhusing said that he appeared “very tired, almost like he hadn’t been sleeping” and was “out of sorts” and scratching his legs “quite a bit.” The same person said that Westhusing had begun to “play/examine his weapon” and that he seemed “mesmerized” with his pistol. The same contractor mentioned that Westhusing talked about an ongoing problem with the Iraqis who were coming into the counterterrorism training program. The program was always at risk of being infiltrated by members of the Iraqi militias, criminal gangs, and other elements. Westhusing asked the contractor for her thoughts about “vetting the students prior to the course.” The contractor said that after that conversation, Westhusing sat in the office and would “say aloud that he didn’t know how to solve the problem with the vetting issue. ... Only once did he address me directly. He said, ‘I just don’t see a way to resolve this problem.’”

A few minutes later, the female contractor said that Westhusing “stood up and started to examine his weapon again” for about five minutes. The next morning, on June 5, Westhusing had a meeting at Camp Dublin with the contractors and then another one with government personnel. At the second meeting he expressed his disgust with “money-grubbing contractors” and said he “had not come over to Iraq for this.” Westhusing was slated to leave Camp Dublin after lunch. When he did not show up for a meeting, one of the contractors went looking for him. At about 1:15 in the afternoon, Westhusing was discovered in trailer 602-A.

Near his body was a note addressed to his commanders, Petraeus and Fil. Written in large, block letters, it read in part: “I didn’t volunteer to support corrupt, money grubbing contractors, nor work for commanders only interested in themselves. I came to serve honorably and feel dishonored. I trust no Iraqi. I cannot live this way.”

Shortly after writing that note, at about 1pm Baghdad time, it appears that Westhusing took the 9mm Beretta automatic pistol he’d been issued at Fort Benning five months earlier, placed it behind his left ear, and pulled the trigger.

The Right Thing

After Westhusing’s death, there was a great deal of speculation. Some family members and friends began wondering if he had been murdered. Westhusing was supposed to leave for

‘Life Needs Trust’

Ted Westhusing’s last note to his superior officers

THANKS FOR TELLING ME IT WAS A GOOD DAY UNTIL I BRIEFED YOU. [REDACTED NAME] YOU ARE ONLY INTERESTED IN YOUR CAREER AND PROVIDE NO SUPPORT TO YOUR STAFF – NO MSN [MISSION] SUPPORT AND YOU DON’T CARE. I CANNOT SUPPORT A MSN THAT LEADS TO CORRUPTION, HUMAN RIGHT ABUSES AND LIARS. I AM SULLIED – NO MORE. I DIDN’T VOLUNTEER TO SUPPORT CORRUPT, MONEY GRUBBING CONTRACTORS, NOR WORK FOR COMMANDERS ONLY INTERESTED IN THEMSELVES. I CAME TO SERVE HONORABLY AND FEEL DISHONORED. I TRUST NO IRAQI. I CANNOT LIVE THIS WAY. ALL MY LOVE TO MY FAMILY, MY WIFE AND MY PRECIOUS CHILDREN. I LOVE YOU AND TRUST YOU ONLY. DEATH BEFORE BEING DISHONORED ANY MORE. TRUST IS ESSENTIAL – I DON’T KNOW WHO [TO] TRUST ANYMORE. WHY SERVE WHEN YOU CANNOT ACCOMPLISH THE MISSION, WHEN YOU NO LONGER BELIEVE IN THE CAUSE, WHEN YOUR EVERY EFFORT AND BREATH TO SUCCEED MEETS WITH LIES, LACK OF SUPPORT, AND SELFISHNESS? NO MORE. REEVALUATE YOURSELVES, CDRS. [COMMANDERS] YOU ARE NOT WHAT YOU THINK YOU ARE AND I KNOW IT.

COL Ted Westhusing

LIFE NEEDS TRUST. TRUST IS NO MORE FOR ME HERE IN IRAQ.

the U.S. on July 7, yet he killed himself on June 5. Why, they asked, couldn't he stick it out for just one more month?

Much of the speculation focused on USIS and the contractors. Did Westhusing have evidence that the contractors wanted to keep quiet? There were conflicting stories from the contractors about how they discovered Westhusing's body. One manager said that the first time he went to find Westhusing after lunch on June 5, the door to Westhusing's room was locked. But on a second visit, he said, he found the door unlocked. Further, one of the first people to find Westhusing in his room, a military contractor, moved Westhusing's pistol from its original position, claiming that he had done so for safety reasons. But that person was never checked for gunpowder residue.

While there were some odd details about his death, the Army's investigation quickly concluded that it was a suicide. An Army psychologist who looked into Westhusing's case concluded that despite his superior intellect, his ability to accept the fact that some Americans were only in Iraq for the money was "surprisingly limited. He could not shift his mindset from the military notion of completing a mission irrespective of cost, nor could he change his belief that doing the right thing because it was the right thing to do should be the sole motivator for businesses."

Twelve days after Westhusing's body was found, Army investigators talked with Michelle Westhusing. She told them that the suicide note found near her husband's body matched "almost verbatim" the discussions she had had with him and that the handwriting matched his. She said that Westhusing had "lost faith in his commanders" and that he "did not trust the Iraqis as far as he could spit."

Asked by investigators if there was anything else she wanted to add, she replied, "The one thing I really wish is you guys to go to everyone listed in that letter and speak with them. I think Ted gave his life to let everyone know what was going on. They need to get to the bottom of it and hope all these bad things get cleaned up."

It appears that Michelle Westhusing didn't get her wish.

In September 2005, the Army's inspector general concluded an investigation into the allegations that were raised in the anonymous letter that was sent to Westhusing shortly before his death. It found no basis for any of the issues raised. Although the report is redacted in places, it is clear that the investigation was aimed at determining whether Fil or Petraeus had ignored the corruption and human-rights abuses that were allegedly occurring within the program to train Iraqi security personnel. The report, which was approved by the Army's vice chief of staff, Richard Cody, a four-star general, concluded that "commands and commanders operated in an Iraqi cultural and ethical environment often at odds with Western practices." It said none of the unit members "accepted institutional corruption or human-rights abuses. Unit members, and specifically [redacted name] and [redacted name], took appropriate action where corruption or abuse was reported."

The context, placement, and relative size of the redacted names in Westhusing's note strongly suggest that they refer to Petraeus and Fil.

Last November, Fil returned to Iraq. He is now the commanding general of the Multinational Division in Baghdad and of the 1st Cavalry Division.

On Feb. 12, Petraeus took over command of all U.S. forces in Iraq. He now wears four stars. And just as in 2005, Petraeus' main job in Iraq will be building up Iraq's beleaguered police and military. He made that point clear in an open letter to all U.S. soldiers and civilians serving in Iraq, which he had distributed on the day he took command. His letter declares, "Shoulder-to-shoulder with our Iraqi comrades, we will conduct a pivotal campaign to improve security for the Iraqi people," he said. "Together with our Iraqi partners, we must defeat those who oppose the new Iraq." ■

Editor's note: This article originally appeared, in a slightly different form, in The Texas Observer, March 9, 2007.

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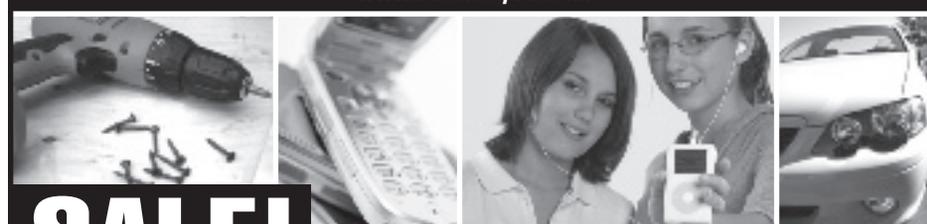
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Ted's Ghost

The death of Ted Westhusing leaves a widening circle of sorrow **BY TOM PALAIMA**

"They're still there, he's all gone."

— Bruce Springsteen, "Born in the U.S.A."

When the Greek hero Odysseus visits the Underworld in Book 11 of Homer's *The Odyssey*, he learns that his mother, Antikleia, who was alive when he set sail for Troy, has died and now dwells in the gloomy regions the Greeks called Hades. Odysseus sees her there and, overcome by sorrow, tries to embrace her. She slips away from his grasp but responds to his tearful pleas by explaining, "We no longer have sinews keeping the bones and flesh together, but once the life-force has departed from our bones ... the soul slips away like a dream." Cold comfort for the still-living and long-suffering Odysseus.

My friend, my former student, my scholarly collaborator Ted Westhusing is a ghost to me now. He is a ghost to his mother, his father, his brothers and sister, his wife and three children, his fellow soldiers, his former students at West Point Military Academy, and to the many people who wrote messages in his memorial guestbook (www.legacy.com/GB/GuestbookView.aspx?PersonId=14190695). We all want Ted, flesh and blood, self-effacing wit, plainspoken and honest, dedicated, moral, caring. We want to hear his laughter and feel the warmth of his hello, only matched in how good it made you feel, in my experience, by my late friend Clifford Antone's "Hey there, brother."

I want Ted, not his ghost. And I only knew Ted for three years. I feel the profound grief of his mother and family. Their loss seems to me unbearable, all the more because of the circumstances described so well in Robert Bryce's article (p.28).

In the online guestbook, Steve, an old friend of Ted's from Jenks High School in Oklahoma, writes, a year and a half after Ted's death, that "Ted always made us feel like we were someone special. ... Just the other day, I talked to my children about how important it is to look out for others. When my son was being bullied by a group at school, I talked about Ted and how he cared and looked out for others. It really made an impact on my son. Thanks Ted and God bless you and your family." Ted is somehow still alive in Steve's son.

Imagine the man Steve describes shouldering the overwhelming responsibility of training Iraqi security forces

and doing so with no brothers-in-arms around him and, as his "suicide note" makes clear, without the support of his two commanders. One of them, with an irony right out of Joseph Heller's *Catch-22*, is Gen. David Petraeus, "Iraq's repairman," as *Newsweek* calls him.

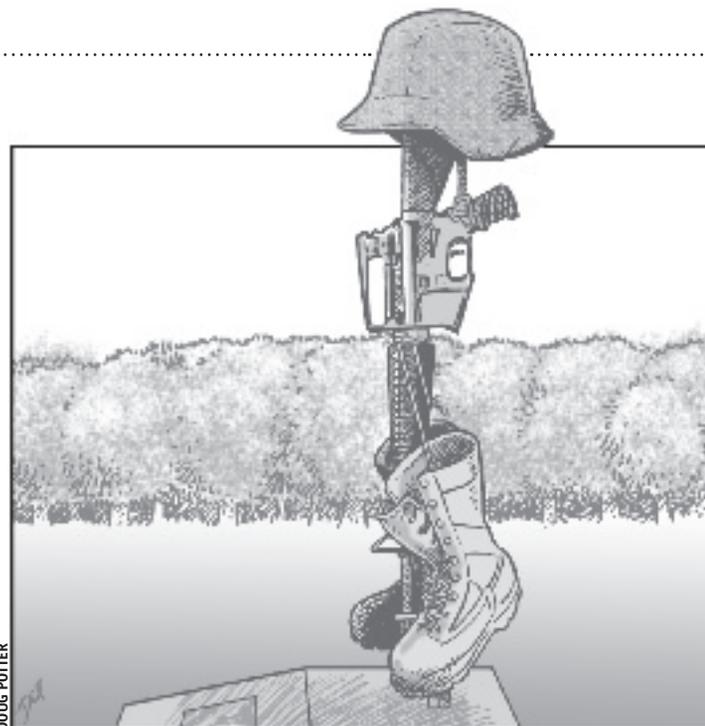
Fierce Dedication

I teach ancient Greek and war and violence studies through the filter of ancient history. I knew Ted Westhusing in both these areas. Ted was 41 years old and a stellar Army officer of almost two decades when he came to UT-Austin in the summer of 2002 to study intensive Greek, five hours a day, five days a week. He needed Greek for his Ph.D. thesis, and he was taking it with graduate students and gifted undergraduates. He reminded me then of Col. Kurtz in *Apocalypse Now*, who went through Army Airborne School at age 38. Capt. Willard describes Kurtz's Westhusing-like experience in this way: "The next youngest guy in his class was half his age. They must have thought he was some far-out old man humping it over that course. I did it when I was 19, and it damn near wasted me. A tough mother-fucker. He finished." As a description of how his fellow students viewed him, Ted would disagree only with the use of the word "motherfucker." I never heard him swear.

Ted was not a natural linguist. But he mastered Greek by long hours and hard work. He later described his experience in the UT alumni magazine, *The Alcalde*, as being harder than Army Airborne training.

Even in intensive Greek with so many hours of contact, memorable students are rare. The focus is on getting 20-25 students through historical linguistics and then assorted classical Greek literary genres. But Ted's achievement stayed with me. We stayed in touch despite our widely differing views on whether the American military should be in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Ted invited me up to West Point for five days to lecture to his cadet students on the nature of ancient Greek warfare and ancient Greek attitudes about the morality of warfare. He trusted that I would stay on message and not interject my strong views about Iraq and Afghanistan. I saw there the fierce dedication he had to his cadets and



DOUG POTTER

the respect bordering on awe they had for him. I also noticed how he had organized every detail of my five-day visit with scrupulous care.

Ted and I worked together on three other major projects. We were advisers to a Discovery Channel program on war in the Homeric epics. We wrote an article together for London's *Times Higher Education Supplement* on the value of studying Homer at West Point. And we both gave papers at a conference in St. Louis on the experience of war and the trauma it causes, from ancient Greece to the Iraq war. On all these projects, Ted's sense of values and his fierce belief in moral principles were conspicuous.

When Ted e-mailed me on Dec. 20, 2004, with what he called "twice good news" — that he had been selected for eventual promotion to colonel and had agreed to deploy to Iraq to serve under "a former boss of mine Lt. Gen. Petraeus" — I first responded in keeping with his own excitement about assisting in "the continuing effort to get the Iraqi security forces capable of killing the bad guys themselves and of securing their own country."

I expressed my pride in what he had achieved and my heartfelt good wishes. But later, I wrote that soldiers who had been writing me and sending me images of the effects of suicide-bomb blasts were not "optimistic" about the effectiveness of "Dumsfeld's" strategies. Ted's reply was strong. He felt there was no place for such attitudes and even requested the names and units of my informants. I declined in a way that let the matter drop, but that break stayed with us so that I did not communicate with Ted while he was in Iraq.



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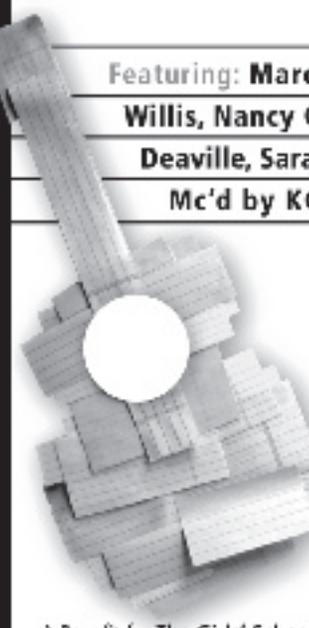
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The Diameter of Death

I feel now that I let my friend down. Ted's death haunts me. His ghost sometimes flits close enough for me to feel. I have the cards from his memorial service that his mother sent me propped up in my study at home and at my computer in my office in Waggener Hall. It is much too easy to turn any dead soldier into whatever you want him or her to be. I want to remember who Ted really was.

In my opinion, it is good that Ted has become a symbol of the waste of this particular war. Those who want to defend the war can easily say that Ted's moral sensibilities were too inflexible and that war's moral ambiguities produce many shades of gray, while Ted saw things only in black and white. Those who want to condemn the war, as I do, can easily use Ted as a symbol for all that is wrong with our leadership and how this war is being waged. Those choices make dead soldiers into icons, and they also let us blame easy targets, Bush, Rumsfeld, Ted himself, and move on.

We should instead remember what Yehuda Amichai writes in his poem "The Diameter of the Bomb" about the death of a single young woman from a terrorist bomb. The grief from her death radiates outward to affect people on other continents and eventually involve the whole world in a circle of sorrow "with no end and no God."

The conditions of the Iraqi war enclosed Ted in a circle within which he could not feel the tender mercies of his God, nor the saving love of his family and friends. His death is a terrible waste. We should have more than the ghost of this good and honorable man for comfort. ■

Thomas Palaima is the Raymond F. Dickson Centennial Professor of Classics at UT-Austin. He has recently written an essay, "Civilian Knowledge of War and Violence in Ancient Athens and Modern America," dedicated to Ted Westhusing and forthcoming in the collection *Experiencing War: Trauma and Society From Ancient Greece to the Iraq War* (Chicago: Ares Publishers, June 2007). The volume will also contain a posthumously edited essay by Westhusing, entitled "Two Armies in Iraq: Tommy Franks in the Footsteps of Alexander the Great." Palaima can be reached via e-mail at tpalaima@mail.utexas.edu.



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Gender Flexibility

BY MICHAEL VENTURA

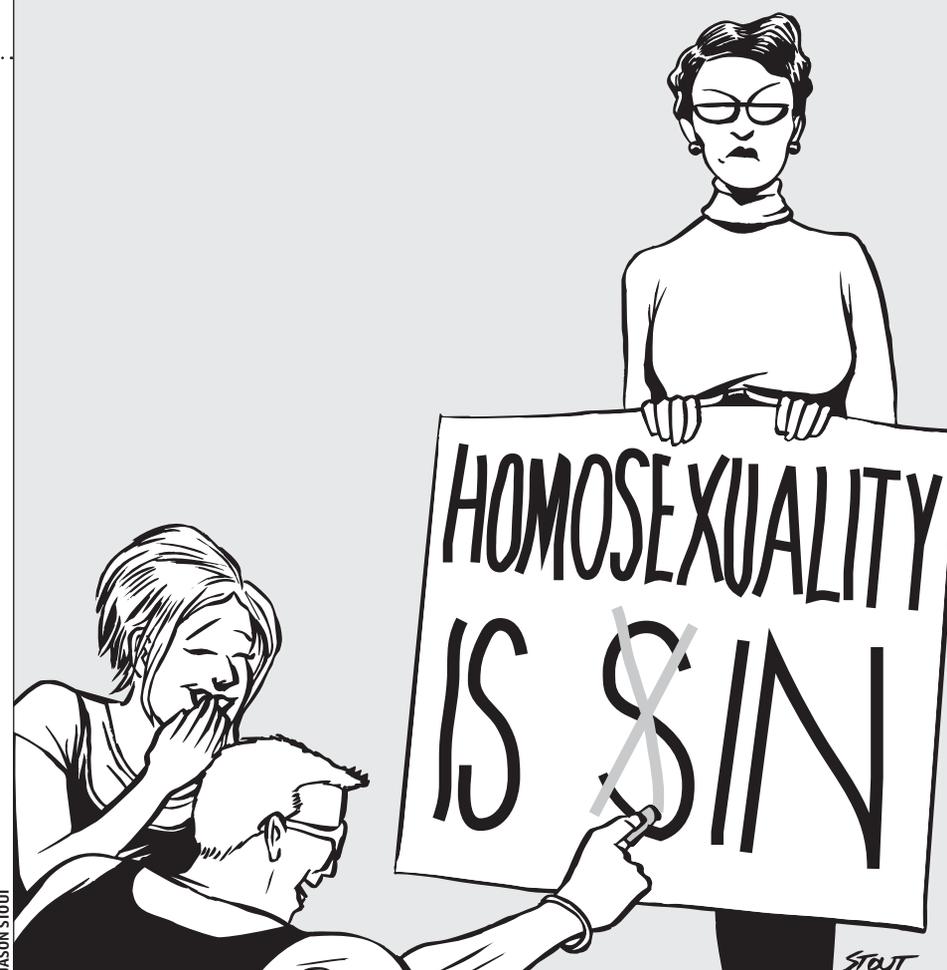
An unfair headline: "Clinton Seesaws on Question of Gay Morality" (*The New York Times*, March 15, p.25). It should have read "Clinton and Obama Seesaw." Asked if homosexuality is immoral, Hillary Clinton made the remarkable statement that the issue was "for others to conclude." Later, she put out a press release saying, "she did not think being gay was immoral." Clinton wants no sound bites for future attack ads. Nor does Barack Obama, who "was asked the same question three times and sidestepped the issue." Following suit, Obama then put out a release echoing Clinton. Both their statements are in the negative: not "homosexuality is moral," just that it is not immoral.

When Clinton and Obama were born, no one would have dreamed of asking presidential candidates such a question – in most of America, homosexuality was against the law. Now, no matter how lamely presidential candidates fudge and no matter how loudly religious fundamentalists shriek, the genie (and a lovely genie I think it is) has leapt from the bottle. What began as a primarily American issue is now being faced, one way or another, the world over. France is supposedly sophisticated, but its high court voided its first gay marriage (*The New York Times*, March 14, p.13). Italy's cabinet, however, "approved rights for gay and unwed couples" (*The New York Times*, Feb. 23, p.15); and Italy's law "doesn't go as far as already enacted laws in the Netherlands, Germany, and Spain" (*The Week*, Feb. 23, p.15). Canada's prime minister tried to strike down that country's law allowing same-sex marriage, but the Canadian Parliament defeated his proposal by a hefty majority (*The New York Times*, Dec. 7, 2006, p.5). Same-sex marriages have also been approved by the parliament of South Africa (*The New York Times*, Nov. 15, 2006, p.12).

The list goes on: "The highest legal body in Conservative Judaism, the centrist movement of worldwide Jewry, voted ... to allow the ordination of gay rabbis and the celebration of same-sex commitment ceremonies" (*The New York Times*, Dec. 7, 2006, p.26). "New Jersey Legislature Votes to Allow Same-Sex Unions: [However, New Jersey] stopped short of using the word 'marriage'" (*The Washington Post*, Dec. 15, 2006, p.3)." The League of American Families opposed New Jersey's bill, saying "marriage should be between a man and a woman." But once you need to insist that marriage "should be" between a man and a woman, the very fact that you're arguing means you've lost the argument. Until recently, the traditional definition of marriage was taken for granted. Now it's only the traditional definition.

This is but the beginning. A few decades down the road, when new generations in many countries take gay marriage for granted, the ground rules of human relationships will have changed irrevocably, enabling people to live out a far wider spectrum of their psyches than has yet been possible.

Even the American military is softening on the issue of gays. *The Christian Science Monitor* (March 6, p.2): Retired Army Gen. John Shalikashvili, former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said, "I now believe that if gay men and lesbians served openly in the military, they would not undermine the efficacy of the armed forces." A Zogby poll says 73% are "comfortable" with gays, but a *Military Times* poll shows that – comfortable or not – so far only 30% want gays to serve openly. Some, in any case, are beginning to see that our strained military cannot afford the loss of "nearly 11,000 [who] have been discharged under the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy ... including about 750 personnel in jobs critical to the war on terrorism, like translators" (*The Christian*



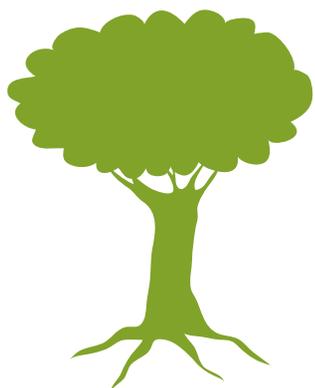
Science Monitor, March 6, p.2). (Who is crazy enough to care that the person who translates a crucial piece of intelligence is gay?)

Gender flexibility has shown up on several fronts lately. The U.S. Census Bureau is experimenting with simplified forms for its 2010 survey. As reported in *The Wall Street Journal* (Feb. 23, p.B1), "Question 3 asks gender, with the admonition to 'Mark ONE Box' – male or female. Whether the Census Bureau included that instruction or left it out [of its] 2005 field test, the results were the same. Either way, 0.005% of those asked – that would mean 150,000 in a population of 300 million – still checked both." As I would. I'm not gay or bi, but I'm way too

complicated to be all one thing or another when it comes to anything important – male or female, good or bad, old or young, present but perhaps not accounted for. As the poet Cid Corman put it, "Don't tell me/who I am/Let me guess."

"All but three states [Tennessee, Ohio, and Idaho] now allow people who have had a sex change to get a new birth certificate [indicating change of gender]. New York City has done so since 1971" (*The Washington Post*, Nov. 8, 2006, p.9). Recently, the city of New York almost went a step further – a step that may seem radical now but will be commonplace 10 or 20 years from now. *The New York Times*, Nov. 7, 2006, p.9: "The city wants to make it

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“A Doctor’s Confession to the City of Austin...”

And why, despite all, I still help people live pain free...

Dear friend,

Confessions are tough, real tough. But, sometimes a confession can set the record straight, and I want to give credit where credit is due. Before I talk about my confession, though, let me say a few other things first. Let me start by explaining the photo in this letter. I’ll start with me, the guy on the left.

Something happened to my mother that changed my life forever. My mom told my dad, *“If God has plans to take me tomorrow, I wish he’d just take me today.”* At the time I was studying to become a physical therapist. My mom was experiencing neck and shoulder pain. She tried medication, physical therapy and acupuncture without results. I was worried that she would have to live with this pain for the rest of her life.

My mom realized that traditional medicine had nothing more to offer when her medical doctor said the pain was all in her head. She finally made an appointment with a chiropractor. Within a short course of treatment, she was pain-free. I was so inspired and excited about the miracle that occurred, I decided to become a chiropractor.

Can chiropractic help your children? The baby in the photo is Delia, my niece. At two weeks old, she spent most of her days with clenched fists and her knees to her chest. She spent her nights in discomfort—she wouldn’t sleep and would vomit often. My frightened sister and brother-in-law brought Delia to her pediatrician. He said she had heartburn and prescribed baby Zantac. She was then brought to a homeopathic doctor who confirmed she had colic. The natural remedies gave her some relief but Delia still couldn’t have a bowel movement without pain. At eight weeks old, she received her first chiropractic adjustment. Instantly she had a bowel movement. After six more adjustments, her colic and constipation disappeared.

The boy in the photo is Nick, my nephew. He started experiencing seizures a year ago. An EEG showed spiking brain waves. My brother and his wife

for themselves, like the Virginia study that showed that 99% of patients who saw a chiropractor were satisfied with their results. That’s just incredible!



were scared that he would have to be on medication the rest of his life. I treated Nick for two months before his next EEG. The results were remarkable—no more spiking brain waves, which meant no more medicine!

Here’s what some of my patients had to say:

“I was diagnosed with fibromyalgia in 1995...I couldn’t do things most people take for granted... I recently returned to the work force.” (S.W.)

“I’ve been like a new person! No more pills. No more nausea, headaches, or abdominal pain.” (P.H.)

“I had headaches every day...I haven’t had a headache in two weeks.” (K.H.)

Several times a day patients thank me for helping them with their health problems. But I can’t really take the credit. **My confession is that I’ve never healed anyone of anything.** What I do is perform a specific spinal adjustment to remove nerve pressure, and the body responds by **healing itself.** We get tremendous results. It’s as simple as that!

Being a chiropractor can be tough, because there’s a host of so-called experts out there. They tell people a lot of things that are just plain ridiculous about my profession. But the studies speak

Forty-five million Americans **no longer have health insurance**, and those who do have found that their benefits are reduced. That’s where chiropractic comes in. Many people find that they actually save money on their health care expenses by seeing a chiropractor. Another way to save...studies show that chiropractic can double your immune capacity, naturally and without drugs. The immune system fights colds, flues, and other sicknesses. So you may not be running off to the doctor as much. This is especially important if you are **self-employed.** And, an entire week of care in my office may cost what you could pay for **one visit** elsewhere.

Great care at a great fee...

Please, I hope that there’s no misunderstanding about **quality of care** just because I have a lower exam fee. You’ll get great care at a great fee. Because we have been so successful at helping people get out of pain, we have **four offices** in Texas & Illinois. Our main location has been helping people for the past 14 years, and we treat over 3000 people in the community. **I just have that low fee to help more people who need care.**

Our offices are both friendly and warm and we try our best to

make you feel at home. We have a wonderful service, at an exceptional fee. Our offices are called **Triple “C” Chiropractic** and were located at:

11130 Jollyville Rd. Ste #201 in Austin.

(1/4 mile west of 183 at the intersection of Jollyville Rd. & Balcones)

You Benefit from an Amazing Offer-

Look, it shouldn’t cost you an arm and a leg to correct your health. You are going to write a check to someone for your health care expenses, *you may as well write one for a lesser amount for chiropractic.* When you call or bring in this article (by May 31, 2007) you will receive our entire new patient exam for **\$27**, that’s with x-rays.

This exam could cost you \$335 elsewhere. And, further care is very affordable and you’ll be happy to know that **I have affordable family plans.**

You see *I’m not trying to entice you to come see me with this low start up fee, then to only make it up with high fees after that.* Further care is very important to consider when making your choice of doctor. **High costs can add up very quickly.**

Our phone number in Austin is:

(512) 343-8333

Call now for an appointment. Thank you.

-Dr. Daniel Grunert

P.S. When accompanied by the first, I am also offering the second family member this same examination **at no charge.**

P.S.S. Can you imagine not having to wait at a doctor’s office? You will be seen within minutes of your appointment.

easier for transgender New Yorkers to switch the sex listed on birth certificates without undergoing sex-change surgery, putting the city at the forefront of efforts to redefine sexual identity. ... People born in the city would be able to change the documented sex on their birth certificates by providing affidavits from a doctor and a mental health professional. ... Applicants would have to have changed their names and shown that they had lived in their adopted gender for at least two years, but there would be no specific medical requirements.”

Wow. Yet that feels so right – and our great androgynous poet Walt Whitman would have loved it. You are who you feel you are. You are who you think you are. You are who you imagine yourself to be – if (and only if) you live it out and walk your talk. Your body doesn’t define you. You define your body.

Is that really possible? I have no idea. Possible or not, it is the ultimate declaration of independence, taking the “pursuit of happiness” to the edge of the envelope, then tearing up the envelope and throwing it over your bare shoulder – for luck.

That *Times* article went on: “The change would lead to many intriguing questions: For example, would a man who becomes a woman be able to marry another man? (Probably.) ... Would a woman who becomes a man be able to fight in combat, or play in the National Football League? (These areas have yet to be explored.)” They’ll be explored, I’m sure – but not yet. New York chickened out. On Dec. 5, 2006, the city’s official Web site reported that the proposal was rejected because it “would have broader societal ramifications than anticipated.” No kidding. But the concept is in the air. When a concept is in the air, everybody inhales it, like it or not. New York’s temporarily rejected proposal is the wave of the future.

For example: They used to be called tomboys or sissies, but now “children as young as 5 who display predispositions to dress [and behave] like the opposite sex are being supported by a growing number of parents, educators, and mental health professionals. ... Massachusetts, Minnesota, California, New Jersey and the District of Columbia have laws protecting the rights of transgender students” (*The New York Times*, Dec. 2, 2006, p.1).

I had a sex-change operation. It was called birth. Sometime in Mama’s womb I went from being many things to being a physically defined male. But my psyche hasn’t quite gone along with that. It’s reserved the right to feel womanly, sensually, when it feels like it. That this impulse goes solely toward women is defined in this culture as “heterosexual” – but is it?

In 1953, James Baldwin, a gay African-American, wrote the most telling sentence of the 20th century: “The world is white no longer, and it will never be white again.” He was right; the primacy of white power was soon to end. Now marriage and gender are no longer defined strictly by heterosexual. Heterosexual will not cease to be the majority, but – an enormous sea change in human history! – they have ceased to be the sole “official” definers of sexuality. Eventually this will expand our relationships in ways we cannot imagine. We’ve embarked, as a species, upon unmapped spectrums of sex. Baldwin would be pleased that half a century later his sentence could be refashioned to read: “The world is heterosexual no longer, and it will never be heterosexual again.” ■

SUMMER

Austin's camps proliferate beyond imagination

CAMP

ATTACK

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER AND MEREDITH BARNHILL

They're back, they're many, and they're packing a lot more than tire swings and log cabins. Today's camps offer highly concentrated combinations of play and learning, and regardless of whether your kids are into horseback riding, theatre, Web design, or global-conflict resolution, there's a camp in this guide for them. The selection below represents a generous cross section of what's available around town, and we'll continue to update our online guide as summer closes in (austinchronicle.com/summercamps). Many of the camps below offer more than what we could fit (especially in terms of discounts and scholarships), so be sure to call for complete details. Thanks to camp sleuths Richard Whittaker and Meredith Barnhill for compiling this year's guide.

- Nora Ankrum

GENERAL CAMPS

ADAPTIVE DAY CAMPS Round Rock runs two camps especially for kids with disabilities who need a little support. Choose from **Summer Fun Adventures Day Camp** for ages 6-12, with one staff member for every four campers, or the **Sizzling Summer Teen Camp** for ages 13-21, with one staff member for every five campers. (Kids must be able to behave and function with this ratio.) Both camps feature swimming, field trips, arts & crafts, sports, drama, cooking, and group games. *Weekdays, May 29-Aug. 24, 7am-6pm. Clay Madsen Recreation Center, 1600 Gattis School Rd., Round Rock, 512/218-3220. \$112-140 per week. www.roundrocktexas.gov/claymadsen.*

AUSTIN EASTSIDE STORY FOUNDATION hosts two day camps right in the heart of East Austin, with field trips, arts & crafts, and more for the wee ones. *Ages 5-7. Weekdays, June 4-July 13, 7:30am-5:45pm. Texas Empowerment Academy, 3613 Bluestein; LBJ High School, 7309 Lazy Creek Dr.; 482-8548. \$200 (some field trips may require transport or admission costs). www.austineastsidestory.com.*

AUSTIN NATURE AND SCIENCE CENTER gets your child in touch with nature through specialty camps for all ages and interests. Each camp teaches a hands-on approach to nature, so campers should plan to get dirty. Extra-special field trips include walking in real dinosaur tracks and spending a night in the penguin enclosure of the San Antonio Zoo. *Ages 7-13. May 29-Aug. 3, 8am-5pm. \$180-275 per week. Adventure Camps feature one- and two-week sessions of hands-on outdoor excitement: caving, mountain biking, climbing, and canoeing, plus regular field trips and overnight campouts for the two-week campers. Ages 9-12. May 29-Aug. 10, 9:30am-4:30pm. \$145-350. Nature Camps put nature under the microscope and telescope, with scientific activities, daily swimming at Deep Eddy, and field trips to local museums, zoos, and natural habitats. Ages 7-8. May 29-Aug. 17, 8am-5pm. \$120-290 per week. For the smaller scientists, Tadpole Camps offer morning and afternoon half-days for the youngest or full-day camps for the bigger wee ones. Ages 3-6. May 29-Aug. 17, 8am-5pm. \$100-140 per week. Older kids who want to help out can take part in the **Counselor in Training** program, where they'll learn by doing, alongside adult camp counselors. Participants must be available for precamp training and the July 27 end-of-summer party. *Ages 13-17. May 31-Aug. 10. \$80-200 per week. Austin Nature and Science Center, 301 Nature Center Dr., 327-8181. www.ci.austin.tx.us/ansc.**

CAMP DOUBLECREEK provides a real farm experience with gardening, baby animals, and horseback riding, plus swimming, sports, paintball, and archery. Free bus pickup from sites around Austin. *Ages 4-14. May 28-Aug. 17, 7:30am-5:30pm.*

Doublecreek Farm, Round Rock, 512/255-3661. \$225 per week (\$250 with riding lessons). www.campdoublecreek.com.

CAMP HEATWAVE keeps kids mentally and physically distracted and energized by mixing outdoor recreation and indoor scientific research. *Grades 1-6. Weekdays, May 29-July 20, 7:30am-6pm. Doss Elementary School, 7005 Northledge, 414-0371. \$125-155 per week. www.austinsummer.org.*

CAMP INDIGO lets kids connect with their inner selves through nature walks, drama, dance, making flutes and drums, and taking mini-vision-quests to find their spiritual guides. *Ages 4-18. July 16-20, 10am-4pm. White Wings Retreat Center, Wimberley, 512/847-6372. \$350. www.shininghorizonschool.org.*

CAMP ON THE MOVE is all about the outdoors, with a different field trip every day. Travel in an air-conditioned charter bus to attractions such as Sea World, Six Flags, and Schlitterbahn. *Ages 7-14. (Counselor-in-training program available for ninth- and 10th-graders.) May 28-Aug. 24. 266-9930. \$190-365 per week, plus admission to certain attractions (discounts for counselors in training). www.camponthemove.com.*

CAMP QUALITY is a week away for children with cancer, where they'll spend time with a companion for the full camp experience, with fully qualified medical support as needed. (Additional support available throughout the rest of the year.) *Ages 4-18. July 15-20. Camp Tyler, Tyler, 281/693-3632. Free. tx.campqualityusa.com.*

CLUB Z provides afterschool fun all year round: Activities include air hockey, cooking, field trips, theatre, visits from magicians, and more, all provided at four handy locations around town. *May 24-Aug. 13. See Web site for locations/prices. 219-0700. www.zclubhouse.com.*

EXTEND-A-CARE FOR KIDS Each week centers on a literary theme and includes field trips, educational and sports games, cooking projects, and nature walks. *Ages 5-12. May 29-Aug. 17, 7:15am-6pm (half days available). Eleven elementary-school locations in the Austin, Del Valle, and Hays Independent School Districts, 472-9402. Free-\$165. www.eackids.org.*

GIRLSTART finds the fun in science, exploration, and mysteries, with opportunities to solve crimes with forensic science or to make real TV-news segments. *CSI Girlstart Investigates Grades 6-8. June 11-22. Anchor Girl Grades 6-8. June 25-July 13. Hermione's Summer Holiday Grades 4-5. July 16-27. Animal World Grades 4-5. July 30-Aug. 10. All sessions run 8:30am-4:30pm. 1400 W. Anderson, 916-4775. \$325. www.girlstartcamp.org.*

HOSPICE AUSTIN'S CAMP BRAVEHEART is a three-day, overnight camp that helps children deal with losing loved ones. It pairs grief support with fun outdoor activities including low-ropes courses, kayaking, and sing-alongs around the campfire.

Ages 6-17. Aug. 6-8. John Knox Ranch, Wimberley, 512/342-4700. Free. www.hospiceaustin.org.

MULTICULTURAL SUMMER CAMP offers an introduction to pan-Asian culture, with cooking, origami, games, martial arts, and more. *Ages 6-12. Weekdays, May 29-Aug. 24, 8am-6pm. Asian American Cultural Center, 11713 Jollyville, 336-5069. \$220 per week (10% discount on four weeks or more). www.asianamericanc.com.*

ROCKIN' R TEEN CAMP keeps energetic teens occupied with games, sports, swimming, and field trips. *Ages 10-14. Weekdays, May 29-Aug. 24, 7am-6pm. Clay Madsen Recreation Center, 1600 Gattis School Rd., Round Rock, 512/218-3220. \$70-105 per week. www.roundrocktexas.gov/claymadsen.*

ROCKY RIVER RANCH is a girls-only residential ranch in the Hill Country, where self-esteem and independence are as important as campfire sing-alongs. Outdoor activities like archery and kayaking mix with drama and photography. *June 3-Aug. 3. Wimberley, 800/863-2267. \$650 per week, \$975 (10 days), \$1,225 (two weeks). www.rrcamp.com.*

SUMMER PLAYGROUND PROGRAM provides daily drop-in fun at dozens of locations around Austin. Activities based on this year's theme - Play, Pride, and Prosper! - will encourage healthy living with at least an hour of playground time every day, plus water-balloon tosses, box hockey, and other games. Campers also participate in citywide events like track meets and the annual Chalk Art Contest. No preregistration required. *Ages 6-15. June 4-July 20. Mon.-Thu., 9am-5pm; Fri., 10am-5pm. Locations vary, 480-3043. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/playgrounds.htm.*

SUNRISE SON-NATIONAL SUMMER CAMP This church program runs weekly day camps with swimming, games, sports, music, field trips, and devotion. There's a different theme every week and a full-scale musical performance to wrap up the summer. *Ages 5 to completion of sixth grade. Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 17, 7am-6pm. Sunrise Community Church, 4430 Manchaca, 444-3326. \$30, registration; \$90 per week. www.sunrisechurchonline.org.*

TEXPEDITIONS: BLAST OFF! invites you to explore space history in the new special exhibit "Made to Walk the Skies: Texas and Space Travel." *Ages 7-12. Weekdays, June 25-July 27. Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 936-4608. \$185 per week (\$150, members). www.thestoryoftexas.com/education/txpeditions.html.*

WELLSPRING TEXAS Texas' first camp for overweight boys and girls offers rigorous activities like hiking and recreational sports, teaches healthy culinary practices, and uses cognitive-behavioral therapy to address underlying emotional issues that prevent weight loss. Pick from four- or eight-week residential sessions. *Ages 12-17. June 10-Aug. 4. San Marcos Baptist Academy, San Marcos, 617/792-4121. \$600 per session, \$1,200 (full summer). www.healthylivingacademies.com.*

WET & WILD ADVENTURE CAMP isn't just about swimming, sailing, tubing, and dozens of water activities; there's also bowling, biking, rope-swinging, and a whole bunch more, plus trips to Fiesta Texas. *Ages 8-15. Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 10, 7:30am-6pm. Drop-off points: Patton Elementary School, West Enfield Park, 983-6100. \$280 per week. www.wetwildcamp.com.*



YMCA CAMPS provide fun and community for kids of all ages. Start off with **Kinder Camp** for the youngest, with field trips, books, activities, and quiet time. *Ages 4-5. May 29-Aug. 24. \$172 (\$142, members). For tweens and early teens, there's **Theme Camp**, with field trips, activities, games, and crafts. *Ages 5-12. May 29-Aug. 24. \$172 (\$142, members). Or, for the oldest and boldest, there's **Adventure Camp**. *Ages 10-13. May 29-Aug. 17. \$192 (\$162, members). For the sportier kids, there's **Sports Camp**, where kids can concentrate on essential skills, drills, and physical training. *Ages 8-12. May 29-Aug. 17. \$182 (\$152, members). For the older kids, the **Teen Leadership Program** teaches team-building and leadership skills with outdoor activities and day trips, then lets students apply what they've learned while helping run a real day camp. *Ages 13-15. June 4-Aug. 10, 8am-5:30pm. \$197 (\$157, members). Camps offered at various YMCA locations, 236-9622. www.austiniymca.org.*****

ART & MUSIC CAMPS

ART CAMP AT EDIE'S RETREAT allows children to explore acrylic and watercolor painting, cartooning, and drawing. *Ages 7-12. June 4-29, 9am-noon or 1-4pm. Edie's Retreat in Barton Hills, 413-2617. \$165 per week. www.ediesretreat.com.*

ART PAD gives budding artists hands-on fun, with specialty camps in every medium imaginable, from collage to mosaics, puppetry to portraits. *Ages 6-16. May 29-Aug. 24, 9am-6pm. 4520 Burnet Rd., 323-0802. Four- and five-day sessions: \$148-165 (half day); \$315-395 (full day). www.artpadstudio.com.*

AUSTIN CHILDREN'S CHOIR SUMMER CAMP immerses your child in the joy of the high choral experience (including time for games as well), with a talent show and full choral concert completing the week. *Grades 1-8. June 11-15, 9am-4pm. St. Mark's Episcopal Church, 2128 Barton Hills Dr., 486-1221. \$200. www.austinchildrenschoir.com.*

AUSTIN SCHOOL OF MUSIC teaches the rockin' essentials and finishes up each weeklong session with a performance on the legendary stage at Antone's. **Lil' Rockers** *Ages 5-7. 10am-noon. \$225. Opening Acts* *Ages 8-16. 9am-noon. \$445. Jazz Campers* *Ages 10-19. 9am-noon. \$495. Headliners* *Ages 10-19. 1-5pm. \$525. June 4-Aug. 3. 2428-B W. Ben White, 476-7666. www.rockcampaustin.com.*

CAFE MONET gets the creative juices flowing in a relaxed cafe environment. At **Sense-ible** camp, each day is about a different sense and the art it inspires, while **Play-in-Clay** features hands-on work with pottery, mosaics, and painting. *Ages 6 & up. Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 3, 2-4pm. Westgate Center, 4477 S. Lamar, 892-3200. \$150 per week. www.cafemonet.org.*

CAMP ABRAKADOODLE teams up with the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center to host life and nature science camps. Sessions range from single-day to weeklong camps in several locations in and around Austin. Choose from Icky, Slimey, Goopy, Harry Potter's Castles, Art in Nature, and many more. *Ages 20 months to 12 years. Dates/times vary. Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse, 380-7555. \$24-225. www.abrakadoodle.com/tx03.html.*

CHAMBER MUSIC WORKSHOP provides half- and full-day small-ensemble sessions with coaching on performance, rehearsal, and composition skills. Students will learn with others of similar age and

experience, work with local composers, and hear performances by world-class ensembles, including the Beaux Arts Trio, Jupiter String Quartet, and Quartetto Gelato. **Ages 6-18. July 5-21. Two-week sessions: \$415 (half days), \$845 (full days).** Brentwood Christian School, 11908 N. Lamar, 454-7562. www.austinchambermusic.org.

LONE STAR SCHOOL OF MUSIC puts the twang and bang into the summer with three sessions for future superstars. **Girls Rock Camp** pairs young rockers with local female performers for classes in songwriting, instrumentation, and learning to play as a band. Career sessions and performances from local artists also included. **Ages 9-17. June 18-29, 9am-3pm. \$650-750.** And don't let the name **Rock Camp** fool you: Catering to all skill levels (or lack thereof), there's everything from blues to rock to classical ensembles. Play music in the morning; play around in the afternoon with day trips, movies, swimming, and more. **Ages 7-14. May 29-June 15 or July 16-Aug. 3. \$750-875 (half days), \$1,500-1,700 (full days).** Lone Star School of Music, 2824 Real, 524-5252. www.lonestarschoolofmusic.com/camps.html.

NATURAL EAR MUSIC CAMP specializes in roots rock and Texas-style music. Kids learn several songs and instruments, and they show off their new talents onstage at the Broken Spoke. **Ages 8-18. Weekdays: June 11-28 or July 9-26 (\$795); overnight: June 17-28 or July 15-26 (\$2,495).** 103 Krebs, 447-5910. www.naturalearmusic.com.

PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK brings out the budding Jimmy Page or Bruce Springsteen in your child. Two two-week sessions available: They can pick from learning to play rock classics in a live setting or hitting the studio to write and record their own songs. **Ages 8-18. Weekdays, July 9-Aug. 3, 9:30am-3:30pm. Paul Green School of Rock Music, 13803 Dragline Dr. #200, 670-2360. \$800. www.schoolofrock.com/austin.**

THEATRE/DANCE CAMPS

ARTHUR MURRAY KID'S BALLROOM DANCE CAMP teaches grace and coordination through Latin, swing, country western, and ballroom dance. **Ages 7-16. Tuesdays & Thursdays, July 3-26, 3:15-4pm; Saturdays, July 14-28, 1-1:45pm.** Arthur Murray Dance Studio, 2700 Anderson #504, 454-7663. \$200. www.texdance.com.

CAMP ONE WORLD: MISSOULA CHILDREN'S THEATRE puts budding actors on the professional stage as part of the cast of *Robin Hood*. Real rehearsals and stage training from actors and directors culminate in two full performances at One World Theatre. **Ages 5-15. Weekdays, June 11-16, 9:30am-1:30pm. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 329-6753. \$150. www.oneworldtheatre.org.**

DOUGHERTY ARTS SCHOOL These two-week sessions help kids and teens find their artistic voice in performance and digital and traditional media. **Preschool Creative Kids** **Ages 3½-5. 9am-noon or 2-5pm. \$175-195. Summer Arts Adventure** **Ages 6-7. 9am-5pm, \$297-300. Art Academy Apprentices & Masters** **Ages 8-12. 9am-5pm. \$315-350. Film Society** **Ages 9-12. 9am-5pm. \$315-350.** May 29-Aug. 24. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty/su_camp.htm.

EXPRESSIVE ARTS JAM is the area's only performance-arts camp designed for creative kids with disabilities. Sign up for weekly themed sessions, or join the three-week Actual Lives performance project, and make a show to be aired on Public Access Community Television. **Ages 8 & up. June 11-29, 9am-4pm. VSA Arts of Texas, 3710 Cedar #7, 454-9912. \$125 per week (mornings); \$450, three-week session (afternoons); \$750, three-week session (full day).** www.vsatx.org.

KIDS PLAY makes the kids the stars, with lessons in acting, music, improv, and backstage skills. Each weeklong camp finishes with a matinee performance. Pick from: Secret Agent Camp, Jurassic Adventure, Pirate Mania, Medieval Magic, Happy Trails, or Camp Super Hero. **Grades K-7. Weekdays, June 11-Aug. 3, 9am-2pm. Hyde Park United Methodist, 4001 Speedway, 695-2430. \$250. www.kidsplayaustin.com.**

PERFORMING ARTS AT ST. EDWARD'S puts students center-stage with musical and theatrical instruction for all ages and aptitudes: **Piano for Beginners** and **Beginning Guitar** **Ages 7-17. May 28-June 1. Half-day sessions: 9am-12:30pm & 1:30-4:30pm. \$140. Jazz** **Ages 12-18. June 4-8, 9am-4:30pm, \$250. Discover Music** **Ages 6-12. June 11-15, 9am-4:30pm. \$250. Opera Scene Intensive Workshop** **Ages 17 & up. June 11-16, 6:30-10:30pm. \$250. Shakespeare on the Hill** **Ages 13-18. Weekdays, June 18-28, 9am-**

4:30pm. \$480 (full day), \$250 (morning). Musical Theatre Camp **Ages 6-15. July 16-20 & July 23-27, 9am-12:30pm. \$140 per week. Carriage House, St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8400.** www.stedwards.edu/horizon/summercamps.htm.

THEATRE ACTION PROJECT emphasizes teamwork both onstage and backstage, with each specialty camp culminating in a public performance. **Puppet Masters!** introduces international styles of puppetry, construction, and performance. **June 11-15, WAYA, 1314 Exposition. Express Yourself!** helps your child find his or her voice, no matter whether it's in acting, music, dance, creative writing, or art. The week ends with a block party. **July 9-13, Rawson-Saunders campus, 2600 Exposition Blvd. Playmakers: It's Our World!** gets students to write, improvise, produce, and perform their own original show. **Aug. 6-10. Rawson-Saunders campus. 442-8773. \$175 (half days, ages 5-7); \$250 (full days, ages 8-12).** www.theatreactionproject.org.

INSTRUCTIONAL CAMPS

ACADEMY IN ARCHITECTURE is a five-week intensive introduction to the art and craft of construction. Students get their own design studio space, and through practical projects, field trips, and lectures from industry professionals, they learn how cities and communities are made. **Ages 16 & up. Weekdays, June 4-July 6, 10am-5pm. Austin School of Architecture, 471-9890. \$1,300.** www.utexas.edu/architecture/center/academy.

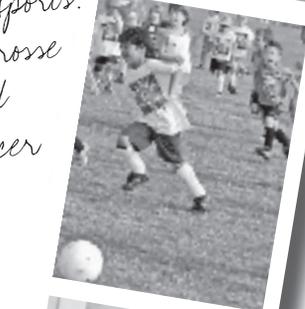
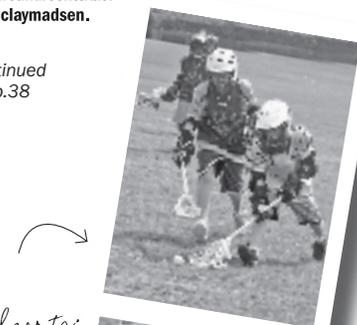
ACC YOUTH PROGRAMS offer more than 100 courses, from glassblowing to manners, for the elementary-school set. **Ages 3-18. May 29-Aug. 14. All Austin Community College campuses, 223-7542. Prices/locations vary.** www.austinctx.edu/camp.

BADGERDOG WRITING CAMP turns budding writers into published authors. With help from established local wordsmiths, they'll work toward inclusion in a published anthology, with a public reading at the end of the course. Writing groups, plus field trips to local archives and libraries, round out the literary fun. **Grades 3-12. Weekdays, June 11-July 27, 9am-noon. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 538-1305. \$400 per three-week session.** www.badgerdog.org.

CAMP COUNSELOR TRAINING For teens who love camp but want to be the one blowing the whistle. Learn leadership skills and take part in team-building exercises as part of the counselor-in-training duties, provided by the Round Rock Parks & Recreation Department. Sessions last two weeks. **Ages 13-16. Weekdays, June 14-Aug. 17. Kinningham Park, 1000 South Creek Dr., Round Rock, 512/218-3220. \$105.** www.roundrocktexas.gov/claymadsen.

continued on p.38

US Recsports: Lacrosse and Soccer



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CAMP HISTORY ON THE HILL teaches kids about Texas in the 1800s through stories, characters, hands-on activities, and more. Ages 6-12. June 18-22, 9am-noon. French Legation Museum, 472-8180. \$100 (\$25 per day). www.frenchlegationmuseum.org.

CAMPWIRED puts high tech tools in the hands of creative Interweb-types. **CampWired** gives kids in grades 5-9 all the cutting-edge creative software knowledge they need to make a game or a movie, including Flash MX, PhotoShop, and Stagecast. **CampWired Junior** gives your mini Web-developer (in grades 2-4) a start on FrontPage or lets her loose with Adobe Premiere Elements filmmaking software. Ages 7-14. Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 3, 9am-noon or 1-4pm. Westlake High School, 4100 Westbank, 797-2320. \$200 per week. www.campwired.com.

FRENCH CULTURE Find a little slice of Paris with Pomme D'Api. Kids can whip up *un petit morceau* in the kitchen at **French Cooking Camp**: ages 2-5, 10am-noon; ages 6-12, 1-3pm; \$200. Or they can learn about France in **Introduction to French** through song, stories, and activities. Ages 6-12, 4-5pm, \$120. July 30-Aug. 3. Pomme D'Api, 2201 Shark Loop, Round Rock, 512/297-9823. www.txpommedapi.com.

GAMECAMP! (See "Playing for a Living," p.58.) Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 17, 9am-5pm. ACC Highland Business Center, 5930 Middle Fiskville, 363-3795. \$500. www.gamecamp.org.

GARDENHEADS SUMMER CAMP teaches campers basic gardening and arts & crafts from nature-made materials. Students will plant and harvest organic vegetables, tend to flowers and herbs, and experience eating what they've grown. Ages 4-12. Weekdays, May 28-Aug. 17, 8:30am-noon. 1914 Cullen Ave., 524-5090. \$150. www.gardenheads.net.

GLOBAL ETHICS & CONFLICT RESOLUTION SUMMER SYMPOSIUM gives high schoolers interested in changing the world a unique opportunity to tackle issues of multiculturalism, international diplomacy, and conflict management. Each seven-day course provides tuition, lectures, and practical projects run by international-relations experts and former UN officials. Grades 9-12. June 17-30, 9am-5:30pm. UT Department of Communication Studies, CMA 7.120, 471-1950. \$225-375 per week, \$435-735 for both sessions. www.utpcr.org.

KENT CUMMINS MAGIC CAMP introduces children to the world of stage spectacle, with intros to the skills and wonder of conjuring, puppets, and juggling. Ages 6-12. Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 17, 9am-3pm. Concordia University, 288-1596. \$395 per two-week session. www.magiccamp.com.

MAD SCIENCE gets kids into the gooey, gloopy side of science, with fun experiment-based learning about rockets, chemistry, space, robots, ecology, and more, at five locations around Austin. Ages 6-12. May 9-Aug. 24. Residential, full-day, and half-day available. 6120 Hwy. 290 W., 892-1143. \$120-240. www.madscience.org.

MOVIE CAMP lets your little Spielberg get behind a real camera. Campers learn from genuine film and TV professionals how to make movies and stage onscreen stunts, and they'll have access to equipment, green screens, sound and video editing equipment, and 12 acres of outdoor fun (including the swimming pool). (To win a full week at camp, kids should submit their stories to the Stunt Ranch **Short Story Scholarship Contest** — the winning script will be made into a real movie. Deadline: May 15.) One-, two-, and three-week courses available (full day, grades 6-8; half day, grades 3-5). Ages 7-13. Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 10, 8:30am-4pm. Stunt Ranch, 13317 Fitzhugh Rd., 796-4723. \$295-525. www.stuntranch.com.

SUMMER FILM CAMP FOR GIRLS puts the camera in the hands of tomorrow's female filmmakers. Mornings start with the history, the whos, and the how-tos of cinema, and the afternoon is for making short movies with the guidance of local female movie-making mentors. Call "cut!" with a big screening for friends and family at the end of the week. Ages 12-18. Sat., July 28; Mon.-Fri., July 30-Aug. 3, 9am-5pm. Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, 628-3413. \$500. www.femmefilmtexas.org.

SUMMER TECHNOLOGY CAMPS will keep computer-loving kids learning while school's out. Campers will enjoy *Guitar Hero* and *DDR* tournaments, LAN parties, and hands-on experience with animation and film-editing software. Choose from day or overnight camps for boys and girls. Ages 7-17. June 3-July 27. UT campus, Texas Union, 888/709-8324. \$729-1,129. www.internaldrive.com.

TEEN FILMMAKING WORKSHOP Kat Candler (director of SXSW 06 fave *Jumping Off Bridges*) teaches the essential skills of movie magic, from scriptwriting to production to getting shown at festivals. Meeting for two sessions a week over six weeks, students form teams to create their own short films, to be screened July 21. Ages 12-19. May 30-July 7, Wed., 6:30-8:30pm & Sat. 10am-noon. The Austin School of Film, 906 E. Fifth #106, 771-5863. \$550. www.storieproductions.com.

TEXAS STUDENT MEDIA gets kids into the studio with UT-Austin's award-winning student broadcasters. Middle schoolers: Learn the basics of radio or TV at **Production Camp**, June 19-23, 9am-1pm; or make a real news show at **News Camp**, July 10-14, 9am-1pm. \$225. For the budding broadcasters in high school: The **Production Workshop** runs June 25-29, 9am-4pm; or try the **News Workshop**, July 16-20, 9am-4pm. \$400. All age groups produce real shows to air on either KVRX for radio or TSTV and Time Warner Channel 16. Ages 11-18. UT campus, Jesse H. Jones Communication Center, 471-5083. danknight@mail.utexas.edu, www.texasstudenttv.com/tvcamp.html.

THE HEART OF TEXAS WRITING PROJECT hosts one- and two-week sessions with instruction ranging from elementary writing to the development of good writing habits to college-essay prep courses for graduates-to-be. Grades 3-12. June 4-29, 9am-noon or 1-4pm. UT campus, Sanchez Building, 471-4381. \$125-250. www.heartoftexaswritingproject.org.

WAVE 2007 TEEN SUMMER MEDIA CAMPS UT's Radio-Television-Film Department offers young adults the opportunity to learn the software programs necessary for making animation, live-action films, and video games: **Flash Camps** Ages 13-18. Weekdays, June 4-15 & 18-29, 9am-noon. **Filmmaker Face-Off** Ages 14-18, June 18-29, 1-5pm; ages 11-13, weekdays, July 9-20, 1-5pm. **Ultimate Filmmaker Challenge** Ages 15-18. Weekdays, July 30-Aug. 3, 9am-5pm. **The Final Cut** Ages 14-18, weekdays, June 18-29, 9am-noon; ages 11-13, weekdays, July 9-20, 9am-noon. UT campus, 471-6617. \$450, two-week session. rtf.utexas.edu/wave.

WOMEN IN ENGINEERING at UT-Austin presents Consider Every Option day camps, where young women aiming for a career in engineering get hands-on experience and expert advice on college choices. Grades 9-11. June 6-8, 11am-4pm. UT campus. Free (\$25, refundable registration fee). www.engr.utexas.edu/wep.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORKSHOPS offer a wide variety of topics to keep your young ones busy this summer, whether they're learning about 20th century art, building their own robots, or immersing themselves in a new language. *Weeklong, half-day sessions (9am-noon or 1-4pm):* **Art Camp** Ages 6-14. June 4-July 27. **Science Camp** Ages 3-14. June 25-July 27. **Spanish Immersion & Chinese Mandarin Camps** Ages 3-14. June 4-Aug. 10. **Technology Camp** Ages 6-14. June 4-July 27. **Finance & Entrepreneurship** Ages 8 & up. July 16-21. **Math & Science Camp** Ages 3 & up. June 4-July 19. 3201 Bee Caves Rd., 329-5611. \$221. www.youngpeoplesworkshops.com.

SPORTS CAMPS

COUGAR HOOPS offers intensive weeklong, half-day instruction in basketball drills and plays from head coach Marshall Sanders III, who has kept 2006 district champs the Connally Cougars undefeated districtwide for two years. Campers are also treated to special visits from local coaches and former college players. Grades 2-5: 8am-noon. Grades 6-9: 1-5pm. Weekdays, June 18-July 21. John B. Connally High School, 1312 N. Lamar, 594-0800. \$85. www.chshoops.com.

JUNIOR GOLF provides instruction and competition for a range of skills. At this academy, week-long sessions allow beginners to learn key skills that will take them from tee to green, plus game etiquette and course care. Ages 6-18. June 4-15, 8-11am. \$90. *Hancock Golf Course, 811 E. 41st, 477-6963.* One-day **Clinics** help with brushing up on the fundamentals. Ages 5-18. *Mondays & Thursdays, June 18-Aug. 13, 8-9:30am. \$5. Various sites.* Or, kids who feel like applying those skills can join the **Tournament**. They can compete with age classes from pee-wee up or try for the Junior City Championship. Ages 18 & under. Locations vary. June 19-July 25. \$10, entry fee; \$7, daily green fee; or \$70, summer card with \$2 daily fee. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/golf_junior.htm.

NATIONAL JUNIOR TENNIS LEAGUE allows beginners to work on their backhand in a safe environment. Two six-week sessions offer an hour a day

with instructors and adult role models, plus tournaments and picnics. Math, reading, science, and arts & crafts classes are also provided, courtesy of Austin Parks and Central Texas Tennis Association. The program stresses community and teaches personal responsibility, potential, and growth. Ages 7-18. June 4-Aug. 10. Locations vary, 280-5800. \$30 registration. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/njtl.htm.

RIDING SCHOOL offers weeklong sessions with instruction in English and old Western styles and an introduction to horse science and management. Horse shows, a fine-arts program, and swimming round out the week. Ages 5-16. Weekdays, May 28-Aug. 17, 9am-5pm. Bee Cave Riding Center, 15740 Hamilton Pool Rd., 632-7433. \$300. www.ridinghorses.com.

RIPPNER TENNIS gives summerlong opportunities to improve that backhand. The United States Professional Tennis Association's **Little Tennis** program promotes hand-eye coordination and other pretennis skills. Ages 3-8, Mon.-Thu., 9-9:30am. **Championship Tennis** teaches warm-up techniques, racket skills, and court etiquette. Ages 8 & up. Mon.-Thu., 9:30am-noon. **SuperChamp** for advanced and intermediate players puts the emphasis on results, with drills, training, and match play. Ages 10 & up. Mon.-Thu., 1:30-4:30pm. South Austin Tennis Center, 1000 Cumberland, 442-1466. \$50-1,260. www.rippnertennis.com.

ROCK CLIMBING CAMP gives an introduction to climbing indoors, with outdoor excursions to test those new skills. Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 24, 9am-1pm. Austin Rock Gym, 4401 Freidrich Ln. #300, 8300 N. Lamar, 416-9299. \$229 per week. www.austinrockgym.com.

SPORTS IN ROUND ROCK There's a wide selection of weeklong half-day camps running for different ages, with expert training provided. Try **Racquetball** for ages 8-10 & 11-14, June 4-July 13, \$75; **Girls' Volleyball**, ages 7-10 & 11-14, July 9-13, \$75. **Slam'n'Jam Basketball** for ages 5-9 & 10-15, June 4-July 27, \$75; **Flag Football**, ages 7-14, June 11-July 13, \$75; **Junior Golf**, ages 7-9 & 10-14, June 11-July 20, \$99, **Karate**, ages 5 & up, July 30-Aug. 3, \$79; and **Fencing**, ages 8-10 & 11-13, July 16-20, \$75. There are two **Tennis** camps available, with **Little Lobbers** for ages 4-7, Aug. 6-16, \$55, and **Junior Beginners**, ages 8-14, Aug. 6-16, \$75. Or if your young ones aren't sure whether they want to throw, hit, or kick the ball, try the **Youth Sports Combo** camp, ages 4-7, June 4-July 27, \$75. For full-day training, pick from **Supreme Court Basketball** for ages 8-14, June 18-22, \$95, or **Girls' Volleyball/Basketball**, ages 8-14, June 11-29, \$89. Locations vary. www.roundrocksports.gov.

SUMMER SKATEPARK CAMP lets you sharpen up that grind, perfect that ollie, or just learn the differences between a rail and tail, with expert instruction and supervision for all skill levels. Ages 8-16. Weekdays, June 4-Aug. 10, 9am-2pm. Skatepark of Austin, 1615 Rutherford, 997-7275. \$325 per week. www.skateparkofaustin.com.

SUN DRAGON KARATE FOR GIRLS Join sensei Joy Williamson at Austin's Seido karate dojo, where emotional and mental development are as important as holds and throws, and instruction includes both practical self-defense classes and culture lessons in everything from origami to sushi. Two sessions, 9am-noon: ages 6-10, June 11-15; ages 8-12, June 18-22. *Sun Dragon Martial Arts, 203 E. Riverside, 416-9735. \$175. www.sundragon.org.*

SWIMMING Austin Parks & Rec offers lessons for all abilities, with an emphasis on learning new skills. Two-week sessions in 30-40 minute blocks. Ages 6 months to 12 years; parents must attend with children 3 and under. Mon.-Thu., May 7-Oct. 11. \$45. Locations vary. The **Neighborhood Swim Team Program** puts those swimming skills to the competitive test at team events, with overall winners getting a chance at the city and state meets. Ages 5-17. 9am until finish, June 9-July 7. Locations vary. \$65. Skilled swimmers can try **Snorkeling**, with

three weeks of full instruction in mask, fin, and snorkel use. Ages 8-18. Wed. & Fri., June 13-Aug. 24, 10-10:40am. Barton Springs Pool, 2101 Barton Springs Rd. \$50. **Guard Start** gives experienced young teens lifeguard training to American Red Cross standards in two-week intensive sessions. Ages 11-14. June 11-Aug. 2. Locations vary. \$50. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/swimlessons.htm.

UT RECSPORTS offer active day camps for kids in a variety of sports, all taught by university players and coaches: **Lacrosse** Ages 8-17. Weekdays, 8:30am-noon. *Girls, June 11-15; boys, June 4-22.* **Soccer** Ages 5-10. Weekdays, June 4-22, 8:30am-noon. **Ultimate Disc** Ages 8-17. June 11-15, 8:30am-noon. UT Whitaker Fields (Intramural Fields), 51st & Guadalupe, 471-3116. \$125 per week. www.utrecsports.org/youthcamps.



SOCCER CAMPS

A&M SOCCER CAMP gives skills-training in the fundamentals, with coaching, assessment, and tickets for an A&M home game. Ages 5-10: June 5-8, \$125 (half day), \$225 (full day). Ages 11-18: June 9-July 22. \$575 per week (resident), \$525 (day camp). College Station. www.texasamsoccercamp.com.

AUSTIN UNITED CAPITALS focuses on developing individual skills as part of team play. **College Coaches Camp for Girls** Grades 5-11. June 4-7, 9-11am or 1-3pm. \$150 per week. **Roy Lassiter Summer Camp for Boys & Girls** Ages 7-18. July 16-20, 9am-3pm. \$275 (full day), \$150 (half day). **AUCSC Academy** Ages 10 & under. June 11-15, 9am-noon. \$150. Slaughter Creek Soccer Fields. www.austinsoccer.org.

LONGHORN SOCCER CAMP enters its 27th year of finessing those ball-control basics, with specialty goalkeeping courses available. Ages 6-16. June 17-22. *Blinn College, Brenham, 512/215-3320. \$500 per week (overnight), \$350 (full day).* www.longhornsoccercamp.com.

SOCCER CAMPS With soccer scoring big in the U.S., there's a wide selection of training available, providing technical drills, foot skills, and daily tournaments, overseen by international experts. Pick from **First Kicks** for ages 3-4, July 30-Aug. 3, \$55; **Mini Soccer** for ages 4-5, July 30-Aug. 3, \$75; **Half- and full-day camps** for ages 6-16, July 30-Aug. 3, \$100-148, and a special **Golden Goals Camp**, where the young ones can learn to bend it like Beckham, July 30-Aug. 2, \$25. *Old Settler's Park Soccer Fields, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock. www.challengersports.com.*

TEXAS LONGHORNS SOCCER CAMP provides individual and team training from UT coaching staff with half-day, full-day, and residential sessions available for boys and girls. Ages 5-18. June 5-July 12. Meyers Stadium, 471-3624. \$550 per week (overnight), \$250 (full day), \$140 (half day). www.texasoccer.com.



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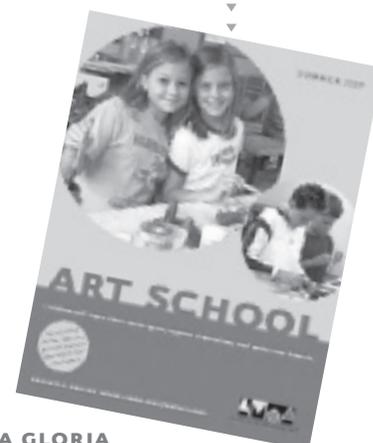
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the arts

42 HALFWAY THROUGH 365 DAYS/365 PLAYS 44 BOOKS 46 AFTER A FASHION

EAST AUSTIN LIVE: Strength in numbers

Quick, how many arts and entertainment venues do you think there are on the Eastside? Eight? 10? 12 maybe? Try 19, with new ones popping up all the time. Add to that number almost as many arts companies that work in East Austin but don't have their own spaces and the dozens of restaurants and coffeehouses dotting that side of the city, and it's clear that the Eastside is not just a cultural hot spot but may be the hottest in town. To ensure that the rest of the city knows that, 33 theatre, dance, and multimedia companies and a host of dining establishments are joining forces to provide an ongoing guide to entertainment in their part of Austin. East

Austin Live is its name, and it will provide, through a Web site – www.eastaustinlive.com, natch – and a brochure, maps to and information about the many places where you can catch live performance and good eats across East Austin – from established venues such as the Vortex, the Off Center, and the Blue to newer ones such as play! Theatre, City Theatre, New East Arts Gallery, and, coming in June, Salvage Vanguard Theater. To give this initiative the kickoff it deserves, Vortex Artistic Director Bonnie Cullum is hosting an East Austin Live launch party this Tuesday, May 1, 5-7pm, at the Vortex, 2307 Manor. It's open to the public. Enjoy free food and a cash bar, and get to know who's who on the Eastside. For more information, call 478-LAVA or visit www.vortexrep.org. – R.F.

Culture Flash!

• The Lone Star State has its official artists for this year and the next. In 2001, the Texas Lege passed Senate Bill 1043, which formalized the selection process for Texas state artists. The Texas Commission on the Arts has announced the following appointments, for successive one-year terms: Texas poet laureate: Steven Fromholz, Kopperl (2007), Larry Thomas, Houston (2008); Texas state musician: Dale Watson, Austin (2007), Shelley King, Austin (2008); Texas state two-dimensional artist: Lee Herring, Rockwall (2007), Janet Eager Krueger, Encinal (2008); and Texas state three-dimensional artist: David Keens, Arlington (2007), Damian Priour, Austin (2008). The appointees were selected for years of excellence and dedicated commitment to the arts in Texas.

• Playwright/screenwriter/teacher Amparo Garcia-Crow, in the midst of one of her busiest years ever, has landed a new gig that will keep her busier still: program manager for the Mexican American Cultural Center. Construction on Phase I of the \$63 million project is expected to be finished in June, but the center's grand opening will not take place until September. Herlinda Zamora, formerly of the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum and Mexic-Arte Museum, is also joining the MACC as exhibitions coordinator.

• You can go for the Golden Girl this weekend when saucy Blanche herself – aka actress Rue McClanahan – visits the Zachary Scott Theatre Center to discuss her career and new memoir, *My First Five Husbands ... and the Ones Who Got Away*, with Zach Artistic Director Dave Steakley on the Kleberg Stage, 1421 W. Riverside. It's a one-day-only appearance – Sunday, April 29, 2pm – and seating is limited. For more information, call 476-0594 or visit www.zachscott.com. – R.F.

The Moth: Mmm-mmmh! Good story!

A good story, well told, is like the best home-cooked meals: simple and satisfying in ways that few things are, that can leave you contented in the core of your being. The Moth understands that, and that's the secret to the success of this New York-based organization that's been dishing up good old-fashioned storytelling like literary comfort food for 10 years now. In monthly programs that routinely sell out, a half-dozen tales on a common theme – say, compulsions or families or the creative process – are shared with a live audience. The storytellers may be notable notables on the order of Lili Taylor, Moby, or Frank McCourt or just plain folks with fascinat-



Jonathan Ames wings it for the Moth.

ing lives: an astronaut, a voodoo priestess, a pickpocket, or an Austinite (our own Kelley Caleb Hunt won a national storytelling competition sponsored by the Moth earlier this year).

Until recently, you pretty much had to be in New York to savor the narrative delights



The Will Sellari Show:
The Cittens

FUSE BOX: The final jolt

This year's newly expanded and exploded Fuse Box Festival is almost out of juice, but before it goes, Refraction Arts' celebration of mind-blowing new dance, theatre, video, art, and site-specific performances by outstanding local artists and leading creators from across the country is going to deliver some electrifying art. Here's the lineup for Week Three:

Fetish (and other dances), by Hijack. Taxidermy, terrorism, and the deconstruction of the creative process are all mashed up in this work by the Minneapolis dance troupe. April 26-27, Thursday-Friday, 8pm, at the Off Center, 2211 Hidalgo.

Ben Aqua. Austinite Aqua draws satire from the occult and pop culture, our fascination with apocalypse, and male identity. April 26-28, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm, at the Blue Theater, 916 Springdale.

Neo Arcadia, by David Salinas, Lanneau White, and Mark Hensel. Pay a visit to the Transfiguration Temple, which promises to liberate your consciousness from human flesh, digitize it, and beam it to the stars. April 26-28, Thursday-Saturday, 9pm, at the Blue Theater, 916 Springdale.

The Will Sellari Show: The Cittens. In the fifth installment of his show, Austin video and visual-artist Sellari discusses the various forms of angels, clairvoyance, and his take on

Las Vegas. Friday, April 27, 8pm, at the Blue Theater, 916 Springdale.

The Moveable Feast. A collective of writers, performers, musicians, composers, and other artists, led by Abraham Burickson, have created a 24-hour performance around the lives of five strangers who were interviewed for the project. The public is invited to take part in the work's first scene as the five subjects first encounter the world generated from their lives. Saturday, April 28, noon, at the Blue Theater, 916 Springdale.

Strollergirls. A dance for two moms, two strollers, and two babies (both named Genevieve), choreographed by Allison Orr of Forklift Danceworks and Caroline Sutton Clark of Wicked Cricket. Saturday, April 28, 1pm, at Auditorium Shores.

Blue Screen: Wow, Man, Take Me Away. Curated by Erick Michaud, this program features videos by Michaud, Ben Dowell, Aaron Dubrow, Eric Gibbons, Ryan Lauderdale, Chad Silver, Jared Steffensen, and Lanneau White, plus a performance by Mark Hensel. Saturday, April 28, 6pm, The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale.

Ticket prices are extraordinarily cheap – some events are free – and you can see everything with a festival pass for just \$40! Such a deal, my head is exploding!

For the full schedule, call 927-1118 or visit www.refractionarts.org. – Robert Faires

of the Moth, but last fall the organization embarked on its first national tour, taking what it's calling Out on a Limb: Stories From the Edge to 10 cities across the land, and Austin is one of them. In each city, a Moth regular hosts the show, but a couple of local heroes are recruited to share their stories. When the Moth lights here next week, national StorySLAM-competition-winner Kelley Caleb Hunt and author and filmmaker Turk Pipkin will be spinning yarns with Moth regulars Edgar Oliver, East Village playwright and performer; Ophira Eisenberg, writer and stand-up comic; and Jonathan Ames, the author of *What's Not to Love?* and *Wake Up, Sir!*

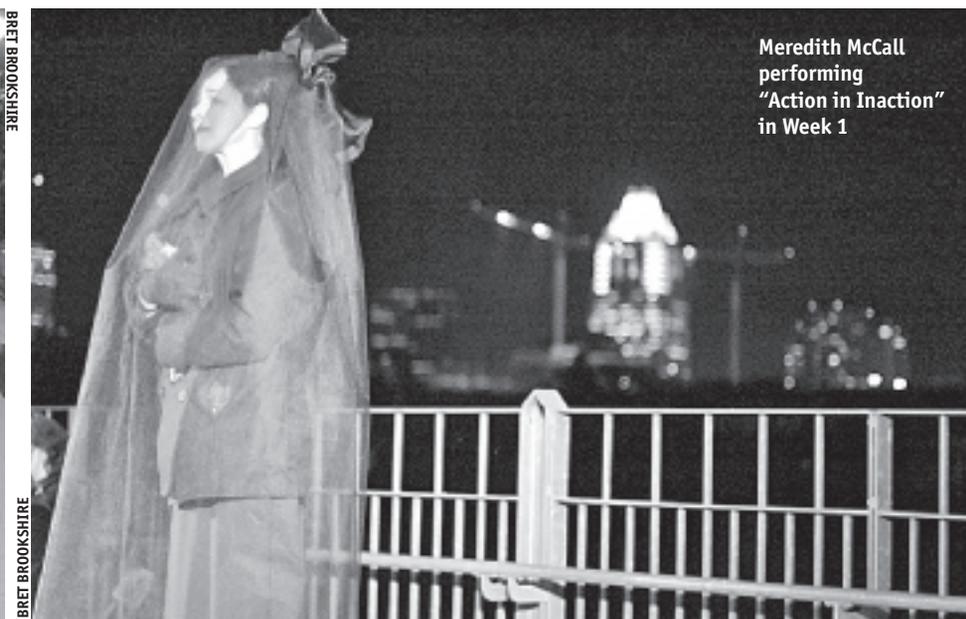
Despite the newness of the Moth on the national scene, tour dates in other cities have been selling out, with Los Angeles drawing

1,500 people. "We've been blown away by how warm and generous the audiences have been," says Catherine Burns, artistic director for the Moth. She thinks people are drawn to the fact that the Moth is not merely a show but "a community of people who care about connecting with other people. I came to the show years ago and was instantly transfixed and just wanted to be there any time they did anything, which is ultimately how I ended up working here. When we talk about the Moth, I joke that I think of it as something separate from me. It's like the Ring, and we're Frodo, and we just have to take care of it. We're the keepers of this great thing." – R.F.

Out on a Limb: Stories From the Edge takes place Thursday, May 3, with drinks and conversation at 6:30pm and storytelling at 7:30pm, at the Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 409 Colorado. For more information, visit www.themoth.org.



Week 1: Actor Martin Burke hands out 365 apples on the Pfluger Bridge.



Meredith McCall performing "Action in Inaction" in Week 1

Radical Inclusion: A Morality Tale

Halfway through the 365 days of 365 Days/365 Plays, Suzan-Lori Parks' dramatic project has everyone making theatre and in new ways

BY C. DENBY SWANSON

Call this intermission.

We are about at the halfway point of the 365 Days/365 Plays cycle, written by Suzan-Lori Parks and anchored locally by the Zachary Scott Theatre Center.

The lights have come up. You get to stand and stretch and consider what has happened so far.

Only in this instance, we are considering events that have happened over six months. Six months of real time, not stage time.

To recap: In 2004, Suzan-Lori Parks sat down every day and wrote a new play. Every single, day for 365 days. Some were topical, related to a season or a current event of the time, but most were short, less than five minutes. Afterward, she put the whole set in a drawer. Then her friend, a producer named Bonnie Metzgar, said, "Hey, whatever happened to all those plays?" and here we are, three years later, in the middle of the single largest theatre event ever. More than 15 cities and regional hubs, each producing 52 weeks of theatre, seven plays at a time. One theatre in each locale coordinates the schedule of area productions, but literally anybody can participate.

So far in Austin, the plays have been produced on the Pfluger Pedestrian Bridge over Town Lake; in and around local theatres, including Hyde Park and the Off Center; in front of the Zilker Christmas tree; at the Texas state Capitol; inside the Blanton Art Museum; and on several different college campuses. They have been produced in multiple languages, in buildings and out of them, in green tutus and in street clothes. Occasionally they have culminated in the lighting of sparklers.

The single most important operating principle in this whole expansive project is radical inclusion.

Radical inclusion is not a new concept. It is used frequently in theological discussions. You can find it discussed by Unitarian Universalists, Episcopalians, and Quakers, among many groups. Sometimes it refers to

the idea of an all-loving, benevolent deity, and sometimes it refers to specific human acts, i.e., who is invited to the worship community. It's also a basic tenet of the Burning Man Festival: "Anyone may be a part of Burning Man. We welcome and respect the stranger."

What does radical inclusion mean for theatre? What does it mean for writing? What does it mean for Austin's performance community?

Ken Webster, artistic director of Hyde Park Theatre, produced Week Five back in December. "I did something I've never done before," he says. "I cast every person who auditioned." Almost 20 people showed up, more than half of them new, and they were all solid." Besides, one of the seven plays was set in an English class, and Parks never really says who

There's wide agreement that, somehow, 365 Days/365 Plays is inherently inclusive, that the plays inherently invite participation, invite imagination.

the students are or how many are in the scene. Webster had enormous freedom to make a big choice. So he did. The cast of 17 made an exhilarating image on the tiny HPT stage. It was a visual moment of spectacle and conflict: How are they all going to work up there?

"Not only did we get new people onstage," Webster says, "we got new people in the audience. They have been back since." How does the artistic director know this so certainly? "I'm the box office guy, too."

Texas State assistant professor Nadine Mozon, organizer of Week 21, says that "permission to have low production values equals radical inclusion." There's no requirement for set, lights, costumes, or technology – there's no requirement that the plays even take place in a theatre. "We did ours as a guerilla uprising," she says, "different places on campus." Students from across the gamut of majors participated, including some graduate student

directors. Because of the large Spanish-speaking population in the region, Mozon made a commitment to a bilingual presentation. "'Father Comes Home From Wars (Part 5)' was presented back to back in English and Spanish. The Jerry Springer Greek tragedy – since it was Greek tragedy and Jerry Springer, we had a Spanish interpreter throughout. It was Telemundo style."

Mozon moved to the Austin area from New York last August and is now finishing up her first year at Texas State, where she teaches acting and movement. She feels that with 365, she spearheaded a project with larger impact than she anticipated. Before 365 Days, her students were unfamiliar with Suzan-Lori Parks as a playwright, despite her many accolades. Their 365 project

gave them access to a challenging, contemporary writer whom they could go back to and study more fully in the classroom. Mozon says that this kind of "sneaky learning" is like taking medicine with honey. But most importantly, she believes, "The students felt included in the writing."

There seems to be wide agreement that, somehow, 365 is inherently inclusive work. That the plays inherently invite participation, invite imagination. Mozon agrees. She says, "Suzan-Lori Parks invites and leaves it open as a writer." We're seeing this locally, as groups make unusual partnerships, experiment with functional and creative locations, and seem to find more ways to draw new performers in through organic multicultural casting.

The philosophy of radical inclusion is also affecting set designer Michael Raiford, who is working on Zach's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. "Why not apply this principle to a set, especially for *Superstar* in which our aim is

to show the common man's connection to [his] faith?" So he has sent out a letter asking for community participation in the production's visual elements. The letter reads, "The production is set in modern-day Mexico, and the environment for the show is based on the tradition of mosaics. This art form has a rich history in Mexican and Spanish art. Because of the nature of the piece, and the deep passion that surrounds it, I have the desire to involve our community in the show. I want to see the design as an inclusive experience and have devised a way to include your personal point of view in the show." Zach is offering 4-inch-by-4-inch shallow boxes in which participants may create a mosaic. They may start with found objects collected by the theatre or whatever materials they can get their hands on. The mosaics will be included on the set and then in a silent auction to raise money for Zach's annual fund drive.

For Metzgar, 365 Days/365 Plays harkens back to the medieval morality play cycle, a point in theatre history when plays were about art as ritual rather than art as transaction. She and Parks decided that 365 would operate in the same spirit. It's more or less free to produce a week of seven plays. Most of the time the performance is free or by donation. No one gets paid, including the originators. And they believe that taking money out of the equation fundamentally changed everything. There are no expectations set up by a subscriber base, by grant funders, marketing campaigns, ticket sales. There's no risk; there's no consequence. The only thing that's important is to get together and read a play.

Parks and Metzgar put it this way: Radical inclusion means, "There's pie for everyone." And there's play for everyone, too. ■

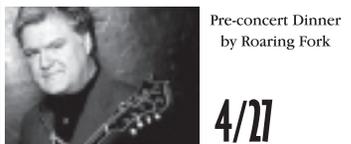
365 Plays/365 Days continues through November 2007. In Austin, Week 24 will be produced by Briana McKeague on Sunday, April 29, 5:30pm, at 2105 Comal St. Opening acts include the Red Teasers and Francisco the Man, from Big Ol' Tire Fire. Everyone is invited to stay for a party following the performances. For more information on 365 Days/365 Plays in Austin, visit www.zachscott.com.

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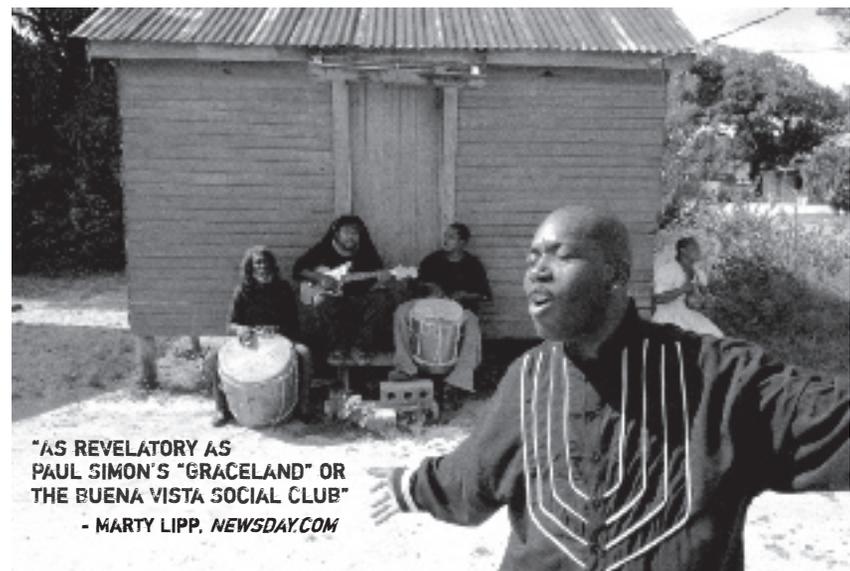
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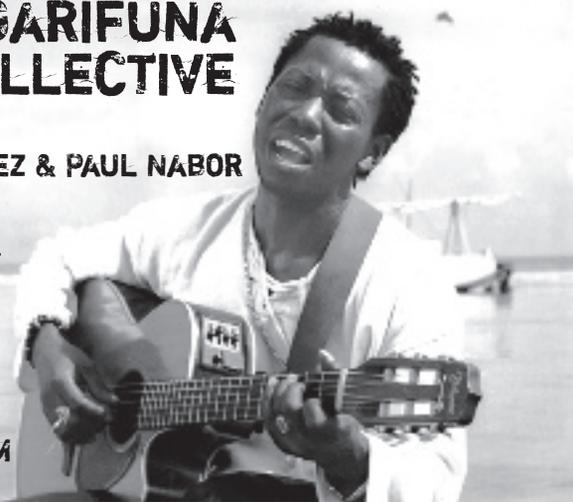
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WORDS WITHOUT BORDERS: THE WORLD THROUGH THE EYES OF WRITERS

edited by Alane Salierno Mason, Dedi Felman, and Samantha Schnee
Anchor, 384 pp., \$14 (paper)

Recently, the number of Americans applying for passports has grown, but the fact remains that merely 20% of U.S. citizens own traveling papers. For internationally promiscuous book-lovers, equally depressing numbers come from the Words Without Borders Web site: While 50% of books published worldwide have been translated from English, a mere 6% have been translated from other languages into English. Talk about one-way streets. It's little wonder that our commander-in-chief famously confused Slovakia for Slovenia and referred to Greeks as Grecians.

The new anthology from WWB editors Alane Salierno Mason, Dedi Felman, and Samantha Schnee, however, offers remediation for those who believe that there is value to understanding other national perspectives and reading – if not always traveling – widely. “It is up to us now to listen to the expression of our fellow human beings with whom we share the planet,” writes Andre Dubus III, a former Austin resident, in his fine introduction. “Whether we know it or not, these are notes in the world symphony in which we all play a part.” The book offers a range of contemporary translations from around the world, and if such figures as Gabriel Garcia Márquez cast a long shadow, the collection does two things that help it outrun major authors already embraced by the academy. First, WWB has engaged some of the biggest names in literary fiction – Ha Jin, Francine Prose, Ariel Dorfman, and Günter Grass – to introduce their own selections for translation; second, the editors cast a wide net, bringing in authors from Korea, India, Iran, Haiti, Argentina, Turkey, and elsewhere.

The best of these stories and poems feature *New Yorker*-worthy writing. If there is a complaint to be had, it is that the collection is too slim and that many excerpts are so tantalizingly brief, a hunger prevails. It's an apt coda for the whole collection when Dorfman requests that “we remember all the other narratives that I had to leave adrift and shipwrecked and without a translator and that look forward to calm eyes, avid eyes.”

– Dan Oko



ICE

by Vladimir Sorokin, translated by Jamey Gambrell
NYRB Classics, 321 pp., \$23.95

In the space between hate and genocide, it would be a short-sighted stretch to say that the February attack on Elie Wiesel in a San Francisco hotel – the 78-year-old's 22-year-old assailant planned to kidnap and force him to “truthfully answer my questions regarding the fact that his non-fiction Holocaust memoir, *Night*, is almost entirely fictitious” – is a harbinger of history repeating itself. But for Wiesel, it must have been approximately that: a horrible moment of powerlessness at the mercy of powerful harm. More horrible still must be the futility of reason in the face of that harm. Absolute belief brought it on to begin with, and there's no going back. It's neither random act nor terror tactic. It's a divine and predetermined means to an end, whether you're dealing with one nut in an elevator or 1 million armed SS administering to a network of concentration camps.

Vladimir Sorokin's *Ice* – the first of his novels to be translated into English (and the first of a trilogy; its successor, *Bro's Way*, was released in Russia in 2004) – is populated by blond and blue-eyed believers whose origin can be traced to one of those camps, but it would be a short-sighted stretch to say that it's about the Holocaust. Rather, it's about how humanity's history of conviction and violence repeats itself all around us all



Vladimir Sorokin will be at BookPeople on Saturday, April 28, 6pm.

of the time. It's about the horror of losing one's reason. It's about no going back.

In present-day Moscow, “brothers and sisters” from among the “awakened” attempt to track down the blond and blue-eyed who might also be redeemed as the link between the eternal Light and the end of the world. There are 23,000 of them, and each will be discovered under the same conditions: The awakened will secure them and swing hammers – “long, rough wooden shafts, attached to cylindrical ice heads with strips of rawhide” – into their naked chests until their hearts “speak” their new names, themselves keys to the kingdom, as it were. The sick joke is that the names are the sounds a body might make internally while being traumatized; they're phoneticized guttural moans, nothing more.

That irony is the cruelest thing about the movement led by a woman named Khrum who might have been part of Mengele-like experiments in her youth. The self-anointed awakened are clinical in the absence of malice and consider themselves preordained: Killing people to find what they're looking for is all in a day's work. As they have for the unawakened (the “empty” are left for dead; the brown-skinned or green-eyed or whoever else are ignored altogether), Sorokin has a cool disdain for his characters, although even that is overstating things. Much of *Ice* is impassive even amid disquieting gore and graphic sex. The author – and for our purposes, his translator, Jamey Gambrell – has a sense of how people interact but little in the way of style or humor.

For a book that *Publishers Weekly* called “*Master and Margarita* for the age of *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*,” this isn't typically Russian or noirish, yet the story is unmistakably both in its politics and its paranoia. I would argue that it's for the age of not knowing what is real and what's not, of wondering what the hell is going on and how it could happen again.

– Shawn Badgley

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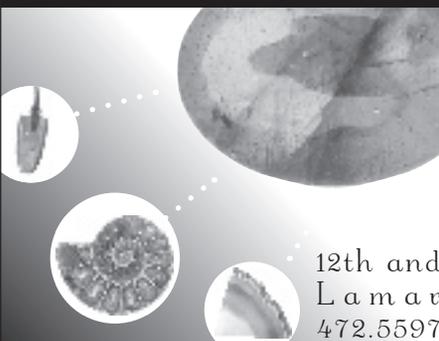
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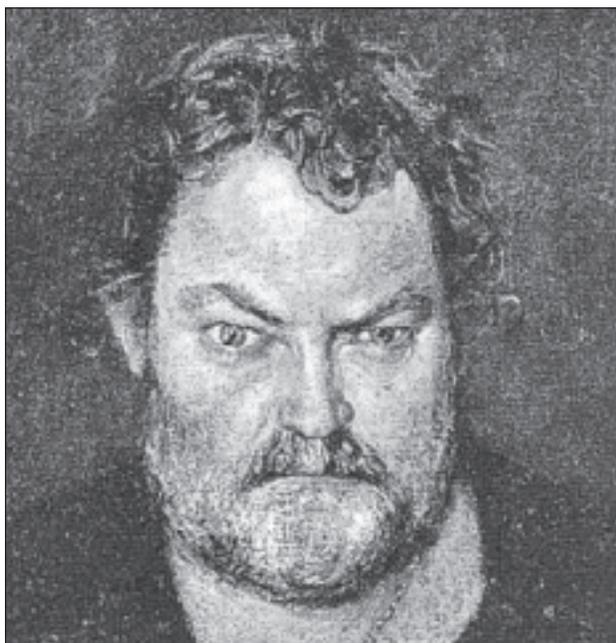
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AFTER A FASHION

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

R.I.P. ROLLO My ex-brother-in-law – **Michael Malone**, aka **Rollo Banks** – died last week. He took his own life rather than submit to the indignities of rapidly deteriorating health. I completely understand. It was a pragmatic decision on his part: “Time to check out,” he wrote in his note. Rollo and I were an odd couple indeed – as far apart as possible in thought, manner, experience, and point of view. Rollo and my sister, **Margaret**, met in Austin, fell in love, and were married in a matter of days. I made her wedding dress, and the ceremony took place in the rotunda of the **Capitol**. There was some trepidation about our meeting – he, the burly, gruff, world-famous tattoo artist and me, the recently rehabbed, over-the-top DJ/clothing designer. But I flew to Austin to meet him, and we hit it off famously. I thought he was a brilliant storyteller and the funniest person I’d ever met ... and of course I wanted a tattoo from him. This was long before every 12-year-old girl had a tattoo showing above her thong in back, and his tattoos were pieces of art. When I showed my mother the tattoo, she gasped and said, “You know that’s not going to come off!” I was very proud of it nonetheless. When I visited Rollo and Margaret in Hawaii, he gave me another, much larger tattoo of a dragon holding the pearl of wisdom that he free-handed on me – five hours a day for three days in a row. In 1987, he came to Seattle for an extended period and moved into my apartment with me. The night he arrived, I’d made macaroni & cheese with ham for dinner. He pointed at it in grunting approval and said, “You can make this sort of thing every night.” At that point, our roles were established, and he became my husband-in-law. He paid me to do everything for him, and I was delighted to have him around. He drove me everywhere; we spent all our free time together, and we smoked like chimneys. When he found out we wore the same



A photo of Thomas Woodruff’s portrait of Rollo Banks. Rollo’s giving the look that we affectionately dubbed “stink-eye.” Anyone who was ever the recipient of this look never forgot it.

size shoe, he appropriated my shoes, thanking me for breaking them in for him. One night, after I’d had him in hysterics telling him about my first day at school (after a decade’s absence), he exclaimed, “You’re the coolest fag I ever met.” In some other context, the statement might be deemed offensive, but coming from Rollo? It was the highest possible accolade. He meant it that way, and I was deeply flattered. It’s my favorite Rollo story ... at least of the kind I can print. Except for the time he visited my mother after her cancer treatments

and sidled up to her, surreptitiously pressing a military **Purple Heart** into her hand and telling her, “This is for you – for courage beyond the call of duty in cheating the grim reaper.” The last time I saw him, he looked like this larger-than-life mythical character with flowing white hair and beard – a cross between Zeus and Buddha, a prophet who spoke the wisdom of the ages. He’d mellowed into the Grand Old Man ... a role he’d rehearsed for all his life.

SOCIAL-LITE You’d think I was some sort of lady of leisure – though I’m hardly a lady and definitely not of the leisure class. I started the week by judging the UT senior projects in apparel design. That was an all-day affair but one I really like... The next day was the **Austin Country Club** luncheon for **Thoughtful House**, a nonprofit dedicated to helping children with autism. **Michelle Valles** was there with **Asleep at the Wheel’s Ray Benson**, along with **Emily Robison** and **Martie Maguire** of the **Dixie Chicks**... That was followed by beauty treatments at **Origins** at the **Domain**. The new men’s skin-care line is excellent, and they have great gift baskets. But the treatments are nothing exclusive to me – they’re available to all customers, and there’s even an Origins happy hour... Up next was the **Ballet Austin Guild’s Women on Their Toes** luncheon, benefiting **Ballet Austin** and honoring those who are deeply devoted to their community work. I was proud my friend **Karen Landa** was among the honorees... Friday was the UT fashion show, the glorious culmination of backbreaking work on the part of the students and faculty. It’s always well worth it, and this year was no exception. There were some fabulous clothes... Saturday was the **Art Ball**, a trip to Manhattan via **Laguna Gloria**, with street vendors, mounted police, carriage rides, the Statue of Liberty, drinks, and silent auction in **SoHo**, dinner at **Tavern on the Green**, and dancing at **Studio 54**... See you at **Zach Scott’s Red Hot & Soul** on Saturday!

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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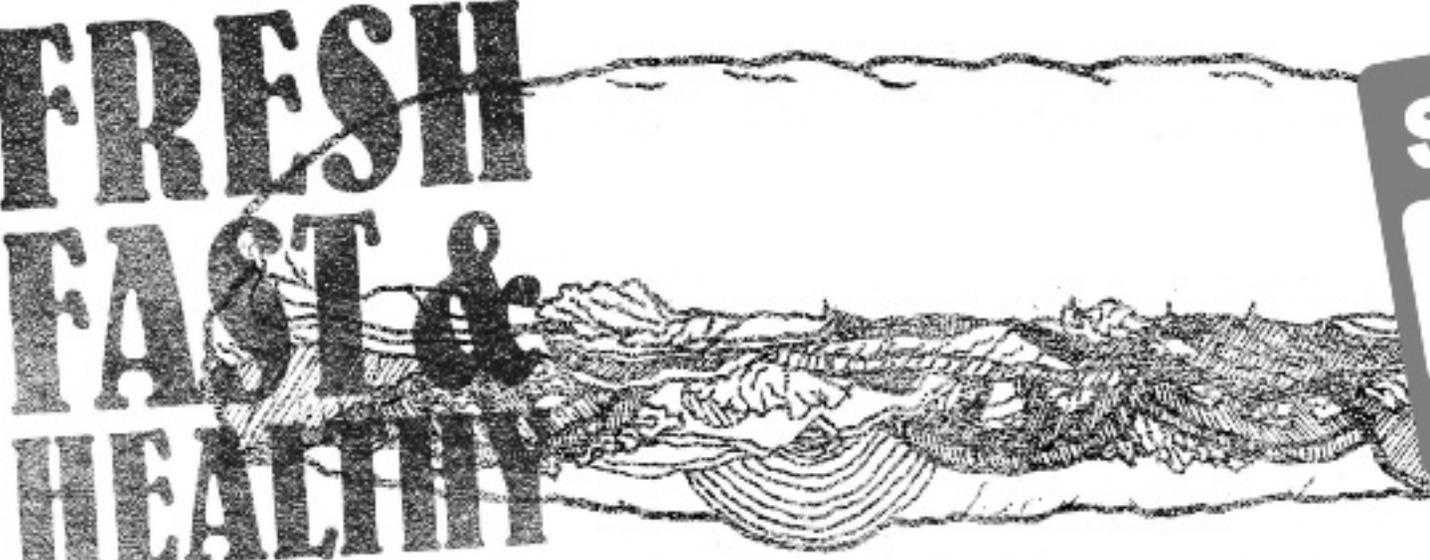

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BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

Spring has definitely sprung, and everyone wants to be outside! Runners, bikers, Deep Eddy swimmers, and Austin High students are keeping the staff busy at the newest **Daily Juice** outlet (2307 Lake Austin Blvd.), where the freshly squeezed, organic juice drinks are both healthy and delicious... Now that Tiedt's Service Station on South Lamar has been demolished, longtime customers of the **Sno-Beach Hawaiian**

Shaved Ice stand that shared that spot for 14 seasons need only look around the corner and down the block on Barton Springs Road near the entrance to **Zilker Park** for their favorite summer refreshment. Sno-Beach customers are remarkably loyal – there's a long line at their midcity location at Guadalupe and 34th every time we drive that way... Al fresco dining fans will be pleased to note the opening of the new patio dining area at the popular **Hyde Park Bar & Grill Westgate** (4521 West Gate Blvd., 899-2700), where they'll soon be featuring live musical entertainment... We couldn't help but notice the packed dining patio outside the new **Mars** location (1400 S. Congress, 472-3901) in SoCo on a recent drive through the old hood. Chef **Reggie Ferguson** reports that response to the newly opened patio has been very good... Local members of the **International Association of Culinary Professionals** spent a snowy week in Chicago earlier this month at the group's annual conference. *Chronicle* contributor and avid culinary historian **MM Pack** was very impressed by a seminar she attended on the history of foods served on Pullman dining cars; she also reports having a delectable meal at Chicago's numero uno Mexican restaurant, **Salpicón** (www.salpicon.com). (Word is chef/owner **Priscila Satkoff** is being considered for an invitation to next spring's Texas Hill Country Wine & Food Festival.) Also in attendance was Central Market Cooking School director **Kelly Ann Hargrove** who says her most memorable Chicago meal was at the ultrahot **Moto** (www.motorestaurant.com), where a team of **Charlie Trotter** alumni is wowing crowds with tasting menus of a cuisine that can best be described as "molecular gastronomy meets global fusion." Moto Executive Chef **Homaro Cantu** holds several patents for innovative culinary inventions. Hargrove is doing her best to book Cantu at Central Market for the fall. She also recounts that she had a great visit with former Austinite **Cathy Cochran-Lewis**, who is the national vice president of IACP this year as well as recently appointed marketing director for the Rocky Mountain region of **Whole Foods Market**.

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

recently reviewed

- BARBECUE: LAMBERTS** Offering steaks, chops, seafood, and barbecue, this spot in the 2nd Street District caught on fast. That may have something to do with live music upstairs almost every night. 401 W. Second, 494-1500 \$ \$
- CAJUN/CREOLE: UNCLE BOUDREAU'S** Go for simple, authentic, and soul-satisfying Louisiana specialties for reasonable prices. Everything here is made in-house from scratch except for the pork boudin and the delicious french bread. 11007 Hwy. 290 W., 272-5200 \$
- TEX-MEX: LA COCINA DE CONSUELO** This tiny yet first-class Mexican food restaurant provides both sit-down and take-out meals, as well as exceptional, professional Mexican catering for your big event. 4516 Burnet Rd., 524-4740 \$

EVENT MENU: APRIL 27-MAY 3

Talk about a foursome! **Flemings Prime Steakhouse** (320 E. Second, 457-1500) and the PGA team up for a very special wine dinner featuring a menu designed by corporate Executive Chef **Russell Skall** complemented by official PGA Tour wines and wines from famous winemaking golfers **Greg Norman**, **Ernie Els**, and **Arnold Palmer**. The dinner hour will include video clips of some of golf's greatest moments, and PGA wines and other prizes will be given away during the evening. Reservations required. Dinner is \$85, and tee time is 6:30pm on Friday, April 27.

Cheese lovers are invited to the first **Farm Open House** of the year at **Pure Luck Goat Dairy** (858-7034, www.purelucktexas.com). Tour the farm and the dairy, meet and feed the new goat babies, and try milking a goat. Award-winning Pure Luck cheeses will be available to sample and purchase. Saturday, April 28, 11am-3pm.

Texas Culinary Academy (11400 Burnet Rd., 837-2665, www.txca.org) invites the public to attend their third annual **Barbecue Competition**. Both students and professionals are encouraged to compete in beef, pork, and chicken categories. Tickets are \$10 for all-you-can-eat barbecue, sides, and nonalcoholic beverages. Saturday, April 28, 11am-3pm.

El Rio Grande (Third & San Jacinto) celebrates their first year in Austin with four live bands, an outdoor beer and margarita garden, plus food and drink specials from 3pm until 12mid on Saturday, April 28.

The **Spring Vineyard Dinner** at **Stonehouse Vineyards** (24350 Haynie Flat Rd. in Spicewood, 512/264-3630) will include a four-course dinner prepared by **Yum Yum Catering** and musical entertainment by guitarist **David Sherry**. Reservations required; \$70 all-inclusive. Saturday, April 28, 7pm.

Wine and wildflower lovers are encouraged to embark on a road trip to visit the eight **Way Out Wineries** this weekend. Each of the wineries is located in or near a picturesque small Texas town and the winemakers will be pouring samples of their wines and chatting with guests. Guests will receive a souvenir wine glass at their first stop on the tour and the opportunity to sample a different pasta dish paired with a special wine at each stop. Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. To purchase tickets, contact **Brennan Vineyards** at 325/356-9100 or go to www.wayoutwineries.org. Friday, April 27, and Saturday, April 28, 10am-6pm; Sunday, April 29, noon-5pm. – V.B.W.

A Taste of Sweden: IKEA Food Market and Cafe

IKEA ROUND ROCK

1 IKEA Way (at I-35), Round Rock, 512/828-4532

Daily, 10am-9pm

Food might not be the first thing you associate with IKEA, the Swedish superstore that finally arrived in the Austin area last year. But along with a staggering array of inexpensive but well-designed furniture, cool household goods, and the best candles in town, IKEA has brought a new international flavor to town: Swedish food.

This compact grocery corner inside the big box contains hundreds of foodstuffs imported from Sweden that make for a very entertaining ramble around the aisles: There are some very interesting items to be had, from great wheels of flat bread to cloud-berry jam to canned fish balls in bouillon. There are Swedish cheeses and savory snacks; jillions of cookies, crackers, and candies; and lots of frozen desserts. At the least, the item names are translated so you don't have to rely entirely on visual discernment.

I think my best discovery so far is the Finax Swedish rye bread (*rågbröd*) mix in a quart milk carton (\$3.99). Just add water, shake vigorously, pour into a pan to rise, bake, and voilà!: a flavorful loaf of dense, chewy bread. I love the lightly herbal elderflower drink (*fläderdryck*, 99 cents per carton), as well as the pale green sweet/tart gooseberry jam (\$2.99 per jar) on toast. I was less taken by *matjes* (sweet, lightly marinated chunks of raw herring, \$2.99 per jar), but since it's practically the national snack of Sweden,



JOHN ANDERSON

I'm glad I tried it. One of the bargains was the 2.5-pound bag of frozen Swedish meatballs (*köttbullar*, \$7.99) made from beef, pork, bread crumbs, spices (and no additives); they are meaty and delicious and ready for any sauce you care to plop them in.

If sustenance is required amid power-shopping, IKEA also contains a large cafeteria-style cafe that serves breakfast, lunch, and dinner. I found the hot dishes strictly frozen-to-steamtable and best avoided, but the sandwiches and desserts were tasty and certainly economical. I particularly liked the open-faced sandwich of Iceland shrimp and hardboiled egg dressed with fresh dill and mayo (\$2.49) and the tartlike cinnamon-apple cake with *crème anglaise* (\$2.29). I haven't yet tried the 99-cent breakfast (eggs, home fries, sausage, and a croissant), but I'm going to work up my nerve. If you just need a *fika* (coffee break), the plump, hot cinnamon rolls (\$1) will hit the spot. – MM Pack

Austin Finally Gets the Delta Blues

You might recall the major conniption fit I had last summer when I discovered that our very own Blue Bell Creamery of Brenham had decided not to market a flavor that they called Delta Blues in Austin, the bluesiest city in the home state of the company. I postulated that if there was any city that deserved to be included in the distribution list of a music-themed ice cream, it was here, the live music capital of the world. They chose to market it exclusively in the immediate area around Memphis, Tenn., a town whose motto is "We Have the Blues, and Many Ways to Cure It," as if losing the blues were a goal to shoot for.

In Austin, we're proud of having the blues, and thankfully, cooler heads prevailed at Blue Bell management; they realized that we are just as bluesy, if not more so, than those

poseurs in Memphis. We are privy to experience the glory of Delta Blues Blue Bell Ice Cream for a limited time. Blue Bell, as it turns out, has a rotating list of short-term ice-cream flavors timed with the harvest of seasonal fruits and a list of regular, year-round flavors (see www.bluebell.com; there, you'll also find information on Blue Bell's centennial celebration contest, Taste of the Country, which gives consumers the opportunity to create and name new regional flavors).

When you pop open the top on a gallon of Delta Blues, you'll find a sinfully rich mixture of Blue Bell's classic vanilla blended with a very liberal swirl of sweetened blueberries and blueberry sauce, with chunks of pie crust that somehow magically remain flaky and crunchy, even when immersed in a frozen liquid. It will definitely seduce you into fits of brain freeze from eating it too fast. It won't be around forever, so cruise the freezer aisle of your local super-market, and stock up on several tubs of Delta Blues. Let's prove to Blue Bell that we deserve to have 'em! – Mick Vann



EVANGELINE CAFE

8106 Brodie, 282-2586

www.evangelinecafe.com

Monday-Thursday, 11am-9:30pm; Friday, 11am-10pm; Saturday, 11am-9:30pm

Austin, like any city, is a conglomeration of neighborhoods and communities. While neighborhoods are defined geographically, communities are made up of people with shared interests – cultural, political, philosophical, ethnic, musical, culinary, whatever. Places in cities emerge for like-minded people to get together and enjoy those things that make them a community, and Evangeline Cafe is such a place, a harmonic convergence of Austinites who love Cajun food, culture, hospitality, and music.

A rollicking little restaurant in an innocuous South Austin strip, Evangeline was opened in 2004 by chef/owner Curtis Clarke (whose elegant mustaches are almost as famous as his cooking). A Lake Charles, La., native, Clarke has spent three decades in the food business, and it shows. Although Evangeline is the ultimate laid-back joint, service is attentive and knowledgeable, and the kitchen consistently produces expertly prepared, beautifully seasoned fresh Louisiana food, from the traditional (seafood or chicken-and-sausage gumbo, jambalaya, shrimp or crawfish étouffée, red beans and rice, boudin, shrimp creole) to the innovative riffs using classic ingredients.

One of these creations is Oysters Contraband (\$8.99) – six fat, fried Gulf oysters, presented on house-made potato chips and dolloped with piquant sausage rémoulade. Another is Gold Band Creole (\$13.99), a spicy concoction of lightly fried shrimp and creole sauce served over fettuccine with Cajun aioli and Parmesan. My favorite is the perfectly sautéed catfish fillet smothered in luscious crawfish-and-corn macque choux (\$13.99).

The kitchen really shines in the battered-and-fried department – in addition to chef Clarke's individual batters for each seafood, you can be sure that anything from the deep fryer will be fresh, crisp, nongreasy, and smokin' hot. You simply cannot go wrong with fried oysters, shrimp, catfish, or crawfish, in po'boys (small \$5.75; large \$9.50), baskets (\$7.99-8.50 with fries or dirty rice), or dinners (most \$9.99; \$15.99 for the combo with a side of gumbo or red beans and rice). Washed down with an Abita beer (\$3.50), you'd think you were in Breaux Bridge.

Lovely menu lagniappes are pistolettes – Cajun-style dinner rolls imported each week from Lake Charles. They serve as wonderful sops for the saucy dishes like étouffée and gumbo, and they're sublime for dessert, stuffed with caramelized chopped pecans and swimming in warm praline sauce (\$3.75).

You can't talk about Evangeline as Cajun culture center without mentioning the music – Clarke maintains a varied live-music lineup several days each week. Charles Thibodeaux & the Bayou Cajun Band play every Monday evening; their skillfully soulful renditions of traditional tunes are guaranteed to bring dancers out among the tables. Things get started on Friday nights when bands begin after the kitchen closes at 10pm. April includes swamp rockers Larry Lange's Lonely Knights and Greezy Wheels.

The name Evangeline comes from the title of Longfellow's 1847 epic poem that recounts the forced migration of French settlers from Acadia to southern Louisiana in 1775. The tragic heroine Evangeline became a Cajun icon; in 1930, a statue in her honor was erected in St. Martinville, La. At Evangeline in Austin, Clarke and his crew continue the tradition, honoring the best of Cajun food and music.

– MM Pack



JOHN ANDERSON

SEA DRAGON

8776-B Research, 451-5051

13945 Hwy. 183 N., 219-5054

Sunday-Thursday, 11am-9:45pm; Friday-Saturday, 11am-10pm

Back in 1984, Sea Dragon was one of a very small group of Viet eateries in Austin and represented the restaurant where you went to get “real” Vietnamese dishes, meaning anything other than a bowl of *bun* or *pho*, or a *com dia* rice platter. My buddy Vic Jacobs and I used to go there for the duck with leeks, and it was on the regular rotation of favorite restaurants among my group of friends. Sea Dragon moved from the familiar long, dark narrow space to a much larger, more open spot in the same shopping center on the southwest corner of Ohlen and Research and then hatched Twin Dragon on North Lamar (although we always considered it the lesser twin of the pair). Twin Dragon disappeared, and now there is a Sea Dragon II out by Lakeline, but word is they concentrate more on the Chinese side of the menu to accommodate the locals. We realized that with the wealth of Vietnamese restaurants in Austin now, we were due to drop by our old favorite for a refresher course. We're glad we did.

For starters, we tried the Chicken in Hot and Sour Soup (\$10.95, small), definitely one of the better versions in town, and the “small” bowl provides 6 cups of loaded broth. The broth is rich, with a perfect tangy balance of salty, sour, and sweet, with mild spice. It is loaded with bean sprouts, bamboo shoots, okra, slices of taro stem, celery, fresh pineapple, jalapeño slices, herbs, and chunks of chicken that are so tender they melt in your mouth. It disappeared rapidly.

We had the Three Course Beef (\$10.95), which is their abridged version of the famous Beef Cooked 7 Ways (*Bò Bay Món*). The three you receive are ground beef wrapped around onion slices, beef-stuffed grape leaves (subbed here for *ba lot* or *chaplu* leaves), and a “sausage” of beef enclosed in succulent caul fat. Enclose these in rice paper with fresh herbs, sprouts, and chile, and a healthy dose of sauce, and you'll be a happy diner. Be sure to insist on getting some of the pineapple and anchovy sauce (*mam nem*) to go with it; although they will say you won't like it because it's too strong, it's a perfect match. Once they realized we knew what to order, they suggested the Crispy Cornish Game Hen (\$9.95) for the next visit. We'll take them up on that.

Blackened Beef Cubes (\$10.95) is their rendition of shaken beef. We loved the flavor but found that the cubes could have been a little more tender. The bed of onion and tomato slices soak up the juices of the meat and soften from the heat, making a nice post-meat salad. Lamb with lemongrass and hot pep-



JOHN ANDERSON

per (\$9.95) is tender and very flavorful, tossed with garlic, onion slivers, finely ground lemongrass, and thin pepper slices in an aromatic brown sauce. Sliced duck with leek and ginger (\$9.95) is as wonderful as remembered: tender succulent duck slices with thick slices of sautéed leek, with a hint of ginger and chile.

Shrimp with black peppercorn (\$9.95) is a delight: peeled, perfectly done shrimp in a light batter seasoned with cracked pepper, sitting on a bed of lettuce, onion, and tomato, and topped with a mélange of onion, garlic, scallion, and chile, each crustacean dipped in a dish of lemon juice with salt and pepper. Snow-pea Shoots With Garlic (\$8.95) is a large mound of sautéed and wilted shoots with copious minced garlic and a kiss of fish sauce. Predictable and good. Special Chicken and Rice Clay Pot (\$9.95) is interesting: top and bottom covered with crusted rice, like the treasure found at the bottom of the rice cooker. The center is a mixture of chunks of chicken and sweet pork sausage with carrot, onion, ginger, shiitake mushroom, and scallion. We only wish that it had been cooked with a bit more chicken stock, so it would be a little more moist.

We sampled their *bun* vermicelli with charcoal-grilled pork and egg rolls (\$5.95) and declared it a winner: smoky, tender pork, crispy and flaky egg rolls, a nice ratio of vegetables to noodles, and an assertive sauce. We loved the grilled Shrimp Paste on Sugarcane (\$10.95) fresh off of their citrusy stick and snuggled into a rice paper with fresh herbs before a dip in nuoc cham sauce.

Most patrons prefer the daily buffet (\$6.45, 11am-2pm), but we prefer to order from the menu and only look at the numerous Vietnamese options. Why eat Chinese when their specialty is Vietnamese? Whatever you order, we recommend a steaming glass of hot ginger tea, followed by an icy Tsingtao or a Bia 333, if they have any.

Revisiting old friends is a worthwhile endeavor, and we're glad we gave old pal Sea Dragon a visit. Good Vietnamese food, great service, and value for the price. Enough said.

– Mick Vann

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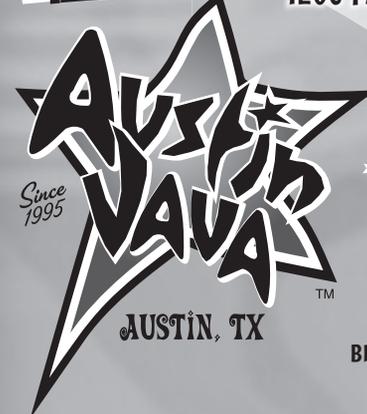
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ITALIAN, PIZZA: BARIS PASTA & PIZZA Your basic Italian family-style restaurant, where the portions are large, the prices are ridiculously low, and the quality is fine. 1501 W. Pecan, 989-8900 \$\$

INDIAN: BOMBAY BISTRO The new Raj in town. Everything we've had has been amazingly good: complex and richly layered sauces and superb breads from a large and unique menu. 10710 Research #126, 342-2252 \$\$

CHINESE: DIN HO CHINESE BBQ A menu long on fresh seafood and meats, all authentically prepared, served, and priced. The best roast duck and char siu roast pork around. Get them to go or eat them there. 8557 Research #116, 832-8788 \$\$

JAPANESE: MIKADO RYOTEI Not just for sushi, Mikado also serves Japanese tapas, or robata, a mix of grilled seafood, meats, and vegetables. Great date spot. 9033 Research, 833-8188 \$\$\$

BURGER JOINT, DESSERTS, TAKEOUT: PLUCKERS WING FACTORY & GRILL Who ya gonna call when you're craving good wings in the wee hours? These folks are frying and flying until 2am on weekdays and 3am on weekends. 9070 Research Ste. 201-C, 533-WING \$\$

CAFFETERIA/BUFFET: RYAN'S FAMILY STEAKHOUSE Try the Seafood Extravaganza on Friday nights for \$8.99. 1813 W. Parme, 835-8366 \$\$

VIETNAMESE: SEA DRAGON They have a four-page menu loaded with choices, and they're especially heavy on the spicy and the seafood specialties. The portions are big, and the service is fast and efficient. 8776-B Research, 451-5051 \$

INDIAN: SHALIMAR Pakistani food that's second to none and a gosht karahi that'll really get your goat. Try the buffet, but it's even better to take a chance on the menu items. 9310 N. Lamar, 719-3700 \$\$

VIETNAMESE: TAM DELI & CAFE Authentic and exquisitely crafted Viet noodlehouse fare: particularly strong on appetizers, bun, pho, and desserts. Nice portions, good service, low prices. 8222 N. Lamar, 834-6458 \$

STEAKHOUSE: WILDFIRE Cozy steak house and grill with a pleasant atmosphere. The menu features oak-grilled steaks, chicken, seafood, and wild game with an interesting Southwestern twist. 812 S. Austin Ave., 869-3473 \$\$

NORTH CENTRAL

BURGER JOINT: BURGER TEX Build your own burger at this longtime, no-frills restaurant. 5420 Airport, 453-8772 \$

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 \$\$\$

JAPANESE, KOREAN: KIMCHI SUSHI Simply decorated Lincoln Village sushi bar also features a menu of Korean favorites. 6406 N. I-35 #2343, 453-4111 \$\$

PIZZA: THE PARLOR HYDE PARK The juke box may be different, but expect the same fresh, innovative pizzas at this new outpost of the popular punk parlor on North Loop. 4300 Guadalupe, 323-0440 \$

BARBECUE: POK-E-JO'S SMOKEHOUSE The newest location of this Fifth Street favorite has the same great grub. Don't miss the desserts. 1000 E. 41st (Hancock Center), 302-1200 \$

continued on p.55

DOWNTOWN

FINE DINING: ANCHO'S RESTAURANT This pleasant dining room in the atrium of the Omni Hotel offers a Southwestern menu and a dynamite Sunday brunch with waffle and omelet stations. 701 Brazos, 320-5858 \$\$\$

PUB GRUB: B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB With Irish music, excellent pub grub, and Guinness and Smithwick's Ale by the Imperial pint (20 ounces), no wonder there are always friendly folks bellied up to the bar. 204 E. Sixth, 494-1335 \$

FINE DINING: CAFE AT THE FOUR SEASONS An excellent wine list with more than 200 offerings, a high level of service, and an elegant room add up to a sublime dining experience. 98 San Jacinto, 478-4500 \$\$\$\$

FINE DINING, FRENCH: CHEZ NOUS This grand-mère of Austin's French restaurants offers classic bistro fare. After all these years, we're still partial to the Salade Lyonnaise and the elegant Mousse au Chocolat. 510 Neches, 473-2413 \$\$\$

CARIBBEAN: HABANA CALLE 6 Find deep-fried, rich, and plentiful Cuban fare here. Pork and plantains rule the roost, while sauces contain the flavors that drive the dishes from simple to something special. 709 E. Sixth, 443-4252 \$\$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE With goodies, coffee, tea, beer, films, performance art, bands, and a great view of the Congress goings-on, this storefront gathering spot is a major find. 617 Congress, 476-0473 \$

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: JO'S HOT COFFEE You'll find an array of pastries and breakfast tacos early, and later in the day look for sandwiches, salads, burgers, and a few hot plates. 242 W. Second, 469-9003 \$

JAPANESE: KYOTO This elder statesman of Japanese restaurants offers scrumptious sushi and other Asian fare. Nonsushi items cover the basics in Japanese cuisine, but don't expect surprises. 315 Congress, 482-9010 \$\$\$\$

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 \$\$\$

MEDITERRANEAN: LOUIE'S 106 Crisp, elegant, multitered setting for Austin's original tapas. The beautifully lit bar is the perfect place to make your pitch. 106 E. Sixth, 476-1997 \$\$\$

PACIFIC RIM: ROY'S AUSTIN This is Hawaiian cuisine fused with the flavors of Western Europe. If you're not sure what to order, try one of Roy's Classics, like the Yellow Fin Ahi Poketini. 340 E. Second, 391-1500 \$\$

PACIFIC RIM: SABA BLUE WATER CAFE Busy, loud, and aimed more at the bar crowd than the food crowd. If you happen to be thirsty and want a snack while you're waiting for dinner, Saba fits the bill nicely. 208-D W. Fourth, 478-7222 \$\$

BARBECUE: STUBB'S One of Austin's premier rhythm-and-grub joints. Damn good barbecue. The gospel brunch on Sundays has become so popular that reservations are a must for both seatings. 801 Red River, 480-8341 \$\$

EAST

TEX-MEX: ARTURO'S TAQUERIA This brightly painted spot still offers seafood specials on weekends. The soul of the sea is evident in their atmosphere and menu. 7210 Cameron, 451-5318 \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: CAFE MUNDI This Eastside boho combo coffeehouse/art space/gift shop serves up sandwiches, salads, and muffins, plus waffles on weekends! 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634 \$

SEAFOOD: CAPTAIN'S SEAFOOD & OYSTER BAR A full range of both fried and broiled seafood. Especially popular are the oyster or shrimp diablo appetizers and Captain Dan's Crawfish Pirogue. 5700 N. I-35, 452-1417 \$\$

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, paninis, salads, and pastries from Russell's Bakery. 2200 Manor Rd., 472-9900 \$

TEX-MEX: EL AZTECA RESTAURANT After 37 years of neighborly service and rich food, this family restaurant was one of the first local eateries to offer vegetarian options. 2600 E. Seventh, 477-4701 \$

CHINESE, INDONESIAN: JAVA GARDENS The lunch buffet is almost entirely Chinese, while the evening menu is mostly Indonesian, with a few Chinese items remaining for the regulars. The Sunday buffet menu changes weekly. 1717 S. Pleasant Valley #280, 385-8858 \$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: LOS COMALES GRACIELA Expert purveyors of real Norteño-style grilled meats and side dishes. Reliable interior dishes such as puerco en chile colorado and pollo en mole poblano round out the menu. 2136 E. Seventh, 480-9358 \$

SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: MAXINE'S SOUL KITCHEN Look for beef tips, chopped steak, brisket, and other multiple-napkin treats that stick to the ribs as well as the soul. 2931 E. 12th, 220-3650 \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: QUACK'S MAPLEWOOD BAKERY Find the same great pastry and sandwich offerings as the Hyde Park location, as well as the addition of grilled sandwiches and pizzas. 1400 E. 38th, 538-1991 \$

LAKE

FINE DINING, STEAKHOUSE: BACKSTAGE STEAKHOUSE AND GARDEN BAR More than a steak house, it's a darn good restaurant, and so it seems a shame to limit oneself to steak when visiting. 21814 Hwy. 71 W., 264-2223 \$\$\$

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

INTERIOR MEXICAN: LOS PINOS Tex-Mex with a bit of Southwestern cuisine mixed in for flair. Be sure to try the Fish Borracho, which is tilapia swimming in chipotle cream sauce, corn, and mushrooms. 4919 Hudson Bend, 266-3231 \$\$

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ITALIAN: TONY'S ITALIAN VINEYARD Count on plenty of garlic, tomatoes, and cream here. From pasta to eggplant parmesan, just about anything smothered in marinara sauce at Tony's is good. 2828 Rio Grande, 476-5600 \$\$

CHINESE: WANFU III You'll find the same offerings at this new location of the Barton Springs favorite. 6801 Airport, 459-5200 \$\$

SOUTH

PIZZA: ALJON'S PIZZA In addition to excellent pizza, this unassuming neighborhood gem serves lasagna, ravioli, manicotti, subs, calzones. 1945 E. Oltorf, 851-8686 \$\$

SOUTH AMERICAN: BUENOS AIRES CAFE We know stupendous food when we taste it. The pastries, soups, and entrées are all superlative at this modest cafe. 2414 S. First, 441-9000 \$\$

INTERNATIONAL: CHOOBY DOO INTERNATIONAL CAFE A small neighborhood cafe with a modern feel, serving healthy and tasty fast food from gyros to Vietnamese sandwiches, fresh pearl drinks, fruit slushies, and teas. 3610 W. William Cannon #175, 891-9850 \$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: EL BORREGO DE ORO Real Mexican food, real corn tortillas, and real Mexican Coca-Colas at a reasonable price. Try the birria lamb and the perfect picadillo. 3900 S. Congress, 383-0031 \$

CAJUN/CREOLE: EVANGELINE CAFE Don't fill up on beer and the marvelous homemade potato chips with chipotle mayo for dipping, as po'boys, Cajun/Creole specialties, and fried seafood options await. 8106 Brodie #110, 282-2586 \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: GALAXY CAFE French-press coffee and jazz on Saturday nights up the cool factor, while bargain prices and delicious food keep you coming back. 9911 Brodie #750, 233-6000 \$\$

CHINESE, VIETNAMESE: HAO HAO Features a mix of popular Chinese dishes coupled with their Vietnamese menu. They really shine with the blackboard Vietnamese specials, particularly the vegetarian dishes. 1901 W. William Cannon, 447-8121 \$\$

BARBECUE, SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME. STEAKHOUSE: HILL'S CAFE Hill's Cafe has been around off and on since 1947 and is well-known not just for its chicken-fried steak and barbecue but for some big music in a small space. 4700 S. Congress, 851-9300 \$\$

TAKEOUT, TEX-MEX: LA TAPATIA Less Tex-Mex than Mex-Mex. Breakfast-taco fillings include the usual suspects - however, the meats definitely outshine all others. 1333 W. Ben White, 707-1585 \$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: LA TERRAZA Offers standard Mexican fare served in a comfortable, clean atmosphere. Cold beer and cheap margaritas, with live mariachis twice a week. 1605 E. Oltorf, 444-0018 \$\$

ITALIAN, PIZZA: MANGIERI'S PIZZA CAFE A family-oriented business that serves good thin-crust pizza, sandwiches, calzones, a few pasta dishes and a children's menu. The counter service is friendly, and takeout is fast and easy. 5900 W. Slaughter #490, 301-0063 \$

THAI: SAWADEE THAILAND Authentic Thai served in a homey setting. It doesn't get any friendlier, and the food is worthy of repeat visits. Check out their lunch buffet. 5517 Manchaca, 383-9908 \$

UT

JAPANESE: BANZAI SUSHI & GRILL Part of a new wave of world-wide fast-food eateries. Tasty, accessible, and inexpensive Japanese food is offered here. 3914 N. Lamar, 323-2151 \$\$

TEX-MEX: CHANGOS Making fresh tortillas right before your eyes, they offer great mahi fish tacos, al pastor, and pork in chipotle. Get a fresh-fruit *liquado* on the side. 3023 Guadalupe, 480-TACO \$

CHINESE: THE MAGIC WOK Cheap lunch and affordable dinners that include soup and an egg roll. 2716 1/2 Guadalupe, 474-7770 \$

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 \$\$

BURGER JOINT: ROCKETS Burgers, chicken sandwiches, and "planet-sized spuds." They claim it's their burgers you see in fast-food commercials. 118 W. Fifth, 482-0621 \$

BARBECUE: RUBY'S BBQ Award-winning natural barbecue in a down-home Austin setting, with an outstanding assortment of vegetarian options and side dishes. Available in sandwiches, by the plate, and by the pound. 512 W. 29th, 477-1651 \$

CHINESE: SUN HING CHINESE RESTAURANT Kung Pao, General Tso, and other Chinese standbys served up fresh and inexpensively. 2801 Guadalupe, 478-6504 \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: TEXAS FRENCH BREAD Still the perfect places to duck in for a scone, pastry, and cup of coffee. Check out the sandwich menu for light lunch fare. 3213 Red River, 478-8794 \$

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 \$\$

TEX-MEX: TRUDY'S A wide range of Tex-Mex with a slightly contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The half-

pound burgers are tasty and massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. 409 W. 30th, 477-2935 \$\$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: VEGGIE HEAVEN The menu is heavy on Asian dishes but also offers meat- and dairy-free pastas, sandwiches, and desserts. 1914-A Guadalupe, 457-1013 \$

WEST

ITALIAN: BELLAGIO ITALIAN BISTRO Don't plan on arriving late and having a leisurely dining experience - they like to close the kitchen as soon as the dinner rush starts to slow down. 6507 Jester, 346-8228 \$\$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: CURRA'S GRILL The wizards whip up handmade corn tortillas while you sip margaritas. Don't miss the chile rellenos with pecan cream sauce or, for breakfast, the *huevos machacado*. 6801 Burnet Rd., 451-2560 \$\$

TEX-MEX: HULA HUT Sure, it's got water and the hills too, but the best view at this Polynesian-styled paradise is on everyone else. Try the Tubular Tacos. 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 476-4852 \$\$\$

VIETNAMESE: KIM PHUNG Most folks go for the bowls of pho or for the *bun*, but give the dinners a try. The hot-and-sour soup rocks, and the lunch specials are delicious, big, and cheap. 7601 N. Lamar Ste. 1, 451-2464 \$

FRENCH: LA MADELEINE Diners slide their trays down the cafeteria-style line to order quiches, salads, soups, and sandwiches on dense homemade bread and croissants. 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 306-1998 \$\$

BURGER JOINT: PHIL'S ICEHOUSE Located in an old gas station on Burnet Road, they've already taken the Critics' Best Miniburgers in the 2006 Restaurant Poll. Save room for Amy's Ice Creams next door. 5620 Burnet Rd., 524-1212 \$

FINE DINING, SEAFOOD, STEAKHOUSE: REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Live jazz fills the air, and fine food and wine are served up at this elegant spot. Serious steaks for nights when you get the big raise or pop the question. 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 342-7977 \$\$\$

JAPANESE: SUSHI SAKE They take their *sake* seriously, serving premium brands cold (as their makers intended). Second, they have a long sushi bar with some of the most beautiful fish in Austin. 9503 Research #500, 527-0888 \$\$\$

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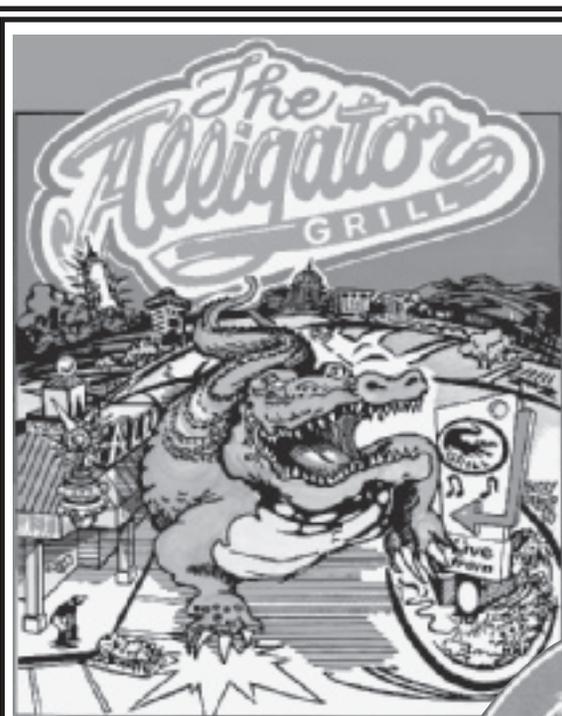
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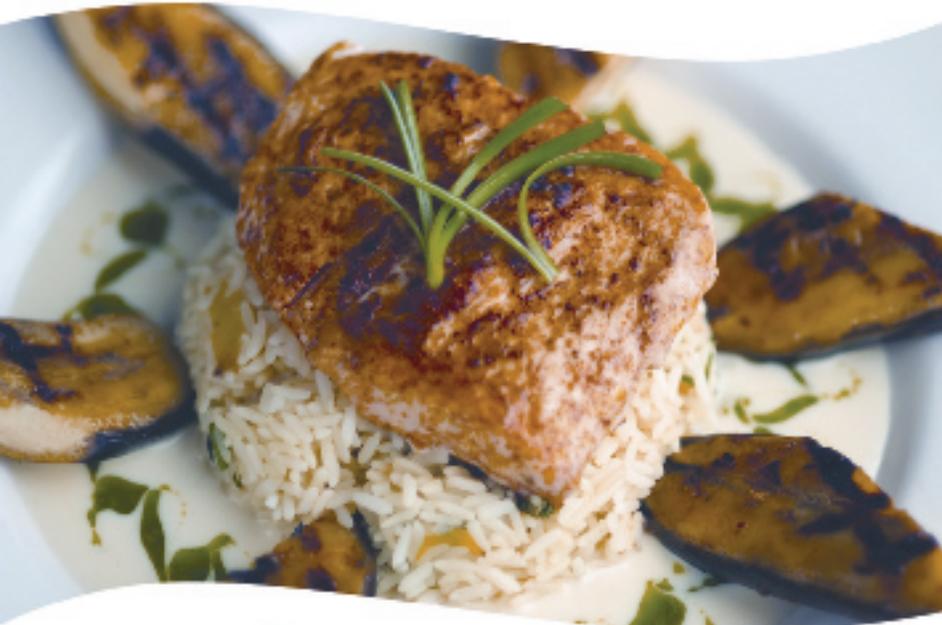
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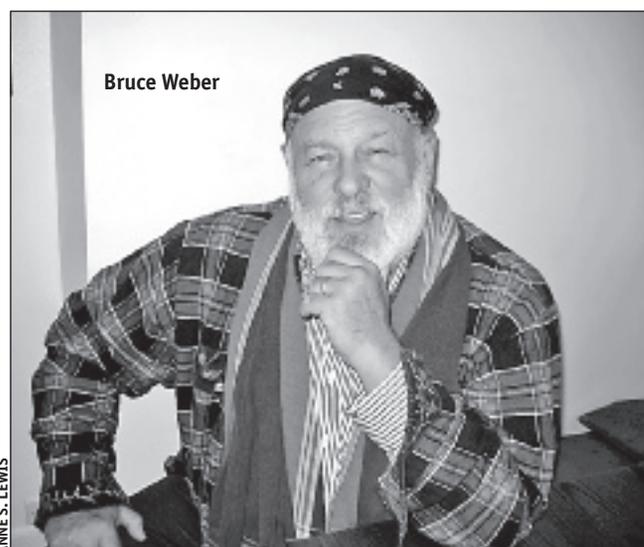
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Chet Baker in Black and White, but Still Blurry

Bruce Weber Reminisces on 'Let's Get Lost'

Celebrity fashion photographer Bruce Weber brought his Oscar-nominated documentary, *Let's Get Lost* (1989), about jazz singer and trumpet great Chet Baker, to South by Southwest Film for a retrospective earlier this year. The film will play the Film Forum in June and be released on DVD in December. With his signature bandana-wrapped head (and a really fine laugh), Weber is almost as recognizable as the beautiful people he shoots for the glossy pages of *Vogue*, *Vanity Fair*, *Abercrombie*, and *Lauren*. (His work entered our visual consciousness back in the Eighties with his black-and-white Calvin Klein ads featuring scantily or not-at-all-clad male models.) Today, at 61, Weber describes himself as equal parts filmmaker, photographer, and, as the owner of six dogs, unabashed animal lover. Add to that unrepentant Chet Baker fan. *Let's Get Lost* is Weber's paean to the gifted James Dean look-alike who seemingly had it all and then, starting in his 20s, began to blow it all. Paying the piper for the heroin addiction he couldn't or wouldn't shake, the guy who'd been tapped to play with Charlie Parker did some hard time in Italian and American jails, was deported from Germany and Great Britain, and at one point, during a botched drug buy, had all of his teeth punched out. Baker died at 57 in a vaguely reported 1987 drug incident before Weber had finished his film. Bearing witness to this life truncated are the sometimes more bitter than sweet recollections of the now-familiar chronology of wives, grown kids, girlfriends, and even sweet mom from Oklahoma, each of whose great expectations inevitably ran aground on the sandbar of their collective irrelevance.

While clearly of a piece with Weber's still photography, the style of the film is fairly unconventional for a doc of its vintage, shot, as it was, in alternately underlit and high-contrast black and



Bruce Weber

ANNE S. LEWIS

white, with interviews set and lit like photo shoots and the highly stylized directorial touch of the filmmaker evident throughout. Weber intercuts staged footage of a woozy, methadone-supported, 57-year-old Baker enjoying a windblown, midnight ride in the back seat of a top-down Cadillac convertible, sandwiched between two cooing women who nuzzle his ravaged, old-way-beyond-its-years face, with footage and stills from an earlier time, when the camera had far more reason to love Baker's face. Knitting it all together is Baker's seemingly effortless trumpet-playing and that soft, mellifluous voice that made songs like "My Funny Valentine," "Almost Blue," and "Let's Get Lost" famous.

— Anne S. Lewis

Austin Chronicle: How was the experience of making a film about Chet Baker with Chet Baker?

Bruce Weber: It was pretty wild and wacky. For me, as a doc maker, it was like going to Marine boot camp, because you'd plan something, and it wouldn't happen the way you planned it, so you had to adapt to it, just go with it. Sometimes we'd have to stop for some reason or another and then, because Chet was a junkie and couldn't do things twice, we'd have to start all over again. But we grew to really like him. I always liked his music. He was sort of like having a child that you love that was always in trouble. The drugs played into it in a big way. People would ask, "Are you guys getting high with him?" And I'd say, "We're so square, man." But actually, I think that's why Chet ended up doing this film: He was really kind of conservative as a person.

AC: What was so unique about Baker musically?

BW: Chet had this unique way of sounding so smooth, his voice and the trumpet sound. ... He liked to use an old microphone that he'd put right up against his mouth. I think he was really admired by a lot of singers, because he also played the trumpet in a way that was conducive to the way singers phrase things — but very upside-down, very different.

AC: In the film, we get some conflicting accounts, from various women in Baker's past, about two infamous incidents in his life. The one in which his teeth get knocked out — obviously not a career-enhancer for a trumpet player and singer — and then about how he died, supposedly falling out of a window in an Amsterdam hotel before you'd completed your film. What did you come to believe about what really transpired?

BW: The teeth incident happened the way Ruth Young told it: These guys beat Chet up because he did a bad drug deal. As far as how he died, someone told me that a friend of his was in Amsterdam at the time, and he went over and had a look at the windows in Chet's hotel room. He said those windows didn't open enough for anyone to fall out of them. That means Chet must have gotten into a bad drug deal, someone must have given him some bad stuff, he overdosed, and they just carried him down the stairs and put him on the street. Chet was somewhat unpopular with a lot of people because of drug deals where he wouldn't be honest with them, not pay up, or whatever; he had a bad reputation that way. That was a bad side to him, but he had a really great side, too. He was so much fun. You know, so many times when I'm driving around the country, I'll

pass a motel in a town with a Greyhound bus terminal, and it's sunny and near the beach, and I'll think Chet would have loved staying at that motel, having breakfast at the coffee shop at the bus terminal, meeting some stranger, and then going to their house and staying for two weeks, just living the life of Riley. He was really fun to be with; he spoke French and Italian beautifully. He was an Oklahoma boy and had that elegance that a lot of people from the West have.

AC: The film has been out of distribution for 15 years, but when it was released in 1989, it garnered an Oscar nomination for Best Documentary and the Venice Film Festival Critics' Prize. What were some of the other reactions to the film when it first came out?

BW: Some people thought that jazz wasn't like that or that a doc shouldn't be personal, but I couldn't change the way I take pictures or make films. I think some people thought we were too forgiving of him or that we were letting him get away with things, but I don't feel that way. I feel that Chet was really wonderful to us; he showed us a side of himself because he trusted us, because we were there for him, in the best way. Our biggest problem was that, like a lot of those women in his life, we wanted to change his life and make it better.

A teamster, a couple of happy writers, and a hungry filmmaker walk into a film studio. Does someone hear a three-dot column stirring, or is that my newborn son, **Nick Drake O'Connell**, seeking a milk fix?... Texas may be a right-to-work state, but that didn't stop a day-and-a-half shutdown of low-budget indie *Kings of the Evening* in Bartlett recently. Apparently, members of the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees stagehands union stopped work in solidarity when teamsters had what **Bob Hudgins**, head of the Texas Film Commission, calls an "informational picket." Director/producer **Andrew P. Jones** said in a written statement, "I have nothing against unions, but like most indie films, our budget doesn't allow for union terms without compromising quality. The result is that the union members are forced to stop work on a project that they are very proud of and are now out of work. *Kings of the Evening* is a challenging, diverse, and uplifting story with the theme of survival. And now the unions, in a right to work state, have forced everyone into survival mode." The teamsters' rep did not return our calls for comment, but apparently the two sides have come to an agreement, and filming has resumed with a May 3 wrap date expected. A somewhat similar teamsters action shut down *Friday Night Lights* for a day early in shooting to make sure locations managers were union members. "The good news is these are being very quickly resolved," Hudgins said... As we tipped you off to more than a year ago, look for Villa Muse Studios to spring up along State Highway 130 just south of Manor as a \$125 million film-studio-plus that potentially could draw film projects in the \$100 million range here. The new news from last week's press conference? A completion date for the studio's first phase by the end of 2008. Eight soundstages are planned in all, with a concert site and residential development also in the mix for the total \$1.5 billion project on 681 acres — just less than a third of which will be dedicated to the film studio — dreamed about by music producer and Villa Muse founder Jay Aaron Podolnick for more than a decade. See more at www.villamuse.com... Texas' arguably hardest working writers are making waves on the film scene. Last I checked, **Rick Riordan** of San Antonio was a mystery writer, but that's changed with his bestselling fantasy novel, *The Lightning Thief*, which two-time *Harry Potter* director **Chris Columbus** is expected to direct and produce. Those with long memories will recall that Columbus directed *Heartbreak Hotel* in Taylor back in 1988. Meanwhile, red-hot true-crime scribe **Diane Fanning's** yet-to-be-released book, *Out There*, about lovelorn, diapered astronaut Lisa Nowak's journey off the deep end, has been optioned by Granada America with intentions to make a big-screen film à la *To Die For*... *Willie and Me*, a road-trip film about a German woman aiming to see Willie Nelson's farewell concert, has apparently pushed back lensing to the fall. Originally, a Nashville shoot was planned, but Willie apparently said he'd never do a (even fictional) farewell show anywhere but Austin... Alert! Alert! The Austin Film Society has doubled to \$150,000 the total of film grants it will award this year through the Texas Filmmakers Production Fund. Hungry celluloid junkies can now rake in up to \$25,000 each. More at www.austinfilm.org... The wonderful Altmanesque ensemble *Screen Door Jesus*, which was shot hereabouts, is finally out on DVD... **Alina Fernandez**, radio personality and daughter of **Fidel Castro**, speaks Saturday at 5pm at Cuba Libre in an event sponsored by the National Association of Latino Independent Producers and Floppy King Productions... **Gary Walker's** special-effects company, TexFX, donated more than \$12,000 raised by its team of Austin Marathon runners to the Austin Children's Shelter.

Send tips to filmnews@austinchronicle.com.

Playing for a Living

GameCamp! blazes a career path

BY JOEY SEILER

When people asked how to break into the video-game industry, the joke used to be that it's easy: Just be in San Francisco in the Nineties. Now if you're in high school, you can just be in Austin during the summer. According to GameCamp! founder Spencer Zuzolo, "The fact that GameCamp! exists is really a testament to the desire that people have to be in the industry."

The camp is a weeklong immersion experience for students age 10 to 17 that started as a natural offshoot from Zuzolo's normal work. While working at Ninjaneering, the game company Zuzolo founded, he'd do outreach and speak at conferences about how to break into gaming. Now the camp has grown to include spring-break sessions and multiple weeks across the summer in Austin and Lafayette, La. "It's kind of surprising to me," says Zuzolo. "I was just doing this as more of a community service, to be honest, when I started. But it turned out that there's really a need for it."

Over the course of the week, the students form groups to represent their own miniature game companies. In the mornings they study the theory behind game design, art, the industry, or production. In the afternoons they put it into practice. By Friday, they pitch their game ideas to industry representatives.

"We take kids and put them in a position to understand what the industry is about," says Zuzolo, "what sort of positions are out there – like designer, coder, sound – and the camp gives them that experience and the exposure to that. Then what we do is help them develop that track through school and into college. For example, the student goes to the basic camp and then the advanced camp, and then, if they're old enough, they can intern at the camp. And once they've graduated, if they've been to the camp and they're qualified, we can actually hire them to work at the camp. The goal is that when they get through with college, they'll have had two to six years of actual experience of meeting people in the industry, using the tools of the industry, learning what the standards are, learning the expectations of their actual job, and then working on real projects."

Zuzolo's quick to add, "We also play a lot of games. In the industry, that's research."

It's not simple fun and games, though. Zuzolo calls it "direct-play." "Staff will sit down," he says, "and start talking to the



students as they're playing games about the things we were teaching them, whether it's design principles or art or artificial intelligence or whatever is going on in the game. And these kids will invariably have these fully in-depth discussions with you while being completely immersed in the game. The fact that they can multitask the way they do and be applying what they learned that day on the fly in just some random game that they're playing is pretty amazing."

While the camp might seem like heaven for every 13-year-old's inner gamer, Zuzolo admits he sometimes has to work to sell it to parents. "A fair amount of people," he says, "will never actually call to find out what it's about because their immediate reaction is, 'My kids can play games at home. Why would I want to send them to camp to do that?'"

But enough parents come around. "It's great for them," Zuzolo says. "There are a lot of parents out there who have kids



who just play video games," he says. "That's what they do. And they don't really know how to deal with them. They don't speak that language. But they want their kids to be happy and learn. So when they see that we can motivate students to something bigger than just being a game player, they get excited. And the parents learn how to communicate with their kids better. We do career counseling with students, so we can sit down with parents and students and talk about what they're trying to get out of the camp and how they can apply that in high school or going into college or a career."

Though the camp is too nascent to really measure its real-world benefits, several students-turned-interns-turned-staffers are now pursuing degrees related to game design. While Zuzolo thinks it's only a matter of time before the results bear out, he says one of the main goals of the camp is to make the challenges clear.

"We don't mince words about what it takes to get in," he says. "We don't promise you that you'll get into the industry. We promise to give you the best information about how to do it, and then you have to work your butts off."

"That's what we do," Zuzolo says. "We package the information and make it easily accessible. And then we kick 'em in the pants and say, 'Go work!'"

For more information, go to Summer Camp Attack, p.36, or check out the GameCamp! Web site at www.gamecamp.org.

PLAYERS GUIDE

Just when you thought *World of Warcraft* couldn't get more pervasive, it goes and escapes its electronic confines. Not to worry you, but the trading-card-game version of the frighteningly popular massively multiplayer online game invades the Austin Convention Center, April 27-29. Egad, hundreds have already registered to attend. Maybe it's because admission is free (tournament entry fees range from \$5 to \$25), or maybe it's because WoW is this generation's *Lawnmower Man*. Know your enemy: Go to entertainment.upperdeck.com/wow/en/organizedplay/tournament/darkmoonfaire/austin/default.aspx or see the Ongoing section of our Community Listings, p.76, for more info.

For those of you wanting to join the dark side, the maker of WoW, **Blizzard Entertainment**, is hiring customer-service representatives for in-game support. Allow me to loosely paraphrase the job listing: If you like to play online video games and can read, we'll pay you to chat with frustrated gamers at our new support site in Austin. For the real job posting, click on the Austin listing at www.blizzard.com/jobopp.

Tired of the rumors around *Grand Theft Auto IV* and *Halo 3*? Other, less-hyped upcoming games include **Beaterator** for PSP and **Aqua Teen Hunger Force Zombie Ninja Pro-Am** for PlayStation2. The former features beats and music-making tools from hit-factory Timbaland. The latter features the recently shamed billboard terrorists the Mooninites. — James Renovitch

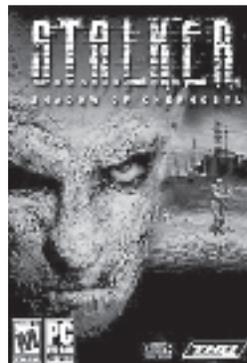
Send gaming news, gossip, high scores, low scores, and WoW conspiracy theories to gaming@austinchronicle.com.

S.T.A.L.K.E.R.: SHADOW OF CHERNOBYL

THQ | PC | \$39.99

S.T.A.L.K.E.R.: Shadow of Chernobyl delves into the feasible near-future world of the radioactive hot spots of Chernobyl and the attendant weird phenomena. Your impoverished Russian character is sent into the geographically accurate 200-mile dead zone around the plant to scavenge a way to bigger guns, canned food, and a better life, radiation be damned. Penniless, broke, and ever more radioactive, your character has little to live for but a lot to gain. Maybe your character can change life's equations using his newfound radioactive tricks, weapons, and souvenirs for the outsiders.

The Ukrainian-produced game came out of nowhere to become a European phenomenon. Sometimes the new U.S. version has bad lip-synching, but that only complements the error messages in Polish and the Russian deadheads camping out in the hot zone. Many gamers love the tongue-in-cheek realism of the small-time game companies. So many of us PC-game fans can no longer get off on dancing around in dwarven jumpsuits.



The open-ended game decisions are relevant to the real outcome. Add to all this realism a brand-new physics engine that shows off the radioactive anomalies and an artificial intelligence that plays with itself when off of your screen, and you have a new and exciting game every time. With its DIY feel and anarchic culture, this game promises to provide a gold mine of downloadable user-created mods, games, content, wars, characters, and geography. So if you are experienced in PC gaming, get in on the ground floor. Due to the Cyrillic, Ukrainian, and possibly Polish help files, this game is not for those inexperienced in optimizing PC games.

★★★★

— Ed Baker

GOD OF WAR II

Sony Computer Entertainment
PlayStation2 | \$49.99

With all the chains, whips, barely clothed bodies, and lashings that *God of War II* hosts, it could be mistaken for a Greek mythology S&M dungeon. Thankfully, your character, Kratos, is the dungeon master, and his role in the game is to give pain rather than receive it.



continued on p.60

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This sequel continues Kratos' epic, blood-soaked story. In the original, he impaled a god to earn his title; in *God of War II*, Kratos has managed to morally offend all the gods and all the other creatures in his world. It's hell on Earth as Kratos slashes his way through the land of the living, using his sparkler chain blades to fillet every medieval creature imagined, from Pegasus to Medusa.

Visually *GOW II* is as appealing as watching the Jim Rose Circus in 3-D. Creatures and caverns are finely detailed, causing the eye to constantly wander around the screen. The action is nitro-fueled and nonstop from the moment you hit the start button. There's no need for a manual because the directions are laid out for you in every scenario via text hints that pop up around the corners. This convenient addition makes the turn-on-and-burn-out playability of *GOW II* instantly gratifying.

The only major defect of this Athenian blood-bath can be summed up in three words: fixed camera angles. If your weapon of choice is first-person-shooter games where the left thumb-

stick pans your view around the area, you might feel a little landlocked. Aside from that, this carnival of colors and carnage makes any game freak salivate for a butchering, vivid massacre. Sure, the plot completely disrespects any text by Homer, but at least the gobs of meaningless man and beast slaughtering are done in an artful manner.

- Carson Barker

★★★★

DEF JAM ICON
Electronic Arts | Xbox 360 | \$59.99

Whatever marketing wizard came up with the concept for *Def Jam Icon*, "Music Is Your Weapon," apparently never played a video game, ever. For most game nerds, this line can only inspire a nightmarish flashback to *Revolution X*, the Aerosmith game that had you shooting CDs at a totalitarian regime. The fighting styles are practically identical, and the combo system is pretty shallow, but this makes for a better party game than something deeper like *Virtua Fighter*. You can win an almost-annoying amount of fights by smashing buttons. Plus, *Icon* granted me something the Make a Wish Foundation probably couldn't pull off: I not only got to punch Lil Jon in the face; I got to do it as Ghostface Killah. The game's story mode, Build a Label, is less fun. Forget those marketing classes; if



you believe the game, a hip-hop label's success is mostly determined by two activities: beating people up at clubs or gas stations and being a snazzy dresser. So if you're looking for real replayability here, the best I can offer is the 360-exclusive option for custom soundtracks. *Icon* has guaranteed shelf life for as long as you enjoy making Mike Jones and Ludacris throw down to hilariously un-trill songs. Annoy (and unnerve) your friends by making your fighter's theme song "Song of Joy" by Nick Cave. Make the Game look totally wack when you force him to scratch a deadly beat with Roger Miller's "Dang Me." Then trade the game in for a copy of *Dead or Alive 4*.

- Jeremy Martin

★★

UEFA CHAMPIONS LEAGUE 2006-2007

EA Sports | Xbox 360 | \$59.99

Considering the last soccer video game I played was *Pelé's Soccer* on Atari 2600, I'm probably pretty easy to impress. "Awesome!" I couldn't help shouting after I put the game in. "The players have legs now!" So I'm probably not the target market, but neither are you, most likely. In the U.S., where we hear things like, "I meant real football, like with a helmet," a Union of European Football Associations game is a niche item for sure. American soccer nuts have a similar title, *FIFA Soccer*, but EA's double-dip into the nonhelmet-football market is more than a quick cash-grab. Not only do we get pretty, pretty graphics, but the gameplay is so deep and complicated that trying to describe it would no doubt make me sound like an uncultured dumbass. ("You know that thing

where they kinda flip over and kick the ball in the air? You can so totally do that!") Mastering the controls isn't easy unless you're already familiar with their mostly identical *FIFA* counterparts, especially since there's no playable tutorial included. Besides the quick-match option, you get several involved league-play options. You can choose either a typical franchise mode, or an "Ultimate" mode that allows you to build a dynasty with trading cards, sort of like *Pokémon* with rioting. There's also a mode allowing you to replay famous UEFA matches, but the less I try to discuss this the better. As far as I'm concerned, it might as well let you re-create famous battles from the Peloponnesian War, but for true fans, the possibility of managing the 1974 Bayern Munich squad is probably shorts-soaking exciting.

- Jeremy Martin

★★★★

CRACKDOWN

Microsoft | Xbox 360 | \$59.99

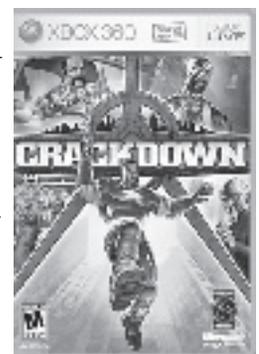
People will buy *Crackdown* for one reason: Ownership grants access to an early beta-test of the painfully long-awaited *Halo 3*. If that sounds like bribery, well, you're right. *Crackdown* isn't a bad game, but it certainly can use that little boost. Imagine dropping Spider-Man into your standard gang-overrun *Grand Theft Auto*-style city and giving him a machine gun and a mean streak, and you'll have an idea how *Crackdown* plays.

Our protagonist is a genetically enhanced supercop of the near future, capable of scaling skyscrapers, tossing cars, and sniping gang members while leaping between rooftops. Fight through waves of heavily armed gang members to find and execute their leaders hidden throughout the city. *Crackdown* features a *GTA*-like cityscape, free to be explored on foot or by car. However, despite luscious graphics and three distinct islands, the gameplay quickly becomes repetitive. Hunting down the gang leaders follows a simple pattern - enter building, kill guards, kill leader, run away. Repeat that 21 times to finish the game's main story.

What plot there is only takes about eight to 10 hours to complete, after which there are some races and other ways to get sidetracked, but there's nothing really compelling left. You can team up with a friend in two-player mode or over the Internet, either to "rekill" the original game leaders or to just blow up crap. The game is well put together but simply grows stale after the first few hours. Any Xbox 360 owners itching for a *GTA* fix are better off with *Saint's Row*, a much more faithful knockoff. Regardless, both games likely will be forgotten after *Grand Theft Auto IV* thunders into stores this fall.

- Eric Sebesta

★★★



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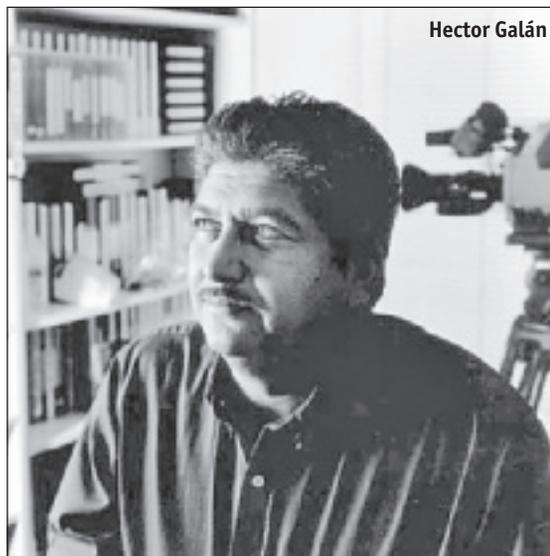
klu

Galán and 'La Guerra'

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Lots of local news on the small screen: First off, PBS has hired Austin filmmaker **Hector Galán** (*Los Lonely Boys: Cottonfields and Crossroads*) to amend the **Ken Burns** documentary *The War*. The hire comes after a national outpouring of complaints from Latino organizations disturbed at the lack of content about the very distinct Latino contribution to World War II in the 14-part series. Galán is no stranger to public television. His work has appeared on *Frontline* and *The American Experience*, and several of his documentaries have aired on PBS, including *Chicano! History of the Mexican-American Civil Rights Movement*, *Visiones: Latino Art and Culture*, and *Songs of the Homeland*, among others. While his most recent work focuses on music, turns out Galán is a huge World War II buff.

The War premieres Sept. 23 on PBS.



Hector Galán

Many Happy Returns

Heroes (NBC) returned last Monday, counting down to its last four episodes of the season. *Veronica Mars* (CW) returns May 1 at 8pm, just in time to appease those of you still going through *The OC* withdrawal. And no, that mawkish *October Road* (ABC) is not a good replacement. On the local front, the stylish *Downtown* (KLRU) returns for its third and possibly last season on Thursday (April 26) at 8pm. This season features Austin slam poets, the Tosca String Quartet, the Austin firefighter calendar men, Mariachi en Fuego, the ProArts Collective, the lowrider bicycle club, *Conspirare*, and more. Check listings for additional airdates and times.

Still going strong: Austin-produced *Special Session* (KLRU) continues its weekly look at the Lege. This week's episode, "The Bills of Our Lives," looks at key legislation up for review. What will pass? What will die? The *Special Session* roundtable, led by producer and host **Paul Stekler**, casts its votes. *Special Session* airs Sundays at 11am.

Another locally produced documentary series *State of Tomorrow* also continues its run. In 13 episodes, this series looks at how researchers and scholars at Texas institutions of higher education are addressing this nation's most pressing contemporary challenges: aging and illness, natural disasters, space travel, education, art and life, and other topics. Episode descriptions can be found at www.stateoftomorrow.com. The series airs Thursdays at 7:30pm on KLRU.

And lastly, PACT celebrates National Poetry Month with its second annual broadcast of *EXSE Spoken Word*. Austin area poets and spoken-word artists will throw down their original works April 27, from noon to 12mid on Channel 10.

As always, stay tuned.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at tveye@austinchronicle.com.

The Little Access Channel That Could

After years of wrangling, infighting, mismanagement, and general nyuk-nyuking, things seem to be moving on the straight and narrow at Public Access Community Television, the organization that now holds the contract to run Austin's access TV channels. A recent vote of confidence for the PACT includes an April 11 resolution passed by the Austin Community Technology and Telecommunications Commission, recommending that \$1.8 million in capital-equipment funds be used to meet current (and, some would say, dire) equipment needs and repairs at the PACT studio in East Austin. Before you blow a gasket, remember that the money is available because of the franchise agreement with Time Warner Cable.

"Once priority equipment purchases are made, remaining funds will be used to purchase a mobile production vehicle that will be maintained, operated, and managed by PACT," according to PACT press materials.

"Besides creating advanced training opportunities for Austin residents and the ability to use a mobile production vehicle for capturing community events," says **Garry Wilkison**, PACT general manager, "another purpose for it will be to generate needed revenue."

As someone who happened upon the PACT crew as they worked to capture this year's First Night events, I would vouch for the value of a production vehicle as opposed to a few tables crowded into an alcove outside City Hall. It was amazing to see everyone hard at work, oblivious to the less-than-ideal working conditions. A mobile production vehicle also seems like it would provide a great community outreach tool, in the tradition of bookmobiles. I can imagine taking the vehicle to tutor youngsters on the medium, perhaps providing hands-on, short-term tutorials in how TV works. I have faith that the PACT team is methodically examining all the options.

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music

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TCB  music news BY CHRISTOPHER GRAY

FIELD TRIPS



It took 22 years, but Austin finally made the cover of *Spin*. Sort of. An Armani Exchange-clad **Britt Daniel** is next in line for the Porta Potty on the May issue's foldout cover, ahead of **RZA, Jeff Tweedy, Perry Farrell**, and the guy from **AFI**. Inside, Daniel confesses to never having visited a "chill-out tent" (yeah, right), and *Spin* speculates this year's **Austin City Limits Music Festival** will include both "old-timers" (**Bob Dylan, Crowded House**)

and "people who just sound like old-timers" (**Wilco, Norah Jones**). According to rumor, under-40s will have to make do with some combination of the **White Stripes, Arcade Fire, Interpol, Arctic Monkeys, and Modest Mouse**. Find out for sure May 15. Meanwhile, TCB breaks down the rest of the Austin-heavy issue (**Ghostland Observatory, Bill Callahan, Riverboat Gamblers**) on the ol' **TCBlog**, and if ACL isn't enough festival for you, \$35 presale tickets go on sale today (Thursday) for **C3 Presents'** newest palooza, the **Big State** country fest Oct. 13-14 at **Texas World Speedway** outside College Station (www.bigstatefestival.com). That lineup won't be out until June, but TCB will wear a **Texas A&M** jersey to UT's next football game if some permutation of **Pat Green, Jack Ingram, Cory Morrow, Kevin Fowler, Reckless Kelly, Asleep at the Wheel, and/ or Robert Earl Keen** doesn't make the list. Aggies also love **Willie Nelson**, who turns 74 Monday and will be honored with a hoot night at **Antone's**.

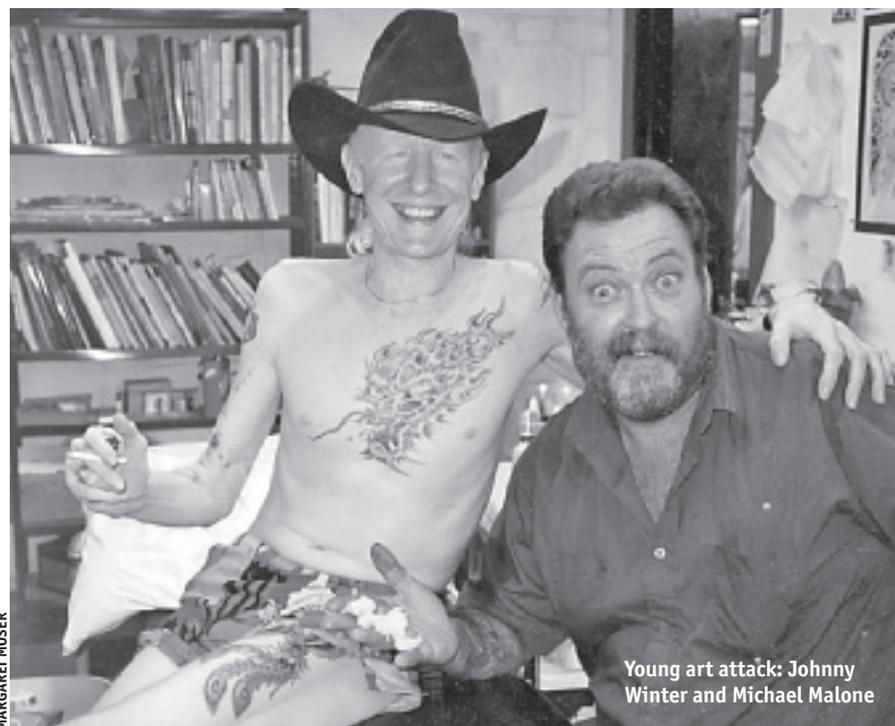
HANNIBALISM

Sixty-eight years old and as spry as a cricket, R&B's **Mighty Hannibal** is storming the **Scout Inn** Saturday, with the **Strange Boys** and **Carrots** riding shotgun and **Golden Boys** opening. Born **James T. Shaw** in Atlanta's Vine City neighborhood and performing since his dad put him in the church choir at age 2, Hannibal was labelmates with **James Brown** on Cincinnati's **King Records**, selling around 300,000 copies of "Baby, Please Change Your Mind" in 1962, while two of his mates in teenage doo-wop group the **Overalls** became **Gladys Knight's Pips**. "I've worked with a lot of beautiful people," he says, listing **Joe Tex, B.B. King, and Bobby "Blue" Bland**. After a spell in L.A., Shaw returned to Georgia to sing for **St. John & the Cardinals**, whose drummer, **Denis St. John**, went on to form "Champagne Jam" Southern rockers **Atlanta Rhythm Section**. In California, he befriended Texas-born blues-slinger **Johnny "Guitar" Watson**. "The only time we would fight was over a girl," he says. "Then we'd go smoke a joint and say, 'Hey man, that's over.'" Celebrated heavyweight fighter **Joe Louis** was also a fan. "He used to pay me \$100 just to sing 'I Got a Woman' just like **Ray Charles**," Hannibal swears. Even better, he once found himself in the back seat of a car with Brother Ray at the wheel. "Let me repeat that: He was driving a car," he says. "Ray had more nerve than a toothache and more guts than a hog," continues Shaw, who lost his own sight to glaucoma a few years back. "I said, 'Look where you're going!' and he said, 'Hell, I can't see no how!'" Look for *The Resurrection of the Mighty Hannibal* next month. "I lost my sight, but I didn't lose my charisma," he says. "I'm still the baddest mamma-jamma I know."



HIPPIE DIPPING

After 15 years of mysterious smoke clouds billowing over South Congress Tuesday evenings, "hippie hour" is no more. Planning a June move to San Diego and trying to make as low-key an exit as possible, **Toni Price** abruptly ended her wildly popular **Continental Club** residency earlier this month. "We're still trying to talk her into a farewell show on June 2, but it's not looking like it will happen," says the Continental's **Dianne Scott**. While they may have lost their queen, Austin's 4:20-friendly throngs needn't despair, at least not this weekend: Reggae-rock bros **Full Service** release their *Good Question* EP with an acoustic show at Drag pizza joint Mellow Mushroom Friday, and **Tribal Nation, Scorpio Rising, Wajumbe, Rattletree**, and the ever-present drum circle jam **Eeyore's** 44th birthday party in **Pease Park** Saturday.

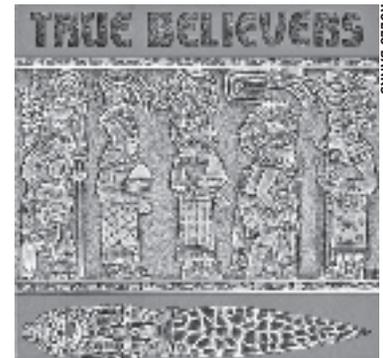


MARGARET MOSER

Young art attack: Johnny Winter and Michael Malone

MICHAEL MALONE, 1942-2007

Michael Malone, the former Austinite and tattoo artist known as **Rollo Banks**, died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound at his Chicago home April 18. Malone, 64, suffered from diabetes and a debilitating leg injury received last year. Credited with helping bring tattoos out of the sailor/biker/prison subcultures, Malone was also, by virtue of his friendship with former music columnist **Michael Corcoran** and marriage to senior writer **Margaret Moser**, *Chronicle* family. "It's hard to remember when tattooing was a real underground art instead of the Hallmark greeting card it's become, but Rollo was part of the reason it went 'from the gutter to the curb,' as he always joked," she says. "He was one of the true visionaries of the art, a pirate with ink in his veins." After inheriting legendary Honolulu tattoo shop **Sailor Jerry's** in 1973, Malone, a California native, moved to Austin in '84 and opened **China Sea Tattoo** near the original *Chronicle* office in West Campus. He tattooed a number of local musicians, including **Jimmie Vaughan, Keith Ferguson, Preston Hubbard, and Chris Gates** of the **Big Boys**. "Rollo was an artist," says Gates, who sports several Banks tattoos. "He would sit there and encourage you to think of something new. He wanted to do stuff he hadn't done, which is why he liked Austin." One of Banks' most famous tattoos is the full-body, Japanese-style mural of **Godzilla** characters on **Atomic City** proprietor **Prince**, which took a decade to finish and made the pages of *Newsweek* and *The Wall Street Journal*. "Combining new mythology with the old style made it a one-of-a-kind, groundbreaking tattoo," Prince says. "At that time, it had never been done before." See further Rollo remembrances in "Page Two," "After a Fashion," and online.



ROLLO BANKS

DOWN THE RIVER OF GOLDEN DREAMS

Okkervil River's repertoire would sound just fine backed by frontman **Will Sheff's** acoustic guitar alone, but add full string and horn complements and backup singers on loan from folk-rock kinsmen **Brothers & Sisters**, like the local sextet did last Saturday at **Hogg Auditorium**, and the songs' scruffy charm increases tenfold. With Sheff's lyrics already seesawing between tenderness and turbulence, the evening's lush instrumentation made the group a sort of Americana **Cure**, most notably on the "Love Cats"-like swing of new number "A Hand to Take Hold of the Scene." It also made a ghostly frame for Sheff's oceans of longing on main-set closer and **Black Sheep Boy** standout "For Real." "It feels a little weird playing in a room so many people have suffered over tests in," chuckled Sheff before dedicating the **Fugs'** "I Want to Know" to "the acquisition of knowledge."



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Gilded Palace of Sin

Lomita's boot-hill mystic

BY AUSTIN POWELL

A 14-year-old Jonas Wilson immediately recognizes Clifford Antone making the rounds of his namesake club during a “We Three Kings” tribute night. He approaches the bluesman and, with a zeal only possible in youth, informs him that he’ll play his club one day.

As the evening teeters to a close, Antone hauls Wilson onstage, handing him Mike Keller’s guitar. The club owner straps on a bass. They jam. Boogie. “You’ve got to slow down,” Antone exhorts, grinning. “You’re pretty good, kid, but you’ve got to slow down.”

More than a decade later, Wilson ends the reverie by lighting a cigarette, his glossy, azure eyes cast downward. That was a long time ago. He prefers the name Deluxe Peroux now. Remnants of his days as a blues prodigy, including VHS tapes from a European tour he took at age 17, are stacked in the closet of his studio, overshadowed by boxes of tape reels from his reincarnation in Lomita.

The local quintet’s raucous rock & roll is the antithesis to Peroux’s past. Or maybe not. Raw, unpredictable, and penetrating – like Antone’s blues – Lomita comes on stronger, like every brain-cell-damaging Texas music tradition: narcotic cosmic country, the 13th Floor Elevators’ incensing garage-bred psychedelia, and Trance Syndicate’s equally scintillant and somnolent tones and rhythms.

“There’s a conscious effort with Lomita to make music that’s drastically different from song to song so that nobody will ever know what to expect from us,” Peroux explains. “That’s the ultimate freedom.”

Beneath the disco ball at Beauty Bar, Peroux looks free. Eyes closed, back arched, and right foot firmly planted, his body sways like a pendulum, sensually rocking back and forth to the music. Lead singer and rhythm guitarist Ray Jackson, in tight pants and cowboy boots, moves more in the knees. Daxter McGarnigle and Dorian Colbert support on bass and

drums, while Sweney Tidball, shoved in the corner, holds the back line down like Ian Stewart once did for the Stones.

The band closes with a cover of the Cramps’ “Garbage,” electro-thrash suburban scum, primal and perverse. Hysterical, Jackson cups the microphone.

*You gotta beat it with a stick.
You gotta beat it 'til it's thick.
You gotta live until you're dead.
You gotta rock 'til you see red.
Now do you understand?*

The band exits. Peroux tosses his instrument and drops to his knees at the altar of his guitar pedals, fanning feedback and scrambling signals. Satisfied, he stands and walks away.

Liberation begins at the Lomita Opry House. Like Alejandro Escovedo’s former “Paradise” (*Austin Chronicle*, June 28, 2002), Peroux’s studio, which takes its name from the site of his first show in his hometown of Victoria, overlooks the San Marcos River on the outskirts of Guadalupe County, 15 minutes from the hustle of I-35. The Gilded Palace of Sin is subdivided into control, live, piano, and studio rooms, with two additional isolation booths, all cluttered with an array of instrumentation and equipment and overseen by the immortals – Lennon, Cash, and Cobain – who paper the walls. Beside the building sits another safe haven, his parent’s two-story log cabin, replete with blue-bonnet fields out front and kayaks in the back beneath the deck. It’s heaven down here.

It’s also where Boothill Graveyard – a psychobilly cover band featuring Jackson, Tidball, and McGarnigle, all former students at the Berklee College of Music in Boston – came to record in 2005. Almost immediately, Peroux and Jackson hit it off like Keith Richards and Gram Parsons at the Villa Nellcote, a seasonal exile whose “History of Leaving” bridges the two influences like “Wild Horses.”



Raw, unpredictable, and penetrating, Lomita comes on like every brain-cell-damaging Texas music tradition.

“It was literally an entire summer of smoking, drinking, and playing music,” recalls Jackson, a Dallas-native with a slight Southern drawl. “We could make as much noise as we wanted, day or night. And we did. It expanded my horizons.”

“We couldn’t create the music we make without the studio,” nods McGarnigle, the band’s engineering expert. “The songs wouldn’t be able to evolve.”

Lomita’s resulting self-released debut, *Stress Echo*, develops into a sonic daydream, warping time and space. “More Than a Name” drips *Psychocandy* as a wall of sound slowly erodes, while “Venom Flash” pops surreal surf-psychedelics. The reverb-drenched vocals in spiritualized “To My Lovely Daughter” appear like streaks of light through the Church’s stained glass. The no-wave textures in “Green Eyes” and “Mr. Execution” slum through the Velvet Underground and the Stooges’ *Fun House*.

Dániel Perlaky, owner and sole operator of Indierect Records (see sidebar), wound up

with one of 800 copies of the band distributed for free, resulting in his attendance of a private party at the Opry House. “Once I saw them perform live there, I knew they had the goods,” he remembers. “They were so expressive and passionate. It immediately made me want to work with them while wondering what their 10th record might sound like.”

The local label re-released *Stress Echo* last year, accompanied by a handful of late-night musings, drunken soundscapes, and Frippertronics soaked with the sense of loneliness found at the bottom of the bottle.

“We were pushing every effect to its absolute extreme just to see where it would take us,” Peroux says. “There were endless stupid nights where we pressed every single fader on the soundboard to the max or used random tunings we would never be able to find again just to try and make something that we had never heard before. Then once the fog eventually cleared, we’d go back and see what became of it. It’s obnoxious, but what’s there left to do with

Indierectly Responsible

Dániel Perlaky is a one-man show. The 26-year-old Hungarian immigrant and UT graduate runs two graphic-design companies (Blue Buddha Design House and City on Fire). He shoots for *Austin Music Magazine* and *Study Breaks*, publishes the *Austin Independent*, and most importantly, operates Indierect Records, the bedroom label responsible for Ghostland Observatory’s debut, *Delete.Delete.I.Eat.Meat*.

“I’ve got to convince myself first that I can actually pull off whatever idea I come up with,” Perlaky says over a double espresso at Spider House, the site of one of his two SXSW 07 day parties. “It’s all about networking. I’m using every single resource I have available to me. You’ve got to get as many people to owe you something as possible, and you’ve got to work on a shoestring budget.”

After forming as a publicity company in 2004, Indierect’s first signed, Purchase New York, quickly folded. Ghostland Observatory then launched itself from the platform the label provided, taking their entire inventory with them. It’s a touchy subject to this day. And, the Arm, which Perlaky drove to New York for CMJ in 2005, threw in the towel shortly after the release of their promising second album, *Call You Out*.



LARISSA QUON

the other bands I’ve worked with,” he proclaims. “Lomita has the pure musicianship, attitude, professionalism, and ability to both create and perform without paying any regard to the audience size. I’ve been lucky enough to where I can do what I want to do for a living. I want to give that to Lomita. It’s like having a kid that you want to have the best opportunity.” – A.P.

“There’s been about 10 times where I’ve been ready to quit,” Perlaky admits. “It’s not a business venture, it’s an expensive hobby. I don’t want to be the fucking Red Cross. There’s literally nothing in it for me other than the music. A band has to love it as much as I do.” That appears to be the case with Indierect’s top priority, Lomita, which Perlaky also manages.

“They have all the elements that were lacking in

LOMITA’S Essential Albums:

The Zombies, *Odessey and Oracle*

Fleetwood Mac, *Rumours*

The Byrds, *Sweetheart of the Rodeo*

Dire Straits

Elvis Costello & the Attractions, *Blood and Chocolate*

Whiskeytown, *Faithless Street*

Big Star, *Third/Sister Lovers*

Rolling Stones, *Exile on Main Street*

Suicide (first album)

Alejandro Escovedo, *The Boxing Mirror*

Sonic Youth, *Goo*

My Bloody Valentine, *Loveless*

Tom Petty & the Heartbreakers, *You’re Gonna Get It!*

rock & roll except make fun of it, make people wonder what the hell you're doing to it?"

That question certainly lingers throughout the band's sophomore effort, *Downtown Mystic*. The album, recorded in binges between touring and odd jobs beginning May 2006, is a beautiful mess, conveying personal disillusionment with layers of shoegazed guitar, discordant piano, and pitch-altered atmospherics that swagger through the Top 40 spectrum.

"There were some pretty dark times for a while," admits Jackson, who moonlights in Brothers & Sisters, hesitant to elaborate further. "The whole record's basically about girls leaving us and being completely obliterated."

Perox prefers to leave his personal insights off the album altogether.

"There's a reason things sound wrong at times," he comments. "For this album, we tried to write the most straight-ahead pop tunes and then put our own touch on them, something that would turn the listeners' heads and build anticipation for what comes next. We'd shatter songs and then try bringing them back together."

In jump blues rocker "Inspiration," dug up from the Boothill Graveyard, Perox purposely dismantles his solo, making it as abrasive as possible with Tidball following suit on piano. Like *Music From Big Pink*, the soul-stirring "Pictures and a Postcard," which features Brother Will Courtney on vocals, sings at its seams, leaving a trail of repressed memories, while "Foolish," a bass-heavy slow jam, washes out midway into a bed of white noise before gradually reawakening for the rousing finale. Most successful is "Broken Boy," where playful staccato piano chords and a carousel of acidic guitars melt down into the bridge to form one throbbing, loveless mass of fuzz.

"That's what happens when we get together," Jackson says. "Things get out of control. Between the two of us we've got some pretty sick pedals. We can make some ungodly noise."

"It's a snowball of excess, just pure expression," Perlaky contends. "They have absolutely no regard to commercial success. You've got to respect that."

Easter Sunday, with a glass pipe and a pint-sized bottle of Absolut resting on the windowsill at the Lomita Opry House beside a dry erase board that states the studio's general guidelines ("Less is always more!!!"), the band gathers to archive *Downtown Mystic*. Crouched over the soundboard, adjusting knobs with a sinister smirk, Perox is anxious to push forward. He's working on a solo album, a side project with Tidball and original drummer Davey Hamrick called *Nurtured by Love*, and he and Jackson have already laid down tracks for the next Lomita disc.

"You ready?" he prefaces a selection, McGarnigle and Tidball joining the fixed stares of Sonic Youth and the Clash in the background. "I have a feeling people are going to hate this."

A monolithic and industrious drone floods the speakers, dark and demented but eerily seductive. Halfway through the second song, Perox stands and sings his to-be-recorded harmony. No one has any intention of slowing down any time soon. ■

Lomita unveils its *Downtown Mystic* Friday, April 27, at the Beauty Bar.

LOMITA

Downtown Mystic (Indierect)

Indierect reissued a supersized version of Lomita's debut, *Stress Echo*, less than a year after its 2005 release, and *Downtown Mystic* seems destined for an even warmer reception. How do you not love a disc that starts off with a choice Cramps cover, 1980's "Garbage Man," and an unruly, growling one at that? That's hardly all Lomita has to offer. The local quintet's commingling of spacious twang, R&B timing, and glam impulses – "Inspiration" is as sharp as Bowie's "TVC15" – is more expansive than *Stress Echo*, streamlined into a sleek 45 minutes that only drags once or twice. "Pictures and a Postcard,"

with Brother Will Courtney sans Sisters, and "Trigger Happy Tongues" are stargazing rustic reveries custom-made for late-night moonlit drives. *Downtown Mystic* also weaves considerable Old World charm: the Elvis Costello understatement of "Foolish, brooding Bono lilt of "Empty Spaces," and, "She's Got Me," which follows Li'l Cap'n Travis into a Liverpoolian fog. "Leaves in Summer," with its shimmering guitars, doesn't lack much on Roxy Music. But back to "Garbage Man." Lux Interior's lyrics are as germane here as on *Songs the Lord Taught Us*: "You can't dig me, you can't dig nothin'." *Downtown Mystic* deserves to be dug deeply.

★★★★

– Christopher Gray



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“Ask any DJ in Texas who made their own lane and got respected, accepted in all rap circles, not rejected.”

— Mr. Blakes from *The Woodgrain Collection*

For every inebriated thug hogging a microphone, there's a preppy poet MC advancing an organized backlash against the cruelty of the streets. Austin rapper Bavu Blakes stands with arms outstretched at that very crossroad. Whereas most of his ilk expend the brunt of their product-placement energy defining themselves by way of a specific and unwavering identity, the 32-year-old Blakes hedges his bets by seamlessly juxtaposing his lyrics against any given shade of Lone Star hip-hop. Equally comfortable rocking a Rapid Ric mix as he is fronting the vibrant, jazzy soul of a local D-Madness set, Blakes makes himself available to the full extent of the culture.

Blakes' all-encompassing list of collaborators incorporates a gritty Basswood Lane ("Life Is a Rhythm," Nov. 17, 2006) and Gerald G ("Pirate Utopia," Feb. 2) for every sanitized Strange Fruit Project or Mojoe collaboration. Even a single Blakes song like "Play the Role" can begin as a B-boy anthem as originally produced by Hydroponic Sound System, only to be remixed into a vehicle for unhurried slab riders featuring Paul Wall and Money Waters.

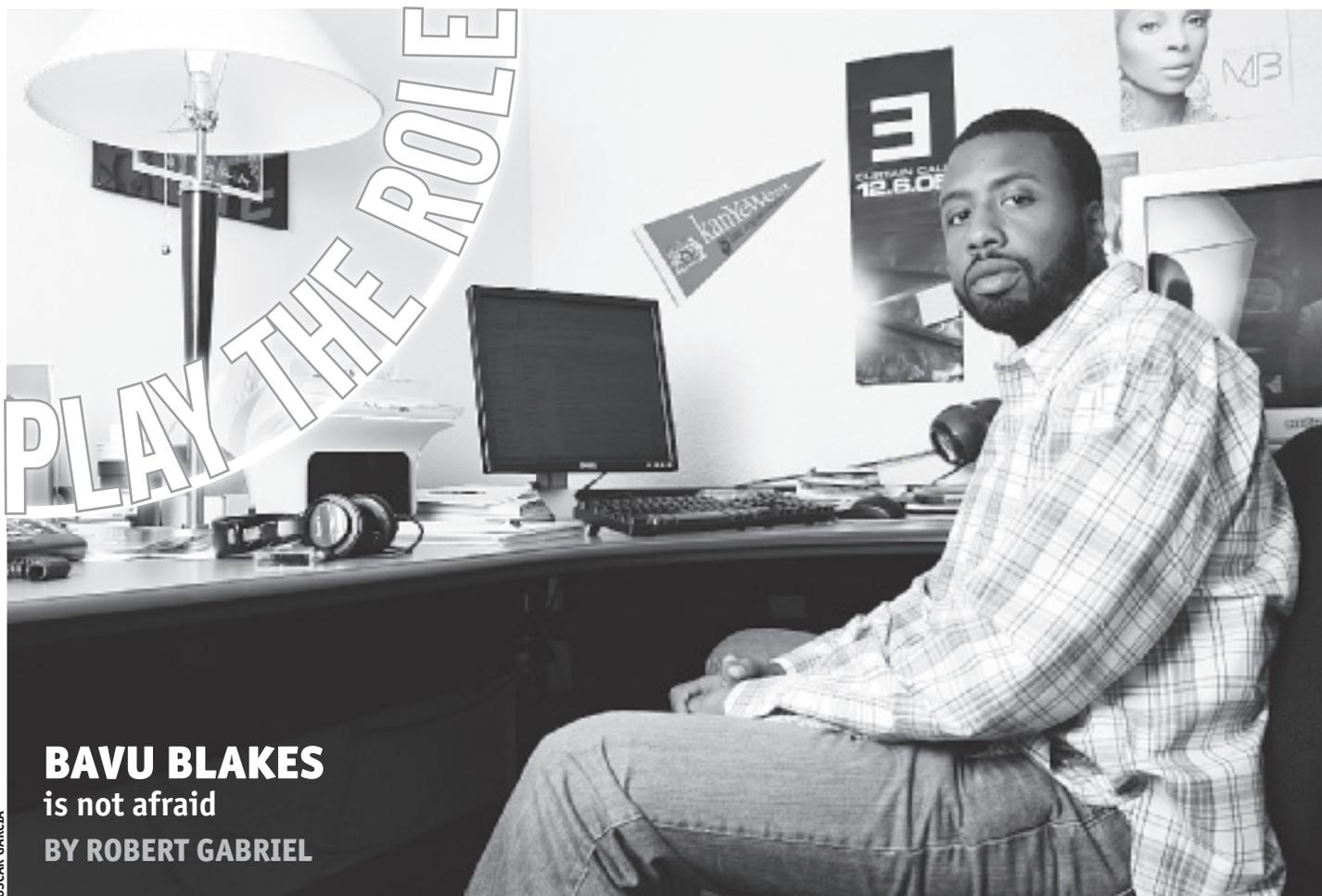
Talk to just about any hip-hop artist in Central Texas, and odds are that at one point or another they've engaged in some sort of creative exchange with the enigmatic "Mr. Blakes," who's begun using a more formal moniker as a way to segue between audiences of varying maturity. Yet just as his efforts toward musical diversity make the deliberate point that barriers between rap subgenres should never be considered as impassable, Blakes' resolute baritone maintains that one doesn't necessarily have to compromise one's own will to break bread with others.

“A child of Louisiana hood visionaries, damn near missionaries, named me 'Force' and prepared me to be that.”

— Mr. Blakes from *The Woodgrain Collection*

Born in Washington, D.C., as his bayou-bred parents studied at Howard University, Bavu Blakes found himself ear-deep in African-American culture.

“My mom always said that I had a favorite record before I was born,” he chuckles. “It was Hugh Masekela's *I Am Not Afraid*, and any time she'd play it when I was 1, 2, 3 years old, I



BAVU BLAKES
is not afraid
BY ROBERT GABRIEL

OSCAR GARCIA

In order to effectively maneuver between what many consider to be diametrically opposed rap scenes, Blakes has played both sides of the fence utilizing as inconspicuous a degree of code-switching as possible.

would recognize it and ask to see the elephant on its album cover.”

Meticulously raised as a focused black nationalist, Bavu cut his teeth at a private elementary school that “would appoint you an African name if you didn't show up there with one already.” The youngster's sense of normalcy turned upside down when his father took a job as a mechanical engineer, and the family relocated to the Dallas/Fort Worth suburb of Garland.

“For the first eight years of your life, you're like the blackest of the black people in D.C., and then suddenly you're lost in the white sea of Garland,” points out the rapper. “At home, it's the same, family reunions and all of that, but what I experienced away from home definitely rounded me out as a person by the time I got out of high school.”

“You have to learn from people who part of yourself tells you are difficult to trust.”

— Stanford University social psychologist Claude Steele

The reconciliation between how an African-American perceives himself and how others see him through the template of a racial stereotype produces a lifelong conundrum. Surrounded by unfamiliar faces and agendas, Blakes worked past the sweeping assumptions of his Garland predicament by treating it as a learning experience.

“It took a long time for me to get to dealing with people on a case-to-case basis,” he admits. “It took a lot of confusion and heartbreak to get to the point of being able to deal with people, being able to deal with myself and figure out where I ultimately wanted to be.”

Having quit high school band in order to work for the school newspaper, Blakes augmented his studies in journalism at the University of Texas at Austin by freestyling up a storm at campus parties. His deadpan annunciation and ability to improvise over a wide variety of beats, including notable Reelakts crew favorite “When Doves Cry” quickly earned the wordsmith a reputation as a local rap up-and-comer.

In 1995, when Blakes jumped onstage at Catfish Station (“Wake-Up Call,” July 22, 2005) for a friendly battle with Tash of the Alkaholiks, the UT senior and Longhorns sports editor still planned to concentrate on a career in journalism. But the wildfire hype produced by Blakes' stage-stealing lyrical triumph over Tash proved too much for an artist-at-heart to ignore, and



BLAZING SADDLES Mr. Blakes Says Giddyup

1) SOUNDSCAPE
“Listeners” 12-inch (Crowd Control) 2000
Blakes' debut pairs his thoughtful demeanor with jazzy production by Austin DJ NickNack.

2) BAVU BLAKES
Create & Hustle CD (Word4Word/Bomb Hip Hop) 2002
This full-length plays like an aural dissertation as directed by a studio cast including Ter'ell Shahid, D-Madness, Adrian Quesada, DJ Massive, and Obadele Thompson.

3) HYDROPONIC SOUND SYSTEM
“Play the Role (Bzzz Remix)” 12-inch (Alternate Take) 2003

If this reworking of an already strong single doesn't rock your world, its video with an extended cameo by the BBoy City dancers will.

4) BAVU BLAKES & DJ BABY G
Blazing Saddles CD (Word4Word) 2005
A duo of Dallas-to-Austin transplants kicks its stirrups into the then-skinny hips of ATX rap.

5) BAVU BLAKES
“Nobody Leavin'” 12-inch (Natural High) 2005
Producer D-Powers provides the launching pad to Blakes' lyrical stratosphere.

6) MR. BLAKES & RAPID RIC
The Woodgrain Collection CD (Mixtape Mechanic) 2007
Southern-fried soul accompanied with all the fixin's that Whut It Dew Family members Gerald G, Black Mike, and Chalie Boy could muster.

thus a decision to pursue a full-time rap career eventually followed suit.

A few years down the line, as Hip-Hop Humpday gathered steam as a weekly event at the Mercury (now the Parish), Blakes realized that the tasks of a master of ceremonies were in many cases one and the same with the functions of a cultural ambassador. "Being able to deal with different segments of the community as an artist, it gives you an extra edge because most rap artists spend all of their time on one corner," he explains.

"In time, I figured out that it pays to touch as many different corners as possible and relate to all types of people, whether that be college kids, suburban kids, ghetto kids, people singing in the choir at church, or people playing horn in the marching band."

"People's reactions to stereotype threat include chronic identity adaptations."

— Claude Steele

In order to effectively maneuver between what many consider to be diametrically opposed rap scenes, Blakes has played both sides of the fence utilizing as inconspicuous a degree of code-switching as possible. It's a fine line that divides being a magnanimous diplomat and a two-faced hypocrite, yet Blakes has managed to appease screwheads and boom-bappers alike with all of the calculation of a keen minister. At the risk of being labeled as incorrigible by one group, and far too stringently square by the other, Blakes cunningly manipulates the philosophical differences between camps to his own advantage.

"The more mature you get, the more you know what you're getting into before you step into it," he nods. "It's my job to have the temperament to try and get the sales. That's what I'm there for. A friend of mine says that people don't really buy music or styles of music; they buy personalities."

"If I'm trying to sell you a CD, I'm in a pretty humble position, asking you to spend your money just because I say so, especially since you just paid \$30 to \$40 to see some other artist. There's going to be a certain number of people at any show that I post up at who will already know who I am, and they're just going to buy a CD."

"But to those people who aren't aware of me from Adam, I have to be humble about it, or I'm selling the wrong personality."

"I went from worrying how some rappers hate me to having backers and actual supporters who advocate me."

— Mr. Blakes from *The Woodgrain Collection*

Blakes' initial reward for helping Rapid Ric adorn his Whut It Dew Family trophy case ("What It Dew," May 20, 2005) with the effervescence of Austin crown jewels Gerald G, Black Mike, and D-Madness rears its head as the 29-track mix CD *The Woodgrain Collection*. As songs including "Sacrifice" and "So Many Buddies" carry the torch for the golden-age standards of hip-hop mastery, a dizzying array of thoughtful concepts results in Rapid Ric's most articulate project to date.

Last year, as part of a never-ending quest to make his voice useful in as many areas as pos-



OSCAR GARCIA

KJ HINES Prince of the City

As an established 17-year-old rap professional, KJ Hines spares little time for irresponsibility. Managed out of Cedar Park by his father, Walter Hines, KJ's burgeoning entertainment career insists on the proliferation of positive ideals. Whether rapping, singing, or playing piano, he channels everything in his power to squash negative stereotypes too often imposed upon young African-American men.

"When you see a rapper, you shouldn't automatically assume that he's a gangsta just based off of how he looks or what he's wearing," frowns KJ. "That's certainly not what I'm about, yet people seem to make that false assumption time and time again."

Gaining his first taste for show business at the age of 11 in a touring church choir, Hines set his musical sights for the sky and benefited early and often from the unyielding support of his parents. With piano lessons feeding his aptitude for teenage rap, the teen's calculating mind and impulsive voice did the rest. It quickly became apparent to his father that showcasing such talent was an imperative.

"When we were watching KJ grow up and develop musically," indicates Walter Hines, "the question we kept asking ourselves was, 'Why in the world would we not invest in our child?'"

sible, Blakes began hosting an R&B video program on Austin's ME Television. Evidently, he made the most of the opportunity: Last month he became the station's new urban music director. With a networking vantage point second to none and an established reputation for building up the mystique of those around him, Blakes welcomes the politics of his new position. Now that local rappers who perceive themselves in direct competition with him will be forced to route their videos through Blakes' care, issues of community trust will certainly come into question whenever someone's submitted video fails to garner airtime.

Even if Blakes' next proper album is titled *Too Selfish*, as he suggests it might be, never assume that in life it's his actual order of

Beyond his self-released 2006 album, *Capital City*, the video for its title track, and road gigs opening for Lil Wayne and Lil' Flip, KJ's latest chaperoned adventure emerged as a trip to the West Bank of New Orleans for a cameo appearance in a Baby Boy video. When an appreciation of meeting genius producer Mannie Fresh can be enthusiastically shared by father and son, all concepts of a generation gap fly out the tour-van window.

"As far as my dad being so involved in my life," boasts KJ, "I look at it as a blessing. I'm extra glad he's not a drill sergeant about it."

Motivating himself as a lyricist, Hines often begins a verse chanting simply only to shift gears into full-fledged arpeggios of double-timed flow. On "Daily Grind," Houston's Kiotti joins him for a whirlwind exploration of how to wreck a beat assembled to withstand hurricane gusts by Elgin's Big Bailey. Rapping at jaw-dropping speeds and playing piano at the same time completes the KJ Hines package. At present.

"Ultimately, I try to teach a lesson with my raps," he concludes with a confident glimmer in his eye. "Right now, I'm keeping it fun, since people my age mostly want to dance and let loose. When I get older, I can be more like Mr. Blakes."

— R.G.

operation. Such a title only challenges his growing fan base to question preconceived notions they might reserve for rappers as wholly egocentric. There really isn't much he does that doesn't hold the futility of projecting regimented absolutes over a barrel of blessed ambiguity. Just when you find yourself surprised by another one of Blakes' latest ventures, it dawns on you that it's serendipitously planned and ultimately makes perfect sense. There's a method to the madness he stresses.

"I just hope that with the resources and experience that I have at my disposal that I'm able to help pull up some of the talented people around me."

Bavu Blakes takes down the Flamingo Cantina, Friday, April 27.

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LIVESHOT



GARY MITLER

ARETHA FRANKLIN

Bass Concert Hall, April 19

R-E-S-P-E-C-T. Such did a sold-out Bass Concert Hall find out exactly what that meant to them. "Whatchu want? Baby I got it." And she did, Aretha Franklin. In her 65-year-old face spread the same smile of her 14-year-old self singing to the rafters in her father's Memphis parish, joyful, elated, possessed of the Holy Spirit. The audience shook with the same. Brothers testified; mothers wept. One girl in a Fifties Marilyn Monroe dress looked like she was going to burst from excitement. So was the rapture. Opener "Respect" straight into "(You Make Me Feel Like a) Natural Woman" might be belted out every night on the big hair and bling circuit, but the Queen of Soul sold it from the tips of your toes to the fuzz on your neck. Drawing out the last line of "Natural Woman," Franklin licked a finger and ran it up her thigh, turning to face the grand piano. Ten horns sounded, three keyboardists crescendoed, a female quartet howled, bass, guitar, drums, and a pair of percussionists heeded the bandleader's closed fist. Eighty-six the tambourine. "Ooo baby, whatcha done to me?" The house sprang back to its feet for "Think," but Franklin's sumptuous reading of Curtis Mayfield's "Something He Can Feel" gritted pay dirt, the leading lady clamping a hand on her posterior and giving a wiggle. A waggle. "Chain of Fools" and two new tunes prompted an intermission 35 minutes in, during which the band played on and the sanctified became restless. Give the lady 10. After that, more newbies, Jackie Wilson's "Higher and Higher," big mama blues, and a shot of "Dr. Feelgood" preceded Franklin's kicking off her shoes for a turn at the piano, and at the last, "Freeway of Love." Respect. — Raoul Hernandez

★★★★★ Perfect ★★★★★ Great ★★★ Good ★★ Mediocre ★ Coaster

PHASES & STAGES

THE CLUTTERS

Don't Believe a Word (Chicken Ranch)

If Nashville, Tenn., is the new Omaha, Neb., and incredibly enough, that's exactly what several scene-spotters have begun suggesting, it's not just because of Kings of Leon and Be Your Own Pet. The Clutters might not turn up on quite as many blogs, but whoever doesn't turn up second album *Don't Believe a Word* is a fool. Sixties garage rock through a Sub Pop-ish lens, this 12-song, 33-minute burst of riffs, Farfisa, and attitude glams up brazen 2005 debut *T&C* and finds some pretty nifty pop songs like "Awww C'mon" and "Surrender" (a spiritual cousin to Cheap Trick's) beneath all the feedback. Rave-ups "Rockaway," "Radio," "Temperature," and "Let It Roll," ought to be anointed Little Steven's Coolest Song in the World This Week, and the rest of *Don't Believe* makes it possible, for once, to believe Nashville really might be Music City. **(The Clutters toast Cinco de Mohawk, May 5.)** ★★★★★ — Christopher Gray



Meanwhile, the full-throated roar of J. Mascis' guitar and the driving backbeats laid by Murph, a drummer who's always deserved more respect, retain the gravity of the La Brea Tar Pits. For unreconstructed rockists, the title of track six tells you everything you need to know about the band's reunion fever: "Been There All the Time." Apparently evolution is overrated. ★★★ — Dan Oko

UNCLE EARL

Waterloo, Tennessee (Rounder)

Originally begun as a project of K.C. Groves and Jo Serrapere in 1999, Uncle Earl has since congealed into a female bluegrass supergroup around Groves, Kristin Andreassen, Rayna Gellert, and Abigail Washburn. Like 2005's *She Waits for Night*, the g'Earls' latest seamlessly weaves original string tunes and old-time ballads, reveling as much in archiving as progressing the tradition. Led Zeppelin's John Paul Jones, as producer, captures their looseness and versatility on the twangin' "D & P Blues" and playful Cajun romp "Streak o' Lean, Streak o' Fat," featuring Washburn shouting lines in Chinese, Gellert's fiddling electric, and Washburn's banjo, which remains unmatched in contemporary old-time music. "My Little Carpenter" recalls Gillian Welch, who contributes drums on "The Last Goodbye," and Ola Belle Reed's exceptional "My Epitaph" is resurrected in a haunted, Old World dirge. With *Waterloo, Tennessee*, the g'Earls have found a home. ★★★ — Doug Freeman



MODEST MOUSE

We Were Dead Before the Ship Even Sank (Epic)

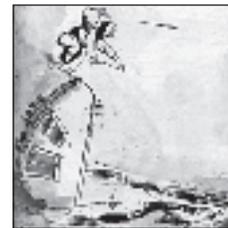
Modest Mouse has pulled off the near impossible with its sixth full-length and third major label release: The Issaquah, Wash., sextet has managed to retain its edgy, proto-emo dynamics while availing itself of a more mainstream audience. Case in point: "Dashboard," the first single, is a solid pop song with mass appeal that still sports a sly fray. Meanwhile, "Parting of the Sensory" is pure Isaac Brockian strangeness, ending in a lisped, near a cappella chant that rattles the brainpan. This collection of genuinely great songs reflects a mutual respect between Brock and former Smiths guitarist Johnny Marr, the bandleader's squiggly guitar lines and feral howl nicely complemented by the latter's chiming additions on rhythm and lead. Brock still writes of despair without going totally emo and also rocks the nautical theme without relying on art-school preciousness. The result is that *We Were Dead* sounds like Modest Mouse, only better. **(Modest Mouse ups the body count at the Backyard, Wednesday, May 9.)** ★★★★★ — Melanie Haupt



WILLY MASON

If the Ocean Gets Rough (Astralwerks)

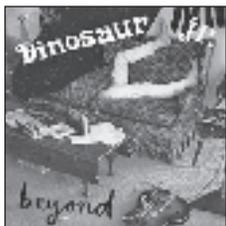
Today's young artists face the combined challenge of breathing life into established genres while also having something fresh to say. Twenty-two-year-old Willy Mason is one such relative newcomer. He's drawn comparisons to Bright Eyes and Beth Orton and has become something of a phenom in the UK. After several EPs and two LPs, the Massachusetts resident still needs a bit more seasoning. With its fuller sound, *If the Ocean Gets Rough* is an upgrade from Mason's previously stark work, and he remains a top-notch melody maker; tunes like "Gotta Keep Walking," "Save Myself," and "Riptide" are sing-alongs in no time. Mason displays promise, but with limited range vocally and echoes of Ben Harper, Los Lobos, and John Hiatt in his song-craft, he hasn't hit one squarely out of the park yet. ★★★ — Jim Caligiuri



DINOSAUR JR.

Beyond (Fat Possum)

A rather ripped Van Winkle moment has arrived for Lou Barlow and company, who last recorded as Dinosaur Jr. in 1989. Even listeners too old to judge a 50-minute CD by its cover will find something enthralling in that figure on the couch being sucked under the cushions. The leadoff chorus from "Almost Ready" makes it clear that after years of wandering the desert, Dino Jr. has nothing to apologize for. Ditto for the sublime riffs off the grunge ballad "We're Not Alone."



to be seen. Her follow-up to 2005's chunk of Canadian goodness, *Let It Die*, is neither miserable nor memorable. It does, however, succeed in mixing soft rock, indie rock, jazz, and soul. With mind-stickers like the repetitive "I Feel It All," the Spoon-ful of Goldfrapp "My Moon My Man," and additively bouncy nugget "1234," *The Reminder* is simply that: a multi-instrumentalization wherein the northern waif swims around in the smoky, candlelit corners of your mind until her next blip of pop genius (e.g., "Mushaboom") breaks through — or possibly off — her major label debut. Anyone who hits Hall & Oates smooth like "The Limit to Your Love" is good in our book. Let *The Reminder* remain an open chapter in Feist's breathy, inconspicuous, winter-loving tome. ★★★ — Darcie Stevens

CHARLOTTE GAINSBOURG

5:55 (Because/Vice/Atlantic)

Music by Air, lyrics by Jarvis Cocker and Neil Hannon, knob-twiddling by Nigel Godrich. It's easy to believe *5:55* a vanity project. It's the second album in 20 years for Gainsbourg, multitalented progeny of Serge and Jane Birkin, the first being 1986's *Charlotte for Ever*, an album penned by her father. So there's no small amount of grooming here, but it's obvious from the hypnotic title track that there's nothing wrong with keeping it in the family, as Gainsbourg suggests everything with repetitive whispers of "and again." Air's heir's quite apparent, pushing moody strings and sexified sleepwalking through the ambient "AF607105," where she floats above Cocker's detached lyrics, and the French-sung "Tel Que Tu Es," another breathy, lusty ode. The manic, Tori-esque piano of "Everything I Cannot See" pulls her out of the ether, but the chill-out room still suits her best. She sounds forever Gainsbourg — not a bad thing in this case. ★★★ — Audra Schroeder



THE ROSEBUDS

Night of the Furies (Merge)

The Furies, according to Greek mythology, were the goddesses of vengeance, jealousy, and anger, emotions not usually associated with this lovey-dovey North Carolina couple. It's hard finding the connection between the Rosebuds' post-New Wave dance tunes and hideous goddesses dripping blood from their eyes, but the duo's third LP certainly sports more shadows and darker tones than its sunnier predecessors. "I could never be all you need me to. My punishment is living without you," sings Ivan Howard on the album's opener, "My Punishment for Fighting." Later, Kelly Crisp sings fiercely of a lover lost to a catastrophic accident ("When the Lights Went Dim"), her voice utterly devoid of feeling. The chill disconcerting. That chill permeates *Night of the Furies*, despite Howard's earnestness. It's an interesting departure, but not entirely successful. By the time *Furies* wraps, it's clear that the crimes to be avenged here are those we commit against those we love the most. ★★★ — Melanie Haupt

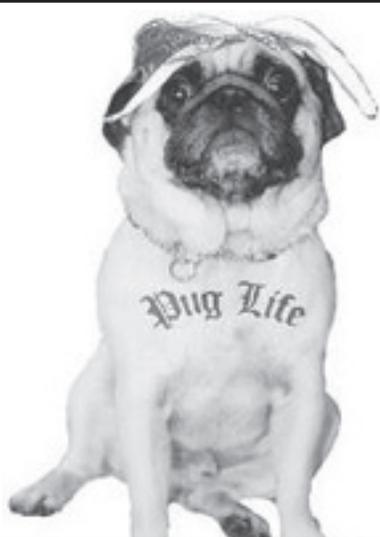


FEIST

The Reminder (CherryTree/Interscope)

Whether Leslie Feist is the chanteuse who will someday make crooning cool again remains





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LEAD STORY

Afghan nationals who work at NATO's Kandahar Airfield must use their own "separate but equal" toilet facilities, according to a March dispatch in Toronto's *Globe & Mail*. The American officer in charge of administrative contracts said the policy was based on hygiene, in that some locals customarily stand on toilet seats and then squat down, which he said creates unusual messes, but also on some Muslims' carelessness in cleaning themselves in preparation for prayer, when their water bottles sometimes fall in and have to be fished out.

ANIMAL AWESOMENESS

• In April, two Labrador retrievers (Lucky and Flo) sniffed out another shipment of pirated DVDs (worth about \$435,000) in a building in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia. It was at least the second such bust since mid-March, when the U.S. Motion Picture Association of America loaned the dogs to Malaysian authorities because they can detect the polycarbonate and unique chemicals in the discs. So successful are Lucky and Flo that an unspecified crime gang has reportedly put out a contract on them.

• 1) Ada Barak's spa in the northern Israeli town of Talmey El'Azar features a "snake massage" for the equivalent of \$70, for which six king snakes or milk snakes slither over the client's body (a therapy said not to be stress-increasing, but stress-reducing, according to a January Reuters dispatch). 2) Another January Reuters dispatch, from Antwerp, Belgium, reported that doctors at the city's Aquatopia animal showcase had scheduled surgery to relieve Mozart, the iguana, of his painful priapism in one of his two functional penises.

• Veterinarians in Tallahassee, Fla., were enthralled in January when a duck, "killed" by a hunter and placed in his freezer for two days, suddenly sprang to life and was rushed into surgery at Goose Creek Wildlife Sanctuary to repair its leg and wing. Then, on the operating table, the duck (named "Perky" by that time) once again flat-lined, only to spring back to life a second time.

NEW PRODUCT LAUNCHES

Holy Drinking Water in half-liter bottles, from Wayne Enterprises of Linden, Calif., which supposedly obtained blessings from Catholic and Anglican priests for the ordinary purified water.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



ROY TOMPKINS

\$60,000 mattress from the Swedish manufacturer Hastens, introduced to the United States recently for people who (according to the advertising) might believe that they're so special that they're entitled to a luxuriously rejuvenating night's sleep.

NO LONGER WEIRD

Adding to the list of stories that were formerly weird but which now occur with such frequency that they must be retired from circulation: 1) Preschoolers and first-graders who happen to find their parents' drug stashes and innocently bring them to school, sometimes even for show-and-tell-type sessions, as happened in March in Shreveport, La., when a first-grader brought in crack cocaine that might have been his 20-year-old mother's. And 2) people who call in fake bomb threats for the most selfish of reasons, such as to delay an airline takeoff that they're running late for, or to postpone a school exam they're not prepared for, or to get off work, as Brandy Killin, 26, allegedly did in Kearney, Neb., in March, to her employer First National Omaha.

WE MUST NEVER OFFEND ANYONE

According to a report commissioned by Britain's Department of Education and Skills, some history teachers have dropped references to the Holocaust (and the 11th-century Crusades) out of fear that the regular history curriculum might confuse or anger Muslim students who have been taught differently in local mosques (according to an April story in London's *Daily Mail*). And London's *Daily Telegraph* reported in March that the head teacher at a school in Huddersfield had changed the June student festival production of Roald Dahl's "The Three Little Pigs" to "The Three Little Puppies," out of fear that Muslim children would be uncomfortable singing "pig" references. (A local Muslim spokesman immediately condemned the change as unnecessary, and the school overruled the teacher.)

SCIENCE ON THE CUTTING EDGE

American researchers in West Africa believe they've found the first instance of an animal (other than humans) building a multistep weapon, after observing wild chimpanzees grab sticks from 1 to 4 feet long, sharpen the ends with their teeth, and murderously jab them into deep tree hollows where delicious bush babies may be nesting. Writing in the journal *Current Biology*, the team even reported observing the chimps tasting the tips after the stabs to ascertain whether they had actually located a prey. (One of the researchers said the ferocity of the jabbing reminded her of the shower scene in Alfred Hitchcock's *Psycho*.)

PEOPLE WITH ISSUES

Army drill sergeant Edmundo Estrada, 35, was arraigned in January in Hampton, Va., on charges of indecent assault, on a complaint by a young subordinate who said Estrada prescribed a confidence-building regimen in which the two men role-played from a pornographic movie, with the trainee dressing as a *Superman* character and Estrada performing sexual acts on him. According to the arrest affidavit, when Estrada "torture[d]" the trainee, the man was to respond by "moaning." (Another trainee accused Estrada of trying to photograph his squad bare-chested, claiming he needed to document their physical growth.)

UPDATE

As a result of a 2003 traffic stop in Ohio, Catherine Donkers was convicted of a child-seat-restraint violation (specifically, holding her baby in her lap for breast-feeding while driving), but she appealed, and in April 2007, a court ruled in her favor. The story made "News of the Weird" in 2003 because Donkers' husband, Brad Barnhill, who was not in the car, demanded that he be charged instead because his First Christian Fellowship for Eternal Sovereignty religion teaches that the husband must take responsibility for all of his wife's public actions (especially when the "public action" involves "the Beast," which is what the religion calls "government").

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at newssoftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newssoftheweird.com). Send your Weird News to:

Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737,
Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com.
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SPORTS BLOG

On the Austin Wranglers/
New Orleans VooDoo game:

"The ensuing kickoff was run back by the apparently slippery and unfortunately named Jacques Rumph (probably chosen by his parents solely for the 'Boy Named Sue' toughness-increasing factor)."

- Jeremy Martin

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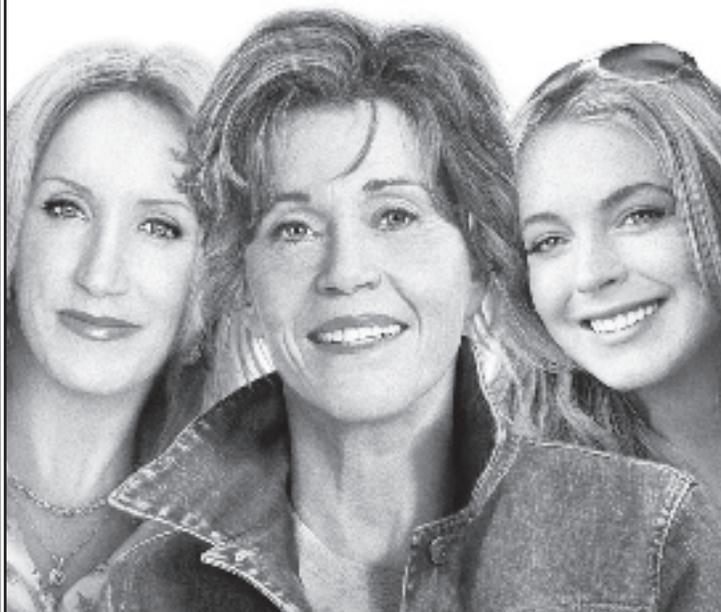
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Presented By: This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts.



Posted By:



this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

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

Thursday 26

A NIGHT WITH THE STARS The Austin chapter of the **Public Relations Society of America** hosts this party out on the plaza at Whole Foods, where you can cast your vote for the local People's Choice Award. 6:30-9pm. Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 563-7261. \$50 (\$45, members; \$30, students). www.prsa.austin.org.

ANNUAL HEMAN SWEAT SYMPOSIUM gathers state legislators, senators, and educators to discuss this year's theme, the **State of African-Americans in Texas**, in a series of panels and other events. Don't miss the keynote speech from Olympic gold-medalist **Jackie Joyner-Kersey**. Thu.-Fri., April 26-27. Downton, 232-4850. Free (registration required for some activities). www.utexas.edu/events/hemansweatt.

AUSTIN CLEANTECH FORUM: THE FUTURE OF BIOFUELS Learn all about biofuel technologies, the bioenergy supply chain, U.S. policy, and biofuel's impact on Central Texas. Register online. 6-8pm. MCC Building, 3925 W. Braker. \$20 (\$15, advance). www.austintechnologycouncil.org.

DO-GOODER GAMES Find out who can stuff the most envelopes in three minutes, make the most persuasive cold call, and excel at the other equally unglamorous tasks of the socially conscious do-gooder, as teams vie for a \$200 prize they of course won't keep (it'll be donated to the charity of their choosing). 6:30-8pm. Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 474-1958. www.ynppn.org/austin.

LEGS & NOTES This happy-hour series pairing live music with food and wine concludes tonight with an evening of **South American cuisine** and a performance from the **Crying Monkeys**. Call for reservations. 6-8:30pm. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 458-3068. \$45. www.centralmarket.com.

MASSAGE HARMONY GRAND OPENING A great chance to get free massages and enjoy some live music, free drinks, giveaways, and a special exhibit from artist Ethan Azarian. 4-8pm. *Massage Harmony*, 3300 Bee Caves Rd., 306-0900. Free. www.massageharmony.com.

MONKEYWRENCH BOOKSTORE BIRTHDAY PARTY An evening of live music to celebrate the fifth birthday of Austin's favorite volunteer-run, nonprofit bookstore. (See Club Listings.) 7pm. *Carousel Lounge*, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790. \$5 donation. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

SEX ED U Enjoy complimentary cheese and wine while you learn what exactly all those sexy toys are for anyway. Call/e-mail to reserve your spot. 7-8pm. 365 Days 365 Ways, 2110 S. Lamar, 454-1958. Free. 365days365waysaustin@gmail.com.

SHAMANIC JOURNEY GROUP meets monthly for a meditative experience with the music of the wind gong and ancient Tibetan bowls. Call/e-mail for directions. *Fourth Thursdays*, 7-9pm. 788-1236. \$20. jodi@sacredinspiration.com, www.sacredinspiration.com.

Still Blowin' Up a Spot

[SEE ONGOING, AUSTIN WOMAN'S FILM, MUSIC, & LITERARY FESTIVAL]

THE STATE OF THE AUSTIN LATINO MUSIC SCENE A roundtable discussion accompanied by music from Mitote. 6:30-9pm. *Las Manitas Avenue Cafe*, 211 Congress, 472-9357. Free.

UMLAUF GARDEN PARTY This annual fundraiser boasts a silent auction selling flower pots decorated by local celebrities (including Kathy Womack and UT coach Mack Brown, this year), plus foods from 19 of Austin's finest restaurants. 6:30-9:30pm. *Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum*, 605 Robert E. Lee, 462-6050. \$100 (\$85, advance). www.umlaufsculpture.org.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Arthouse at the Jones Center, Gallery 3, Gallery Lombardi, Jerry's Artarama, Yard Dog Folk Art

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival @ Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, www.blowinupaspot.com
Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai @ Alamo Village, 9:45pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
George Thorogood & the Destroyers *Stubb's*
Andy Palacio & the Garifuna Collective *Hogg Auditorium*
Road to Jazz Fest *Ruta Maya*
KVRX Local Live 11 Release *Irie Bean Coffee Bar*
Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival *Carver Cultural Center*

Friday 27

ACLU'S CONTINUING LEGAL EDUCATION SERIES brings you this workshop, taught by attorney Rita Lucido: **Reproductive Freedom: Helping Minors Obtain Judicial Bypasses**. Call/e-mail to register. noon-1:30pm. *Carmelo's Italian Restaurant*, 504 E. Fifth, 478-7300 x104. \$30. kskotak@aclutx.org.

ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION Did you know that Austin is officially distinguished as Tree City, USA? And that 75% of the oaks in the U.S. are in Texas? Well, learn about that and more at today's celebration, which features a descendent of the Texas' famous Treaty Oak, to be planted in the Wildflower Center's soon-to-be-built Texas Arboretum. 10am. *Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center*, 4801 La Crosse, 292-4100. Free. www.wildflower.org.

BIGIDEA DAY This annual awards ceremony honors the achievements of Central Texas' small-business community. Today's luncheon features

& May 5). *Scottish Rite*, 207 W. 18th, 472-7247. \$10 (\$7, kids 12 & under; \$3, infants).

THE PAGE AND THE CATERPILLAR Here's a new play from Second Youth Family Theatre, in which a fairy-tale king's page and a caterpillar both learn that, no matter what, everyone is important in their own, special way. April 28-May 13. Sat., 11am & 3pm; Sun., 3pm. April 28 through May 13. *Dougherty Arts Center*, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 386-8292. \$8 (\$5, ages 12 and younger, seniors). www.secondayouth.com.

HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP FUND HOSTS STEPS FOR SUCCESS for Latino families seeking hands-on instruction in college preparation. Today's workshops cover everything from SAT prep to financial aid to writing personal statements. Sat., April 28, 8:20am-2pm. *William B. Travis High School*, 1211 E. Oltorf, 414-7703. Free. avilalobos@hsf.net.

HAMPTON LIBRARY'S 10TH BIRTHDAY Stop by to enjoy cartoons, crafts, jugglers, music from Mr. Johnny, storytelling from Doc Moore, and more. Sat., April 28, noon-2pm. *Hampton Library*, 5125 Convict Hill, 892-6680. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS/DÍA DE LOS LIBROS features educational activities, book giveaways, music from Tierradentro and Strumero, and appearances from PBS' Clifford the Big Red Dog, Maya, and Miguel. Sat., April 28, 10am-2pm. *St. John Branch Library*, 7500 Blessing. www.main.org/ninos.

KIDS' YOGA WITH ADRIENE! welcomes kids ages 4-12 to explore yoga in a fun and nurturing way. Saturdays, 10:30am-noon. *Castle Hill Fitness*, 1112-B N. Lamar, 799-8669.

BORDERS STORY TIME features *Fancy Nancy and the Posh Puppy*, by Jane O'Connor. For ages 4-8. Sat., April 28, 11am. All Borders bookstore locations.

MONTHLY FREE CHILD SAFETY-SEAT INSPECTIONS Call Monday-Friday, 9am-noon, to schedule your inspection. 854-4194. *First Wednesdays*, 10am-12:30pm. *Del Valle Adult Softball Complex*, 3400 FM 973, Del Valle.

ROCK 'N' ROMP A kid-friendly concert from **White Denim and Loxsly**. Sat., April 28, 3-6pm. *Lone Star School of Music*, 2824 Real, 524-5252. \$4 (\$2, kids). www.austinrocknromp.com.



Best of the Fest musician GreenTaRA performs throughout the weekend

a keynote address from Simon T. Bailey, author of *Simon Says Dream*. 11am-1:30pm. *Hilton Hotel Downtown*, 500 E. Fourth, 928-8010. \$70 (\$60, advance). www.biggaustin.org.

CABARET D'ARIEL features a silent auction, tarot-card readings, jugglers, music, and dance performances, all to benefit Ariel Dance Theatre's 2007 season. 6-9:30pm. *Club Privatt*, 505 Neches, 458-4258. \$15-25. www.arieldance.org.

EARLY STAGE TEXAS FUNDING FORUM The Texas Entrepreneur Initiative hosts this conference bringing entrepreneurial companies and investors together. 8am-5pm. *J.J. Pickle Research Campus, Commons Center*, 10100 Burnet Rd. \$195. www.texasxl.com.

EAST END FOURTH FRIDAY The East 11th Street festival is back with art exhibits, music, spoken word, shopping, kids activities, and food every month, brought to you by DiverseArts. 6pm-dark. www.diversearts.org.

HILL COUNTRY RIDE FOR AIDS heads out early Saturday morning from Krause Springs and finishes there around 4pm. You can donate to the cause at www.hillcountryride.org, and you can also help kick off the event at Friday night's opening ceremonies (4-8pm, *First United Methodist Church*, 1300 Lavaca). 965-7433.

JEAN DAVISON The anthropologist, writer, and international development consultant discusses Africa's struggles over the past 25 years and signs copies of her latest book, *The Ostrich Wakes: Struggles for Change in Highland Kenya*. 7pm. *Barnes & Noble South*, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493. Free. elinthicum@bookpros.com.

the young ones

DIA DE LAS MADRES ESSAY & ART CONTEST invites Hispanic girls in the fourth through 12th grades to submit poetry, essays, artwork, or photography reflecting on the motherly figures in their lives or their feelings on Mother's Day. Prizes will be awarded by age group. See www.latinitasmagazine.org for more. Deadline: Fri., April 27.

WRITE TO WIN Invites public-school first- through 12th-graders to write a creative essay about what the Write Co. logo means to them. Cold, hard cash prizes await the winners. Deadline: Mon., May 7. 877/OK-WRITE. www.writecompanyonline.com.

RELATIONAL AGGRESSION WORKSHOP For parents of teen girls, this workshop covers how girls bully and how to respond to it. Thu., April 26, 6:30-8pm. *Dougherty Arts Center*, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 414-0472. \$35. www.genaustin.org.

ROBIN HOOD An original adaptation of the classic tale, requiring audience help to save Maid Marian and recover the gold from the crabby old sheriff. For ages 4-10. Through May 28. Saturdays, 10am; Sundays, 2pm (enjoy Robin Hood's Merry Meal beforehand on April 28

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FEATURED ARTIST: MARY DOERR

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LIVING, LEARNING, & THINKING IN THE YEAR 2025 The National Black MBA Association brings this all-day conference to town featuring a panel discussion, career workshop, career fair, and networking reception. 9am-7pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 485-5999. \$25-65 (free, career workshop & fair). www.nbmbaa.org.

SPAMARAMA BENEFIT The cold weekend weather in early April left the Spamarama festival high and dry, so tonight's minifest will help them (along with their sponsoring agency, **Disability Assistance of Central Texas**) recoup their losses. Stop by for the raffle, live music, treats from the Spamarama chefs (served by celebrity waiters), and a **Give 'Til U Squeal** competition. 7-11pm. Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 474-1958. \$10 (\$7, advance). www.spamarama.org.

TRANCEDANCE: SPIRITUAL DANCE A blindfolded dancing experience to help bring you closer to your higher self. Fri., April 27, 7:30-9:30pm. NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 586-2736. \$15. www.trancedance-austin.com.

ANNUAL HEMAN SWEAT SYMPOSIUM (See Thursday 4/26.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) **Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival** @ Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, www.blowinupspot.com

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Sunset Rubdown Emo's
Road to Jazz Fest Ruta Maya
The Thing with Joe McPhee Victory Grill
Sharon Tate's Baby Room 710
Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival Cafe Mundi, Carver Cultural Center, and Copa Bar & Grill

Saturday 2 8

AFRICAN-AMERICAN MEN & BOYS/WOMEN & GIRLS CONFERENCE This monthly gathering brings young and old together for workshops, discussions, and lectures on issues affecting African-Americans. Today's sessions address everything from conflict resolution to education to health disparities in the black community. 10am-2pm. Connolly High School, 13212 N. Lamar. mrloftontalkshow@sbcglobal.net.

ALINA FERNANDEZ: POST-FIDEL CUBA Fernandez, the CNN commentator, writer, and daughter of Fidel Castro, is in town working on a book about Cuban exile Carlos Lavernia, the wrongly convicted "Barton Creek Rapist." She's giving a talk today on her father's recent public re-emergence and on Cuba's post-Fidel future. 5-6:30pm. Cuba Libre, 409 Colorado, 472-2822.

ARTIST'S MARKET 10am-6pm. Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 535-5761. Free. www.downtownartistmarket.com.

AUSTIN WALK WITH US TO CURE LUPUS Though an estimated 1.5 million Americans suffer from lupus, there've been no new treatments developed for 40 years. Recent breakthroughs in genetic research offer hope, however, and you can help fund that research by either participating in today's fundraising walk sponsored by the Alliance for Lupus Research or donating money to someone else who's walking. 9am. Old Settler's Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley, Round Rock, 512/218-5540. walk.lupusresearch.org.

AWAKENING THE DREAMER, CHANGING THE DREAM: HOW TO SAVE OUR PLANET An empowering symposium brought to you by the **Pachamama Alliance**, aimed at arming you with the knowledge you need to make a difference for the environment. 9am-3:30pm. Live Oak Unitarian Universalist Church,

3315 El Salido, Cedar Park, 512/470-8485. \$30 (includes lunch). www.pachamama.org.

BLUE MOON AUCTION features all kinds of cool vintage items, including vintage Texas and Austin music posters; old ads, tins, thermometers, 45s, and furniture; handmade jewelry; and more. Bring your own box for taking home your loot! 10am. Blue Moon Auction Hall, 112 N. Main, Elgin, 512/281-BLUE.

BOUNDARIES WORKSHOP Learn how to establish healthy boundaries appropriate to your various relationships. 4-6pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$20 sliding scale. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

BUS RIDERS UNION-ATX Buses No. 37 and No. 300 will take you to this afternoon's meeting. 2pm. Windsor Park Library, 5833 Westminster, 928-0333.

CALABASH GROVE AFRIKAN ARTISANS' MARKETPLACE STUDIO SALE/FUNDRASER features two days of special art events, brought to you by Austin's talented Nailah Sankofa. **Odun-Akobon Fundraiser/Post-Equinox Presentation:** Learn about the Equinox season from an Afrikan perspective, and enjoy dances, a silent auction, and a raffle featuring unique artwork. Sat., 8-10pm. **Art demos:** Sat., 3 & 5pm; Sun., 4pm. Trunk show: Sun., 1pm. Call to register for Sunday's **batik workshop/demonstration** with Ghanian artisan Selsi Deh: Sun., 11am-3pm, \$45. Sat., 11am-10pm; Sun., 11am-7pm. 380-9918.

CEDAR PARK HERITAGE FESTIVAL welcomes amateur chefs to join the Cedar Park Burger Burgin' competition (register online) and invites everyone else to eat the burgers, peruse the Arts & Crafts Mall, throw some washers, watch the kids race in the BigWheel 500, and enjoy the music of Duck Soup. 10am-3pm. Elizabeth Milburn Park, 1901 Sun Chase, Cedar Park, 512/401-5500. Free. www.cedarparktx.us.

DÍA DE LA FAMILIA features tours of the Austin Community College campus, along with live music, a scholarship drawing, face-painting, lots of free food, and more. 10am-2pm. ACC Riverside, 1020 Grove, 223-6360.

DÍA DE LAS MADRES CELEBRATION Hispanic Women Hall of Famer **Betty Ramirez-Swinners**, CEO of Diversity Speakers, delivers the keynote at this breakfast/silent-auction event brought to you by the **Hispanic Women's Network of Texas**. 9am-noon. Embassy Suites Hotel, 5901 N. I-35. \$50. rsvpastin@hwnt.org.

DISPLACE ME Invisible Children sponsors this all-night event in homage to the 1.8 million Ugandans who've been forced to live in unsafe camps to avoid the war in the North. Travis County Expo Center, 9100 Decker Lake Rd., 919-3000. www.invisiblechildren.com.

DOGS ON THE CATWALK A silent auction and pet fashion show starring adoptable dogs, with all proceeds benefiting free spay/neuter clinic **EmanciPet**. 6pm. Vicci, 404 Colorado. \$25 (\$45, for two). www.emancipet.org.

DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL pays homage to Chinese poet Qu Yuan with dragon boat races on Town Lake, Asian music and dance performances, martial-arts demos, and more. 10am-3pm. Festival Beach, Town Lake near Comal Street. Free.

EAST AUSTIN MUSIC FEST brings you an evening of Afro-Cuban, Brazilian, Canto Libra, and Latin hip-hop music. (See Club Listings.) 6pm. Big Red Sun, 1102 E. Cesar Chavez, 480-0688. \$7 (\$5, advance).

EYORE'S BIRTHDAY Eyore's Birthday is 44 years old and going strong: costumes, drums, dancing ... you know the drill. Bring the kids along for games, contests, prizes, and dancing around the May pole. (See Club Listings.) 11am-dark. Pease Park, Windsor & Lamar, 974-6700. Free. www.eeyores.sexton.com.

day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Iraan, the West Texas town, is pronounced two ways, as the Middle Eastern country or as two names – Ira and Ann. According to locals, either version is correct, but when the community's residents say it, the name comes out in a smooth breath with only the slightest hint of a break between the two words.

Ira G. Yates and his wife, Anna, donated 152 acres of their 20,000-acre ranch for the town site on the Pecos River. Legend says the daughter of a ranch hand suggested the name and won a town lot worth \$1,000 in 1938.

Times were good in West Texas at the time, and Yates could easily afford to be magnanimous. Born and raised in East Texas, Yates was orphaned at 13 and was working as a cowboy by 14. In 1913, he traded a Crockett County ranch for a general store in Rankin. Two years later, against the advice of family and friends, Yates swapped selling groceries for another ranch on the eastern edge of Pecos County.

By the 1920s Yates' River Ranch was struggling on the northern border of the Chihuahu Desert. Drought and predators nearly did him in when Yates convinced a San Angelo company to explore for oil west of the Pecos River. The fourth test well blew a gusher that covered a tent city four miles away. On his 67th birthday, Yates was handed an \$18 million oil royalty check.

More than 80 years later, the Yates Oilfield is still supplying Texas refineries. In 1985, the field produced its billionth barrel. The area accounts for a large portion of the 10 million barrels coming out of the ground in Pecos County annually.

During the Great Depression, Iraan was a boom town of oil-field workers and camp followers. Added to the mix was a 32-year-old Iowan who had worked at the *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* and other Texas newspapers as a reporter and artist. Vincent T. Hamlin came to West Texas with an oil company seismographic team as a mapmaker, but he left with one of the greatest inspirations in graphic-novel history.

Among the rolling hills and mesas of Pecos County was born the cigar-chomping caveman Alley Oop. First syndicated in national newspapers on Aug. 7, 1933, V.T. Hamlin's *Alley Oop* became one of the most popular comic strips in the country.

Traveling on the back of his pet stegosaurus, Dinny, Alley Oop with his Popeye-like arms and bell-bottom legs visited different time periods with his girlfriend, Ooola. Most of the time the characters occupied the Land of Moo run by King Gus, the Grand Wizer, and a group of soldiers wearing turtle shells as helmets. Hamlin retired from the comic in the



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Caveman's best friend

Seventies and died in 1993. The strip is still distributed by United Media and runs in newspapers around the world.

Although the Yates Oilfield has proven to be one of the most prolific oil fields in the world, the fortunes of Iraan have risen and fallen with the price of crude. In 1965, the town created Alley Oop Fantasyland in the city park on the western outskirts of town as a way to boost tourism.

The pristine, tree-shaded park has ball fields, picnic tables, and clean restrooms. There among the antique oil-field equipment is a life-sized, concrete model of Dinny and a large tin cutout of Alley Oop. Corny? Yes. But who can resist having their picture taken sitting on the dinosaur's neck? Just like Alley Oop.

Also in the park is the Iraan Archaeological Museum with displays from the area's Indians, Spanish explorers, ranchers, and oil industry. In front of the museum is a 112-foot-long windmill blade, West Texas' new energy source.

Iraan is about halfway between Austin and El Paso on U.S. 190, a very scenic drive through the hills. The town's gas stations are about 20 minutes north of I-10. The best restaurants are Gordo's Mexican Food, Mesquite Wood Bar-B-Q, and the Old House Cafe. Only the Old House Cafe is open on weekends and then only Saturday mornings. For more information, call the Chamber of Commerce at 432/639-2232 or visit www.iraantx.com.

826th 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

USA FILM FESTIVAL features the best new U.S. and foreign films, along with special tributes, retrospectives, and a short film and video competition. Through April 26. Dallas, 214/821-6300. www.usafilmfestival.com.

JAMBOREE A hometown carnival with daily live music, nightly dances, a livestock show, arts & crafts, and tournaments. Thu.-Sun., April 26-29. Riverbend Park, Smithville, 512/237-2313. www.ci.smithville.tx.us.

ENCHANTED APRIL tells the story of four English women who rediscover themselves on holiday at an Italian villa. Fri.-Sun., April 27-29. Unity Theatre, 300 Church St., Brenham, 979/830-8358. www.unitybrenham.org.

TEXAS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP FIDDLERS FROLIC features top musicians competing for prizes while shoppers browse the arts & crafts fair. Fri.-Sun., April 27-29. *Knights of Columbus Hall*, Hallettsville, 361/798-2311. www.hallettsville.com.

DENTON ARTS & JAZZ FESTIVAL brings more than 1,000 performers to six stages showcasing jazz, rhythm & blues, and big bands along with craftspeople and artists. Fri.-Sun., April 27-29. Civic Center Park, Denton, 940/565-0937. www.dentonjazzfest.com.

YESTERFEST fills the downtown streets with historic recreations, food booths, an arts & crafts fair, and games. Sat., April 28. Bastrop, 512/321-6283. www.bastropoperahouse.com.

COUNTRY FAIR & WIENER DOG RACES mix live music, a bake-off, barbecue and chili cook-offs, and arts & crafts booths with the running of the dachshunds. Sat.-Sun., April 28-29. City Park, Buda, 512/565-0505. www.budalions.com.

FIRST THANKSGIVING RE-ENACTMENT stages the April 1598 arrival of the first North American settlers, when Spanish explorer Juan de Onate and his expedition arrived at the Rio Grande and held a feast to celebrate their perilous Chihuahu Desert crossing. Sat., April 28. San Elizario Plaza, El Paso, 915/474-4275.

ADOPT-A-BEACH SPRING CLEANUP takes on the litter at 25 sites along the Texas coast from Jefferson County to Boca Chica. Sat., April 28, 8:30am-noon. Various locations, 877-TXCOAST. www.texasadoptabeach.org.

WINE & SAENGERFEST blends two German traditions – making music and making wine. Sat., April 28, 10am-10pm. Downtown, New Braunfels, 830/221-4090.

CARREADA presents a special Fiesta! San Antonio version of an authentic Mexican rodeo. Sun., April 29, 1pm. Charro Arena, 6126 Padre Dr., San Antonio, 210/532-0693.

FREE COMPUTER SKILLS & PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRAINING is available through Skillpoint Alliance, but first you must take today's mandatory orientation session. Noon-2pm. Reagan High School, 7104 Berkman, 323-6773 x122. www.skillpointalliance.org.

FRIENDS OF GARRY BENEFIT Round Rock resident Garry Riley has been diagnosed with an advanced stage of cancer, and his friends and family hope to offset some of his medical costs with today's concert and silent auction. (See Club Listings.) Noon-12mid. Junior's Bar & Grill, 119 E. Main St., Round Rock. \$5. www.myspace.com/garryrileybenefit.

HEALTH & FITNESS FAIR features Migun Thermal massage, nutrition counseling, acupuncture, postural assessments, and free spinal, blood pressure, heart rate screenings. Screenings for cholesterol, blood glucose, and bone density will also be available for \$45 each (you must prepay; call 327-4881). 9am-1pm. Hills Fitness Center, 4615 Bee Caves Rd., 327-4881. Free.

HOW TO GET THE HEALTHCARE YOU WANT is a book by patient advocate Laura Casey, who will be signing copies today. 2pm. Borders at the Domain, 3309 Esperanza Crossing, 339-1352. Free.

LAWN MOWER TRADE-IN DAY There's no silver bullet to buying time to adapt to global warming; there are just a million little things we each have to do. Luckily there are people out there like the folks at the **Central Texas Electric Lawnmower Program** helping to make each little thing that much easier. Thanks to them,

today you can trade in your gas-powered mower for an extremely discounted electric one (Homelite cordless, \$234; Homelite corded, \$169) and take one more step toward lightening your carbon footprint and reducing smog. 8:30am-2:30pm. Home Depot, 3600 S. I-35, 693-9811. www.cmpbs.org/electriclawnmower.

MAIFEST Celebrate the season with an afternoon of traditional German foods and beer, folk music and dancing, a marionette show, choir performances, the wrapping of the May pole, and more. 11am-5pm. German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. Free. www.germantexans.org.

MONSTER MOBILE This roving book store sets up shop at different locations each month to sell you books and media on the cheap (as in \$1-2 cheap). All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Austin Public Library. 1-5pm. University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola, 929-0551. www.austininlibrary.org.

PENGUIN DAY This one-day conference brings software developers, activists, and nonprofits together to explore how open-source software can be used to aid philanthropic organizations. Register online. 9am-5pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. \$90-150. secure.democracynaction.org/dia/organizations/Aspiration/event/checkOut.jsp?event_KEY=26033&t=penguin.dwt.

REIKI I CLASS Taught by Linda Suter. (This class precedes the May 12 Reiki II session.) Call to register. 9am-3pm. Bee Cave area, 791-5634.

SPELL IMPEACH DAY Bring a blanket and a picnic lunch for a friendly afternoon of making signs that call for the impeachment of President Bush. Noon. Zilker Park, 2100 Barton Springs Rd., 974-6700.

STAR TOUR Think Astronomy's Bill Tschumy leads this telescope tour of the night sky. 7:30-9:30pm. Westcave Preserve, 24814 Hamilton Pool Rd., 830/825-3442. \$5 (\$2, kids). www.westcave.org.

STRAWBERRY JUBILEE This week's Sunset Valley Farmers Market celebrates strawberry season with jams, pies, shortcakes, chutneys, salsas, pastries, empanadas, and even pizzas made from strawberries, along with all the usual fresh local produce. Remember to bring some nonperishables for donation to the Capital Area Food Bank. 9am-1pm. Toney Burger Athletic Center, 3200 Jones, 414-2096. Free. www.sunsetvalleyfarmersmarket.org.

SUNSET VALLEY ARTS SHOWCASE features area artists, food, activities for kids, and lots of live music. (See Club Listings.) 10am-6pm. Sunset Valley City Hall, 3205 Jones Rd. Free. www.sunsetvalley.org.

TOWN LAKE LAUGHTER CLUB Is your laughter a little out of shape lately? The Laughter Club's yoga-breathing and comedy exercises should fix you right up. 9-10am. Auditorium Shores, South First at Town Lake, 916-9337. Free. www.laughteryoga.org.

UNDERSTANDING FIBROMYALGIA: A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO CHRONIC PAIN & FATIGUE 3-4pm. Natural Health Center of Austin, 4701 West Gate Blvd. Ste. B-202, 892-3366. Free. www.nhcaustin.com.

YOGA FOR A HEALTHY BACK: DVD-RELEASE PARTY & LECTURE with physical therapist/yoga teacher Mark Uridel, whose new DVD combines the latest medical research with his own 20 years' worth of clinical experience. 8-10pm. Casa de Luz, 1701 Toomey, 291-0263. Free. www.healingartsstudios.com.

HILL COUNTRY RIDE FOR AIDS (See Friday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
The Russell Collection on Sixth

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival @ Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, www.blowinupaspot.com
Il Trittico @ Metropolitan, 12:30pm
Shaft @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Clap Your Hands Say Yeah *Stubb's*
Neil Hamburger *Emo's*
Devin the Dude *Beauty Bar*
Zest of Yore, Cavedweller, Count Dracula's Weed Smugglin' Jam Engine *Carousel Lounge*
Gary Clark Jr., Eric Tessmer *Antone's*
Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival Carver Cultural Center, Copa Bar & Grill

Sunday 29

ACUPUNCTURE OPEN HOUSE features tours, acupuncture demos, and the chance to learn about AOMA's master's degree programs in acupuncture and oriental medicine. 2-5pm. Academy of Oriental Medicine at Austin, 2700 W. Anderson, 492-3017. Free. www.aoma.edu.

BRAZILIAN FUNDRAISER: BRIDGING CULTURES & COMMUNITIES Proceeds from tonight's evening of jazz, blues, and Brazilian music benefit volunteer educational and beautification efforts in Rio de Janeiro's slums. (See Club Listings.) *Antone's*, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. www.worldpreparatory.org.

COSTA RICA VACATION INFO SESSION Just what is a Pura Vida Yoga Vacation? Find out at this informative meeting. 1pm. Yoga Yoga North, 2167 W. Anderson, 707-YOGA. Free. www.yogayoga.com/vacations/puravida.

ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN MEMBERSHIP MEETING 10am. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. Free.

EXCEPTIONAL MOMS CELEBRATION pays homage to Austin's finest moms. The Eggmen perform, and all proceeds benefit the **Central Texas Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition**. 5:30-8:30pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$5 suggested donation. www.hmhb.org.

FAITH & COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE This annual drive will be accepting nonperishable food items to replenish Caritas of Austin's food pantry, which has fed 95,000 people this year alone. 12:30-3:30pm. Red River Church, 4425 Red River.

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Director for the Austin Diocese

Next meeting: June 6, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.
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Ongoing Events

ATTENTION ADVERTISING & GRAPHIC DESIGN FIRMS

It's time to join the 10th annual **CreateAthon**, the upcoming 24-hour blitz in which you'll volunteer your time to help nonprofit and philanthropic organizations develop strategies for getting their message out. Application deadline: **Fri., May 18.** www.createathon.org.

★ **CINCO DE MAYO FESTIVAL** helps kick off Latino Music Month with four days of live music celebrating La Batalla de Puebla. Enjoy jalapeño-eating and polka-dancing contests, games for kids, lots of Mexican food, and Sunday's Conjunto Festival. (See Club Listings.) **Thu.-Sun., May 3-6.** **Thu., 5:30-11pm; Fri., 5:30pm-12mid; Sat., noon-12mid; Sun., noon-10pm.** Fiesta Gardens, 2101 Bergman, 867-1999. \$5 (\$8, after 8pm); free, kids 10 & under. www.austincincomemayo.com.

★ **YELLOW BIKE PROJECT VOLUNTEER WEEK** Stop by to help the Yellow Bike folks clean up the shop and fix children's bikes for the Bikes to Schools giveaway. **April 30-May 5.** *Yellow Bike Project*, 2013 E. 51st, 457-9880.

★ **TEXAS COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL** features performances from all kinds of groups, from quartets to 50-piece ensembles, from Texas polka to jazz. The weekend kicks off at Central Market, in conjunction with the annual Thrill of the Grill festival, and moves to Scholz Garten on Monday, where there will be some wurst-eating, among other things. **Sat.-Sun., April 28-29, Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar; Mon.-Tue., Thu., April 30-May 1 & May 3, Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto.** www.tcmfest.org.

★ **FAMILY ELDERCARE FAN DRIVE** Call if you're interested in donating time or money to this annual summer fan drive, or if you'd like to host one yourself. Donations will go toward purchase of fans, air conditioners, and other critical services. *Through Aug. 31.* 459-4FAN. www.familyeldercare.org.

★ **CALL FOR BIZARRE BAZAAR DONATIONS** Public Access Community Television is seeking donations for the annual Bizarre Bazaar fundraiser, **Sat., May 12.** You can drop your gently used items off at the PACT offices, 1143 Northwestern Ave., **Mon.-Fri., 8am-8pm, or Sat., 9am-1pm.** 478-8600 x10.

the GAY place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

★ **BLOW UP YA OWN DAMN SPOT** Yes, women of the world, it is time for you to step up. Take your place. It's the arts. It's time for a four-day soak in the culture of your sisters. It's time for the **Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival** (née Blowin' Up a Spot), celebrating the brilliance, the essence, the glory that is Austin. Four days at Carver, Copa, Cafe Mundi, Green Muse, Longbranch, etc. We suggest getting on that Web site for the full lineup and directions. Oh, and that barely begins to address the *afterparties*, yo. **Thu.-Sun., April 26-29.** Various locations. \$12-15 individual event tickets; \$35, music pass; \$35, film pass; \$50, all-access pass. www.blowinupspot.com.

★ **DRAMA QUEEN THEATRE** Murder mystery. Dinner theatre. Drag queens (local home girls as well as a few visiting celebs from L.A.). Nuff sed. **Thu.-Fri., April 26-27, 7pm.** Old Pecan Street Cafe, 310 E. Sixth, 771-4842. \$68. tix@dqtheater.com, www.dramaqueentheater.com, www.dqtheater.com/austin.

★ **YUM, SOMETHING A LITTLE TASTY** Finger-lickin' good. Presenting **Yum**, the opening afterparty for the **Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival** (née Blowin' Up a Spot), packing the night by merging the **Coochie-Coo** with **DI POW**, adding an open mic, some graffiti artists, and a performance element to the already-popular ladies night. Whatdyaget? One hell of a reason to miss work on Friday. Family shots encouraged. Early bedtimes, not. **Thu., April 26, 8pm-2am.** The Peacock, 515 Pedernales, 276-8979.

★ **TIG HITS CAP** Tig, yes, Tig, like Cher or Madonna, needs only one name. That's all you need to know. Tig equals funny, as recently seen on **The Sarah Silverman Program**. She's an ex-Tex from waaaaaay back. Come support the home team – the cute-as-a-bug home team. **8pm.** **April 24-28.** Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. \$9. www.tignation.com.

★ **SMELLS LIKE ASSACRE** Ben Aqua is the king of making music that is something just a bit more than music. Join him with other music-makers-with-flare: the **Locust**, **Cattle Decapitation**, and **Daughters**. And **Assacre**. It's all about Assacre. **Thu., April 26, 8pm.** Emo's, 603 Red River, 477-EMOS.

★ **HUMAN WRIGHT'S APRIL RAIN** Do you follow? Let us clarify: **HRC** and **Wright House** and **Rain** on **4th** bring you **April Showers**, a fundraiser. That's on Sunday, but there is a preparty on Friday. The event itself (Sunday) features a silent auction, back-patio carnival, and a bachelor/bachelorette auction, and the preparty features – well, people partying. Before the main event. Hence the “pre.” Oh yeah. **Preparty, Fri., April 27, 5-9pm; main event, Sun., April 29, 5-9pm.** Rain on 4th, 217-B W. Fourth, 494-1150.

GROUNDWATER TO GULF: SUMMER INSTITUTE

Register now for this free three-day educational workshop about hydrogeology, groundwater, urban watersheds, and water conservation (worth 22 continuing-ed credits for teachers). Call 282-8441 for details. Registration deadline: **May 15.** **Wed.-Fri., June 20-22.**

THIS WEEK ONLY

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CONFERENCE

features four days of workshops and seminars addressing this year's theme: **Diversity vs. Affirmative Action: Where Do They Meet?** You'll discuss organizational barriers to diversity, affirmative action rhetoric, and recognizing your own biases, among other things. Keynote speakers include actor **Louis Gossett Jr.**, former HUD secretary **Henry Cisneros**, and **Sen. Royce West.** **Wed.-Sat., April 25-28.** Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 477-1234. www.affirmativeaction.org.

★ **ART QUILT RAFFLE** VSA Arts of Texas is raffling off a beautiful batik quilt; check it out online, and don't forget to buy your ticket by the May 1 drawing. 454-9912. \$10. larissa@vsatx.org, www.vsatx.org.

★ **AUSTIN WOMAN'S FILM, MUSIC & LITERARY FESTIVAL** This four-day festival showcases the work of female poets, independent filmmakers, and musicians and includes industry workshops as well as a whole other festival's worth of afterparties and offshoot events. (See Special Screenings and the Gay Place for more.) **Thu.-Sun., April 26-29.** Various locations. \$12-50. www.blowinupspot.com.

★ **CELEBRATE NATURE!** features four days of outdoor workshops, tours, and dinner events, all exploring the flora and fauna of the Canyonlands preserve. You must register online to participate (excepting Sunday's day of free family events), and many events have sold out, so don't dawdle. **April 27-30.** Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, 24518 FM 1431, just past Lago Vista, Lago Vista, 965-2473. Fees vary. www.balconessongbirdfestival.org.

★ **DARKMOON FAIRE** brings the popular *World of Warcraft* trading card game to town along with more than 20 tournaments and other fun stuff.

April 27-29. **Fri., 1-6pm; Sat., 10am-7pm; Sun., 9-11am.** Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-5461. Free, admission; \$5-25, tournament fee.

★ **LIFECYCLE BUILDING CHALLENGE** This national competition invites all you designers, engineers, builders, educators, and other creative minds out there to submit your ideas for designing things that can adapt, disassemble, or otherwise reincarnate once their original uses have come to an end. (Think Herman Miller and Nike, whose newest environmentally friendly chairs and shoes quickly disassemble into smaller parts to be quickly and efficiently refashioned into new products.) See www.lifecyclebuilding.org for details. Deadline: **April 30.**

★ **TASTE OF MEXICO** starts Friday night with an evening of delicious Mexican food dishes. 7:30-10:30pm. **Hyatt Regency, 208 Barton Springs Rd. \$50.** The fun continues Saturday with the opening reception for new Mexic-Arte exhibit “From Revolution to Renaissance.” 6pm. *Mexic-Arte Museum, 419 Congress.* Free. Finish the weekend off on Sunday with brunch, hosted by star chef Patricia Quintana. 11am-noon. *Shoreline Grill, 98 San Jacinto.* \$10. Call/e-mail for tickets. **April 27-29.** **Hyatt Regency Austin, 208 Barton Springs Rd., 480-9373 x21.** events@mexic-artemuseum.org, www.mexic-artemuseum.org.

★ **VILLAS, VISTAS, & VIOLINS** The Women's Symphony League of Austin sponsors this two-week event featuring tours of three beautiful Comanche Canyon Ranch homes, all showcasing the talents of more than 20 Austin-area design professionals. There will also be live music, painted violins on display, a Wine & Design party on **Sat., April 28,** and *Gospel Brunches on Sundays.* Bring the kids on Saturdays for Children's Orchestra Days. **Through April 29.** **Tue.-Sun., 11am-7pm.** Villa Montaña, near Lake Travis. \$15. www.symphonyshowhouse.org.

★ **WHOLE EARTH WEIGH-IN: 30 WAYS IN 30 DAYS** Whole Foods helps you reduce your carbon footprint this month, with helpful tips, carbon calculators, and coupons for the store's greenest products. See www.wholefoodsmarket.com/earthday to get started. **Through April 30.** Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 476-1206.

★ **BI BRUNCH** Cuz a bisexual is like brunch. Neither “breakfast” nor “lunch,” really. This week, it's at Tallulah's home. E-mail her for deets. **Sun., April 29, 1-4pm.** blueeyedmaiden@yahoo.com.

★ **YOU'LL RUE MISSING RUE!** TV's **Blanche Devereaux** (on four different series? I did not know that!) comes to town to talk with Zach's **Dave Steakley** about her life, her career, and her book, **My First Five Husbands ... and the Ones Who Got Away.** Come on out, she's almost family! **Sun., April 29, 2pm.** Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1.

★ **YOU KNOW IN THOSE FIRST FIVE MINUTES** if he's a keeper or a creeper; if you guys are nailing it down or leaving the toolbox at home. It's gut instinct. You know right away. And, that's the beauty of **Q's Speed Dating** for men 18-29. Sign up, mingle real quick-like, chat, wink, nod, mm, hmm, lick them lips ... and only take home the phone numbers you want. Geoff hosts. *Shout magazine* keeps it hot with giveaways and audience participation. **Mon., April 30, 9-11pm.** The Cockpit Club, 113 San Jacinto, 420-8557. Free. mp_austin@sbcglobal.net, www.qboyz.org.

★ **AUSTIN PRIDE CENTER TO OPEN** We're queer, we're here, and we ain't going anywhere! Help the doors open by volunteering or donating. Check Web for full details. **Tue., May 1.** Austin Pride Center, 427 Sterzing, 902-0657. austingaypride@aol.com, www.hometown.aol.com/austingaypride.

★ **ACT UP AUSTIN** Act. Act out, baby. Act up. Focus anger into action. Then **ACT DOWNTIME**, the social side of ACT UP 8:30pm. **First Thursdays, 6:15pm.** Treasure City Thrift, 1720 E. 12th, 524-2820. actup_austin@yahoo.com, www.actupaustin.org.

★ **CAMP CAMP: WITCHHUNT** In the olden days, if they thought you were a witch (or if you were a rich widow who had received your man's wealth when he died), they'd kill you. They called it witchcraft. (“Wommin's don't get no property. That'll ruin e'rything!”) This May, those queer performance aficionados at le CampCamp call it open mic. So, take the theme and run. No, really ... *run!* But, first, hang around for **Lot Six**, this month's featured rockers. **Abra-cadab.** **Thu., May 3, 8pm.** Bouldin Creek Coffeehouse, 1501 S. First, 416-1601. campcampqueers@gmail.com.

For more gay stuff, see *Calendar online:* austinchronicle.com.
Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.

★ GLOBAL LUCID DREAMING EXPERIMENT

Researchers at Missouri's College of Metaphysics aim to prove their hypothesis that lucid dreaming is a universal experience, and apparently all you have to do to participate is dream. See www.dreamschool.org to register. 6-9am.

★ **ISRAEL INDEPENDENCE DAY** celebrates Israel's 59th birthday with games, music, crafts, folk dancing, shopping in the shuk (Israeli market), petting animals at the kibutz, drinking mint tea in a Bedouin tent, and much more. (A dinner program follows tonight, 5:30pm, \$15-25.) 3:30-5:30pm. Jewish Community Association of Austin, 7300 Hart, 735-8000. Free. www.shalomaustin.org/heritage.

★ **LAKE TRAVIS UNDERWATER CLEANUP** Attention divers: Today's your chance to explore the depths of Lake Travis and make it a little cleaner while you're at it. You'll be rewarded with some lunch, a T-shirt, and a party. **9am-noon.** 451-3425.

★ **LAST SUNDAY** aims to combine the best elements of a political rally, church service, literary salon, and concert. Today's gathering is the last of the current series, and it will focus on **economic justice**. Speakers include LS regulars the Rev. **Jim Rigby** and UT professor **Robert Jensen**, along with **Cristina Tzintzún** (of the Workers Defense Project), and **Louis Malfaro** (president of both Education Austin and the Central Labor Council). **Eliza Gilkyson** will perform. Refreshments and child care provided. **6-8pm.** Saengerrunde Hall. Free. www.thirdcoastactivist.org/lastsunday.html.

★ **LIVABLE CITIES** Unitarian Universalist's speaker series presents **Liveable Cities' Robin Rather**, who will discuss how Austin's “livability” compares to that in other U.S. cities. **11:30am-12:30pm.** First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.austinuu.org.

★ **MEOW, WOOF, & DINE** features a silent auction and performance from Marc Gunn, with proceeds benefiting Thundering Paws Animal Sanctuary. **3-5pm.** El Arroyo, 1624 W. Fifth, 474-1222. \$10. www.thunderingpaws.org.

★ **OVERCOMING TABLE TERROR** teaches practical mind/body treatment principals for massage therapists. **10am-5pm.** Central Austin, 407-8866. \$99. www.ingalarson.com.

★ **PATHWORK PRESENTATION: THE SPIRITUAL MEANING OF CRISIS** Call to register. **1-4pm.** Private residence, downtown, 535-8926. Free. www.pathworktexas.org.

★ **RALLY FOR UNIVERSAL HEALTH CARE** Join Health Care for All Texans and Physicians for Social Responsibility in support of a single-payer system for universal health care. **4pm.** Texas state Capitol, 1100 Congress, 305-8400. www.healthcareforalltexas.org.

★ **THE SACRED GEOMETRY OF MANDALAS & MEDICINE WHEELS WORKSHOP** 2-5pm. *NiaSpace*, 3212 S. Congress, 443-3013. \$65. www.sacredinspiration.com.

★ **CALABASH GROVE AFRIKAN ARTISANS' MARKETPLACE STUDIO SALE/FUNRAISER** (See Saturday.)

★ **SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.) **Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival** @ *Boyd Vance Theatre* at Carver, www.blowinupspot.com **Red vs. Blue** @ Alamo Downtown, 7, 9:45 **The Life and Hard Times of Guy Terrifico** @ Alamo Downtown, 4pm

★ **MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

★ **Tony Furtado Band** La Zona Rosa
★ **Leon Russell** Threadgill's World HQ
★ **Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival**
Green Muse Cafe, Carver Cultural Center, and Longbranch Inn

Monday 30

★ **AUSTIN BACKGAMMON CLUB WEEKLY TOURNAMENT** Mondays, 7-11pm. *DoubleTree Hotel*, 6505 N. I-35, 251-3719. \$20. home.austin.rr.com/wsauer/bghhome.html.

★ **MEN'S ARCHETYPAL EXPLORATION GROUP** E-mail to RSVP 7pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. dagdewr@sbcglobal.net, www.paganpride.org.

★ **LITERA** (See Arts Listings.)

★ **Dirty Found** Alamo Drafthouse Downtown

★ **SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.) **Dirty Found: Live** @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm **She's Gotta Have It** @ Texas Union Theatre, 7:30pm

★ **MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

★ **Leslie & the Lys** Trophy's

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The Final Word on the Toros' '06-'07 Season

What can you say about the recently concluded Austin Toros season except that it was a topsy-turvy affair from the jump, punctuated by periods of inspired play, extended stretches without a win, disappointing cameos from former NBA stars, energizing performances from former unknowns, incidences of high levity and low farce (witness the crime and punishment of team mascot **Da Bull**), and defined by one moment of true and deep sadness?

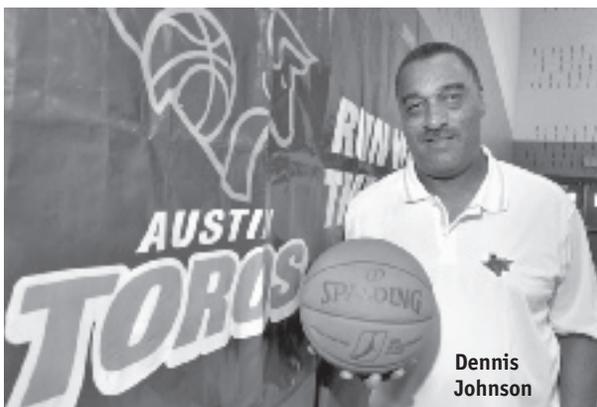
What you can say with relative certainty is that the Toros' second season in the NBA's Development League was essentially over before it really began. Full of promise and potential, and coached by former NBA great **Dennis Johnson**, the team collapsed out of the gate, face first, with 12 straight losses. Their offense was spotty, their defense nonexistent, and their turnover rate abysmal. Maybe it was something about 2006 in particular that was dooming the team – its numerological or astrological significance, perhaps, or the fact that it was the Chinese Year of the Dog – because they followed that woeful start with a blazing 13-3 run to inaugurate 2007, the Year of the Pig. While researching this story, I tried to find some symbolic relationship between pigs, dogs, and bulls that would explain such a dramatic turnaround but ultimately came up empty. So it seems the Chinese are off the hook.

Instead, it was the inspired play of all-star guard **B.J. Elder**; the steadying presence of midseason acquisitions **Troy Bell**, **Cheyne Gadson**, and **Loren Woods**; and the rapid rise of formerly discarded rookie **Justin Bowen** that enabled the Toros to overcome the shame of those first four weeks, if not their statistical repercussions, and get themselves back into the good graces of the basketball gods.

Unfortunately those graces were nowhere to be found on Feb. 27, when coach Johnson suffered a fatal heart attack at age 52, a terrible blow to the young franchise, the city of Austin, and the basketball community at large. Without their captain, the Toros' ship teetered over the last half of the season, and it was all the players and their new head coach, **Dale Osborne**, could do to keep it from being dashed on the rocks and finish with a respectable, if unremarkable, 21-29 record.

So raise your glasses to the 2006-07 season and all its ups and downs. With any luck, 2008 will be the Year of the Bull.

– Josh Rosenblatt



JOHN ANDERSON

Tuesday 01

ART OF SPIRITUAL DREAMING Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. B-206, 453-0331. www.eckankar-texas.org.

AUSTIN HERB SOCIETY MEETING Shani Dechen, owner of Aroma Apothecary Healing Arts Academy, presents **Aromatherapy Applications**. 9:30am. Zilker Botanical Garden, 936-1190. \$3 (free, members). www.austinherbsociety.org.

COMPUTER CLUB OF AUSTIN begins with a PC problem-solving Q&A followed by **Amateur Photography More Than You Think**, a presentation on digital photography tips and tricks. 6:30pm. Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 258-6192. Free. www.ccaustin.org.

HECHO EN TEJAS is a new anthology of Mexican-American writers, lyricists, and artists from Texas. Today's celebration kicks off **Latino Music Month** with readings from several of the book's contributors (**Dagoberto Gilb**, **Ruben Ramos**, **Carmen Tafolla**, and others) and performances from **Alejandro Escovedo** and **David Garza** (who are also featured in the book). 6-9pm. Gibson Guitar Showroom, 3601 S. Congress Ste. G-400, Penn Field Center. Free. www.unmpress.com.

LUPUS NETWORK OF AUSTIN SUPPORT GROUP First Tuesdays, 6:30pm. Gateway Church's Kids Center, 7104 McNeil, 388-1018. www.lupuslife.org.

SIERRA CLUB MEETING features the **Spiders You See** (a presentation from **Joe Lapp**) along with a special appearance from **Jeffrey Green**, who'll be signing copies of his book *Water From Stone: The Story of Selah, Bamberger Ranch Preserve*. 7pm. LCRA Hancock Building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd. Free. www.texas.sierraclub.org/austin.

STONEWALL DEMOCRATS MONTHLY MEETING 7:30pm. Magnolia Cafe South, 1920 S. Congress, 445-0000. Free. www.stonewallaustin.org.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Code Unknown @ Alamo South, 7pm
Dirty Dancing @ Metropolitan, 7:30pm
Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea @ Alamo Downtown, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Drive-by Truckers Antone's
Toots & the Maytals La Zona Rosa

Wednesday 02

DUPLEX INVESTING CLASS Register online. First & third Wednesdays, 7-8pm. One Highland Center, 314 E. Highland Mall Blvd. Free. www.needabuyer.org.

GIRLS MAKE MEDIA: ZINES, FILM & WEBSITES A discussion from UT Radio-Television-Film Department professor **Mary Celeste Kearney**. 7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

HOMEBUYING SEMINAR & WINE TASTING Call or e-mail to RSVP 6:30-8:30pm. Carmelo's Italian Restaurant, 504 E. Fifth, 653-1966. Free. tausha@taushacarlson.com.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB Austin Community College President Stephen Kinslow presents **ACC: Making an Impact on Our Region**. 7-8:30am. UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. \$15 (members, first-time guests). www.mbc.austin.org.

MIDWEEK AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET has moved to a new location, bringing more than 40 food and craft vendors with it. They're celebrating the grand opening with tastings, chef demos, kids activities, live music, and more. 4-8pm. The Triangle, 46th Street, between Guadalupe & Lamar. www.sustainablefoodcenter.org.

TEXAS NORML MEETING First Wednesdays, 8pm. Opal Divine's, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. josh@texasnorml.com, www.myspace.com/texasnorml.

VIRTUAL WORLDS: CONNECTING PEOPLE, PLACES, AND SPACES A participatory talk about virtual worlds like Second Life. 6pm. J.J. Pickle Research Campus, Commons Center, 10100 Burnet Rd. Free. www.austinforum.org.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

Austin Java Co.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Dirty Dancing @ Metropolitan, 7:30pm
Shaft @ Alamo Downtown, 9:45pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Blonde Redhead Stubb's
Drive-by Truckers Antone's
Thee Ohsees Emo's
Kristin Hersh Cactus Cafe

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE HOME TEAMS

LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS Last year's Calvello Cup champions, **Putas del Fuego**, take on the tough-as-coffin-nails **Holy Rollers**. Sun., April 29, 6pm (doors), 7pm (bout). Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez. \$15 (\$13, advance). www.turd.com.

AUSTIN OUTLAWS The Outlaws beat the **Gulf Coast Hurricanes** 49-6 in their season opener and host the **Dallas Rage** this Saturday. Vs. Dallas: Sat., April 28, 7pm. House Park Stadium, 12th & Lamar. \$10 at the gate or online (free, kids 12 & under). www.austinoutlaws.com.

ROUND ROCK EXPRESS You know the drill, Express today Astros tomorrow. Vs. Albuquerque: Thu.-Sat., April 26-28, 7:05pm; Sun., April 29, 2:05pm. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., 512/255-2255. \$6-12. www.roundrockexpress.com.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Baseball SCAC Tournament: Fri.-Sun., April 27-29. **Men's & Women's Golf** SCAC Championships: Sat.-Sun., April 28-29. www.southwesternpirates.cstv.com.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Softball Vs. Texas Tech: Thu., April 26, 6:30pm. Vs. Iowa State: Sat., April 28, 1pm; Sun., April 29, noon. McCombs Field, 2001 Comal St. www.texassports.com.

RECREATION & FITNESS

CAPITAL CITY KICKBALL Registration runs April 30-May 4 for this has-to-be-fun kickball league. Team fee is \$275 (includes game ball, umpire fees, and TAAF sanction fee). Available leagues: Thursdays at Krieg Fields or Fridays at Havins Fields. www.capitalcitysoftball.com.

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS Learn more about Austin's most active outdoors and social club. More than 40 events featured each month – hiking, camping, biking, kayaking, sports leagues, socials, and more. See their Web site for more HCO-sponsored events. Mon., April 30, 6:30-8pm. Opal Divine's, 3601 S. Congress, 707-0237. Free. www.hillcountryoutdoors.com.

CAPITAL CITY SHOOTOUT GOLF TOURNEY In this two-person team event, participants will vie for a Pro-Am spot in this year's FedEx Kinko's Classic Champion Tour. Proceeds will benefit the First Tee of Greater Austin. Sun., April 29. Barton Creek Country Club, 732-0380 x201. www.firteeaustin.org.

FEDEX KINKO'S CLASSIC GOLF TOURNEY Last year's champ Jay Haas will be joined on the links by locals Ben Crenshaw and Tom Kite as well as many other notable names in the golf world. See their Web site for ticket info and more. Mon.-Sun., April 30-May 6. The Hills Country Club, 732-2666. www.fedexkinkosclassic.com.

FIRST TEE OF GREATER AUSTIN DUCK RACE Yes, I guess they are actually "racing" ducks. All proceeds benefit the First Tee of Greater Austin. Please, no wagering. Tue., May 1, 3:15pm. Hills Country Club. \$5 to enter a duck. www.firteeaustin.org.

TEXAS ROUND-UP FITNESS FESTIVAL Get healthy in an Austintatious way with this 10K or 5K run/walk, family mile, health expo, with post-race entertainment, music, and other family-friendly fun. For info, e-mail info@texasroundup.org. Sat., April 28. 378-0012. www.texasroundup.org.

FREE LADIES CLIMBING CLINIC Members and day-pass holders receive free rock-climbing instruction and get to meet other female climbers. For directions see their Web site. Mondays, 7:30pm. Austin Rock Gym, both locations, 416-9299. Free. www.austinrockgym.com.

KICKING HUNGER KICKBALL TOURNEY benefits the Capital Area Food Bank. They'll supply the beer, food, and kickball fun, you bring some dollars for the cause. See their Web site for info on sponsoring a team and playing. Sat., April 28, 11am-7pm. Krieg Softball Complex, 515 S. Pleasant Valley Rd., 744-0195. www.companysixproductions.com/kickinghunger2007.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

AUSTIN WALK WITH US TO CURE LUPUS Last fall's walk raised over \$45,000, all of which went directly to Lupus research. This spring, don't miss the opportunity to take part in the walk, give generously, volunteer, or all three. Sat., April 28, 9am. Lakeview Pavilion/Old Settler's Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley Blvd., Round Rock. www.lupusresearch.org.

HILL COUNTRY RIDE FOR AIDS In its seven-year existence, the ride has raised more than \$2 million for providing life-saving care to thousands of people living with AIDS. The goal this year is to raise at least \$500,000. See Web site for details. Sat., April 28, 8:30am. Krause Springs. www.hillcountryride.org/site/PageServer.

5K HOPE RUN benefits breast cancer research through donations to the Breast Cancer Resource Center in Austin and M.D. Anderson Cancer Center in Houston. Help the ladies of Alpha Kappa Delta Phi do their part in fighting this devastating disease. Sun., April 29, 8am (packet pickup), 9am (start). UT campus, 713/805-9187. www.hoperun.texasakdphi.com.

The first leg of the **Champions League** semifinals was this week, and **Manchester United** and **Chelsea** each took a big step at home toward a possible title meeting. First, injury-depleted Man U came from behind on two second-half goals by **Wayne Rooney** to beat AC Milan 3-2 on Tuesday, and after the game, it's Milan with injury worries going into the return leg next week. Kaká scored two brilliant goals for Milan in the first half, but after defensive stopper **Paolo Maldini** went out at halftime with a knee injury and midfielder bulldog **Rino Gattuso** followed eight minutes later (foot), the Italians were not the same team. Both are doubtful for the rematch (and of course, league matches in between, as both teams face important road tests this weekend). At least they have eight days between games; Liverpool and Chelsea will go at it again with just five "rest" days (if you count their Saturday Premiership games as "rest"). Chelsea took the first leg Wednesday, getting a fine early goal by Joe Cole, then effectively killing off the game and running out a 1-0 win. Next week, it's Chelsea at Liverpool on Tuesday and Man U at Milan on Wednesday, both at 1:30pm on ESPN2.

Guadalajara and Pachuca drew, 2-2, in the first leg of the **CONCACAF Champions League** final last Wednesday. That title is being decided in Pachuca as we go to press.

Athens, meanwhile, is girding for a possible all-England Champs League final. In a nervous press release Friday, the Greek police chief urged fans without tickets to stay home, pledged to bring police in from around the country for the game, and to conduct "austere checks for alcohol use," and he said that "our aim is for the opposing fans not to meet."

– Nick Barbaro

Soccer WATCH

Thursday 03

AMIGOS DE LAS AMÉRICAS FIESTA features live and silent auctions, food from **EI Chile**, and music from the **Crying Monkeys**. Proceeds help Amigos' volunteers participate in community-development and health projects in Latin America. 6:30-9pm. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. \$30 (\$25, advance). www.austinnamigos.org/fiesta.html.

MEDICINAL YOGA FOR BACK PAIN 5:30-6:45pm. Carver Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina, 963-8364. \$15.

★ **SECRET HISTORY OF THE AMERICAN EMPIRE: ECONOMIC HIT MEN, JACKALS, AND THE TRUTH ABOUT GLOBAL CORRUPTION** A presentation from **John Perkins**, author of *Confessions of an Economic Hit Man*, an inside look at the many actions the U.S. has taken to fuel global instability. 7:30-9pm. *The Crossings*, 13500 FM 2769, 225-1075 x4101. Free. www.thecrossingsaustin.com.

★ **YERAZART FOUNDATION** presents eight Armenian musicians performing the works of rarely heard Armenian composers. 8pm. *University Christian Church*, 2007 University Ave., 477-6104. Free. www.yerazart.org.

THEATRE (See Arts Listings.)
The Moth Alamo Downtown

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
Mexic-Arte Museum

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
The Ballad of AJ Weberman @ Alamo Lake Creek, 7:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
Old Haunts Beerland
Stephen Marley Antone's

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 11 issue is Monday, April 30.** 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.

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Anton in Show Business

City Theatre, through April 29

For me personally, it is always delicious to catch a show in which a theatre critic is the target of thespian jokes. In *Anton in Show Business*, a critic interrupts the show whenever she pleases, commenting on the action with bookish, analytical gobbledygook and statements like, "This is the whole problem with 20th century theatre. We used to get stories; now we get *interpretations*." But when she is asked to go onstage, the critic chickens out. Who does she think she is? Oh, wait.

As a young woman in her 20s who suffers from stage fright, I find it particularly refreshing to see the fourth wall come tumbling down and a "critic" materialize in the audience as a female hipster in her 20s with a small notepad and glasses the way she does in this meta-play. It's easy for me to focus on this for obvious reasons.

The play that this refreshing figure is constantly interrupting concerns a TV celeb with no theatrical experience who wants to produce and star in Chekhov's *Three Sisters* as a means of giving her career a boost (the logic being that doing a classic on the legitimate stage will make Hollywood see her as a *serious* actress). For her co-stars, she hires two pigeon-holed actresses: a wide-eyed, Bible-thumping ingenue and a cancer-prone spinster who still wards off nagging calls from her mother. This setup allows playwright Jane Martin to provide a satirical commentary on the injustices in *all* aspects of the American theatre, from acting, directing, and writing to funding, design, and, um, critics, with a particular eye toward topical offenses such as glass-ceiling casting for women and the stereotyping of African-Americans in theatre. Martin satirizes the minimal funding for the arts by having her Chekhov production depend on corporate support from big tobacco. (If you've ever hung out by a greenroom, you'd think actors must

get paid in cigarettes.) She pokes fun at the shortage of good American directors with a director who's imported from Europe with an ego the size of Texas. And seven actresses play all the roles, including the male parts, because as one character puts it, "Eighty percent of the roles in the American theatre are played by men, and 90 percent of the directors are men." Martin skewers everything in the modern American theatre with a satirical flourish that will have your cheeks sore from laughing.

Bored stagehands, tight funding, and prima donnas are challenges for most theatres, but especially so for smaller companies. And such budding theatre groups could probably tell the pseudonymous "Ms. Martin" a thing or two about what it is to struggle. (Martin's identity has been a mystery for 25 years, although she has long been linked to Jon Jory, the former artistic director of Actors Theatre of Louisville, the prestigious resident theatre where her plays have premiered). This is what makes Vestige Group's production of *Anton in Show Business* so precious. The actors walk with the weight of experience and familiarity on their shoulders. It might seem like acting like an actor is easy, but the three leading characters here are as complicated and diverse as Chekhov's three sisters. Gwen Kelso's Holly is sassy and warm, as far as a self-absorbed soap star who'd step on anybody for a movie deal goes, anyway. As Casey, Jessica Medina's dry humor gives the impression of someone who ventures between



skepticism and boredom. Kathleen Fletcher's facial expressions and dopey glances as Lisabette are spot on; she is not only the right age for a Broadway-bound actress but also seems to have the bright eyes and glint already built in. As the cowboy Ben, who leaves his wife, Julie Winston-Thomas is a little unbelievable and out of place in the production, but only because the script calls for it. Elizabeth Rast's mammoth overacting as the show's multiple directors is "funny, funny, funny, and tragic." But those directors' flaws are not shared by Susie Gidseg, who stages this production. Pretension and elitism are not in evidence here. Working on a bare stage with minimal props and costumes, the actors hit the mark for each pratfall and joke and project the attitude of an easygoing company of ladies. And at the end, Jen Brown's spunky and humble critic sums up the production with kind words that even I could have written.

— Patti Hadad

Theatre

OPENING

A THOUGHT IN THREE PARTS Wallace Shawn's taboo-defying play isn't quite here yet. But it's, um, coming. More, soon. www.rubberperp.org.

ARCADIA Tom Stoppard's masterpiece, a romantic and intriguingly intellectual mystery that switches between 1809 and the present, is directed by Mary Ellen Butler out in Georgetown. *April 27-May 20. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. April 27 through May 20. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. \$18 (\$16, seniors; \$7, students). www.georgetownpalace.org*

TOO SOON FOR DAISIES by William Dinner and William Morum, now playing out in Lockhart. *April 26-May 12. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Extra shows: Sat., April 28 & May 5, 2pm. Gaslight Theater, 204 N. Main, Lockhart, 512/376-5653. www.gaslighttheater.com.*

AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE: FAITH PRINCE The Tony-winning Broadway legend comes to Austin for two nights only. *Thu.-Fri., April 26-27, 8:30pm. Mansion at Judges' Hill, 1900 Rio Grande, 495-1800. \$35. www.austincabaret.org.*

THE INDIAN WANTS THE BRONX The City Theatre Company presents this Israel Horowitz play, dealing with the cruelty of two youths toward a helpless stranger, and, the same night, *The Women of Lockerbie*, Deborah Brevoort's award-winning drama of a husband and wife searching for peace and closure after losing their son in a plane crash. Directed by Eric Virkkala and Eric Porter. *May 3-6. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport. 524-2870. \$10. www.citytheatreaustin.org*

IT'S A SCREAM David DeBoy's witty mash-up of comedy and horror is parlayed into staged shenanigans by the adventurous Way Off Broadway Community Players, directed by Lynda Davidson, out Leander way. *April 27-May 19. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Thu., May 17, 8pm. WOBOP Theatre, 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy, Leander. 512/336-8966. www.wobcp.org.*

365 DAYS/365 PLAYS The acclaimed playwright Suzan-Lori Parks wrote a play a day for an entire year back in 2002. Now every single one of those plays is going to be staged at various venues all across the U.S.: New York, Seattle, Los Angeles, and so on. But *Austin* is where the yearlong cycle begins, so get set for several weeks of theatre — with short plays of only five minutes, perhaps, and longer ones of 10 or more — from various local companies. (See "Radical Inclusion: A Morality Tale," p.42, for more.) Coming up next: **Brianna McTeague** presents *Week 24*, with the Red Teasers and Francisco the Man as opening acts, and a party to follow. *Sun., April 29, 5:30pm. 2105 Comal. www.zachscott.com.*

RUE MCCLANAHAN The "Golden Girl" herself — or, at least, one of them — takes the Whisenhunt

arena stage for one afternoon, to "share her personal story that's every bit as colorful as the characters she plays." *Sun., April 29, 2pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$35. www.zachscott.com.*

THE DIONYSIUM returns with its monthly slate of debate, lectures, and aesthetically invigorating entertainments, presided over by the witty and compelling duo of Buzz Moran and L.B. Deyo, abetted by the live keyboards of Graham Reynolds, and featuring a debate on "Resolved: That the United States should use its military solely for homeland defense." "M'aidez," indeed. *Tue., May 1, 7pm. Alamo South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. \$8.*

UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE: ONE-ACT PLAY CONTEST The annual UIL state-level competition presents 40 plays in three days, with locals from Austin High, Wimberley High, and Pflugerville's Connally High among the teams duking it out for thespian supremacy. See their Web site for a complete schedule. *Thu.-Sat., May 3-5. Bass Concert Hall and McCullough Theatre, UT campus. www.uil.utexas.edu/academics/drama.*

STOMPI Percussive and acrobatic, the worldclass troupe of tumblers and tumblers returns to turn the Paramount stage and many oversized props into their personal drumkit in ways that'll amaze and delight your eyes and ears. Here's a show that easily lives up to its hype: Imagine that. Recommended. *May 1-6. Tue.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 5 & 9pm; Sun., 3 & 7pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$29.50-58.50. www.austintheatrealliance.org*

TRASH ANTHEMS If you like theatre at all or anything kinda like theatre but not as twee as some theatre can be, if you can't help thinking about the underpinnings of the complex world in which we spend our fleeting years, if you ever wondered when you'd see things onstage that are relevant, in deep ways, to your own life. If those things resonate with you and you *don't* see this show, whoa, what the hell's wrong with you, man and woman? This is a collection of short works by the often-brilliant playwright Dan Dietz, who's soon leaving Austin for Florida. The pieces are directed

by the *Chronicle's* own Andrea Skola for Shrewd Productions, they're performed by a strong cast, Dietz himself stars in the unnerving masterpiece "A Bone Close to My Brain," and this, this, this is strange and powerful stuff. *May 3-26. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$10-15. www.hydeparktheatre.com.*

THE MOTH New York City's acclaimed storytelling collective comes to Austin, with **Jonathon Ames, Kelley Caleb Hunt, and Edgar Oliver** among the performers who'll have you in serious laugh-stitches and omg-I-know-just-how-that-feels resonance with their polished spiels of personal adventure, eccentric foibles, and all-too-human truth. (See p.XX for more.) Recommended. *Thu., May 3, 7:30pm. Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. \$8. www.themoth.org.*

CLOSING

KAFKA'S DICK Alan Bennett's unusual comedy, about people's propensity to show less interest in artists' work than in the meaningless details of their private lives, features a modern-day Franz Kafka confronting the Kafka of old. Directed by Lisa Scheps for the intrepid Coda Theatre Project. *Through April 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. play! theatre, 1204 Cedar. www.codatheater.org.*

ANTON IN SHOW BUSINESS The Vestige Group brings Jane Martin's clever and insightful metafictional play back to Austin. Watch what happens as a starlet, an embittered "professional," and an ingenue go to San Antonio in the hopes of making theatre magic. *Through April 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 474-8497. \$13-25. www.vestigegroup.org.*

HAMLET William Shakespeare's classic returns to the stage under the direction of Japhy Fernandes, with Sam Grimes in the title role, in this latest offering from the fledgling Velvet Rut company. *Through April 28. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Velvet Rut Theatre, 1612 E. Eighth, 236-1092.*

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 11 issue is Monday, April 30.** 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:

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

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical.
dance-classical@austinchronicle.com.

Ric Williams, litera. litera@austinchronicle.com.

Benné Rockett, visual arts. art@austinchronicle.com.

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



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Fourth Fridays! is presented by DiverseArts, in association with East End Merchants. DiverseArts is supported in part by the City of Austin Cultural Affairs Division and a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts. Sponsors include Austin Radiological Association, Shifflet Group Architects, Trudy's Restaurants, Austin Energy, Balcones Resources, LongBranch Inn, Live Oak Brewery, Perry Lorenz Real Estate, Austin Chronicle

JEFFREY is Paul Rudnick's twisted comedy about a young gay man who swears off sex but is then tempted by the appearance in his life of a certain ridiculously hot and, oops, HIV-positive Steve. This is directed by Jason Hays for Naughty Austin and may be so funny that Simon le Cowell himself will have to break through the wall in midshow. *Through April 28. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real Theatre, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. \$18-22. www.naughtyaustin.com.*

FUSEBOX: THE REFRACTION ARTS MEDIA FESTIVAL is a confluence of theatre, film, dance, visual art, and music, in various galleries and performance venues across Austin. This is its last week, and here's what's going on:

Fetish and Other Dances The innovative Minneapolis dance troupe **Hijack** presents works of jarring and unforgettable motion addressing all that's strangely cracked in the complex pottery of modern life. *Thu.-Fri., April 26-27, 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo. \$5-25.*

Neo Arcadia "Mankind has always dreamed of traveling to the stars," says their PR, "but this dream has always been limited by the burden of the human body. With this experiment, we aim to lift that weight." Ooooooookay. *Thu.-Sat., April 26-28, 9pm. Blue Theater, 916 Springdale. \$5-25.*

Ben Aqua This most recent work takes a satirical glimpse into the occult as a means of analyzing and interpreting pop culture, notions of masculine identity, and the fascination with apocalypse. *Thu.-Sat., April 26-28, 8pm. Blue Theater, 916 Springdale. \$5-25.*

THOM PAIN (BASED ON NOTHING) Will Eno's one-man show, the one that whipped New York theatre critics into a frenzy of adoration, comes to Austin after much negotiating on the part of the man who'll perform it in this city: Ken Webster, the artistic director of Hyde Park Theatre, whose recent series of solo performances reaches what might be its peak in this long-anticipated production. *Through April 28, Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. www.hydeparktheatre.com.*

ALL IN THE TIMING is David Ives' modern comedy about "life and the minefield of human communication," directed by Frank Bengel for the Sam Bass Theatre out Round Rock way. *Through April 28. Thu.-*

Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sam Bass Theatre, 600 Lee, Round Rock. 512/244-0440. \$15 (\$13, students, seniors). www.sambasstheatre.org.

LETTICE AND LOVAGE Peter Shaffer's comedy about two history-obsessed women forging an unlikely friendship in the face of their dreary modern lives is directed by Bob Tolaro for Different Stages. The story's a touch sweeter and lighter, yes, than the better-known fare from the celebrated writer of *Equus* and *Amadeus*. *Through April 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$15-30. www.vortexrep.org.*

MAMMA MIA Yes, the ABBA musical returns. The last time it was in town, our theatre reviewer Molly Rice said it was like being anally violated by a candy cane. Well, here it is again, and, hey, maybe it's your particular cup of aquavit. And maybe Miracle Whip is mayonnaise. *Through 29. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 2 & 7:30pm. Bass Concert Hall, UT campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 471-1444. \$21-70. www.broadwayacrossamerica.com.*

ONGOING

MOONLIGHT AND MAGNOLIAS Ron Hutchinson's fast-paced comedy was inspired by actual diva-fueled events as they occurred behind the scenes during the filming of David O. Selznick's *Gone With the Wind*. Directed here by Lara Toner, with a fine cast. *Through May 13. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg C. 476-0084. \$22 (\$11, students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

STEEL MAGNOLIAS This classic Robert Harling comedy about Southuhn womanhood is just the most heartwarming thing evah to come down the pike! This iteration, with an all-star cast, is directed by Don Toner for Austin Playhouse. *Through May 6. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$22-25 (half price for students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

TAKE ME OUT Here's the Austin premiere of Richard Greenberg's Tony-winning show about a valuable young Major League Baseball player coming out as gay. It's directed by the nonstop theatre engine called Dave Steakley, so we can safely assume that the cast is made up of good

actors (and they certainly are, um, hot, which is why it might not be so much a warning to mention that the show's locker-room scenes contain full male nudity). And everything's perfectly lit by Jason Amato. *Through May 6. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$30-38 (\$15, student rush tickets one hour prior to curtain). www.zachscott.com.*

DINNER THEATRE

DRAMA QUEEN THEATRE The local debut of this interactive murder-mystery troupe from L.A. involves you, the audience, in a comedic investigation scenario and a delicious dinner right here on Sixth Street. *Thu.-Fri., April 26-27, 7pm. Old Pecan St. Cafe, 310 E. Sixth. www.dqtheater.com/austin.*

MURDER ON THE MOVIE SET Lights, murder, action! Gary Payne's Capital City Mystery Players present this Hollywooded tale of interactive mystery and mayhem among Tinseltown talents while you feast on pastariffic plates of Italianate goodness. *Through April 28. Saturdays, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. www.capcitymystery.com.*

AUDITIONS

JUNE GROOM The Way Off Broadway Community Players are holding auditions for this Rick Abbot play, to be directed by Cinda White. Needed: Men and women of various ages. *Mon., April 30, 7pm. Crystal Falls Playhouse, 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy., Leander. 512/336-8966. www.wobcp.org.*

THEATRE CALL BOARD

RED, HOT, AND SOUL! is, of course, Zachary Scott Theatre Center's annual fundraiser and about as much as any arts-related event gets in Austin. Live music by Skyrocket (featuring Trish Murphy); cocktails, catered dinner, performances by Zach artists, and dancing, dancing, dancing; and not just a silent auction but also a live auction of popular fineries and pleasure jaunts and such. Will Wynn's the guest of honor; glitter along with him and other well-heeled habitués of the theatre this swanky night. *Sat., April 28, 6:30-11pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 476-0594 x225. www.zachscott.com.*

EAST AUSTIN LIVE LAUNCH PARTY Your friends at the Vortex Theatre are kicking off the East Austin Live initiative with a party, and of course you're invited to join them. *Tue., May 1, 5-7pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor, 478-5282. www.vortexrep.org.*

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Open Mic Comedy Seasoned pros and up-and-comers knock themselves out to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter. *Sundays, 8pm. \$2 (free, college students).*

Funny Person in Austin Somebody's got to win it, and the competitions have already begun. Each week for the next two months at Cap City, the city's finest (or perhaps merely bravest) comedians battle their wacky way toward the power and the glory, in Shecky's name, amen. The upcoming night of cerebral carnage is hosted by: **Brendon Walsh. Mondays, 8pm.**

Tig Notaro Yeah, that's right, she has a last name, too, does young Tig. What's even funnier, it seems, is her, onstage, making you laugh. Which won't be that tough for her, actually, since sure-shot **Matt Sadler's** gonna tenderize you first. *April 26-28. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

LAFF The acronym stands for **Ladies Are Funny Festival**, which is a minifestival of, duh, funny ladies. Specifically, *improvising* funny ladies from Austin and beyond (Tulsa, say, and Houston), gathered here via the gung-ho machinations of our own **Girls Girls Girls** troupe to provide maximum bang for your entertainment buck with their extemporaneous (and sometimes musical) shenanigans. The venue is that ineffable bastion of comedy improv, the Hideout (617 Congress), admission to any show is only \$7-10, and here's the lineup:

Friday, April 27: Cocksound, One Too, You're Fat, Bridgeport Women's Correction Facility, 8pm. Penelope Foolish, Superovum (from Tulsa), Girls Girls Girls, 10pm. Free afterparty, featuring rock band the Platforms, 11pm.

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803 Airport. www.coldtowne.com.

New lineup! Features some of Austin's best stand-up and (especially) improv: **Parallelogramophonograph**, the cutest improvisers in town, weave stories that are equal parts poignant and absurd; **Available Cupholders** If you don't know about them, you don't know about improv: These guys are the Wallendas of instant invention, except that none of them are dead. *Thursdays, 8pm. Jerm Pollet's One-Guy Show* The ex-Sinus Show mastermind and master raconteur guides the audience through his adventures in the music biz. *Fridays, 8pm. That Other Paper presents ... Standup Comedy.* The popular showcase continues, fracturing funnybones every weekend. *Fridays, 10pm. The AIC Capematch* is where two improv teams battle for supremacy, right before your very eyes. *Fridays, 11:30pm. Stool Pigeon* features celebrity monologues, true stories, and an all-star cast of local improvisers. *Saturdays, 8pm. ColdTowne* The mighty house troupe rocks your night with fierce improv as only they can create it. *Saturdays, 10pm. Vinyl Destination* Asaf Ronen, John Ratliff, and an all-star cast join forces for this weekly musical improv extravaganza. *Sundays, 7pm.*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.estersfollies.com.

Esther's Follies The most popular comedy troupe in town returns with their riotous musical send-ups of local and national politics and cultural phenomena, with the incredible and – *ai! ai! ai!* – spicy illusions of master magician **Ray Anderson** as an audience-galvanizing feature. Thrills! Chills! Ripped-from-the-headlines events turned into comedy gold! *Reservations highly recommended. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military.) Additional \$5 for special reserved seats*

Late Night Skinny Dip Join the infamous Esther's Follies after-hours crew for an adults-only hour packed with improv, sketch comedy, and homegrown music, some of it bluer than their usual shade of "family" offerings. Direction and music by Doug Ewart, featuring Shaun Wainwright-Branigan, Cindy Wood, Ted Meredith, and Donnie Loa. With musical guests Steven Baranowski and DJ Michael Corley. *April 21-May 12. Saturdays, 11:30pm. Through May 12. \$10.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688. www.hideouttheatre.com.

Thursday Night Awesome: ColdTowne's **Chris Trew** and **Dave Buckman** of the **Frank Mills** host an Ed Sullivan-style show featuring the sketch comedy of **Hairy Melon**, the stand-up stylings of **Jill Morris** and (say it together, now) **Kerri Lindo**, live music from **Beth Miner**, and assorted interviews to start your preweekend off on the right rockin' foot. \$7-10. www.thursdaynightawesome.com

VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. www.thevelveetaroom.com.

John Rabon This perennial Cheese Palace favorite is sometimes called Uncle Cranky, because there's so much in this modern life that irritates the fuck out of him – tales of which he turns into comedy gold. **David Cole** and **Eric Krug** open. *Fri.-Sat., April 27-28, 9:30 & 11:30pm.*

Open Mic Night, God Help Us All They've got three minutes to soar, and you can smell the flop sweat wafting in from backstage. There are good jokes, bad jokes, moments of dull obscurity, and times of hilarious brilliance. These are your neighbors: fear them. This week's emcee: **Eric Krug. Thursdays, 10pm.**

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

STAND-UP COMEDY FRIDAYS AT HOMER'S *Fridays, 9pm. Homer's Bar & Grill, 1779 Wells Branch Pkwy. #114, 251-5444. www.myspace.com/homersbarandgrill.*

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Dance

AUSTIN CLASSICAL BALLET This professional performing troupe presents an evening of dance, set to the music of Mozart, Prokofiev, and Vivaldi. *Fri.*, April 27, 8pm. *Austin Scottish Rite Theatre*, 207 W. 18th, 672-4522. \$15. www.austinclassicalballet.com.

PACO PENA FLAMENCO DANCE COMPANY: A COMPAS! Pena, one of the world's greatest flamenco guitarists, leads his Flamenco Dance Company through an electrifying new program of music, song, and dance, communicating the compelling nature of a range of flamenco rhythms, from almost "tribal," trance-inducing qualities to razor-sharp complexities. *Mon.* April 30, 7 & 9:30pm. *One World Theatre*, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500. \$20-60. www.oneworldtheatre.org.

1,001 NIGHTS

CLEOPATRA Belly dancing with true Egyptian flavor. *Fri.-Sat.*, 8pm-2am. *Cleopatra*, 2620 S. I-35. 947-9462.

TWO LEFT FEET

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays*, 8-10pm; *Sundays*, 4:30-6pm. *Austin Yoga School*, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.

INTERMEDIATE/ADVANCED MODERN DANCE CLASS Ellen Bartel (artistic director of Spank Dance Company) leads classes in modern dance. *Wednesdays*, 7-8:30pm. *Dance Discovery*, 2110-A White Horse. \$10. www.spankdance.com.

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Get fired up with flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Handy central location to boot. Call for times. 2801 W. 45th. 382-1366. \$10 per class (private lessons available). www.estudioflamenco.com.

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ-ed music weekly, year-round. *Saturdays*, 8-11pm; *minilessons*, 7:30pm. *Austin Recreation Center*, 1301 Shoal Creek. 989-3939. www.austinballroomdancers.org.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Open to all, these Ballroom and Latin sessions are a great way to practice or learn new steps. Each night features a variety of dances; each month sees the start of a new, progressive course. No partner necessary. *Sundays*, 6-8pm. *Dancers Workshop*, 183 & Balcones Woods. *Weeknights*, times vary. *Hills Fitness Center*, 4615 Bee Caves Rd. 32-DANCE. Fees vary. www.dancein.org.

AUSTIN CLICKETY CLOGGERS: BEGINNERS' LESSONS The Appalachian-style dancing requires no partner. *Through May 22. Thursdays*, 6:30-7:30pm. 1807 W. Slaughter #325. \$60 per person (family discounts available). www.clicketycloggers.com.

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES Twyla of Twyla & the Twilight Star Ensemble offers a variety of belly-dance classes out in Leander. *Class times vary, Mon.-Wed.*, 7:30-9:30pm; *Fri.*, by appt. 971-0188. www.twylabellydance.com.

LUCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS: CLASSES FORMING Belly dancing (all levels), flamenco, salsa/merengue, hip-hop, creative movement for ages 5-10, tai chi. Check their Web site for more. *Lucila Dance Studio*, 1700 S. Lamar. 416-8800. www.luciladance.com.

AUSTIN SCANDINAVIAN DANCING Turning and improvised couple dancing for beginning to advanced dancers. No partners needed; wear slick-soled shoes. *Thursdays* 7:30-9:45 pm. *First Unitarian Universalist Church*, 4700 Grover, 454-0598. \$3. www.austinscandi.org.

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: CONTRA DANCE 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 the open dance session for beginners and experienced dancers. No partner required. *Saturdays*, 7:30pm (lessons); *open dance* 8:15-11pm. *Hancock Recreation Center*, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. 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 GAY/LESBIAN SALSA GROUP Welcome this free group that invites gays/lesbians who want to learn (or already know) how to salsa to gather and dance. *Wednesdays*. *Ruta Maya*, 3601 S.

Plump Jack

McCullough Theatre, through April 29

Falstaff is hardly unknown to the world of opera. Aside from Verdi's comic masterpiece *Falstaff*, the beloved rogue is also the subject of no fewer than five different operas. Most take their storyline from Shakespeare's domes-



tic farce *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, but this recent entry, composed by Gordon Getty in 1984, is similar in structure and approach to the Orson Welles film *Chimes at Midnight*, drawing from the history plays *Henry IV, Parts I and II* and *Henry V*. The focus is on Falstaff's relationship with the young Prince Hal, soon to be

Henry V, and his subsequent rejection by the monarch once Hal has turned from his idle youth and accepted the responsibilities of rule. The preponderance of works bearing his name gives testament of the extent to which Falstaff has long been an audience favorite.

The boozing, wenching, gluttonous knight, given to shameless fabrication while remaining disarmingly forthright about himself and his vice-ridden nature, ambles through the plays, a welcome human counterfoil to the serious business of politics and war.

Gordon Getty, a scion of the Getty fortune and the single biggest patron of classical-music organizations in the country, has described himself as a contemporary composer working in a 19th century idiom. He makes no claims to any kind of intellectualism and desires to "touch the heart" with the same directness as a film score. At first glance, this is not an altogether misguided way of approaching an opera based on a work of Shakespeare. Both opera and the plays of Shakespeare have suffered the same fate in contemporary culture: becoming rarefied out of their original context and relegated to the hallowed summits of high art. Both were originally far more populist forms, seen and appreciated by a wide audience. A desire to address that, to create an opera with the same musical accessibility for a modern audience as a film score, is an interesting notion. Through the majority of the first act, it is possible to follow Getty in this regard. The opera is structured as a music drama in the style of Wagner, a kind of ongoing recitativo without the traditional aria structure. However, the disadvantages of this style soon weigh heavily on an audience deprived of the narrative break and the emotional release of the aria. For 2½ hours, the music and the words forge ahead like trains on separate tracks. They bear so little connection, their relationship is so mutually unilluminating, that it is necessary to rely on the supertitles to understand what's going on, despite the



opera being sung in English. Moreover, Getty's score is so leaden and his orchestration so uninspired, it is extremely difficult to regard Falstaff with the benevolent indulgence so essential to his appeal. Without that affinity, the story falls apart by the second act.

The UT opera theatre program is obviously rife with talent. The singing and music are admirably performed. Phillip Hill has a wonderful voice, large and rich, and he does his best in the lead role despite being costumed in a wiry fake beard and bald pate that, with his fake belly, make him look like a Shylock who's swallowed a beach ball. John McGuire seems oddly cast as Prince Hal, but he sings well, and Yoon Sang Lee gives a lovely performance as Henry IV, full of appropriate gravitas. Many of the cast members possess sure, strong voices, but they appear woefully misdirected by Octavio Cardenas, encouraged in all kinds of comic business that, set to the humorless score, fall rather flat.

Overall, the greatest disservice to the talented cast is committed by the production designers. The decision to transplant the action to present-day London renders the action of the play almost totally incomprehensible in one fell swoop. The character of Sir John is dependant on an environment wherein a nobleman's vices are considered benign by their very nature. Sir John and the Prince of Wales can hang about with fools and wastrels; to have them consorting with violent, anti-authoritarian punks and mugging tourists makes them appear malevolent and very difficult to sympathize with. Unfortunately, without our sympathy, glorious Falstaff is just a drunken fat man who steals from people.

— Iris Brooks

Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free. www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austingaysalsa.

MODERN JAZZ DANCE CLASS A stylized choreographic blend and technique class targeted toward the intermediate/advanced dancer. *Tuesdays*, 8:30pm. *Tapestry Dance Company*, 507-B Pressler, 458-6336. \$10. www.tapestry.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.austinswingsyndicate.org.

FOUR ON THE FLOOR: CLASSES Ongoing classes for various levels of expertise in Swing and Lindy Hop culminate in a weekly dance. New classes usually start the first Tuesday of the new month. *Tue.*, 7pm (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). *Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom*, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. *Prices vary*. www.fouronthefloor.com.

NOTES & ENCORES

AUSTIN SACRED HARP SINGERS *The Sacred Harp* is a tune book that has been in continuous publication since its first printing in 1844; *Sacred Harp* singings — secular events — consist of people gathering to sing the tunes in rugged, unaccompanied four-part harmony. *Wednesdays*, 7-9pm. *Hyde Park Christian Church*, 610 E. 45th. 963-6932. Free. www.fasola.org.

Classical Music

OPENING

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC Gamelan Ensemble Rasito Purwopangrawit is featured in this concert, which includes selections from traditional Central Javanese music. Gamelan, a music ensemble of Indonesian origin, is made up of a distinct set of drums, gongs, metallophones, bowed and plucked string instruments, and bamboo flutes, as well as human voices, and is used in a variety of contexts. *Sat.*, April 28, 8pm. *Bates Recital Hall*. Free. **Claude Frank** World-renowned pianist Frank performs best-loved piano works by Schumann, Mozart, and Schubert and gives three master classes, which are free and open to the public. *Concert: Sat.*, April 28, 8pm. *Jessen Auditorium*. \$10 (\$5, students). *Master Classes: Sun.*, April 29, noon. MRH 2.608. *Tue.*, May 1, 1pm. *Wed.*, May 2, 11:30am. *Bates Recital Hall*. Free. **Brahms Requiem** Brahms' *Ein Deutsches Requiem* receives an airing in this joint concert featuring the UT Choral Arts Society, Concert Chorale, and Symphony Orchestra, with soloists. A pair of shorter choral works by Ralph Vaughn Williams opens the evening of dramatic song. *Mon.*, April 30, 8pm. *Bates Recital Hall*. \$17 (\$15, UT faculty, staff; \$10 students). 471-5401. www.music.utexas.edu.

AUSTIN SYMPHONIC BAND: SILVER ANNIVERSARY GALA On this celebratory birthday bill: a world premiere work by ASB's second conductor, Randol Alan Bass, especially commissioned for this concert, which he'll conduct. ASB's first conductor, Frank Simon, returns to conduct a selection, and special guest artist Charles Villarrubia performs on the tuba. *Sat.*, April 28, 7pm. *Reagan High School PAC*, 7104 Berkman. 345-7420. \$10 (\$6, seniors, students). www.asband.org.

AUSTIN CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY: DAVID RUSSELL 2005 Grammy award winner Russell is one of ACGS's favorites: versatile, virtuosic, va-voom! Make the Scottish guitarist one of your faves at ACGS's final concert of its International Concert Series. *Sat.*, April 28, 8pm. *Northwest Hills United Methodist Church*, 7050 Village Center Dr., 300-ACGS. \$50, \$25. www.austinclassicalguitar.org.

AUSTIN YOUTH ORCHESTRA: SPRING CONCERT A quartet of student orchestral groups performs in this concert, including the Concertante Orchestra, the Intermezzo Orchestra, the Sinfonietta Orchestra, and the Philharmonic Orchestra. *Sun.*, April 29, 3pm. *Jacqueline McGee PAC*, *Austin High School*, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez. 463-9595. Free. www.austinyouthorchestra.com.

INDIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC CIRCLE OF AUSTIN: JAYANTHI KUMARESH ICMCA and the South Asian Institute present Kumaresh performing a grand instrumental Veena concert. *Sun.*, April 29, 5pm. *Jones Auditorium*, *Ragsdale Center*, St.

Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress. 448-6740. \$20 (\$10, seniors, students; \$5, ages 5-10; free, ICMA members). www.icma.org.

CONSPIRARE CHILDREN'S CHOIR: BREATH OF THE SPIRIT American spirituals are on the menu for this outing of the Conspirare kids, as are Baroque selections by Bach and Handel, hymns, a Hebrew song, the "Gloria Tibi" from the Bernstein "Mass," and more. *Sun., April 29, 7pm.* St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 476-5775. \$10 (\$5, students; free, ages 6 and younger). www.conspirare.org.

CLOSING

UT BUTLER OPERA CENTER: PLUMP JACK American composer Gordon Getty's adaptation of Shakespeare's *Henry IV*, tells the story of the outrageous knight, Falstaff, and his influence over the (supposedly) impressionable future king, Hal. Until, of course, Hal is crowned king, when it all goes (sadly) pear shaped, as they say. The production is conducted by UT professor of music David Neely and directed by Octavio Cardenas. *Through April 29. Fridays, 8pm; Sundays, 7pm.* McCullough Theatre, UT Campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 800/687-6010. \$17 (\$15, UT faculty, staff; \$10 students). www.utpac.org.

NOTES & ENCORES

AUSTIN YOUTH ORCHESTRA: STRING AUDITIONS Open to all interested students (K-12), these auditions will place Austin's best in a number of classical music groups overseen by the Austin Youth Orchestra. Students from schools with orchestra programs must be members in good standing in their respective orchestras and are to prepare a solo piece or etude of their choice that demonstrates a maximum level of ability. Scales and sight reading may also be required. *Mon. May 7; registration, 6pm; auditions, 6:30pm.* Austin High School, 1715 W. Cesar Chavez. 463-9595. Accepted students must pay a \$75-per-semester tuition fee. www.austinyouthorchestra.com.

Visual Arts

EVENTS

WORLD FEST Torture survivors seek healing and expression through art in this exhibition and fundraiser from the Center for Survivors of Torture. *Sat., April 28, 3pm.* 5124 Burnet Rd. \$20.

EAST END FOURTH FRIDAYS IS BACK! This monthly art and culture cooperative marketing event showcases the very specific attributes and historical identity of Austin's East End. Enjoy great food, music, and art on East 11th in the Cultural Heritage District. *Fri., April 27, 6pm-dark.*

AUSTIN FIGURATIVE GALLERY: OFFICIAL OPENING features paintings done at the Art After Dark party held during the Austin Fine Arts Festival. *Sat., April 28, 7-11pm.* 301 Chicon, Unit F.

LA PENA: PERFORMANCES BY ERRO GRUPO An urban performance, *Adelaide Fontana* chronicles the character's last radio broadcast where she's free to speak the truth to her listeners. Performance takes place in the small window display, making the sidewalk and street a theatre set. *April 27-May 6; Fri-Sun., 6:30pm.* 227 Congress #100, 236-0610.

OPENING

GALLERY 3 @ THE CO-OP: DISTANT RELATIVE New work by UT undergraduate students in sculpture. Reception: *Thu., April 26, 5-7pm, with talk at 5:30pm.* Exhibition: *April 26-May 19.* 2246 Guadalupe, 476-7211. www.gallery3atthecoop.com.

GALLERY LOMBARDI: JOIN US FOR A COMMUNIST PARTY Featuring oil and acrylic paintings that depict political icons and pop-culture perversions. Artists include Jeormie Journell, Tim Doyle, Tom Besson, and Stanislav Grezdo. Reception: *Tue., May 1, 7-10pm.* Exhibition: *April 26-May 1.* 602 W. Seventh Ste. A, 481-1088. www.gallerylombardi.com.

YARD DOG: CASEY MCGLYNN Visually and psychologically complex works, full of color, texture, multiple images and lots of writing. *Through May 27.* 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.

ARTHOUSE AT THE JONES CENTER: AHEAD OF THEIR TIME The eighth annual advanced student art exhibition gives those students the opportunity to show their work in a professional setting and



▲ The works of sculptor Frederick Hart are featured in the Russell Collection's newest exhibition.

receive feedback from a well-respected curator. Film Expo: *Sat., April 28, 6pm.* Reception: *Sun., April 29, 1-4pm.* Teen Art Bash: *Sat., May 12, 2-8pm.* Exhibition: *Through May 12.* 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthouseatexas.org.

THE RUSSELL COLLECTION: FREDERICK HART One of the nation's finest representational artists, Hart's work is a balance of extraordinary aptitude and exquisite beauty. Reception: *Sat., April 28, 6-9pm.* Exhibition: *April 28-May 26.* 1137 W. Sixth, 342-0747.

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: FROM REVOLUTION TO RENAISSANCE Following the 1910 revolution, Mexico witnessed an explosion of creativity, exemplified in this show curated by James Oles and featuring the important modern Mexican art collection of Lance and Erika Aaron: Works by master artists David Alfaro Siqueiros, Rufino Tamayo, Maria Izquierdo, and Olga Costa. Reception: *Sat., April 28, 6-9pm.* Exhibition: *April 28-Dec. 31.* 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.

CLOSING

TIRU GALLERY: CORNERS OF THE WORLD A multicultural art project with photographs, prints, and paintings from different parts of the world. *Through April 30.* 3701 Guadalupe.

CR1: CODA: MFA THESIS EXHIBITION 1 *Through April 29.* 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.

★ **VOLITANT GALLERY: THE QUEEN OF THE PEACE** is an extraordinary international encounter with the wide-ranging collection of work by Lithuanian couple Svajone and Paulius Stanikas. Images like this will burn themselves into the retina of your memory and not leave for a long long time. *Through April 28.* 320 Congress #100, 236-1240. www.volitant.com.

LOTUS GALLERY: LOOKING EAST/LOOKING WEST Phillip Wade has taught painting and design at the Austin Museum of Art since 1997. This exhibition includes his intimate portraits, landscapes, still lifes, figure studies, and more. *Through April 28.* 1201-B W. Sixth, 474-1700.

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: DEBBI SMITH ROURKE *Through April 28.* 1507 W. Koenig.

ART ON 5TH: GROUP SHOW Work by new abstract artists John Palmer and Zingaro, as well as new figurative artist Cynthia Chartier. *Through April 28.* 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.

ART PALACE: MICHAEL SIEBEN Sweet monsters? Malformed felines with a penchant for the rotgut whisky? Cartoons gone so far over the edge they've entered the graphic equivalent of Laszlo Jamf's hyper-paradoxical phase? "Soft-core gore"? It's all Sieben-generated and raw on the walls of Arturo Palacio's place this time 'round. *Through April 28.* 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.

4 WALLS FINE ART GALLERY: NEW SPACE The premiere show features two local transplants – Elizabeth Chapin, who paints with acrylic on canvas, and Kevin Greenblat, with photogravure. *Through April 27.* 115 E. Fifth #1, 560-8847. www.4wallsfineart.com.

QUATTRO GALLERY: HANK WADDELL Astonishingly lovely and strange works in wood.

Through April 27. 12971 Pond Springs Rd., 219-3178. www.quattrogallery.com.

SCANLAN GALLERY: WORD PLAY is a joint venture of the performing and visual arts communities, featuring new works created by 24 artists based on three words chosen at random. Visual works by Lance Letscher, Virginia Fleck, and *Chronicle Arts* Editor Robert Faires among them. *Through April 27.* 2900 Bunny Run, 327-1213. www.sstx.org.

ONGOING

GALLERY POLLOCK: BILL D. FRANCIS The UT Professor Emeritus presents his finest prisma-color works. 2620-C S. Lamar, 804-2667. www.gallerypollock.com.

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. 12400 Amherst #102. 825-8577. www.eyeccontactart.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. www.pablotaoboadastudio.com.

ATELIER 3-D The former Austin Sculpture Center hosts an open house for public viewing. *Wednesdays & Thursdays, 4-10pm.* 2209 Pasadena, 374-0580.

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.

AMOA: AMERICA STARTS HERE: KATE ERICSON AND MEL ZIEGLER presents 10 years of collaborative work by two artists who helped rethink the nature of public art and conceptual practice in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Ericson and Ziegler devised public art projects and site-specific installations that altered sites subtly, using poetic language and their idiosyncratic wit to illuminate mainstream American contexts and highlight individual community issues. *Through May 6.* 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amoa.org.

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.

CAPITOL VISITORS CENTER: ON THE PLAINS WITH PASTELS, PENCILS, AND PAINTS Frank Reaugh captured the rugged beauty and vastness of the frontier and documented the people, landscapes, and animals of a vital period of American history. *Through May 28.* 112 E. 11th, 305-8400. www.tspb.state.tx.us/tspb/junk/history/chiistory.htm.

THE CATHEDRAL OF SPUNK 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.keeppaustinweird.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY: ARTE SAGRADO XII A national juried exhibition with juror Ken Schmidt. *Through May 18.* 3400 N. I-35, 486-2001.

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.

D BERMAN GALLERY: JOSEPH PHILLIPS AND JARED THEIS Each of these Austin artists creates fantastical worlds – one from clay, one on paper, both with remarkable skill and imagination. *Through May 26.* 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.

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.

ELSE MADSEN GALLERY: IDENTITY THEFT International photography relevant to our modern and media-mangled world. *Through May 25.* 411 Brazos #99. www.elsemadsen.com.

FIELDING LECHT: IN MY STAIRWELL The striking images of internationally recognized film and music photographer Mark Seliger bring Austin some haute glamour. Closing reception: *Thu., May 10, 6-9pm.* 708 Congress, 476-0044. www.fieldinglechtgallery.com.

FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

GRAVITY CONSTANT STUDIOS: TERRY BEUTLER New paintings by Beutler depict an autobiographical journey. 301 Chicon St. Ste. F, 415/254-5222.

KATHY WOMACK GALLERY Art by Kathy Womack. 411 Brazos #100. www.kwomack.com.

LA PENA: TEXTIMONIO showcases the ceramic and sculptural work and life of Marsha Gomez. *Through Aug. 31.* 227 Congress #100, 236-0610.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: EASTERN EUROPEAN PAINTING NOW An exhibition of fresh works by four young artists and curated by critic Jane Neal. *Through May 5.* 300 West Ave. #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.

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 ongoing exhibition in this intimate, quirky gallery is a perfect example of the more charming and enjoyable side of Austin's weirdness. *Call for appt.* 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org.

PRO-JEX: PERSPECTIVE Life drawings from the mind of Austin's own Paul Russell, whose works are reminiscent of Henry Moore, Paul Klee, and Picasso. *Through May 5.* 1710 S. Lamar Ste. C, 472-7707.

QUATTRO GALLERY: RUSSELL CROMAN AND DAVID STEIN Astrophotography and paintings that are out of this world. *Through May 30.* 12971 Pond Springs Rd., 219-3178. www.quattrogallery.com.

SHORELINES GALLERY: SUE KEMP Watercolors from nature. 221 W. Second, 322-9961. www.shorelinesgalleryaustin.com.

SLUGFEST GALLERY: OSCAR GILLESPIE Using the difficult art of engraving as a starting point, the artist renders various creatures, birds, rabbits, or people amidst a swirl of line and color to edify the human condition in his "Over 21: Pages & Marginalia." *Through May 13.* 1906 Miriam, 477-7204.

TOTALLY COOL/TOTALLY ART features more than 800 works from local teens who participate in the citywide program. *South Austin Recreation Center, 1100 Cumberland, 444-6601.*

VISUAL ARTS CENTER: MFA STUDIO EXHIBITION This ambitious show features the work of Jarrod Beck, Robert Boland, Stephanie Wagner, and others. *Through May 4.* 23rd & San Jacinto.

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: JENNIFER BALKAN Balkan's astonishing oil paintings will haunt your mind's deepest corners for years to come. If you're smart enough to see this show. And, of course, you are. *Through May 23.* 1202-B W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com/jennifer_balkan.lasso.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: YELLOW LABYRINTH This new installation by Aki Nagasaka transforms the space into an ephemeral experience. *Through May 12.* 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.

SPACES

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY is a working studio and gallery of stained & leaded glass and mosaics artwork. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

NORTH HILLS GALLERY: FLIGHTS OF SPIRIT
Works by Betty Jameson and Carolyn Patterson.
Through May 6.

CULTURAS DE ARTE GALLERY: FEELING ABSTRACT May 3-July 7. 3311-C N. I-35, 473-2302.

GUTTERKITTY STUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT a group show of figurative paintings done by some of Austin's best painters. 102 Krebs. ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com.

ARTURO'S UNDERGROUND CAFE: CHRIS SCROGER Through May 26. 314 W. 17th, 469-0380.

ARTWORKS GALLERY features tropical butterflies artfully displayed in plexiboxes designed by GW Clark. 1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.

AUSTIN JAVA: AUSTIN SCENE Julie Dean captures the essence of Austin in her photos from every neighborhood in the city. Reception: Wed., May 2, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through June 5. 1206 Parkway, 476-1829.

FLIGHTPATH: MACK ROYAL Through April 28. 5011 Duval St., 458-4472. www.angelfire.com/planet/bozotexino.

HALCYON COFFEEHOUSE Photography and encaustic paintings by Marlene Barberousse-Nikolin and Sabrina Carmona. Through June 3. 218 W. Fourth, 472-9637. www.halcyonaustin.com.

HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE: YEA! Young Emerging Artists from Austin High. Through April 30. 617 Congress, 476-0473. www.thehideout.org.

HYDE PARK BAR AND GRILL Acrylics on canvas of large macro flowers by Kijaso. Exhibition: Through May 27. 4206 Duval St., 458-3168.

THE GIRLS' SCHOOL OF AUSTIN: SELF-PORTRAITS Through May 10.

LAS MANITAS AVENUE CAFE: THE PUPPET SHOW Puppets and portraits of Mexican artists by fourth-grade students at Sanchez Elementary. Closing reception: Fri., May 18, 4:30-6pm. 211 Congress, 472-9357.

MANUEL'S MICRO GALLERY: SACRED HEART Bill Stidham presents an artist's tribute to musical icons who influence the world. Through April 30. 310 Congress, 472-7555. www.manuels.com.

ROADHOUSE RELICS is a vintage-neon gallery and studio where artist Todd Sanders creates neon signs, eye-popping carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. www.roadhouserelics.com.

SPIDER HOUSE: MERRICK BROWN & DAVID GARRETT Closing Reception: Sun., April 29, 6pm. 2908 Fruth, 480-9562. www.spiderhousecafe.com.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

AVAA: STUDIO RENTAL Affordable artist studios available, central Austin. Historic building, natural light, utilities paid. Private studio: \$395 monthly; Shared, \$170. www.avaaonline.org.

THE CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY OF AUSTIN is seeking new members for 2007. Open to all levels of talent and all media. Contact Joan Lawson via e-mail or phone. 288-0574. artist@joanlawson.com.

HILL COUNTRY ARTS ALLIANCE: PHOTO CONTEST Theme: "Healthy Hill Country, Wealthy Region." Deadline: May 5. www.hillcountryalliance.org.

PHOTOBUCKET: COMPUTER CLASSES FOR ARTISTS For beginners and those already familiar with Photoshop Muse. See the Flatbed Web site for more. www.flatbedpress.com.

FELTON KNORRA STUDIOS: STUDIO RENTAL Two affordable artist studios available in a thriving Eastside artists' complex. 389-9776.

NICE RACK! The Austin Chronicle is putting 40 brand-new racks on the UT Campus. They're pretty and pink and nice-looking, but we want to be sure we have the nicest rack on the 40 Acres! That's why we're having a contest. Send us your design for the nicest rack. Winner will receive recognition in the Chronicle, a \$150 cash prize, \$100 to use for art supplies, and the joy of exposing your nice rack to the world. See our Web site for details. www.austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Market/rack.

FLATBED: BEGINNING PHOTOGRAPHY/DARKROOM TECHNIQUES Flatbed is adding a new photo class and a darkroom open shop. Check into this class taught by Heidi Schleink, and you might fall in love with film all over again. 2830 E. MLK, 477-9328.

THE ART SCHOOL @ LAGUNA GLORIA Looking to tap into your creative side? Discover the large selection of spring classes available with the AMOA catalog online. 3809 W. 35th, 323-6380. www.amoa.org.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

POETRY ON THE PLAZA offers its last event of the season: The Book of Poetry, featuring UT profs and students. Wed., May 2, noon. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.

RICK RIORDAN serves up the third book of his Percy Jackson and the Olympians adventures, *The Titan's Curse*. Come dressed as your favorite Greek deity. Tue., May 1, 6pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

DIRTY FOUND Found magazine creative directors Jason Bitner and Arthur Jones (Monster Team) show you some amazing stuff that people have found. Diary entries, bad erotica, worse poetry, shit you won't believe; and yet, there it is! Ah, humanity. Who needs UFOs? Mon., April 30, 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. www.drafthouse.com.

JEN AUSTIN testifies on *Coming Out Christian*. And in Dallas. Shivery. Sat., April 28, 7pm. BookWoman, 918 W. 12th, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.

ROXANNE WILSON The African-American woman who almost managed the byzantine (or simply banally zany) ways of Donald Trump in *The Apprentice*, offers her take on making it, in *Footprints in the Boardroom*. Sat., April 28, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

VLADIMIR SOROKIN The celebrated Russian novelist offers the first English translation of his fantasy postmodernist satire *Ice*. Sat., April 28, 6pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

AUSTIN POETRY SLAM SEASON FINALS Since 1995, the Austin Poetry Slam has sent teams to the National Poetry Slam. The 13th annual Slamoff features 10 of Austin's top slammers competing for the rights to represent Austin at this year's showdown, August 7-11 in Austin. This is major entertainment and highly recommended. Sat., April 28, 7pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$12. www.austinslam.com.

PEOPLE UNITED has immigrant-rights advocates speaking about the national mobilizations next Tuesday. Allan Campbell hosts, with a weekly commentary by Rahul Mahajan. Fri., April 27, 1pm. KOOP Radio 91.7 FM. www.koop.org.

ALTERNATIVE RADIO features a 2003 conversation with legendary author Kurt Vonnegut, who died earlier this month. Kurt is up in heaven now. Fri., April 27, 2pm. KOOP Radio 91.7 FM. www.koop.org.

SUSAN WITTIG ALBERT offers up her China Bayles' mystery *Spanish Dagger* and the wonderful book she edited: *What Wildness Is This? Women Write About the Southwest*. Fri., April 27, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

DR. JEAN DAVISON The author, anthropologist, and international development consultant offers her take on the triumphs and trials Africa has faced over the past 25 years, in her latest book, *The Ostrich Wakes: Struggles for Change in Highland Kenya*. Fri., April 27, 7pm. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.

DAVID LEAVITT reads from his story collections *The Marble Quilt and Collected Stories* and novels including *The Lost Language of Cranes* and *The Body of Jonah Boyd*, as well as two nonfiction books, *Florence, A Delicate Case* and *The Man Who Knew Too Much: Alan Turing and the Invention of the Computer*. His new novel, *The Indian Clerk*, will appear in September 2007. Thu., April 26, 7pm. Joynes Reading Room, 2501 Whitis.

BOOKWOMAN BOOKGROUP shows you the power of *An Unreasonable Woman: A True Story of Shrimpers, Politicos, Polluters and the Fight for Seadrift Texas* by Diane Wilson. Thu., April 26, 7pm. BookWoman, 918 W. 12th, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.

TONY VIGORITO takes you through his surprise sleeper hit of a fantasy, *Just a Couple of Days*. Love it. Graffiti warfare. Thu., April 26, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

AUSTIN WOMAN'S FILM, MUSIC & LITERARY FESTIVAL is the first event of its kind in the state of Texas: A multimedia festival wholly focused on the contributions of women; with a special emphasis on showcasing women of Latin, African, African-American, Asian, and Native American descent. April 26-29. Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina, 693-0794. www.blowinupaspot.com.

TEXAS NAFAS presents the second Last Sunday program, starting with Eliza Gilkyson, followed by Naomi Shihab Nye, and Dr. Robert Jensen. A must-see program for everyone. Saturdays, 10pm. Cable Channel 16.

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

THE RECOMMENDS BOOK GROUP finds itself in a *Double Bind* by Chris Bohjalian. Sat., April 28, 10am. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

NEW AND NOTEWORTHY BOOK CLUB parses *The Professor and the Madman*. Mon., April 30, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

CEPEDA BOOK CLUB questions *Morality for Beautiful Girls* by Alexander McCall Smith. Mon., April 30, 7pm. Cepeda Public Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley, 974-7372.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

WRITING MEMOIR WELL Sometimes *Chronicle* writer and well-published author Marrit Ingman discusses techniques for choosing your topic, creating dialogue, establishing mood, and telling a story with an arc and a point. You'll write a short-form memoir for small-group critique in this daylong workshop. Sat., April 28, 10am-4pm. *Writers' League of Texas*, 1501 W. Fifth Ste. E-2. \$139 (members, \$89).

OPEN MICS

NEO-SOUL is a certified slam venue. *Wednesdays*. Antonio's Tex-Mex Cafe & Cantina, 7522 N. I-35, 419-7070. \$6. www.antonioستمex.com.

CAFFEINATED POETRY is open to musicians and poets. Hosted by Thom the World Poet. Every Wednesday, except the first Wednesday when they all go to Vinny's, 7-9pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry captains the crew that has all the best of stand-up, performance art, theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one electrifying evening. Amy Steinberg is featured at 7:30 for a swell opening! And the 1!2!3!4! Slam has joined the holy fracas. Four times the excitement for the same step through that door. \$100 in prizes every week; open mic precedes the main event. *Wednesdays*, 8pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091. www.austinslam.com.

MONDAY NIGHT POETRY is hosted by Justin Parker. Mondays, 8-10pm. *Genuine Joe Coffeehouse*, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.

HIDEOUT MIC is still an open universe event with your newest host, Frank. Mondays, 7-10pm. *Hideout Coffeehouse*, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry). www.thehideout.org.

THE LAST ACC STUDENT LITERARY GATHERING of the spring term features Liz Scanlon, ACC creative writing professor, poet, and children's author. John Herndon hosts. Open mic follows the feature. Mon., April 30, 7pm. *Java Lounge at Austin Java*, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829. www.austinjava.com.

THE POETRY KARAOKE ORCHESTRA backs your poetry on the porch, with hosts Ivanho and Chris the Future. Bring canned foods for the Poets Pantry. Tuesdays, 8-10pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.

Found magazine's Dirty Found spin-off brings a glut of DIY smut discoveries to the Alamo Drafthouse Downtown this Monday.



RUTA MAYA is one of the longest-running open mics in Austin. Hosted by Aaron and Maslow. Donations accepted for Poets Pantry. Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.freespeechart.com.

UNPROTECTED POETRY Spoken word from the House of Soul, with free refreshments. *Thursdays*, 7pm. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 391-0174. \$5 (after 8pm; free for performing poets). poetryat@yahoo.com.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS @ VINNY'S First of the year & still here. Hosted by Kathleen Romana. Vinny's Italian Cafe, 1003 Barton Springs Rd., 482-8484. Free.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

THE NORI STORY: \$100 Cafe Armageddon is running this contest to place a short story in their forthcoming *Minerva's Wreck*, a big literary and arts anthology featuring some of the best their host city has to offer. But this contest is open to the whole damned world. Length: 1,500 words maximum. Subject: anything, as long as *nori* is featured somewhere in the story, whether as a pivotal device or a small but distinct part of the background. Prize: \$100 and two copies of *Minerva's Wreck*. Submit via snail mail only; if you want your manuscript returned, include an SASE. Send to: Cafe Armageddon, PO Box 4942, Austin, TX 78765. Deadline: June 22, 2007.

THE REFINED SAVAGE POETRY REVIEW is looking for well-crafted poems that engage the imagination, psyche, and/or senses through some combination of exceptional thought, emotional projection, and/or imagery. Send three-to-five short poems (32 lines or fewer) with a brief biography and a photo (optional). www.therefinedsavages.us/call_for_poets.htm.

THE POETRY IN THE ARTS' journal of poetry, Ardent, seeks poetry with strong emotion. Reading fee \$3 (for up to three poems). Line limit: 45. Send to: Dillon McKinsey, Ardent Editor, 1909 Hollow Ridge Dr., Cedar Park, TX 78613.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! was Nikki Giovanni his poetry teacher? did she say his poetry was not bad? how he did it for his children so you wouldn't fuck them up: an anger born of love, hatred the strangling red tendril wound too tight or how he blew off his face, became unrecognizable a horror show mask: no face unsaying: an absence of identity ego-less: death at 25 clips in 11 seconds. people are dropping now & now & now & instead of great fat clouds roaming the streets we have men on motorcycles in black polyester suits helmeted mirror masks: badge numbers & no body laughs. Namaste. Vaya con dios.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

you are a woman tomorrow morning
and you don't need an alarm clock anymore
you will have made it, sleepy eyes
give way to embracing your freedom
stray from violently denying what you can't have
while dancing slowly then faster, wild
toward and into the depths
of everything you do possess within

— Tyler Reedberry, from "Shiny Root"

Year of the Dog

D: Mike White; with Molly Shannon, Laura Dern, Regina King, Thomas McCarthy, Josh Pais, John C. Reilly, Peter Sarsgaard. (PG-13, 97 min.)

Mike White knows awkward. As a screenwriter, he's tackled the subject many times over. Whether focusing on an obsessive man-child (*Chuck & Buck*), a wannabe rocker (*School of Rock*), or a lonely housewife (*The Good Girl*), White's scripts capture an authentic awkwardness that somehow manages to remain hilarious and heart-breaking all at once. In his directorial debut, White

embraces the awkward with the story of a woman and her dog. Peggy (Shannon) just wants to be loved. Floating through life in a boring job with self-obsessed friends and family, Peggy's only true love comes from her adorable little beagle, Pencil. When Pencil mysteriously dies, Peggy's sadness is all encompassing. The solution is clear: Get another dog. Dog No. 2 comes via Peggy's new friend, the sur-really dog-obsessed trainer, Newt (Sarsgaard). Through a friendship with Newt, Peggy begins to embrace her love of animals. Converting to veganism, she volunteers at animal shelters and compulsively searches for opportunities to support animal rights. It's about this point in the film when you'll sit back and relax, assuming you know more or less what's going to happen next. But this is Mike White. And this is not a romantic comedy. Peggy does find love, but not how you'd expect. And ultimately, like in the best of movies, things that you want to happen don't; other unexpected twists cause you to sit up and wonder whether to laugh or cry. In the end, there's opportunity for a little of both. White's directing style is gentle, with highly



composed symmetry and hardly any camera movement. Giving the actors plenty of time to rest in every moment, he's clearly a writer first. And thank goodness for that. With authentically funny dialogue, it's clear that White is far from sequestered in some Hollywood tower. He's out in the world, listening to people complain about their jobs, their kids, and their pets. And he's laughing and taking notes. As for the cast, you couldn't ask for more. Dern is hilarious as the obsessive sister-in-law, Sarsgaard plays oddball dog-man to perfection, Pais is perfectly awkward as Peggy's nervous boss, Reilly rocks the subtle humor of Peggy's hunting-obsessed neighbor, and Shannon gives a breakout performance.

★★★★ Arbor

Wiper doesn't exploit the possibilities of his setting, so the only conflict is the fighting; the only suspense comes from waiting for the next character to pop out from behind a tree and do something possibly interesting. The Japanese prisoner (Masa Yamaguchi) can do a sort of cartwheel in place, which is cool, but mostly he just sneers, being the Japanese prisoner. Several fight sequences are shot handheld, which has the effect of obscuring the choreography, and they're terribly chopped up into an MTV montage. Meanwhile, Austin's soft-spoken but tough mien ("Get yourself together," he tells a man with a broken leg who's just seen his wife raped and murdered) needs more of a hook for the big screen, and Wiper isn't giving it to him. The guy who ends up the star is Hoffman, as a wisenheimer co-producer – unlike much else in the movie, he's got personality.

– Marrit Ingman

CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

INTO GREAT SILENCE

D: Philip Gröning. (NR, 162 min.)

So sonorously meditative as to be something of a federally scheduled soporific, this remarkable 162-minute documentary on the Carthusian monks of the French Alps – who have taken a vow of silence that lasts as long as they do – is a profound and hauntingly beautiful glimpse into a stratum of religiosity few laypersons will ever encounter. It also, at first reckoning, borders on the absurd, seemingly flirting with *Monty Python & the Holy Monks* territory. But director Gröning, who patiently and penitently waited some 16 years to secure ascetic permission before embarking on his aesthetic documentary project, is nothing if not fully immersed in the lives of his subjects.

Working with an unobtrusive camera, Gröning seeks the furthest reaches of faith, and what he discovers is beautiful, hypnotic, comforting, and, yes, bizarre – a lifestyle so far removed from what we would call ordinary as to be itself sublime in its murmured chastening. As they go about their daily prayers (and yes, they do sound an awful lot like one of pop-synth sensation Enigma's more obscurantist club tracks), pattering in their gardens, chopping vegetables for meals, and (Quentin Tarantino will be pleased to note) distilling their (in-)famous liqueur, Chartreuse ("So good they named a color after it"), the monks are akin to annointed outcast insects, moving through a semi-darkened, hivelike hallways that open up into vast sunlit chambers. It's all beyond reason, though, and since Gröning is uninterested in exploring the history and motivations of these various men – we never learn, for instance, why anyone would want to join up with the monks in the first place – what we are left with is the sensation of having brushed close to the divine or, possibly, the mad. At once eerie, picaresque, evocative, and utterly alien to the reality most viewers inhabit, *Into Great Silence* is a daring and breathtakingly constructed documentary dream. So much so that the more restless among us may find themselves nodding off.

– Marc Savlov

★★★ Arbor

New Reviews

BLACK BOOK

D: Paul Verhoeven; with Carice van Houten, Sebastian Koch, Thom Hoffman, Halina Reijn, Waldemar Kobus, Derek de Lint. (R, 145 min., subtitled)

Verhoeven returns to his native Netherlands after a 20-year sojourn in Hollywood, and the result is nothing like *Showgirls*. Just so we're clear, *Black Book* (*Zwartboek*) resurrects themes from 1977's *Soldier of Orange*, a heroic thriller about Dutch resistance to Nazi occupation starring the rugged, dashing Rutger Hauer. While Verhoeven's blockbuster showmanship remains intact, *Black Book* is more morally shaded, its sympathies divided among individuals rather than ideologies. After the Jerries bomb her hideout, lovely Rachel Stein (van Houten) tries to escape to Belgium, only to be double-crossed by profiteering Nazi collaborators. Reborn with fake papers as Ellis de Vries, she goes blond and joins a resistance cell, infiltrating the local German outpost through the pants of its commander (Koch). In a moment that is pure Verhoeven, she peroxides her pubes to appear Aryan, and the burning sensation catalyzes passionate congress with a co-conspirator (Hoffman) rather than rinsing. Then she forgets to

retouch the roots on her head. For just as Ellis discovers that an enemy can be kind and a friend cruel, Verhoeven can be philosophical yet perverse, lofty yet earthy. In its evenhanded consideration of collusion and resistance, of evil and good, and of the people in between, *Black Book* fits the trend of films like Germany's *Before the Fall* (2004) and the Czech Republic's *Dark Blue World* (2001). Verhoeven mines the resistance movement for Dutch nationalism and anti-Semitism; some characters are simply misguided by impossible love. All of this unfolds with characteristic Verhoeven spectacle: at 16 million Euros, *Black Book* is the most expensive Dutch production to date, and what's in the budget is on the screen. The action set-pieces, double crosses, and narrow escapes are handsomely mounted and suspenseful as a Saturday matinee. In the production notes, Verhoeven cites David Lean as an influence, and the film has Lean's epic scope and crackerjack timing, if not his mannerly refinement. (The 145-minute running time zips right by.) Just be prepared for the occasional satirical sucker punch ("Luckily, the Germans made five copies of everything!") and an entire vat of human waste tipped over the protagonist.

– Marrit Ingman

★★★★ Arbor, Dobie

THE CONDEMNED

D: Scott Wiper; with Steve Austin, Vinnie Jones, Rick Hoffman, Robert Mammone, Tory Mussett, Christopher Baker. (R, 100 min.)

Ten death row inmates from Third World prisons. One South Seas island. Thirty hours. Twenty ounces of plastic explosives strapped to various legs. Two screenwriters. One retired wrestler (Austin, no longer "Stone Cold"). One impalement. Two rapes (one attempted, one offscreen but audible). \$49.95 for Internet subscribers to watch it all on a reality series produced by one Hollywood slimeball (Mammone). Millions tune in. Two others: a crazy Special Forces motherfucker (Jones) and the high-minded producer's girlfriend (Mussett), who balks at the show. One FBI agent (Luke Pegler) who won't drop the case, even when ordered. And dozens of explosions, approximately one per every six minutes of screen time. In between, an earnest newswoman (Angie Milliken) asks us to please think of the children, and someone or another remarks on how violent entertainment wouldn't sell to millions of people if they weren't blood-thirsty bastards, and aren't we really all to blame? Then writer/director Wiper cuts back to a scene of torture he's devised for us. It's as effective an indictment of electronic voyeurism as *Sliver*. Those intentions aside, *The Condemned* isn't terribly effective as an actioner, either, despite a certain promise latent in its island-prison premise.

THE INVISIBLE

D: David S. Goyer; with Justin Chatwin, Marcia Gay Harden, Margarita Levieva, Chris Marquette, Alex O'Loughlin, Callum Keith Rennie, Michelle Harrison, Ryan Kennedy. (PG-13, 97 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Horror/fantasy screenwriter Goyer continues his move into direction with this supernatural thriller about a young would-be writer who becomes suspended between the worlds of the living and dead, while also needing to solve the mystery of what happened to him. This adaptation of the Swedish film *Den Osynlige* was not screened for press. - Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

KICKIN' IT OLD SKOOL

D: Harvey Glazer; with Jamie Kennedy, Maria Menounos, Michael Rosenbaum, Christopher McDonald, Debra Jo Rupp. (PG-13, 107 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. A break-dancing injury in the Eighties placed Justin Schumacher (Kennedy) in a coma for 20 years, and when he wakes up in the present he works to revive his career. The film, which wasn't screened for press, also features appearances by Vivica A. Fox, David Hasselhoff, and Emmanuel Lewis. - Marjorie Baumgarten
AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

NEXT

D: Lee Tamahori; with Nicolas Cage, Julianne Moore, Jessica Biel, Thomas Kretschmann, Tory Kittles, José Zúñiga. (PG-13, 96 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Cage plays a man who can see into the future in this film drawn from a story by Philip K. Dick. He makes his living in Las Vegas performing cheap tricks and gambling, until the government seeks him out to combat terrorists who are threatening to detonate a bomb in Los Angeles. The film was not screened for local press. - Marjorie Baumgarten
Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

Openings

- Black Book* (R)
- The Condemned* (R)
- Into Great Silence* (NR)
- The Invisible* (PG-13)
- Kickin' It Old Skool* (PG-13)
- Next* (PG-13)
- Ta Ra Rum Pum* (NR)
- Year of the Dog* (PG-13)
- The Wind That Shakes the Barley* (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

TA RA RUM PUM

D: Siddharth Raj Anand; with Saif Ali Khan, Rani Mukherjee, Jaaved Jaaferi, Ali Haji, Angelina Idrani. (NR)

Not reviewed at press time. This Bollywood film was shot mostly in the U.S. The No. 1 race-car driver is ecstatically happy with his wife and two children until an accident sets him on a path of failures. The family keeps going through a mixture of fantasy and cheerfulness. The working title of this film, which was not screened for press, was *Don't Worry, Be Happy*.
Tinseltown South



Black Book

“★★★★★
ASTONISHING.
Entirely engrossing.”
- THE WASHINGTON TIMES

“UTTERLY
SPELLBINDING.”
- THE NEW YORK TIMES

“ENTRANCING!
One-of-a-kind epic!”
- SAN FRANCISCO WEEKLY

“BEAUTIFUL!
INTOXICATING!”
- CHICAGO TRIBUNE

INSIDE THE FAMED
CARTHUSIAN MONASTERY

**INTO
GREAT
SILENCE**

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Mon-Thur: 8:00

**THE WIND THAT
SHAKES THE BARLEY**
Fri: (4:10) 7:00, 9:40; Sat/Sun: (1:30, 4:10) 7:00, 9:40
Mon-Thur: 7:00, 9:40

HOT FUZZ
Fri: (4:00) 7:00, 9:50; Sat/Sun: (1:10, 4:00) 7:00, 9:50
Mon-Thur: 7:00, 9:50

MAFIOSO
Fri: (4:20) 7:20, 9:30; Sat/Sun: (1:20, 4:20) 7:20, 9:30
Mon-Thur: 7:20, 9:30

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Showtimes

FRIDAY, APRIL 27 - THURSDAY, MAY 3

VACANCY

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE DOWNTOWN 409-B Colorado, 476-1320. Seating begins one half-hour before showtime. Admission is 18 and up. AFS events are all ages.

Weird Wednesday: Black Cobra: Wed, 12mid
Dirty Found: Live: Mon, 7:00pm
Terror Thursday: Invasion of the Bee Girls: Thu (5/3), 12mid
The Life and Hard Times of Guy Terrico: Sun, 4:00pm
Master Pancake: Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome: Fri, 7:00, 10:00
Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea: Tue, 7:00pm
Red vs. Blue: Sun, 7:00, 9:45
Shaft: Sat, 7:00pm; Wed, 9:45pm
The Sing-Along Formerly and Again Known as Prince: Sat, 9:45pm; Thu (5/3), 9:45pm
Music Monday: The Smiths: These Things Take Time: Mon, 9:45pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research, 219-8135.
AFB: The Ballad of Al Weberman: Thu (5/3), 7:30pm
Blades of Glory: Fri-Wed, 12:15, 3:15, 7:05, 10:00; Thu (5/3), 7:05, 10:00
Grindhouse: 12:00, 4:00, 8:00
***Hot Fuzz:** 12:40, 3:35, 7:00, 10:15
***The Invisible:** 12:10, 3:25, 7:45, 10:10
TV Party: Lost: Wed, 9:00pm
***Next:** 12:05, 3:00, 7:15, 10:05
Perfect Stranger: 12:25, 3:30, 7:35, 10:30
300: Fri-Tue, 12:30, 3:40, 7:30, 10:40; Wed, 3:40, 7:30, 10:40; Thu (5/3), 12:30, 3:40, 7:30, 10:40

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.
Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters: Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:20, 3:45, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45pm; Mon, 3:45, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45; Tue, 11:10am, 1:20, 3:45, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45pm; Wed-Thu (5/3), 3:45, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45
Blades of Glory: Fri-Sat, 11:20am, 1:35, 4:05, 6:40, 9:00, 11:20pm; Sun, 11:20am, 1:35, 4:05, 6:40, 9:00pm; Mon, 4:05, 6:40, 9:00, Tue, 11:20am, 1:35, 4:05, 6:40, 9:00pm; Wed-Thu (5/3), 4:05, 6:40, 9:00
AFS: Code Unknown: Tue, 7:00pm
Grindhouse: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:55pm; Sun, 12:00, 4:05, 7:00, 8:05; Mon, 4:05, 7:00, 8:05; Tue, 12:00, 4:05, 7:00, 8:05; Wed-Thu (5/3), 4:05, 7:00, 8:05
The Hoax: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 10:20pm; Mon, 4:35, 7:35, 10:20, Tue, 11:15am, 1:50, 4:35, 10:20pm; Wed-Thu (5/3), 4:35, 7:35, 10:20
***Hot Fuzz:** Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35pm; Mon, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35; Tue, 11:05am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:40, 10:35pm; Wed-Thu (5/3), 4:45, 7:40, 10:35
Kids Club: The Last Unicorn: Sat, 12:00pm
Superbad Sneak: Tue, 7:00pm
300: Fri, 1:05, 7:15, Sat, 7:15pm; Sun, 1:05pm; Mon, 7:15pm; Tue, 1:05pm; Wed-Thu (5/3), 7:15pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. AFS events are all ages.
Blades of Glory: 1:05, 4:05, 7:25, 10:05
Grindhouse: 3:45, 8:00
Hot Fuzz: 12:55, 3:55, 7:05, 10:00
TV Party: Lost: Wed, 9:45pm
Perfect Stranger: 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 311-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.
Avenue Montaigne: Fri-Mon, 12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20, Tue, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20; Wed (5/3), 12:10, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
Black Book: 12:00, 3:15, 6:40, 9:55
The Hoax: 12:50, 4:00, 7:20, 10:05
Hot Fuzz: 11:50am, 2:30, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15pm
In to Great Silence: 11:45am, 3:00, 6:30, 9:40pm
The Lives of Others: Fri-Mon, 12:40, 7:00; Tue, 7:00pm; Wed-Thu (5/3), 12:40, 7:00
The Namesake: 12:30, 3:30, 6:50, 9:30
Reign Over Me: 3:45, 9:50
10:10 of the Dog: 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

BARTON CREEK CINEMA (CINEMARK) Highway 360 and Walsh Tartton, 306-1688. Discounts daily before 6pm.
Blades of Glory: Fri, 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:25; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:25
The Condemned: Fri, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:50, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10
Fracture: Fri, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 12:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:15
The Hoax: Fri, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:30, 4:10, 6:50, 9:35
In the Land of Women: Fri, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:05
Meet the Robinsons: Fri, 1:55, 4:25, 6:55, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:25, 6:55, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:55, 4:25, 6:55, 9:30
The Namesake: Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
Next: Fri, 2:15, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 2:15, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50, 11:35; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:15, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50
Perfect Stranger: Fri, 2:00, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Wed, 2:00, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15; Thu (5/3), 2:00, 4:40, 7:35
300: Fri, 1:35, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 10:45am, 1:35, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55pm; Mon-Wed, 1:35, 4:20, 7:10, 9:55; Thu (5/3), 1:35, 4:20, 7:10

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190. Matinee discounts before 4pm Friday through Sunday and during holidays. Matinee discounts before 6pm on weekdays.
Are We Done Yet?: Fri-Sun, 10:35am, 12:50, 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 3:05, 5:15, 7:25, 9:35
***Disturbia:** Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 12:00, 1:00, 2:25, 3:25, 4:50, 5:50, 7:15, 8:15, 9:40, 10:40pm; Sun, 12:00, 1:00, 2:25, 3:25, 4:50, 5:50, 7:15, 8:15, 9:40, 10:35; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:25, 3:25, 4:50, 5:50, 7:15, 8:15, 9:40, 10:35
Firehouse Dog: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55pm; Sun, 12:40, 5:25, 8:05, 10:35; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:55, 5:25, 7:55
Grindhouse: Fri-Sun, 1:05, 5:00, 9:00; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:15, 5:05, 9:00
Hot Fuzz: Fri-Sun, 12:05, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35
***The Invisible:** Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 11:00, 12:15, 1:15, 2:40, 3:40, 5:05, 6:05, 7:30, 8:30, 9:55, 10:55pm; Sun, 10:00am, 11:00, 12:15, 1:15, 2:40, 3:40, 5:05, 6:05, 7:30, 8:25, 9:55, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:15, 2:40, 3:40, 5:05, 6:05, 7:30, 8:25, 9:55, 10:40
Kickin' It Old Skool: Fri-Sat, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:20, 10:50pm; Sun, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:10, 10:40; Mon-Thu (5/3), 3:15, 5:45, 8:10, 10:40
The Last Mimzy: Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:35pm; Sun, 12:40, 2:50, 5:10, 7:35; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:50, 5:10, 7:35
Shooter: Fri-Sat, 10:25am, 1:20, 4:15, 7:00, 10:00pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 1:20, 4:15, 7:00, 10:00
TMNT: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:25, 3:30, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:25, 3:30, 5:35, 7:40, 9:45
***Vacancy:** Fri-Sat, 10:20am, 11:25, 12:25, 1:30, 2:35, 3:35, 4:40, 5:40, 6:45, 7:45, 8:50, 9:50, 10:50pm; Sun, 10:20am, 12:25, 1:30, 2:35, 3:35, 4:40, 5:40, 7:00, 8:00, 9:05, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:30, 2:35, 3:35, 4:40, 5:40, 7:00, 8:00, 9:05, 10:05

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FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE austinchronicle.com/film.

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I.35, 800/RANDANGO.
Are We Done Yet?: Fri, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:45
Blades of Glory: Fri, 1:50, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:50, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30
***The Condemned:** Fri, 2:00, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:00, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25
Disturbia: Fri, 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:10, 4:15, 7:15, 9:50
***Fracture:** Fri, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:15
***Hot Fuzz:** Fri, 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:45, 4:45, 7:40, 10:30
***In the Land of Women:** Fri, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:40, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55
***The Invisible:** Fri, 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:20, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
Meet the Robinsons: Fri, 12:45, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 10:05am, 12:45, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 12:45, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35
***Next:** Fri, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:35, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
Perfect Stranger: 6:45, 9:25
300: Fri, 1:30, 4:20, 7:50, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:30, 4:20, 7:50, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:30, 4:20, 7:50, 10:35
TMNT: Fri, 1:15, 4:05; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 1:15, 4:05pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:15, 4:05
***Vacancy:** Fri, 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 2:10, 5:10, 8:00, 10:10
Wild Hogs: Fri, 1:00, 3:45, 6:40, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 10:35am, 1:00, 3:45, 6:40, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:00, 3:45, 6:40, 9:20

DOBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.
Black Book: Fri, 4:30, 8:00; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:30, 8:00; Mon-Thu (5/3), 8:00pm
Hot Fuzz: Fri, 4:00, 7:10, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 9:50; Mon-Thu (5/3), 7:10, 9:50
Mafioso: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:30; Mon-Thu (5/3), 7:20, 9:30
The Wind That Shakes the Barley: Fri, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40; Mon-Thu (5/3), 7:00, 9:40

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.

Are We Done Yet? (in DLP digital): 11:05am, 3:55, 9:30pm
Blades of Glory (in DLP digital): Fri-Sat, 11:10am, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:40, 9:50, 11:55pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:10am, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:40, 9:50pm
***The Condemned:** Fri-Sat, 11:25am, 1:55, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30, 11:55pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:25am, 1:55, 4:25, 7:00, 9:30pm
***Disturbia:** Fri-Sat, 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 9:50, 11:55; Sun-Thu (5/3), 12:40, 2:55, 5:10, 7:25, 9:50
***Fracture (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30, 11:50pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:10am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:30pm
***The Invisible (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30, 11:50; Sun-Thu (5/3), 12:05, 2:25, 4:45, 7:10, 9:30
***Meet the Robinsons (in 3-D):** Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:25, 9:35, 11:30pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:00am, 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:25, 9:35pm
***Next (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 11:20am, 2:45, 5:00, 7:20, 9:35, 11:40pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:20am, 2:45, 5:00, 7:20, 9:35pm
***Pathfinder:** Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:45, 9:55, 11:50pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:30am, 1:35, 3:40, 5:45, 7:45, 9:55pm
***Perfect Stranger (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 1:30, 7:05, 11:50; Sun-Thu (5/3), 1:30, 7:05
***Vacancy (in DLP digital):** Fri-Sat, 11:15am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:35pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:15am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15pm

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 X3808.
Are We Done Yet?: 11:55am, 2:30, 4:50, 7:15, 9:30pm
Blades of Glory: 12:10, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25, 9:40
The Condemned: 12:50, 3:25, 7:05, 9:50
Dirty Dancing: Tue-Wed, 7:30pm
Disturbia: Fri-Mon, 12:40, 3:05, 5:30, 7:55, 10:30; Tue, 12:40, 5:30, 7:55; Wed, 3:05, 5:30, 10:30; Thu (5/3), 12:40, 5:30, 7:55
Disturbia (open captioned): Tue, 3:05, 10:30; Wed, 12:40, 7:55; Thu (5/3), 3:05, 10:30
Fracture: Fri-Wed, 12:55, 3:35, 6:55, 10:00; Thu (5/3), 12:55, 3:35, 6:55
In the Land of Women: Fri-Mon, 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:25; Tue-Wed, 12:35, 3:00, 10:25; Thu (5/3), 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:25
The Invisible: 12:00, 2:25, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
Kickin' It Old Skool: Fri-Tue, 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:05
Meet the Robinsons: Fri-Tue, 12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15; Wed, 12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15; Thu (5/3), 12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 7:45, 10:15
Meet the Robinsons (in 3-D): 12:00, 2:25, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
Next: 12:35, 2:55, 5:15, 7:40, 10:35
Perfect Stranger: Fri, 3:15, 7:00, 10:20; Sat, 12:45, 7:00, 10:20; Sun, 3:15, 7:00; Mon, 3:15, 10:20; Tue-Thu (5/3), 12:45, 3:15, 7:00, 10:20
Perfect Stranger (open captioned): Fri, 12:45pm; Sat, 3:15pm; Sun, 12:45, 10:20; Mon, 12:45, 7:00
Shooter: 12:30, 3:20, 6:45, 10:10
300: 12:25, 3:10, 6:50, 10:10
Vacancy: 12:15, 2:45, 5:10, 7:30, 10:40
Wild Hogs: 11:55am, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:35pm

IMAX THEATRE Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX.
Hurricane on the Bayou: Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 5:00, 9:00pm; Sun, 5:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 11:00am, 5:00pm
Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 8:00; Sun, 3:00, 6:00, 8:00; Mon-Thu (5/3), 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 8:00
Sharks 3D: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sun-Thu (5/3), 1:00, 4:00, 7:00
Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 2:00pm; Sun, 2:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 10:00am, 2:00pm

LAKELINE STARPORT Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620, 335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday.
Are We Done Yet?: 11:55am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:25, 9:40pm
The Condemned: 12:50, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00
Disturbia: Fri-Wed, 12:10, 3:00, 5:50, 8:00, 10:30; Thu (5/3), 12:10, 3:00, 5:50, 8:00
Fracture: 12:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:55
In the Land of Women: 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:15
Kickin' It Old Skool: 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25
Meet the Robinsons: 11:50am, 2:20, 9:45pm
TMNT: 11:40am, 2:00, 4:40, 6:50, 9:35pm
Vacancy: 12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10

METROPOLITAN South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101.
Blades of Glory: 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20
The Condemned: 12:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:40
Dirty Dancing: Tue-Wed, 7:30pm
Fracture: 1:15, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15
Grindhouse: 1:05, 5:25, 9:30
The Hoax: Fri, 1:10, 4:30, 7:25, 10:25; Sat, 7:25, 10:25; Sun-Mon, 1:10, 4:30, 7:25, 10:25; Tue-Wed, 1:10, 4:30, 10:25; Thu (5/3), 1:10, 4:30, 7:25, 10:25
Metropolitan Opera: Il Tricorno: Sat, 12:30pm
In the Land of Women: 11:55am, 2:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10pm
Kickin' It Old Skool: 11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30pm
Meet the Robinsons: Fri-Wed, 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:10; Thu (5/3), 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35
Next: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:15, 10:45
Pathfinder: 12:40, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55
Perfect Stranger: 12:40, 4:35, 7:20, 10:05
The Reaping: 12:15, 2:50, 5:25, 8:05, 10:35
300: 1:00, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00
Wild Hogs: 12:05, 2:35, 5:20, 7:55, 10:35

MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex.
Norbit: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 2:30, 6:15pm; Wed-Thu (5/3), 10:30am, 1:15pm
The Number 23: Fri-Sat, 12:15, 4:15, 8:30; Wed-Thu (5/3), 4:15pm

ROUND ROCK 8 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.
Amazing Grace: 2:05, 7:20
Because I Said So: Fri-Sat, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:10am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:05pm
Dead Silence: Fri-Sat, 11:50am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:50am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10pm
Ghost Rider: Fri-Sat, 7:10, 9:55; Sun-Thu (5/3), 7:10pm
I Think I Love My Wife: Fri-Sat, 11:35am, 1:50, 4:10, 7:30, 9:50pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:35am, 1:50, 4:10, 7:30pm
Music and Lyrics: 11:20am, 1:55, 5:05pm
Night at the Museum: Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00pm
Norbit: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:30am, 2:15, 5:00, 7:40pm
Tyler Perry's Daddy's Little Girls: Fri-Sat, 11:40am, 4:50, 10:00pm; Sun-Thu (5/3), 11:40am, 4:50pm
Zodiac: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:30, 6:50, 10:10; Sun-Thu (5/3), 12:00, 3:30, 6:50

TEXAS UNION THEATRE UT Campus, 476-6666.
Cinemateque: She's Gotta Have It: Mon, 7:30pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville), 512/989-8540.
Are We Done Yet?: 11:45am, 2:25, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05pm
Blades of Glory: Fri, 1:40, 4:15, 6:55, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:15, 6:55, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/3), 1:4

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Sharks 3D	1, 4 & 7 pm	1, 4, 7 & 10 pm	1, 4 & 7 pm
Hurricane on the Bayou	11 & 5 pm	11, 5 & 9 pm	5 pm
Texas: The Big Picture	10 am & 2 pm	10 am & 2 pm	2 pm

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SUNDAY, APRIL 29
DOWNTOWN
7 & 9:45 PM

DIRTY FOUND
MONDAY, APRIL 30
ALAMO DOWNTOWN

JOHN ERLER'S
**MASTER PANCAKE THEATER LAMPOONS
PRETTY WOMAN**
FRI, MAY 4, DOWNTOWN

THURS, 4/26 & SAT, 4/28 - DOWNTOWN
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THE PRINCE SING-ALONG

FRIDAY, 4/27 - DOWNTOWN
**MASTER PANCAKE THEATER:
MAD MAX BEYOND THUNDERDOME
FINAL NIGHT! DON'T MISS IT!**

MONDAY, 4/30 - DOWNTOWN
THE SMITHS - THESE THINGS TAKE TIME

TUESDAY, 5/1 - DOWNTOWN
**2007 AUSTIN AIR GUITAR CHAMPIONSHIP
ROCK WITH US!**

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THURSDAY, 5/3 - DOWNTOWN
**THE MOTH STORY TOUR
NEW YORK'S HIT SHOW COMES TO AUSTIN!**

DOWNTOWN - 4TH AND COLORADO

THU, APR 26	THE PRINCE SING-ALONG • TERROR THURS (FREE) TERRORVISION	7:00, 9:45 MIDNIGHT
FRI, APR 27	MASTER PANCAKE: BEYOND THUNDERDOME •	7:10-10:00
SAT, APR 28	SHAFT w/ FREE 40oz! THE PRINCE SING-ALONG •	7:00 9:45
SUN, APR 29	LIFE & HARD TIMES OF GUY TERRIFICO RED VS. BLUE •	4:00 7:00, 9:45
MON, APR 30	DIRTY FOUND Live! • THE SMITHS: THESE THINGS TAKE TIME	7:00 9:45
TUES, MAY 1	AFS: CODE UNKNOWN 2007 AUSTIN AIR GUITAR CHAMPIONSHIPS	7:00 9:45
WED, MAY 2	PLAGUES & PLEASURES ON THE SALTON SEA the original SHAFT w/ FREE 40oz WEIRD WEDS (FREE) BLACK COBRA	7:00 9:45 MIDNIGHT
THU, MAY 3	THE MOTH STORY TOUR • THE PRINCE SING-ALONG • TERROR THURS (FREE) INVASION OF BEE GIRLS	8:30 9:45 MIDNIGHT

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THE HOAX	1115*	150*	435	735 1020
BLADES OF GLORY	1120*	135*	405	640 900
300		105*		715
THE HOST		400		1010
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SPIDERMAN 3 •			MIDNIGHT (Fri)	

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GRINDHOUSE		345	800	
THE PRINCE SING-ALONG •			MIDNIGHT (Fri)	
ROCKY HORROR			MIDNIGHT (Sat)	
LOST			9:45 (Weds)	
SPIDERMAN 3 •			MIDNIGHT (Thurs)	

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NEXT (12:05 3:00) 7:15 10:05
PERFECT STRANGER (12:25 3:00) 7:25 10:00
GRINDHOUSE (12:10 4:00) 8:00
300 (12:30 3:40) 7:00 10:15
BLADES OF GLORY (12:15 3:15) 7:00 10:00
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- * THE CONDEMNED (R) Fri. & Sat. 11:25 1:55 4:25 7:00 9:30 11:55
Sun. - Thu. 11:25 1:55 4:25 7:00 9:30
- * NEXT Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:20 2:45 5:00 7:20 9:35 11:40
Sun. - Thu. 11:20 2:45 5:00 7:20 9:35
- * THE INVISIBLE Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:25 4:45 7:10 9:30 11:50
Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:25 4:45 7:10 9:30
- * VACANCY Presented in DLP Cinema® (R) Fri. & Sat. 11:15 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15 11:35
Sun. - Thu. 11:15 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15
- * FRACTURE Presented in DLP Cinema® (R) Fri. & Sat. 11:10 1:40 4:10 7:00 9:30 11:50
Sun. - Thu. 11:10 1:40 4:10 7:00 9:30
- * DISTURBIA (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:40 2:55 5:10 7:25 9:50 11:55
Sun. - Thu. 12:40 2:55 5:10 7:25 9:50
- * PATHFINDER (R) Fri. & Sat. 11:30 1:35 3:40 5:45 7:45 9:55 11:50
Sun. - Thu. 11:30 1:35 3:40 5:45 7:45 9:55
- * MEET THE ROBINSONS in DISNEY DIGITAL 3D Presented in DLP Cinema® (G) Fri. & Sat. 11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:25 9:35 11:30
Sun. - Thu. 11:00 1:10 3:20 5:30 7:25 9:35
- BLADES OF GLORY Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 11:10 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:40 9:50 11:55
Sun. - Thu. 11:10 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:40 9:50
- ARE WE DONE YET? Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG) Fri. & Sat. 11:05 3:55 9:30
Sun. - Thu. 1:30 7:05
- * SPIDER-MAN 3 Presented in DLP Cinema® (PG-13) Thu. 12:01 Midnight

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Any worries you might have had of that happening, however, can now be put to rest. In left-wing rabble-rouser Loach's brilliant new film, Murphy proves himself not just another pretty face but a pretty face with a conscience and an actor of surprising depth. He plays Damien O'Donovan, a medical student living in Ireland in 1920 whose plans to move to London are sidetracked by the Irish War for Independence, a bloody struggle that pitted bands of guerrilla fighters against the ruthless Black and Tan soldiers of King George V. At the center of the struggle is Damien's brother, Teddy (Delaney), a hard-line IRA man who is slightly the worse for wear after being arrested by the "Tans" and introduced to the business end of a rusty pair of pliers. Looking like the cast of the old *Untouchables* TV show, dressed in paddy caps and overcoats and carrying rifles, the O'Donovans and their band roam the countryside exacting revenge on their occupiers and engaging in heated debates about the nature of rebellion and the dangers of compromise. This being a film about the Irish, those legendarily proud talkers, these conversations are the film's heart, and Loach directs them with his usual naturalistic flair, allowing his characters to garble their lines and talk over one another, as if their passion and desperation are too forceful for any rehearsed dialogue to contain. Paul Laverty's script is a masterpiece of ambivalent populism, showing with a subtle touch just how dire the personal consequences of political decisions can be, and how quickly principles can devolve into hypocrisy when the desire for retribution supersedes the need for freedom. *The Wind That Shakes the Barley* isn't free of platitudes or high-minded oration, but it's clear that in Loach's world, words like "freedom" and "independence" are only abstractions when spoken by people in possession of them and that soap-box oration is only a cliché when you can afford a soap box to stand on. Avoiding the joyous emerald greens so long associated with Ireland in Hollywood mythology, Loach and his cinematographer, Barry Ackroyd, paint a grim realist portrait in muted tones that captures the solemnity of an Ireland turning on itself and the tragedy of two brothers spiraling away from each other. **AFS@Dobie** – Josh Rosenblatt



The Wind That Shakes the Barley

First Runs

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AQUA TEEN HUNGER FORCE COLON MOVIE FILM FOR THEATERS

D: Maiiellaro, Dave Willis; with the voices of Maiiellaro, Willis, Dana Snyder, Carey Means, Andy Merrill, Mike Schatz, Fred Armisen, Bruce Campbell, C. Martin Croker. (R, 86 min.)

Count it as one of the great Hollywood mysteries – right up there with the death of Natalie Wood and the career of Vin Diesel – that we've had to wait this long for a movie starring a talking milkshake, a floating box of french fries, and a ball of ground beef. Based on the popular Cartoon Network TV show, *Aqua Teen Hunger Force Colon Movie Film for Theaters* is every bit as ridiculous as its name. And in all honesty, I have no real idea what it's about; the plot is fairly incomprehensible. Which doesn't really matter, because the plot is incidental anyway; it's just a frame in which to hang a massive collection of absurdist non sequiturs and deadpan pauses, which, depending on your tastes (and possibly your affinity for mind-altering drugs), are either the stuff of comic genius or proof that the world has stopped making sense entirely. (04/13/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt

★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Tinseltown South

ARE WE DONE YET?

D: Steve Carr; with Ice Cube, Nia Long, John C. McGinley, Aleisha Allen, Philip Bolden. (PG, 92 min.)

Who could have ever foreseen that Ice Cube – the rapper who announced his music career with *Straight Outta Compton* and his subsequent acting career with *Boyz n the Hood* – would now be making movies about family life and the pitfalls of home ownership in the suburbs. Although an unlikely career path, it has served Cube well, and in addition to morphing into a decent actor and popular star of family movies, he has also moved into the producer's chair for these projects. In this follow-up to 2005's *Are We There Yet?*, Cube resumes the role of Nick Persons, who has now married the object of his affections (Long), become a loving and dutiful parent to her annoying children (Allen and Bolden), and sold his Portland, Ore., sports memorabilia store and moved away from the city. Nothing is very funny in this movie, and everything is predictable. (04/13/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

AVENUE MONTAIGNE

D: Danièle Thompson; with Cécile de France, Valérie Lemercier, Albert Dupontel, Laura Morante, Claude Brasseur, Christopher Thompson, Dani, Annelise Hesme, Sydney Pollack. (PG-13, 100 min., subtitled)

In writer/director Thompson's film, De France plays Jessica, a young woman who moves to Paris from the provinces with nothing but the knapsack

Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea

Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea (2004)

D: Chris Metzler and Jeff Springer; narrated by John Waters. (NR, 73 min.) Documentary (with new narration by Waters) about the hardy, eccentric residents who live in the Salton Sea area of southeastern California, who are a reflection of their environment – a bizarre proving ground of ecological history and fabrication. Bonus short: "LSD a Go-Go" by Austin-based director and comic Scott Calonico. Friends of Dean Martinez, who scored the movie, perform. Director Metzler will be in attendance. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Wednesday, 7pm.



on her back and the innocent gleam in her eye. Choosing to bypass all those unnecessary years spent paying dues in garrets, she heads straight to the city's famous Avenue Montaigne in search of a life of wonder and luxury. Never mind that she can't afford a meal, much less an apartment, in that tony district: This is Paris *du cinema*, and as long as Jessica exudes joie de vivre, she'll have the world on a string. Thompson's Paris is a close cousin of Woody Allen's Manhattan: a place of boundless wealth, safety, and romantic possibility, where genuine urban hardship is scarce but emotional discontent is everywhere. Thompson, though, knows that even the deepest onscreen Parisian dissatisfaction will sparkle in the city's glow. (04/20/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Arbor

BLADES OF GLORY

D: Josh Gordon, Will Speck; with Will Ferrell, Jon Heder, Will Arnett, Amy Poehler, Jenna Fischer, William Fichtner, Craig T. Nelson, Nick Swardson, Rob Corddry. (PG-13, 93 min.)

Just because Will Ferrell is game for anything that might draw a laugh, it doesn't mean the comedian and leading (funny)man should follow through with every idea that comes his way. *Blades of Glory*, although mildly amusing, has the dank odor of having gone to the well once too often: Ooh, let's dress up Ferrell like an elf – or an anchorman or a NASCAR driver – and see what happens. There's more concept than execution in *Blades of Glory*, which squishes Ferrell's flabby body into an ice skater's spandex and then runs on the weak narrative fumes left over from *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby* and *Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy*. The film also features a slew of cameos that includes everyone from Andy Richter and Luke Wilson to a host of real skaters (among them Nancy Kerrigan, Brian Boitano, Dorothy Hamill, Peggy Fleming, Scott Hamilton, and Sasha Cohen) and sports announcer Jim Lampley. (03/30/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

DEAD SILENCE

D: James Wan; with Ryan Kwanten, Amber Valletta, Donnie Wahlberg, Bob Gunton, Judith Roberts. (R, 90 min.)

You've got to hand it to writer/director Wan: His hypersadistic Saw films, along with those of fellow gorehound upstarts Eli Roth and Lucky McKee, are, for better or worse, revitalizing the cinematic tradition of American Grand Guignol. *Dead Silence*, while unlikely to make anybody's Top 10 list, is still a kicky exercise in spook-show atmospheric that manages to hit all the right notes while never quite coalescing into the Dario Argento-esque aria of creepiness it so clearly aspires to. Leading man Kwanten has all the onscreen charisma of a soggy cobweb, but as the willfully dopey, utterly bland husband who finds himself in possession of a

murderous ventriloquist's dummy, he fits in nicely alongside Argento's vague and vacuous protagonists. Working from a script co-written with Saw partner Leigh Whannell, Wan infuses his film with some of the subtle subtleties of classic Euro-horror outings, chief among them the palpable, dreamlike sense of dislocation and the abiding severance from reality. (03/23/2007) – Marc Savlov

★★ Round Rock

DISTURBIA

D: D.J. Caruso; with Shia LaBeouf, David Morse, Sarah Roemer, Carrie-Anne Moss, Aaron Yoo, Jose Pablo Cantillo, Viola Davis, Matt Craven. (PG-13, 104 min.)

Up-and-comer LaBeouf (*Holes*) is a young actor to watch, but he's had better opportunities than this teen thriller to show what he's capable of. Resembling, without copying, the voyeuristic storyline of Hitchcock's *Rear Window*, *Disturbia* also brings to mind other films such as Coppola's *The Conversation* and Joe Dante's *The 'burbs*. In *Disturbia*, LaBeouf plays a smart teen who winds up under house arrest because of an impulsive action. Eventually, he discovers the indoor sport of spying on the neighbors through binoculars. This activity gets him up close and personal with the girl who just moved in next door (Roemer) and arouses his suspicions about the man who lives by himself (Morse) across the way. Nearly an hour of film time passes before anything suspenseful happens. Once the commotion hits, it barrels ahead with an ugly forcefulness. The one notable aspect of the story is the modern integration of desktop technology to unravel its tale. (04/13/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

FIREHOUSE DOG

D: Todd Holland; with Josh Hutcherson, Bruce Greenwood, Dash Mihok, Bill Nunn, Bree Turner, Scotch Ellis Loring, Mayte Garcia, Teddy Sears. (PG, 111 min.)

I agreed with my 5-year-old that *Firehouse Dog* was pretty terrific, but there were many aspects I didn't like as much as he – like the setup, about a Hollywood pooch who gets lost during a stunt and ends up a stray outside a downtown firehouse captained by a single dad (Greenwood) with a stubborn school-skipping son (Hutcherson, of *Bridge to Terabithia*). I liked the parts in which the boy and the dog became friends and the boy solved a mystery; I thought the kid was good, and the dad was actually pretty awesome. But I didn't like how the dog wore a cheesy bouffant hairpiece and silk robes and did computer-animated stunts and rode a skateboard and farted a lot. I also questioned the filmmakers' taste at times. Perhaps the lesson to be learned is that just because we can use computer technology to give dogs goofy faces, that doesn't mean we should. (04/13/2007) – Marrit Ingman

★★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

Dirty Dancing

Dirty Dancing (1987) *D: Emile Ardolino; with Patrick Swayze, Jennifer Grey, Jack Weston, Cynthia Rhodes, Jerry Orbach.* (PG-13, 100 min.) **20th Anniversary Reissue.** Beneath this ultimate date movie's candy-coated shell lie several solid grains of truth – not to mention some fab choreography, a solid-gold title, and a couple of pristine examples (in Swayze and Grey) of what is meant by the term "career-making performance." This reissue (not to be confused with the 10th anniversary reissue) features 20 extra minutes of interviews. (*) @Gateway, Metropolitan, Tuesday-Wednesday, 7:30pm.



FRACTURE

D: Gregory Hoblit; with Anthony Hopkins, Ryan Gosling, David Strathairn, Rosamund Pike, Embeth Davidtz, Billy Burke, Cliff Curtis, Fiona Shaw. (R, 112 min.)
 As *Fracture's* wife-murdering protagonist, Ted Crawford, Hopkins is a delight to watch as he uses his actorly guiles to successfully agitate, torment, and belittle his accusers, who are unable to find the evidence to prove his guilt despite full certainty that he committed the act. Gosling is also one of the best young actors of his generation. Cast in *Fracture* as the hotshot assistant DA whose task it is to convict Crawford, Gosling, too, is a pleasure to watch. This legal thriller pits these two brilliant actors against one another in a sustained battle of wits that has enough sizzle to keep us rapt even when the storyline sags and zags. Veteran courtroom dramatist Hoblit directs with seamless style despite the movie's overstuffed narrative midsection and warrantless romantic subplot. (04/20/2007) — Marjorie Baumgarten
 ★★★ CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

★ **GRINDHOUSE**

D: Robert Rodriguez, Quentin Tarantino; with Rose McGowan, Marley Shelton, Freddy Rodriguez, Josh Brolin, Jeff Fahey, Michael Biehn, Naveen Andrews, Kurt Russell, Sydney Poitier, Jordan Ladd, Vanessa Ferlito, Zoë Bell, Rosario Dawson, Tracie Thoms, Mary Elizabeth Winstead, Michael Parks, Danny Trejo, Bruce Willis, Quentin Tarantino. (R, 191 min.)
 More than just a fun three hours at the movies, *Grindhouse* is a total immersion into movie geekdom, in which the packaging, marketing, lore, and accumulative experience are as much a part of the deal as the images that are up on the screen. With its two separate feature films — “Planet Terror” by Rodriguez and “Death Proof” by Tarantino — a host of tongue-in-cheek trailers; scratches and notices of missing reels intentionally inserted into the prints in order to heighten the illusion of the celluloid’s sprocket-weary authenticity; a splashy two-for-the-price-of-one marketing campaign; and enough cast members to keep the talk-show couches on permanent rotation, *Grindhouse* raises the bar

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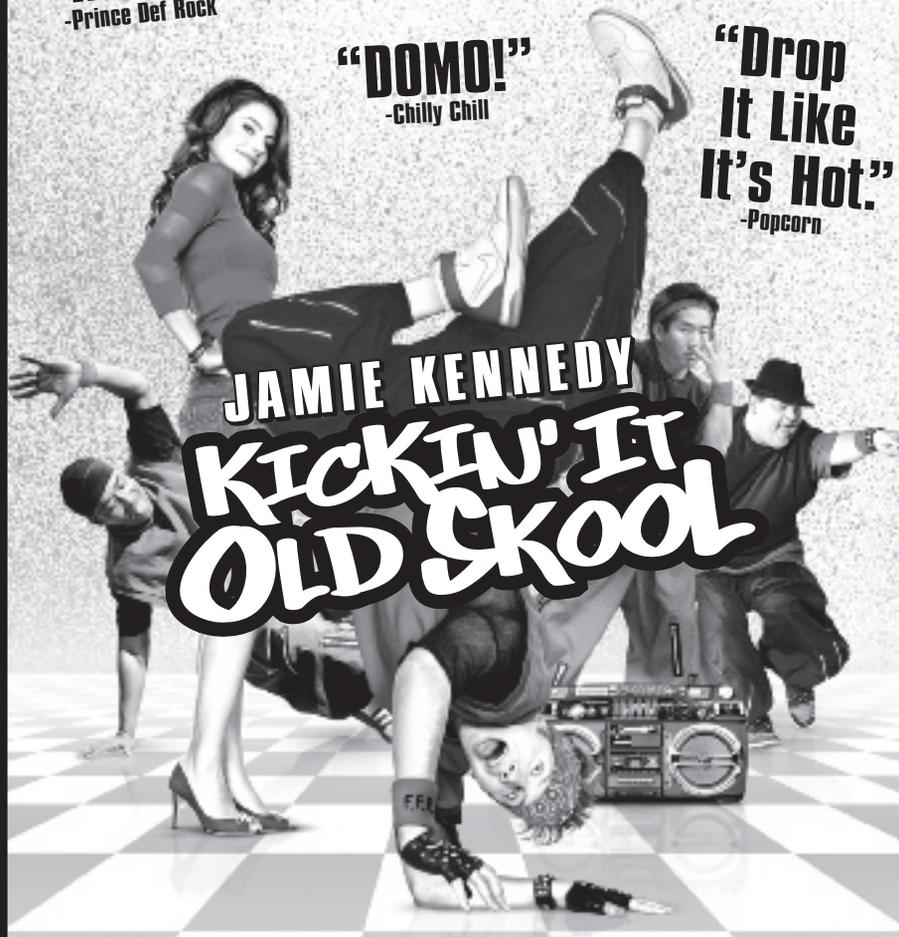
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She's Gotta Have It

She's Gotta Have It (1986) *D: Spike Lee; with Tracy Camilla Johns, Tommy Redmond Hicks, John Canada Terrell, Spike Lee. (R, 84 min.)* **Austin Cinematheque.** Pursued by many, satisfied by none, Johns' Lola Darling is the center of attention in Lee's breakthrough feature. Filmed primarily in black-and-white and also presenting the first of Lee's many onscreen performances, *She's Gotta Have It* is a classic of the American independent cinema. (*) @Texas Union Theatre, Monday, 7:30pm; free.



for a certain kind of movie lollapalooza and film showmanship. It's this injection of playfulness and fun and attention to the entire moviegoing gestalt that will probably become *Grindhouse's* lasting contribution to movie history rather than any on-the-screen content of the movie itself. (04/06/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, AMC Barton Creek Square, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

★ THE HOAX

D: Lasse Hallström; with Richard Gere, Alfred Molina, Hope Davis, Marcia Gay Harden, Stanley Tucci, Julie Delpy, Eli Wallach, Zeljko Ivanek. (R, 115 min.)

This is the story of Clifford Irving, a literary con man and convicted felon who scammed a million dollars out of the McGraw-Hill publishing house and paid for his transgressions with a prison sentence and a poison name. In 1970, Irving (Gere) sells his skeptical editor (Davis) on the idea that he's sitting on an authorized, tell-all autobiography of famed billionaire and aviator Howard Hughes. Of course, Irving never actually met Hughes and was never dubbed his biographer – which would probably pose a problem for most writers. But for a born con artist like Irving, coming up with the idea was the hard part; talking his way to that advance check, forging memos, concocting interview tapes, stealing files from the Pentagon, making up cloak-and-dagger stories, and generally conjuring a life out of thin air? Just a Sunday stroll. Although *The Hoax* isn't Gere's best movie, it might feature his best performance. (04/06/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, CM Barton Creek, Metropolitan, Westgate

★ HOT FUZZ

D: Edgar Wright; with Simon Pegg, Nick Frost, Jim Broadbent, Paddy Considine, Timothy Dalton, Billie Whitelaw, Rafe Spall, Edward Woodward, Paul Freeman. (R, 121 min.)

Simultaneously smart and silly, *Hot Fuzz* demonstrates that it's not necessary to be a buffoon in order to lampoon. This send-up of buddy-cop movies is a thoroughly entertaining blend of wry British humor and climactic, over-the-top action-film heroics. It is a film that truly deserves the description "action comedy," a true hybrid that gives equal measure to both labels rather than merely using one form to prop up the other. *Hot Fuzz* comes from the same team behind 2004's hilarious spoof of zombie movies, *Shaun of the Dead*: director and co-writer Wright, star and co-writer Pegg, and funnyman Frost. Mimicking and tweaking moments from films by the likes of Tony Scott, Michael Bay, and Jerry Bruckheimer, *Hot Fuzz* shows a great love and knowledge of everything it satirizes. At two hours, *Hot Fuzz* drags a bit in its midsection but is nevertheless the most originally funny movie to hit U.S. screens in a while. (04/20/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor, AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Dobie, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

IN THE LAND OF WOMEN

D: Jonathan Kasdan; with Adam Brody, Meg Ryan, Kristen Stewart, Olympia Dukakis, Makenzie Vega, Elena Anaya, Clark Gregg, JoBeth Williams, Ginnifer Goodwin. (PG-13, 97 min.)

Despite a title that makes this movie sound as though it might be the latest madcap offering from Pedro Almodóvar, *In the Land of Women* is a much more conventional affair – a tame yet appealing melodrama about finding oneself that is alternately formulaic and unique. *The OC's* Brody here gets to break out of high school and play his own age – even if it's only the ripe old age of 26. Playing Carter Webb, an older variation

of his too-cool-for-school nerd, Brody is this movie's drifting soul loose in "the land of women," which, in this case, is somewhere in suburban Michigan, where he goes to stay with his batty grandmother (Dukakis) and "regroup." While Dukakis mostly delivers schtick, Carter becomes involved with a mother and daughter who live across the street. This first film by writer/director Kasdan reveals him to have a good ear for dialogue and the foibles of growing into adulthood. (04/20/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

THE LAST MIMZY

D: Robert Shaye; with Chris O'Neil, Rhiannon Leigh Wryn, Joely Richardson, Timothy Hutton, Rainn Wilson, Kathryn Hahn, Michael Clarke Duncan, Kirsten Williamson. (PG, 94 min.)

This children's sci-fi movie should be palatable to the young and old alike, yet it's ultimately more a mild diversion than a magical adventure. Based on Lewis Padgett's 1947 short story, "All Mimsy Were the Borogoves," the film has been updated to include references to homeland security and the PATRIOT Act and various New Age-y beliefs. Nevertheless, the plot raises more questions than it answers and will crumble if poked too aggressively. Good performances (especially by the two child leads and *The Office's* Wilson as one's science teacher) help vitalize the mishmash, however, and make the whole thing a reasonable choice for family entertainment. The special effects are extremely tame when compared with state-of-the-art visual voodoo and are likely to disappoint the science-fiction aficionados. Curiously, *The Last Mimzy* is directed by New Line Cinema's founder, co-CEO, and co-chairman, Bob Shaye – his first directing foray since 1990's *Book of Love*. (03/23/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ AMC Barton Creek Square

★ THE LIVES OF OTHERS

D: Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck; with Martina Gedeck, Ulrich Mühe, Sebastian Koch, Ulrich Tukur, Thomas Thieme, Hans-Uwe Bauer, Volkmar Kleinert, Matthias Brenner, Charly Hübner. (R, 137 min., subtitled)

Oh, to be in East Berlin: The buildings are gray, the birds are chirping, and the Stasi – the East German secret police – are looking into those buildings through binoculars and scanning those birds' chirps for seditious intent. In 33-year-old von Donnersmarck's debut feature, which also just received the Oscar for Best Foreign Film, the sense of dread and lifeless resignation is palpable. That feeling is personified by Capt. Gerd Wiesler (Mühe), a stone-faced Stasi officer who is assigned the task of spying on a couple of renowned artists, who appear to be the last people in East Germany capable of having any fun. At first, Wiesler is the very portrait of post-Stalinist discipline, but this is the story of a man's small redemption, and it isn't long before Wiesler begins to sense a light growing inside him, rattling his concrete walls. Mühe, in a performance that won him a Best Actor award at the German film awards, is brilliant here. (03/02/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Arbor

★ MAFIOSO

D: Alberto Lattuada; with Alberto Sordi, Norma Bengell, Ugo Attanasio, Gabriella Conti. (NR, 105 min., subtitled)

Mafioso, a genius Italian comedy shading toward the darker aspects of its title, has been plucked from obscurity and given a sparkling new cleanup job (its first since the original release in 1962). Not only is *Mafioso* historically important as one of the first Italian films to deal with the

Red vs. Blue

Red vs. Blue (2004) *D: Burnie Burns; with the voices of Burns, Geoff Fink, Jason Saldaña. (NR, 73 min.)* Take characters from the Xbox game *Halo*, re-edit and redub dialogue rich with the game-weary voices of existential gamebots, post the short videos on your Web site, and what do you get? Why, machinima, what else? See www.redvsblue.com or austinchronicle.com/issues/dispatch/2004-03-05/screens_feature.html for more info. The creators from Rooster Teeth will be in attendance. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, Sunday, 7, 9:45.



concept of the Sicilian Cosa Nostra – it's also a brilliant feat of sustained comedy that roves across the Italian and comic geography from Neopolitan pratfalls to bleak unsettling Sicilian existentialism. *Mafioso* overflows with gritty, neo-realistic splendor, but everything is done in support of the magnificently entertaining Sordi as the voluble, multitasking family man who takes his Northern, cosmopolitan wife and their two blond children to visit the paternal in-laws down Sicily way. *Mafioso* is the sort of masterpiece that will obliterate memories of lesser, later efforts in the "meeting the parents" comedy lineage. Brilliant. **AFS@Dobie** (04/20/2007) – Marc Savlov

★★★★ Dobie

MEET THE ROBINSONS

D: Stephen J. Anderson; with the voices of Anderson, Angela Bassett, Tom Kenny, Laurie Metcalf, Daniel Hansen, Jordan Fry, Wesley Singerman, Matthew Josten, Nicole Sullivan, Ethan Sandler, Tom Selleck. (G, 92 min.)

While Disney's latest animated feature might not be a sign of the apocalypse, it's at least a sign that Disney needs to find some decent writers. The film opens with the Mickey Mouse short "Boat Builders" from 1938. Sure, the hand-drawn animation is fun to watch. But hearing Walt's falsetto Mickey voice mixed with the thin humor, it's difficult not to wonder, "What exactly is Disney Magic, and how can I get far, far away from it?" The story of the film, based on a children's book by William Joyce, follows the tale of 12-year-old Lewis (voiced by Hansen and Fry), a boy-genius orphan. Though the characters are unique and occasionally fun, they're paper-thin. And without any foundation, it's impossible to care about these characters. This is the zany for zany's sake school of filmmaking. The animation strives for 1950s sci-fi retro, but the result is that everyone looks like a plastic animé doll. (04/06/2007) – Toddy Burton

★★ CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

★ THE NAMESAKE

D: Mira Nair; with Kal Penn, Tabu, Irfan Khan, Zuleikha Robinson, Jacinda Barrett. (PG-13, 122 min.)

With her latest effort, director Nair does not disappoint. Alternately vibrant and restrained in all the right places, *The Namesake* is beautiful and engaging. A complex meditation on family, relationships, and identity, the film traces two generations of the Ganguli family. The parents, Ashima (Tabu) and Ashoke (Khan), are near strangers when, after their arranged marriage, they move from Calcutta to settle in New York City. Born in New York, their son, Gogol (Penn), embraces his American identity at the expense of his Indian heritage. Adapted from the bestselling novel by Jhumpa Lahiri, the film employs an episodic structure that results in multiple climactic moments and at times feels a bit rambling. But the film settles into a comfortable rhythm, and it's clear that under Nair's intimate and bold direction, we're in good hands. The beautiful cinematography (by Frederick Elmes), vibrant production design (by Stephanie Carroll), and gently moving performances ignite this portrait of isolation and identity. (03/30/2007) – Toddy Burton

★★★★ Arbor, CM Barton Creek

PATHFINDER

D: Marcus Nispel; with Karl Urban, Moon Bloodgood, Russell Means, Clancy Brown, Jay Tavare, Nathaniel Arcand, Ralf Moeller. (R, 99 min.)

The hero of *Pathfinder* is Ghost (Urban), a Viking boy whose ruthless helmeted tribesmen land in the Americas ("600 years before Columbus," according to an intertitle) and lay waste to the locals until he rises up to defend them, having been adopted by an indigenous clan. The action sequences are

ingenious and competently staged, but they're kind of hard to see – not just because of the moody perpetual twilight intended to evoke the dread of an unknown enemy but because Nispel can't or won't hold the camera still. Too often it creates confusion – and eventually, boredom – which is rather a shame, because people shouldn't be bored at a Viking movie with this many graphic decapitations. There are some effective and well-executed touches, the pacing is economical, and a person could read some kind of anti-oppression message into the movie if inclined. But mainly it's messy, and I don't just mean the gouged-out eyeball in a puddle. (04/20/2007) – Marrit Ingman

★★ Highland, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

PERFECT STRANGER

D: James Foley; with Halle Berry, Bruce Willis, Giovanni Ribisi, Gary Dourdan, Patti D'Arbanville, Clea Lewis. (R, 109 min.)

The fishy smell that permeates *Perfect Stranger* comes from all of the red herrings flopping around this absurdly plotted Hollywood thriller. Yes, this one is a real stinker. Like so many of its contemporaries in the genre, *Perfect Stranger* is a hodge-podge of dead ends and twisty turns cannily packaged as an intricate narrative that's always one step ahead of its audience. This marketing gloss aside, the reason why you can never outguess this movie is that it's pretty much phony to the core, ultimately little more than a convoluted exercise in connecting the dots. Even Berry's bodacious bod (the woman is blessed with some really good genes) isn't distraction enough to make *Perfect Stranger* palatable. Come to think of it, the same can be said for all of the films she's headlined since winning her groundbreaking Oscar a few years ago. Maybe it's time to change agents. Halle. (04/20/2007) – Steve Davis

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE REAPING

D: Stephen Hopkins; with Hilary Swank, David Morrissey, Idris Elba, AnnaSophia Robb, Stephen Rea. (R, 96 min.)

Pardon the pun, but audiences will reap little from this satanic backwoods juju thriller. Director Hopkins has his finger on the "things-pop-out" button, and he's not afraid to use it, while the script is check-full of pointless backstory and convoluted flashbacks. The filmmakers intend to be mysterious, but it's just murky. Swank is a biological researcher who debunks purported miracles. Elba plays her born-again sidekick, the Mulder to her doubting Scully. Convinced they are beset by biblical plagues rather than algae gone amok, a hunky small-town sheriff (Morrissey) enlists them to discover why the creepy hamlet's river is running red as blood. It's got the menstrual angle of *Carrie*, a useful old priest (Rea), and other miscellany from better horror films – including the twist at the end, which is shamefully derivative. There's nothing wrong with the cast, and Swank once again distinguishes herself as a beacon of authenticity in too-conventional genre material. (04/06/2007) – Marrit Ingman

★ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

REDLINE

D: Andy Cheng; with Angus Macfadyen, Tim Matheson, Eddie Griffin, Nadia Bjorlin, Nathan Phillips, Wyclef Jean, Kevin Levrone. (PG-13, 95 min.)

Redline is former Enzo owner and producer of this film Daniel Sadek's poshy, rich-dick vanity flick. If *The Fast and the Furious* was the car-porn equivalent of Larry Flynt's upstart skin rag *Hustler* (vaguely amateur, barely legal, and very cherry), then *Redline* is redolent of Bob Guccione's too-glossy latter-day *Penthouse*, with an archaic bad boy's eye for both T&A and automotive emphasis on the exotic. (Yawn.) In a word, it's sleek and shiny and you can't have

it. Wealthy men of leisure (Macfadyen, Matheson, and Griffin) bet \$100 million of their money and their own cars – including the aforementioned Enzo, a Rolls-Royce Phantom, a Lamborghini Murcielago, and a deuce of Mercedes McLarens – on a race of their own devising. The pneumatic Bjorlin plays a sexy singer-grease monkey-road vixen, who steals the show, barely, from all the candy-colored, metal-flake rimjobs that glide and slide across the screen. (04/20/2007) – Marc Savlov
 † Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

REIGN OVER ME
D: Mike Binder; with Adam Sandler, Don Cheadle, Jada Pinkett Smith, Liv Tyler, Saffron Burrows, Donald Sutherland, Robert Klein, Melinda Dillon. (R, 124 min.)
 Writer/director Binder (*The Upside of Anger*) appears to have fashioned a whole film to echo the expansive sentiments and sonic grandeur of the Who song "Love, Reign O'er Me." It's relevant to Binder's lead character, Charlie Fineman (Sandler), who, in contrast with his surname, is anything but fine. Despite being a story about life in New York post-9/11, the film does not dwell on the tragedy. Binder is more interested in piercing "the mind of the married man" (to employ the title of his career-making HBO series). Sandler's work here is decent, though hardly revelatory, but his game is raised several notches by Cheadle's masterful presence. Cheadle takes what could have been a role as a mere foil and creates a rich portrait of a vaguely discontented married man. Yet the drama sputters once it reaches a melodramatic and sentimental climax that feels undernourished and artificial. (03/23/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten
 ★★★ Arbor, Tinseltown South

Check film listings online for full-length reviews, up-to-date showtimes, archives, and more!

austinchronicle.com/film

Also Playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

AMAZING GRACE ★★★ Round Rock

BECAUSE I SAID SO ★★ Round Rock

GHOST RIDER ★★ Round Rock, Tinseltown South

I THINK I LOVE MY WIFE ★★ Round Rock

MUSIC AND LYRICS ★★★ Round Rock

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM ★ Round Rock

NORBIT ★★★ Millennium, Round Rock

THE NUMBER 23 † Millennium

PREMONITION ★ Tinseltown South

SHOOTER ★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Gateway, Tinseltown South

300 ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, CM Barton Creek, Cinemark Round Rock, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

TMNT ★ AMC Barton Creek Square, Cinemark Round Rock, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

TYLER PERRY'S DADDY'S LITTLE GIRLS ★★★ Round Rock

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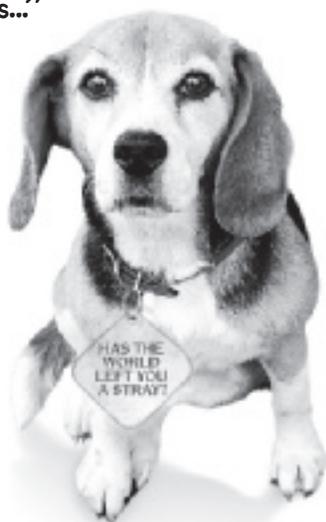
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The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.



THURSDAY 2 6

2007 Drum Corps International Classic Countdown (NR, 120 min.) Eight of the world's greatest competitive drum and bugle corps performances of all time are featured. Fans voted on their favorite corps, and the winners will be announced and showcased during the event. @Tinseltown North, 7:30pm.

2007 Drum Corps International Classic Countdown @Metropolitan, 7:30pm. (See above.)

Ghost Dog: The Way of the Samurai (1999) *D: Jim Jarmusch; with Forest Whitaker, John Tormey, Isaach De Bankolé, Henry Silva, Cliff Gorman, Victor Argo, Tricia Vessey, Camille Winbush. (R, 114 min.)* **Films of Jim Jarmusch.** Jarmusch's film is a tone poem about a contemporary hitman nicknamed Ghost Dog (Whitaker), who is steeped in the code of the ancient Japanese samurai. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm.

Terrorvision (1986) *D: Ted Nicolaou; with Diane Franklin, Gerrit Graham, Mary Woronov, Chad Allen, Jon Gries. (R, 83 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** This Charles Band production mixes horror and comedy with cheesy special effects. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

The Sing-Along Formerly and Again Known as Prince @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 9:45.

SPACES

The Royal Tenenbaums (2001) *D: Wes Anderson; with Gene Hackman, Anjelica Huston, Ben Stiller, Gwyneth Paltrow, Luke Wilson, Danny*

Festivals

Austin Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival (2007) Now in its seventh year, this festival (formerly called Blowin' Up a Spot!) is devoted to artwork produced by women, with a particular emphasis on showcasing work by women of Latin, African, African-American, Asian, and Native-American descent. Music showcases take place at various venues, although all the film programs take place at the Carver Museum, and occur Friday, April 27-29. For complete schedule and more info, see www.blowinupaspot.com. All proceeds benefit the Media Arts & Literacy Institute Community Media Workshops. Thu. (4/26)-Fri., 7pm; Sat.-Sun., 3, 7 @ Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver

Cine las Americas International Film Festival (2006) Final night: *Inside the Circle*, 7pm. See www.cinelasamericas.org for details. Thu. (4/26), @ Alamo Drafthouse South.

Glover, Owen Wilson, Bill Murray, Kumar Pallana, Seymour Cassel, Alec Baldwin. (R, 108 min.) free (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

To the Other Side (2005) *D: Gustavo Loza; with Adrian Alonso, Nuria Badih, Jorge Milo, Alejandro Lago, Carmen Maura, Ronny Bandomo, Naoufal Azzouz, Susana Gonzalez. (NR, 90 min.)* **CineAdictos Film Club.** A triptych of tales set in Mexico, Cuba, Spain, and Morocco crosscut the globe but remain united in time as they tell stories that evoke the border communities in which they are set. @MonkeyWrench Books, 8pm.

FRIDAY 2 7

Mad Max Beyond Thunderdome (1985) *D: George Miller and George Ogilvie; with Mel Gibson, Tina Turner. (PG-13, 107 min.)* **Master Pancake Theater.** The third film in this series about Gibson's ex-cop in the post-apocalypse features Turner declaring in song that "we don't need another hero." To that, I imagine the Pancake goofsters will reply, "Sho 'nuff, Sugar Tits." @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7, 10.

SPACES

Happenstance (2000) *D: Laurent Firode; with Audrey Tautou, Faudel, Eric Feldman, Eric Savin, Irene Amlaioff, Lysaine Meis. (R, 97 min.)* **Alliance Française of Austin Ciné Club.** The horoscope of a young woman (*Amélie's* Tautou) predicts that love is just around the corner. More on this monthly series is available at www.afaustin.org. Doors open for snacks and conversation 45 minutes before the screening. (*) @St. David's Health Resource Center Theater, 7:45pm.

Offscreen

2007 Texas Filmmakers Production Fund Applications The TFPF 2007 grant cycle has begun and any filmmakers who have resided in Texas for at least a year are eligible to apply. Application forms and guidelines are available for download on their Web site. Application workshop: May 3. Postmark application deadline: June 1. 322-0145. www.austinfilm.org.

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, and more. For more information, check the AFF Web site. Screenplay deadline: June 1. Film deadline: July 5. www.austinfilmfestival.com.

Austin Filmworks Summer Intensive with Steve Mims will cover cameras, lenses, film and metering, digital video imaging, cinematography, lighting, audio, writing, directing, and digital nonlinear editing. In-class demonstrations and workshops use 16mm film stocks and analog and digital cameras. See their Web site for more info. Mon.-Fri., June 4-8. www.meticulouspictures.com/afw/html/summer3.html.

Austin Student Filmmaking Expo The third annual exposition brings together top local high school filmmaking groups to show their work and discuss their programs. Sat., April 28, 6pm. *Artthouse at the Jones Center, 700 Congress, 453-5312.* www.austinfilmfestival.com.

SATURDAY 2 8

Il Trittico (2007) *D: Jack O'Brien.* **Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD.** Part of a series of opera performances that are being broadcast live to theatres across the country from the Metropolitan Opera House in New York, *Il Trittico* comprises three one-act operas by Puccini. Metropolitan music director James Levine conducts this new production. For more info see www.metoperafamily.org/hdlive. @Metropolitan, 12:30pm; \$18 adults, \$15 children.

Shaft (1971) *D: Gordon Parks; with Richard Roundtree, Moses Gunn. (R, 100 min.)* The Alamo brings back one of their early favorites: the original Shaft paired with free 40-ounce beers. Private eye John Shaft remains a legend and Isaac Hayes' theme music still gets us strutting. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

The Last Unicorn (1982) *D: Jules Bass and Arthur Rankin Jr.; with the voices of Alan Arkin, Jeff Bridges, Mia Farrow, Tammy Grimes, Robert Klein, Angela Lansbury, Christopher Lee, Keenan Wynn, Paul Frees, Rene Auberjonois, Brother Theodore. (G, 92 min.)* **Kids Club.** In this animated feature, a brave unicorn and a magician fight an evil king who wants to exterminate all unicorns. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 12pm; free.

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 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

The Sing-Along Formerly and Again Known as Prince @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Thu., 4/26.)

SPACES

Cartoon Festival Hampton Goes Hollywood. free @Hampton Library, 2pm.

Trudell (2005) *D: Heather Rae. (NR, 80 min.)* **Sisters en Resistencia.** John Trudell, the Native American rights activist and spoken-word artist and musician, is the subject of this biographical portrait. A discussion will follow. (*) @Resistencia Bookstore, 7pm; \$2 suggested donation.

SUNDAY 2 9

Red vs. Blue (2004) See p.92.

The Life and Hard Times of Guy Terrifico (2005) *D: Michael Mabbott; with Matt Murphy. (R, 86 min.)* Mockumentary about the alternative-country music scene presents a biographical tribute to a notorious performer – part genius and part jerk, a hard-living legend who never quite made it. Featuring appearances by Kris Kristofferson, Levon Helm, and Merle Haggard. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 4pm.

SPACES

Uncle Buck (1989) *D: John Hughes; with John Candy, Jean Louisa Kelly. (PG, 100 min.)* **Moonlight Cinema.** Hosted by cut-up Jerm Pollet and featuring Sunday-only spaghetti and meatballs special. @Belmont, 8pm.

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Indie Music Video Festival The sixth annual shindig shifts into high gear in all its cross-continent, cross-genre glory, looking for independent music videos of fewer than six minutes, on VHS, DVD, DV Codec (high res), and mini DV. (Screenings in 2006 included Vancouver, Victoria, Baltimore, Calgary, Toronto, Los Angeles, Austin, New York, Tel Aviv, London, and Chicago.) See their Web site for details. www.imvf.com/submissions.html.

Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a new, state-of-the-art screening room, and, lucky you, they're opening it up on a rental basis to the public, which means you can finally toss out that old Sony Watchman you've been thrusting in potential distributors' mugs for the past three years. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-foot-by-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, a surround-sound system, and supports Super-35, 35mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms – the works. They also have a "break room" suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org.

The Museum of Fine Arts Austin seeks sponsors and actors for the movie *A Fabulous Man and His Dog*. Call for more information. 803-3835. www.freewebs.com/mofaa.

MONDAY 3 0

Dirty Found: Live *Found* magazine's creative directors Jason Bitner and Arthur Jones will be in attendance to present their favorite pery-kitsch discoveries on the big screen. Lost diaries, nudie scribbles, amateur erotica, and more are among the found *objets*. Bring your own best find to the show to be eligible for the trophy. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 7pm.

She's Gotta Have It (1986) See p.92.

The Smiths: These Things Take Time (2002) *D: David Nolan. (NR, 90 min.)* **Music Monday.** Vic Reeves narrates the story of legendary band the Smiths, featuring previously unseen film footage, animated sequences and rare performances. Thee Soundheads will spin before the movie. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm.

SPACES

Blood Diamond (2006) *D: Edward Zwick; with Leonardo DiCaprio, Djimon Hounsou, Jennifer Connelly, Arnold Vosloo, Antony Coleman, David Harewood. (R, 143 min.)* free (*) @Cafe Mundi, 8pm.

Idiocracy (2006) *D: Mike Judge; with Luke Wilson, Maya Rudolph, Dax Shepard, Terry Alan Crews, Sara Rue, David Herman, Brad "Scarface" Jordan. (R, 84 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** free (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

TUESDAY 0 1

Code Unknown (2000) *D: Michael Haneke; with Juliette Binoche, Thierry Neuvic, Josef Bierbichler, Alexandre Hamidi. (NR, 118 min.)* **Austin Film Society: Spaces Between Realities – The Films of Michael Haneke.** Individuals of various nationalities intersect with one another in ways that have profound and unforeseen effects on all their lives. For more on the series, see austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?oid=oid%3A460826. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm; AFS members free, \$4 nonmembers.

Dirty Dancing (1987) See p.90.

Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea (2004) See p.90.

Superbad Sneak (2007) *D: Greg Mottola; with Jonah Hill, Michael Cera, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, Bill Hader, Seth Rogen. (R)* **Fantastic Fest and Ain't It Cool News.** Co-stars Michael Cera and Seth Rogen will be in attendance for this comedy sneak, for which there are 20 tickets available for Fantastic Fest badge holders. See www.originalalamo.com/Show.aspx?id=4593 for ticket info. @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm.

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices, call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see www.thestoryoftexas.com. See showtimes for dates and times

Hurricane on the Bayou (2006)

D: Greg MacGillivray; narrated by Meryl Streep. (NR, 40 min.) *Hurricane on the Bayou* started production before Katrina and switched gears after the catastrophe. The film tells the stories of four musicians, highlighted by a jazz, blues, and gospel New Orleans score.

Mummies: Secrets of the Pharaohs (2007)

D: Keith Melton; with William Hope, Crispin Redman, Nasser Memarzia, Daud Shah, Boris Terral, Elana Drago; narrated by Christopher Lee. (NR, 45 min.) Modern-day forensic adventures unravel the historic past – with narration by a master of the crypt, Christopher Lee.

Sharks 3D (2004) *D: Jean-Jacques Mantello; narrated by Geoffrey Bateman. (NR, 42 min.)* This big-screen film seeks to debunk the public perception of sharks as fearsome predators of human flesh. Although geared toward kids, the film's 3-D effects make it a fun experience for all.

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.

SPACES

Real Genius (1985) D: Martha Coolidge; with Val Kilmer, William Atherton, Michelle Meyrink, Jonathan Gries, Robert Prescott, Severn Darden, Patti D'Arbanville. (PG, 108 min.) **Waterloo Video.** free @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY 02

Black Cobra (1976) D: Joe D'Amato; with Jack Palance, Laura Gemser. (R, 83 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** A stripper with a python act meets up with a guy (Palance, no less) who has a snake fetish. @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

Dirty Dancing (1987) @Gateway, Metropolitan, 7:30pm. (See Tue., 5/1.)

Lost (2007) Weekly episode. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 9pm; free.

Lost TV Party No commercials, back-to-back screenings of last week's episode followed by the newest. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm; free.

Shaft (1971) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Sat., 4/28.)

SPACES

Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back D: Kevin Smith; with Chris Rock, Jason Lee, Matt Damon, Ben Affleck, Mark Hamill, Will Ferrell, Ali Larter, Eliza Dushku, Shannon Elizabeth, Jason Mewes, Kevin Smith. (R, 100 min.) **Waterloo Video.** free @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

THURSDAY 03

Invasion of the Bee Girls (1973) D: Denis Sanders; with Ben Hammer, Wright King, Cliff Osmond, Anitra Ford, William Smith, Victoria Vetri. (R, 85 min.) **Terror Thursday.** Talk about your ultimate B-movie! Ford lures women into her hive and zaps them with some kind of gooey sap. They

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 11 issue is Monday, April 30.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

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Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.

come out wearing dark sunglasses and luring male victims to death by you-know-what. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 12mid; free.

The Ballad of AJ Weberman (2006) D: James Bluemel and Oliver Rafle. (NR, 80 min.) **Austin Film Festival.** The life, times, and crimes of the obsessive Bob Dylan collector and inventor of "garbology" is profiled in this feature and includes an animation of an actual telephone conversation between Weberman and Dylan. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm; \$4, AFF members free.

The Sing-Along Formerly and Again Known as Prince @Alamo Drafthouse Downtown, 9:45pm. (See Thu., 4/26.)

SPACES

Fletch (1985) D: Michael Ritchie; with Chevy Chase, Hal Holbrook, Julianne Phillips, Cleavon Little, R. Lee Ermey, Richard Libertini. (PG, 96 min.) **Waterloo Video.** free @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

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"I've always enjoyed the role of mid-fielder," admits multi-instrumentalist and avid soccer fan Stephen Marley, "trying to put my teammates in the best position to score."

After more than two decades toiling behind the scenes as a one-man backing band and producer, feeding the fires that lifted brothers Ziggy and Damian to Grammy-winning heights, Stephen recognizes the value of a strong support system. His ascension to the forefront of the Marley family legacy culminates in the refreshing greatness of his debut solo album, *Mind Control*.

From uncanny updates of his father's reggae to sojourns into dancehall and hip-hop, Marley's wide-ranging versatility highlights the similarities between seemingly divergent

strains. "Reggae and hip-hop are parallel," indicates the woodshed musicologist, "especially when you consider that they both foster the messages of struggling people. As far as the beats, you can go to my father's music and listen to the drums and bass of 'No More Trouble.' If that's not hip-hop, then I don't know what is."

Whereas most attempts at catering Jamaican rhythms to an American market fall short of capturing the true heart of ingenuity, Marley pulls together the best of both worlds in a fusion of raw emotion.

"Assuming that all music is universal is the only way I know," he relates. "My father often faced criticism from Jamaicans who felt he was compromising island sounds. But once the world as a whole latched

onto what he was doing, those same surly Jamaicans eventually followed suit."

Placing value on creativity above all else, he indicts the brunt of modern music as lackluster and in need of an overhaul. "Things have become so stagnant. We need to be hearing more flutes, more harmonicas, and more organs. As musicians, it's up to us to raise the bar." — Robert Gabriel

Damian "Jr. Gong" Marley appears as a special guest; Canadian rapper K'Naan opens.

Stephen Marley

ANTONE'S, THURSDAY 3



Sharon Tate's Baby ROOM 710, FRIDAY 27

It's a long way from Raul's, but Room 710 is the ideal modern-day venue for a reunion of Sharon Tate's Baby. Later known as Jerryskids, the first-wave Austin punk quintet — featuring future Scratch Acid guitarist Brett Bradford and drummer Rey Washam — shakes the rust off your inner rebel. The Punkaroos, Roger's Porn Collection, and Free Range Bastards open. — Greg Beets

Sunset Rubdown EMO'S, FRIDAY 27

Spencer Krug has an obsession with snakes; they slither all over Sunset Rubdown's lovely white-sand beaches. Last year's *Shut Up I Am Dreaming* (Absolutely Kosher) was a sleeper for the Canadian quartet, more melodic than Krug's other band, Wolf Parade, and full of poetically bizarre lines. Young People chanteuse Katie Eastburn goes solo, and Okies the Evangelicals stumble through the tulips first. — Audra Schroeder

Devin the Dude BEAUTY BAR, SATURDAY 28

Floating cloud-high above pedestrian chit-chat, Devin the Dude hurls rap far beyond simple boasting. His fourth solo album, *Waitin' to Inhale*, reads like a smoked-out, spooched-on Robert Crumb collection come to life. Beauty Bar doesn't even know what scale of residue it's in for as DJs Klever, Mel, and NickNack provide dancing papers for Devin's menagerie of kind-bud theatrics. — Robert Gabriel



Clap Your Hands Say Yeah

STUBB'S, SATURDAY 28



Following the buzz surrounding their eponymous, self-released debut, Clap Your Hands Say Yeah triumphed over the hype machine this year with *Some Loud Thunder*, a kaleidoscope of pop that wheels from commands ("Satan Said Dance") to ballads ("Love Song No. 7"), while Alec Ounsworth's slurred vocals playfully skirt around more serious issues.

Elvis Perkins in Dearland casts out meditative folk tunes from *Ash Wednesday*. — Austin Powell

Tony Furtado Band LA ZONA ROSA, SUNDAY 29

The number 13 is lucky for Tony Furtado. That's the title of his new Funzalo release, the most cogent collection yet from the singer-songwriter and banjo/guitar master. Spare and mature, yet hardly an easy listen, it elevates the Portland, Ore., resident as a vocalist and songwriter while offering interpretations of the Who and Creedence. San Marcos' Carley Wolf opens. — Jim Caligiuri



Leslie & the Lys TROPHY'S, MONDAY 30

Iowa native Leslie Hall became a YouTube darling with her synth-pop paean to the neglected beauty of gem sweaters. Armed with the sequin-happy fashion sense of a tipsy Junior Leaguer circa 1991, Hall prolonged the guffaws with 2006's *Door Man's Daughter* and its follow-up bedazzler, "Can't Stop the Gems." Austin's Awesome Cool Dudes and Secret Weapons make this a full evening of tight-fitting camp. Bring your own eye protection. — Greg Beets



Drive-by Truckers

ANTONE'S, TUESDAY 1 & WEDNESDAY 2

Trucker fans have been more sullen than usual since wunderkind guitarist/third songwriter Jason Isbell announced he's chosen the solo life; wife Shonna Tucker remains on DBT bass duty, so maybe it really was amicable. Still, Patterson Hood and Mike Cooley aren't exactly chopped Spam, and two seated acoustic evenings offer time and space to etch their kudzu chronicles in even starker relief. Spooner Oldham (Bob Dylan, CSNY) sits in on keys, John Neff steals that third guitar chair, and Austin's stand-up Mario Matteoli opens. — Christopher Gray



Thee Ohsees EMO'S, WEDNESDAY 2

John Dwyer spazzed in Pink & Brown, headed the ultimate house-party band with the Coachwhips, and now he's mel-lowed out (a little) with Thee Ohsees (formerly OCS). The San Francisco fourpiece's latest, *Sucks Blood* (Castle Face), gives you a contact high. It was also produced by Sub Popper Kelly Stoltz, who lends it some Sixties sugar. So Many Dynamos and local duo Sloppy Kisses open. — Audra Schroeder

Old Haunts BEERLAND, THURSDAY 3

With last year's debut, *Fuel on Fire* (Kill Rock Stars), the Old Haunts sparked new life into an old formula. The Olympia, Wash., trio, now with former Bikini Kill drummer Tobi Vail on skins, scratches out sparse riffs behind spastic vocals with caffeine-fueled Northwest energy. Similarly, locals Finally Punk revive classic riot-grrrl fury. What the fuck, Missile?! — Doug Freeman

In-Stores

Tuesday: **Asleep at the Wheel**, Waterloo Records, 5pm

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

live music VENUES p.100
CLUB LISTINGS + roadshows p.105

ROAD TO JAZZ FEST

Ruta Maya, Thursday 26 & Friday 27
With Topaz, the Greyhounds, New Mastersounds, and more.

AUSTIN WOMAN'S FESTIVAL

Copa/Cafe Mundi/Carver Museum, Thursday 26-Sunday 29
Blowin' up the weekend. See Gay Place, p.76, and Community Listings, p.72, for more.

THE THING WITH JOE MCPHEE

Victory Grill, Friday 27
Experimental jazz in your back yard.

NEIL HAMBURGER

Emo's, Saturday 28
See him before he retires to the Great Daiquiri Bar in the Sky.

ZEST OF YORE, CAVEDWELLER, COUNT DRACULA'S WEED SMUGGLIN' JAM ENGINE

Carousel Lounge, Saturday 28
Austin vs. Denton psych out.

GARY CLARK JR., ERIC TESSMER

Antone's, Saturday 28
Blues guitar cutting contest?

LEON RUSSELL

Threadgill's World HQ, Sunday 29
Tulsa two-step.

TOOTS & THE MAYTALS

La Zona Rosa, Tuesday 1
Reggae legends make the pressure drop.

BLONDE REDHEAD

Stubb's, Wednesday 2
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KRISTIN HERSH
Cactus Cafe, Wednesday 2
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MON 30 » Holms Cooking Steaks
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TUE 1 » Erik Hokkannen's Laboratory

WED 2 » David Hamburger
Guitar Workshop hosted by David H

the Hole in the Wall

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SUZANNA CHOFFEL 10:30P
CHRIS HAWKES 9P

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

PINK NASTY 12A
THE BLACK 11P
MARTIN CRANE 10P
MIKE ALVAREZ 9P

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

GRAND CHAMPEEN 12A
GLOSSARY 11P
ONE MISSISSIPPI 10P
STEVIE TOMBSTONE 9P

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

ROCK & ROLL FREE FOR ALL 12A
DARIN MURPHY 11P
SUPEREGO ALL-STARS 10P
REBECCA'S RAGTIME REVUE 9P

MONDAY, APRIL 30

JJ BARON 11P
CHRIS BRECHT 10P
LATE GREAT JOHNNY WALKER 9P

TUESDAY, MAY 1

TANK ENGINE 11P
MESHBANES 10P
PASSED OUT FLYERS 8P

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

CRAWLING WITH KINGS 12A
NEAL KASSANOFF 11P
DICKIE LEE ERWIN 10P
GUY TOWN 9P

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IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE, 4005 W. Parmer Ste. A, 833-5858
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829
JO'S HOT COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800

- JOHNNY FINS**, 16405 Clara Van Trail, 266-2811
JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 447-7825
JUNIOR'S GRILL & ICEHOUSE, 119 E. Masin, Round Rock, 512/310-7777
LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290, 459-8729
LA ZONA ROSA, 612 W. Fourth, 472-2293
LAGUNA GLORIA, 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191
LAMBERTS, 401 W. Second, 494-1500
LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889
LIGHT BAR, 408 Congress, 473-8544
THE LOADING DOCK, 708 S. Austin St., Georgetown, 512/864-2100
LONGBRANCH INN, 1133 E. 11th, 472-5477
LONGHORN CAVERNS, 6211 Park Road 4 S., Burnet, 877/441-2283, 830/598-2283
LUCKY LOUNGE, 209-A W. Fifth, 479-7700
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 512/558-7399
MAGGIE MAE'S, 323 E. Sixth, 478-8541
MANUEL'S, 310 Congress, 472-7555
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261
MESSAGE HARMONY, 3300 Bee Caves Rd, 358-9300
MELLOW MUSHROOM, 2426 Guadalupe, 512-472-MELO (6356)
THE MOHAWK, 912 Red River, 482-8404
MOMO'S, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
MOONRIVER, 2002 N. Pace Bend Rd., Spicewood Springs, 512/264-2064
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900
MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305
NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349
NAT'S PUB, Lakeway Plaza, Lakeway, 512/263-2855
NORTH BY NORTHWEST, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy., 467-6969
NUOVA ONDA, 2218 College, 447-5063
NUOVO LEON, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
NUTTY BROWN CAFE, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 301-4648
THE OAKS, 10206 N. FM 973, 278-8788
THE OASIS, 6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442
THE OFFICE LOUNGE, 1207 Leander Rd., Georgetown, 512/919-1137
THE OLD ALLIGATOR GRILL, 3003 S. Lamar, 444-6117
OPAL WOOD THEATRE, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500
OPAL DIVINE'S, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308
OPAL DIVINE'S MARINA, 12709 N. MoPac, 733-5353
OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD, 3601 S. Congress Ste. K-100, 707-0237
PARAMOUNT THEATRE, 713 Congress, 472-5470
PARDNERS, 1110 Palm Valley, Round Rock, 512/244-1204
THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965
PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE, 5001 E. Ben White, 444-2020
PEASE PARK, Windsor & Lamar, 974-6700
PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
THE PUB, 1826 Mays, Round Rock, 512/246-8007
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
RADISSON, 111 E. Cesar Chavez, 478-9611
RAIN ON 4TH, 217-B W. Fourth, 494-1150
RANCH 61.6, 616 Nueces, 479-7616
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
REDRUM, 401 Sabine, 469-0691
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB, 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 342-7977
RENAISSANCE HOTEL, 9721 Arboretum, 343-2626
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT, 301 San Jacinto, 476-8300
RIO RITA, 1308 E. Sixth, 478-3934
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder, Round Rock, 512/218-0813
THE ROCK ROOM, 101 E. Main, 244-5450
ROCKIN' TOMATO, 3003 S. Lamar, 447-3351
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN, 701 Main, Georgetown, 512/868-1300
ROMEO'S, 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090
ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE, 11800 Lamar, 835-2414
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SAENGERRUNDE HALL, 1607 San Jacinto, 478-1411
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
SCHOLZ GARTEN, 1607 San Jacinto, 474-1958
SCOOT INN, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200
SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 601-5 E. Whitestone, Cedar Park, 512/260-2060
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060
SKI SHORES, 2905 Pierce, 346-5915
SOUTH FORTY, 629 W. Ben White, 444-9329
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, 606 W. 15th, 476-6757
STARDUST CLUB, 11940 Manchaca, 280-8590
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
SUNSET VALLEY CITY HALL, 3205 Jones Rd., Sunset Valley
SUNSET VALLEY FARMERS MARKET, Toney Burger Center, 3200 Jones, 280-1976
T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
TAMBALEO, 302 Bowie, 472-3213
TAVERN IN THE GRUENE, 830 Gruene Rd., Gruene, 830/608-0438
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
TOKYO STEAKHOUSE, 201 D Sundance Pkwy., Round Rock, 512/388-7896
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
UNCLE BILLY'S, 1530 Barton Springs Rd., 476-0100
UNCLE FLIRTY'S, 325 E. Sixth, 473-8891
UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH, 2007 University Ave., 477-6104
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 804-1944
THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil, 331-9831
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST, 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 418-9700
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
WOODY'S SOUTH, 321 W. Ben White, 851-9663
Y BAR & GRILL, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220
Z TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

SUNDAY JUNE 10

JANFANE GAROFALO & PATTON OSWALT

EMO'S OUTDOORS

TIX ONSALE SAT 4/28 @ 10 AM
THRU WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

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10pm, Sat.
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\$5 cover

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The OASIS
Lake Travis
Sunset Capital of Texas



Emile Millar
No Cover

Friday April 27, 7-10

Alpha Rev



No Cover

Sunday April 29, 7-10

THE BREW



FREE Dance Lessons!
No Cover

OPEN 7 days a week www.oasis-austin.com 6550 Comanche Trail 266-2442 FULL MENU FULL BAR FULL SERVICE

CHRONtourage

Saturday, April 28, 8pm

FIVEFORFIGHTING

Hogg Memorial Auditorium
on the UT Austin campus, West 24th & Whitis, \$10
www.utpac.org




Thursday, April 26, 8pm
FUNKYBATZ
Rita Mayo, 3601 S. Congress, funkybatz.com

Monday, April 30, 8pm
recroom opening party
Buffalo Billiards, 201 E. Sixth, buffalobilliards.com

Friday, April 27, 8pm
BOBBYBONES 2ND CHANCE PROM
Vici, 404 Colorado, \$10, 967kissfm.com

Tuesday, May 1, 5pm
Asleep at the wheel in-store
Waterloo Records, 600-A N. Lamar, waterloorecords.com

Saturday, April 28, 5pm
RIOGRANDE YEAR anniversary
Rio Grande Mexican Restaurant, Third & San Jacinto (downtown) riograndemexican.com

Make sure to sign up for the weekly Chronotourage newsletter @ austinchronicle.com party to find out about more upcoming events and ongoing contests!
See pictures of what you missed at austinchronicle.com/whatyoumissed.

CHRONICLE austinchronicle.com/chronotourage

FREE LIVE MUSIC @ *Central Market*

@CENTRAL PARK

FRIDAY APRIL 27
MUNDI
folk, celtic, classical

SATURDAY APRIL 28
TEXAS COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL
11am-7pm for more info see, WWW.TCMFEST.ORG
BLAZE 7-9:30pm
funky, soul, jazz

SUNDAY APRIL 29
TEXAS COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL
more info see, WWW.TCMFEST.ORG

FRIDAY MAY 4
TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS
blues legend

Show times: 6:30 - 9 pm
Sunday Music starts at 12:30 pm

@WESTGATE

THURSDAY APRIL 26
TEA MERCHANTS
irish, celtic

SATURDAY APRIL 28
PALM SCHOOL CHOIR
nationally known children's choir
3 PM

SUNDAY APRIL 29
FLOYD DOMINO
boogie woogie, stride piano

WEDNESDAY MAY 2
BOXCAR PREACHERS
americana

Wednesdays & Thursdays 6:30 - 9pm
Sundays 12:30 - 3 pm

DATES & BANDS:

@CENTRAL PARK

May 5 - **BETO & FAIRLANES**
Puerto Rico Folkloris Dance Co.
May 6 - **SEAN HOPPER QUARTET**
May 11 - **EGGMEN**

@WESTGATE:

May 6 - **CIENFUEGOS**
May 9 - **CHARLES THIBODEAUX**
May 10 - **BOXCAR PREACHERS**
May 13 - **DEVINE & RIDLEY**

LOCATIONS:

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710

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THU 4/26 > DAEMOON FLY, EARTHTONE PLAYERS (P), INDOFM, CAN I BUS (P), BOTTOM FEEDERZ, CHARLIE HURKIN - HAPPY HOUR
FRI 4/27 > MEGANAUT, NITRA, A MOMENT LOST (P), ZENITH FUZZBOMB, VELVET BRICK (P), STREET LIGHT SUZIE, COCK RIGHT (HH)
SAT 4/28 > OKLAHOMAS, THE GRINDING WHEELS, TRASH ROCKETS (P), DEATHBED REPENTANCE, DRAGMA (P), LDV
SUN 4/29 > BLOODSHOT PYRAMID, SUNGLASSES AND MUSHROOMS, BLACK TOE DOWN, BRICKS ATX (P), FULL STRIDE, STREET LIGHT SUZIE (P)

MON 4/30 > WILLIE B, THE FIREBALL SHOW, POKER GAMES-PATIO, FIREBALL SINGER/SONGWRITERS
TUE 5/1 > MONTOYA, MY PRECIOUS GUN, THE JOY BUS
WED 5/2 > LONESOME HEROS, LONESOME DAVE BAND (P), KALLISTI GOLD (P), SINGER/SONGWRITERS
THU 5/3 > SUNGLASSES & MUSHROOMS, MONKIES DOIN IT, HADLEY, DARTH VATO, SOMETHING CALLED NOTHING
FRI 5/4 > BELLIGERENT 86, ROGERS PORN COLLECTION, LOVE&DEATH&FAKE, ESE, RED HERRINGS, HAZARD OF THE INDUSTRY

Thu 4.26

REND HUMILIATORS

NEXT OF SIN

CANYON OF THE SKULL

Fri 4.27

SHARON TATE'S BABY PUNKAROOS

ROGER'S PORN COLLECTION

FREE RANGE BASTARDS

Sat 4.28

NEW DISASTER

GENTLEMEN'S SOCIAL CLUB

AMPLIFIED HEAT

IRONCLAD

Sun 4.29

OPEN

MENACE II THE CEREBELLUM

Mon 4.30

HEART & SOUL

SOUND SYSTEM

Tue 5.1

KAOS

Is In and On the Air

Wed 5.2

TRANSMOGRAPHY

KARMIN JADE

THE BIG FIX

8pm: Douglas Greer

UPCOMING SHOWS

5.3 All Get Out, Television Ends 5-4 Madstrom, Bardslam, Midnight
5.5 Fuck The Facts, Insect Warfare, Bowl 5.6 Late Haze Access



BEER LAND TEXAS

est. 2001

th 26 Alex Dupree & the Trapdoor Band, Franksmith, Dirty Sound

fr 27 Tyler Keith & the Preacher's Kids, Hex Dispensers, John Schooley and His One Man Band
7pm Box Spring Hogs

sa 28 Shandon Sahn, Airplane, y mas

su 29 closed

mo 30 Karaoke w/ Nathan Black
no cover! over 1000+ songs

tu 1 Beltane Celebration
That Damned Band, Trouble Puppet Theater, Lowrent the Clown, Luna Tart, Rudy Ramirez, and sideshow acts
benefitting Sedition Bookshop

we 2 Nobunny (Justin of the Sneaky Pinks), Black Panda

th 3 The Old Haunts, Finally Punk

fr 4 Chili Cold Blood

sa 5 Cinco de Mayo mini-fest
Clorox Girls, Red Dons, Wax Museums, Teeners, Party Garbage, Sex Advice
come early for pinata action!

preview bands @ eventjourney.com
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THURSDAY-APRIL 26 WARM WINTER ALMOST AUGUST LAST RIDE IN LEGWOODKIE
HAPPY HOUR W/ CHARLIE & DAVE

FRIDAY-APRIL 27 THE AUGUST VALENTINE POWDERBURN BORN TO NOTHING KRITICKILL MANTRA
HAPPY HOUR W/ CHARLIE

SATURDAY-APRIL 28 WHITMAN WEIRDOUS CANNIS KILLER CROCS OF UGANDA SINGING STANDING STILL SUPERHOUSE

SUNDAY-APRIL 29 THE BEAT DOLLS STARGAZING PREMONITION DREAMSTATE

MONDAY-APRIL 30 SOMETHING QUIET & MORE & MORE

TUESDAY-MAY 1 PLUTO THE WINCHESTERS & SPECIAL GUESTS

WEDNESDAY-MAY 2 SHY HELLO TO THE ANGELS CAPT. ANDERSON & THE WICKEDNESS THE BANNERYEAR

THURSDAY-MAY 3 INNERVISION THE MIDMARCH DEAD BY KNIGHT UNDER SILENCE HAS LEASE
HAPPY HOUR W/ CHARLIE & DAVE

FRIDAY-MAY 4 IGNITOR WARRIOR DEVOLA & SPECIAL GUEST
HAPPY HOUR W/ CHARLIE

SAURDAY-MAY 5 COURSE OF RUIN WITHIN CHAOS THE GREAT FINE OF NECTARUS

UPCOMING SHOWS

5-6 BETHSIE BROS & IMPRES, BY A LONG SHIRT, BARKER
FIRE FROM THE GUNS, MY DREAMSTON
5-11 HONEY, I'M ON SPEED & FRIENDS
5-12 BUILT BY SHAWL, FIREBALLS, BUTTING HORNS (ED HERRICK)
THE BATTLEFIELD, THE STEELTIE, SEA DRUGS
5-17 SCOTLAND, BOWLING CATERERS, BODENITZ, SUBORDINATE OF THE SKY
5-18 BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR, MOSTLY DEAD, NEPTUNE
5-19 AS THE PANDA RISES, RUTHLESS, STRAPS OF LIFE
*FOR MORE DETAILS VISIT US AT WWW.REDFLYLIVE.COM

for private parties and info call: 512-474-1084

ELYSIUM

705 RED RIVER ST.

Thursday • April 26 SPECIAL EVENT!

Silenced 12:00 AM (Austin, TX)
www.myspace.com/silencedband

Kinetic 11:00 PM (Austin, TX)

Eve of Autumn 10:00 PM (Dallas, TX)
www.myspace.com/eveofautumn

Friday • April 27 SPECIAL EVENT!

Tungsten Coil 12:00 AM (Austin, TX)
www.myspace.com/tungstencil

subNatural 11:00 PM (Austin, TX)
www.myspace.com/subnatural

Matches for Memories 10:00 PM (Austin, TX)
www.myspace.com/matchesformemories

Saturday • April 28 HAVEN

goth, industrial, synthpop, & EURO DANCE
Haven with DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER
with special guest
DJ Nitekry (Houston)

Sunday • April 29 REGRESSION

RETRO 80's RETRO 80's RETRO 80's
REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Monday - April 30 CLOSED
closed...rest for the wicked...

Tuesday • May 1 90'S NIGHT

90's RETRO 90's Night 90's RETRO
DJs BOBA FETT, AMERYKAH, & LOLA

Wednesday May 2 MID-WAVE

UNDERGROUND retro & old school goth
MID-WAVE WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

UPCOMING EVENTS

Saturday May 5 • Taurus Night - all Taureans (21+) get in free
Friday May 11 • Live! Simple Shelter, Hipnautica, Pulse Faction
Thursday May 24 • Live! God Module, CHANT, TBA

21+ only • doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified
more detailed information available at:
www.elysiumonline.net • (512) 478-2979
• www.myspace.com/elysiumaustin •

RED 7

611 E. 7th - next to beauty bar

April 26th
Nicaragua, Ijord, Aspen Murder, Ides of March, Shots Fired, My Devastator, Josephine's A Killer, We Are Kings We Are Triumph

April 27th
Inside: Belligerent 86, Saint St. Brawlers, Sober Daze, Chumley, The Wharf Rats
Outside: Azoth, Still Like Decay, Interlock, Lust Murder Box

April 28th
Inside: War Within, Closedhandpromise, By Any Means Necessary, Hatchetwork, Dead Earth Politics, Within White Shadows
Outside: Roger's Porn Collection, Idle Kids, The Bricks ATX, The Flash Boys, Blanket of M

May 1st
With Blood Comes Cleansing, LifesRuiner, Beneath The Sky

May 2nd
Queen Anne's Revenge, Capitalist Kids, Truth Slowly Dies, The Final Resolve, A Lie Before

myspace.com/redsevenaustin

Emo's

alternative lounging

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ALL AGES,
ALL THE TIME
603 RED RIVER

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

INSIDE: **THE LOCUST • DAUGHTERS**
CATTLE DECAPITATION • ASSACRE
LOUNGE: **STNNG • OH, BEAST!**
RED X RED M • WE'LL GO MACHETE

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

OUTSIDE: **SUNSET RUBDOWN**
(SPENCER KRUG FROM WOLF PARADE)
KATIE EASTURN (OF YOUNG PEOPLE)
EVANGELICALS

INSIDE: **CLAP! CLAP!** (CD RELEASE)
HAUNTING OBOE MUSIC
THE ALWAYS ALREADY • CRASH GALLERY
(CAR STEREO WARS DJING BETWEEN SETS)
LOUNGE: **LONG SHADOWS & SPECIAL GUESTS**

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

INSIDE: **NEIL HAMBURGER**
PLEASEEASUR



LOUNGE: **PROMISEBREAKERS**

SUNDAY, APRIL 29

CLOSED

MONDAY, APRIL 30

MUSIC INDUSTRY BOOT CAMP
BY AUSTIN MUSIC FOUNDATION
ROAD WARRIORS
THE DIY APPROACH
TO SUCCESSFUL BOOKING
& TOURING DOORS @6PM

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

OH SEES (EX-COACHWHIPS/PINK + BROWN)
SO MANY DYNAMOS • SLOPPY KISSES

THURSDAY, MAY 3

INSIDE: **MONO** (JAPAN)
WORLD'S END GIRLFRIEND • GRAILS
LOUNGE: **QUIET COMPANY • IN CASE OF FIRE**
MINUTES TOO FAR • CONSIDER THE SOURCE

FRIDAY, MAY 4

OUTSIDE: **THE ALBUM LEAF**
THE LYBYC SYSTEM • SINGLE FRAME
LOUNGE: **HOPE IRISH** (CD RELEASE)
THE ARCHIBALDS • BROTHER MACHINE
INSIDE: **KING OF SCRATCH DJ COMPETITION 7PM**

SATURDAY, MAY 5

3PM INSIDE: **CINCO DE MAYO** WITH
VATOS LOCOS • ROGER'S PORN COLLECTION
ESE • SUICIDAL FAILURE • HELL'S ENGINE
13TH VICTIM • SPITTING BULLETS • DICKINS
PANTHER ZORA • UNDERTONE • LOS HISPANOS UK
SOBER DAZE • LOS DE VERDAD • KING'S OF CRIME
LOUNGE: **MURDOCKS • THE NOISE REVIVAL**
ORCHESTRA EXPERIENCE • FOR THOSE WHO KNOW

SUNDAY, MAY 6

INSIDE: **JOHN VANDERSLICE** 11PM
ST. VINCENT 10PM



MONDAY, MAY 7

INSIDE: **THOSE PEABODYS • BIRDS OF AVALON**
(EX CHERRY VALENCE)
GORCH FOCK • AWESOME COLOR 9:30PM

LOUNGE: **AWOL ONE W/ FACTOR • JOSH MARTINEZ W/ DJ MOVES**
MINE + US W/ DJ HOPPA • MSG CREW

TUESDAY, MAY 8

ELF POWER • LOXSLY • AM SYNDICATE

WEDNESDAY, MAY 9

THE BLISS OUT 3:
HORSE + DONKEY • SHE, SIR (CD RELEASE)
GHOSTS OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE
ALL IN THE GOLDEN AFTERNOON

LOUNGE: **THE BOMB SYSTEM • RED TEAM GO**
SECULAR END • LAZAR WOLF

THURSDAY, MAY 10

INSIDE: **DEAD GIRLS RUIN EVERYTHING**
(EX-ULTIMATE FAKEBOOK) **LOCALS TBA**

LOUNGE: **ROCK OF AGES**
COVERING DECADES:

- 50's - PRESERVE THE SOUND
- 60's - CONSIDER THE SOURCE
- 70's - SEAFLEA
- 80's - PROMISEBREAKERS
- 90's - SAY HELLO TO THE ANGELS

FRIDAY, MAY 11

EARLY LOUNGE SHOW (6:30-8:30PM):
AUSTIN'S HOTTEST KID BANDS!
NATURAL EAR MUSIC
& BULLDOG BOOKING PRESENT:
NO ADULTS ALLOWED ON STAGE

INSIDE, 9:30 SHOW:
FROG EYES • ALEX DELIVERY
THE SHAKY HANDS • FUTURE CLOUDS & RADAR
(CD RELEASE)

OUTSIDE: **CRUISERWEIGHT • DRIVER F**
RORY & THE ARTIFICIAL HEART
CRASH GALLERY • CASSETTE

LOUNGE: **GOLDEN BEAR • MIDGETMEN**
(5TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW)

PEEL • MICE & RIFLES

TEAM FABRICATIONS DJs
BEFORE THE SHOW & IN BETWEEN SETS!!

SATURDAY, MAY 12

INSIDE: **CENTRO-MATIC**
MICAH P. HINSON • MANDIBLE

MONDAY, MAY 14

KING KONG (DRAG CITY/EX-SLINT)
AWESOME COOL DUDES • LALALAND

TUESDAY, MAY 15

SOLD OUT: BEN GIBBARD

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16

INSIDE:

BROTHERALI

PSALM ONE
REEF THE LOST CAUSE • VEHICULAR

LOUNGE: **PRIESTBIRD** (EX-TARANTULA A.D./
KEMADO RECORDS)
PIT ER PAT • WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH

THURSDAY, MAY 17

INSIDE: **UME • FORGET CASSETTES**
A TIGER NAMED LOVESICK

LOUNGE: **THE POLITICS**

OUTSIDE:
CHAOS IN Tejas FEST
DAY ONE:

FROM LONDON, UK

HARD SKIN ONLY TEXAS SHOW
LA FRACTION • PISSCHRIST • DROPOUT
(FRANCE) (AUSTRALIA) (REUNION)
MIND ERASER • SPAZAM 151 • DEEP SLEEP

FRIDAY, MAY 18

INSIDE: **LIONS • RED FANG**
(EX-BAD WIZARD/RFTC)
ROCKLAND EAGLES • HUMAN BEING LAWNMOWER

LOUNGE: **PROMISEBREAKERS • KARAOKE APOCALYPSE**

OUTSIDE:
CHAOS IN Tejas FEST
DAY TWO:

BELGIUM PUNK LEGENDS
THE KIDS ONLY U.S. SHOW!

THE PERSUADERS

(PRE-KAJUN SS/EXPLODING HEARTS...
"HEART OF CHROME")

GOVERNMENT WARNING
(EX-MUNICIPAL WASTE/
MEMBERS OF DIRECT CONTROL)

COMPLICATIONS (MEMBERS OF BORN DEAD ICONS)

PUNCH IN THE FACE (EX LOS CRUDOS/MK ULTRA)

SEX VID REPERCUSSIONS
(EX DEATHREAT/COLD SWEAT)

SATURDAY, MAY 19

INSIDE: **THE CLIENTELE**
BEACH HOUSE • ZYKOS
LOUNGE: 101X HOMEGROWN LIVE \$1 COVER
THE CHANNEL • CASSETTE

OUTSIDE:
CHAOS IN Tejas FEST
DAY THREE:

GORDON SOLIE MOTHERFUCKERS
(REUNION... MEMBERS OF 9 SHOCKS TERROR/INMATES)
EYEHATEGOD • BORN DEAD ICONS
(MONTREAL, CANADA)
PELIGRO SOCIAL • BRIAN HANDLE
AMERICAN CHEESEBURGER

SUNDAY, MAY 20

EARLY SHOW INSIDE @5PM:
SET YOUR GOALS • JUST SURRENDER
DRIVING EAST • TOMORROW'S TOO LATE
LOCAL TBA

LATE SHOW:
CALI AGENTS • PLANET ASIA & RASCO
D.O.S. UNCLE SUEL & MORE

TUESDAY, MAY 22

THE BOXING LESSON • TUSSLE
YACHT (MEMBERS OF THE BLOW) • **BEST FWENDS**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 23

AUSTIN DISCOVERY SCHOOL BENEFIT
WITH **QUIEN ES BOOM • TBA**

THURSDAY, MAY 24

EMISSIONS FROM
THE MONOLITH
FEST DAY 1

INSIDE & IN THE LOUNGE:
KYLESA • AMPLIFIED HEAT
DAMNWEEVIL • THE MAKAI • MORE TBA!

FRIDAY, MAY 25

EMISSIONS FROM
THE MONOLITH
FEST DAY 2

INSIDE & IN THE LOUNGE:
THROTLEROD • MESS WITH THE BULL
BIBLE OF THE DEVIL • TEST SITE
IMPERIAL BATTLESNAKE • LORD BY FIRE
VALKYRIE • BEAST • LORD

SATURDAY, MAY 26

EMISSIONS FROM
THE MONOLITH
FEST DAY 3

INSIDE & IN THE LOUNGE:
RPG • MIDDIAN • COFFINS • INDIAN
ARTIMUS PYLEDRIVER • UNFORTUNAUT
MINSK • COLLAPSAR • GRAVES AT SEA
GIANT SQUID • DIXIE WITCH

SUNDAY, MAY 27

EMISSIONS FROM
THE MONOLITH
FEST DAY 4

INSIDE & IN THE LOUNGE:
DEADBIRD • WEEDATER • BLACK COBRA
RWAKE • DELICIOUS • SKELETONWITCH
ALABAMA THUNDER PUSSY • SUZUKITON • MORE TBA!

COMING SOON: 5/25 VOXTROT • 5/26 MELT BANANA • 5/27 EL-P • 5/28 PRETTY GIRLS MAKE GRAVES (FINAL TOUR) (OUT) / SOL-ILLAQUISTS OF SOUND (IN) • 5/29 HAWNAY TROOF • 6/1 STATE RADIO (EARLY) / RTX (LATE)

6/2 GAL'S PANIC REUNION (IN) / OCTOPUS PROJECT (OUT) • 6/3 MICE PARADE • 6/4 LIFESAVAS • 6/5 DMBQ (JAPAN) • 6/8 HOLD STEADY • 6/9 SAGE FRANCIS / BUCK 65 (OUT) / CALVIN JOHNSON (IN)

6/10 C3 PRESENTS: JANEANE GAROLFALO & PATTON OSWALT (TIX ON SALE 4/28 @FRONTGATETICKETS.COM) • 6/11 MASERATI (LOUNGE) / SLEEPYTIME GORILLA MUSEUM (IN) • 6/12 DAN DEACON

6/15-6/24 EMOS 15 YEAR ANNIVERSARY WEEK! - UNSANE, THE FREEZE, SHEARWATER, THE STILLS, HELL'S BELLES, SCOTT BIRAM, JERRY'S KIDS, RADIO BIRDMAN, THE QUEERS AND MUCH MORE! • 6/15 US BOMBS • 7/21 THE WRENS

*ADVANCE TICKETS AVAILABLE AT www.emosaustin.com, [waterloo records](http://waterloo-records.com), & end of an ear records

on **BEING BORING**

BEING BORING *is a CHOICE.*
THOSE MILD SALSAS *and* PLEATED
KHAKIS DON'T BUY THEMSELVES.



APRIL

THU 26

Solas, Cactus Cafe
Melissa Waddy, Tchiya Amet, Noush Skaugen, Emily Nghiem, GreenTara, Kimbo, Carver Cultural Center
Deke Dickerson, Continental Club
The Locust, Daughters, Cattle Decapitation, STNNG, Emo's
Amy Steinberg, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Rodney Hayden, Gruene Hall
Andy Palacio & the Garifuna Collective, Aurelio Martinez, Paul Nabor, Hogg Auditorium
Emory Quinn, La Zona Rosa
Radio Moscow, the Mohawk
Not the Government, the Parlor
Dogs D'Amour, RedRum
Force Fed, Room 710
New Mastersounds, Ruta Maya
George Thorogood & the Destroyers, Jim Suhler & Monkey Beat, Stubb's
Das Kapital, Trophy's

FRI 27

Tyler Keith & the Preachers' Kids, Beerland
Noush Skaugen, Tchiya Amet, Kerri Dopart, Amie Maciszewski, Laura Maurie, GreenTara, Susan Savia, Cafe Mundi
Melissa Waddy, Yasmin Rana, Emily Nghiem, Jessica Star Rockers, Kimbo, Liza Garza, Monica Mcintyre, Carver Cultural Center
LotSix, Kerri Dopart, Monica Mcintyre, Noush Skaugen, Laura Maurie, Liza Garza, GreenTara, Stacy Glazer, Copa Bar & Grill
Long Shadows, Sunset Rubdown, Katie Eastburn, Evangelicals, Emo's
Harry Bodine, Flipnotics Coffeespace
Leon Russell, Ryan Bingham, Gruene Hall
Stock Market Crash, the Mohawk
Bleu Edmondson, Nutty Brown Cafe
Ricky Skaggs & Kentucky Thunder, One World Theatre
The Temptations, Paramount Theatre

New Mastersounds, Ruta Maya
 Outside: **Burden Brothers; Inside Later: Brett Dennen, Danny Malone**, Stubb's
The Thing With Joe McPhee, Victory Grill

SAT 28
Pat Green, the Backyard
Devin the Dude, DJ Klever, Beauty Bar
Tobias Lima, Big Red Sun
Zest of Yore, Carousel Lounge
Yasmine Rana, LotSix, Lady Binx, Liza Garza, Jessica Star Rockers, Monica Mcintyre, Carver Cultural Center
Melissa Waddy, Kerri Dopart, Noush Skaugen, GreenTara, Stacy Glazer, Carver Cultural Center
Monica Mcintyre, Lady Binx, Susan Savia, GreenTara, Stacy Glazer, Copa Bar & Grill
Neil Hamburger, Emo's
Jamie Foxx, Frank Erwin Center
Will McGowan, Greater Mount Zion Baptist Church
Five for Fighting, Hogg Auditorium
The Glossary, Hole in the Wall
Oceanus, Lucy's on the Square
Twilight Broadcast, Momo's
Jeff Strahan, Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill
Sean Castillo, Riley's Tavern
Ryan Bingham, Saxon Pub
Mighty Hannibal, Scoot Inn
 Outside: **Clap Your Hands Say Yeah, Elvis Perkins in Dearland; Inside Later: Men Women & Children**, Stubb's
Robbie & the Robots, Triple Crown
HogPig, Trophy's

SUN 29
Doyle Bramhall, Antone's
Kell Stewart, Emily Nghiem, Rosalind S. Chou, Melissa Waddy, Laura Maurie, GreenTara, Monica Mcintyre, Carver Cultural Center
LotSix, Melissa Waddy, Rebecca Hart, Susan Savia, Liza Garza, Stacy Glazer, Carver Cultural Center
Amie Maciszewski, Liza Garza, Kimbo, Lady Binx, Rebecca Hart, Monica Mcintyre, Green Muse Cafe

Tony Furtado Band, Carley Wolf, La Zona Rosa
Emily Nghiem, Rebecca Hart, LotSix, Monica Mcintyre, Jessica Star Rockers, Liza Garza, Tchiya Amet, GreenTara, Stacy Glazer, Longbranch Inn
Gospel Silvertones, Stubb's
Chris Cornell, Stubb's
Leon Russell, Threadgill's World HQ

MON 30
Paco Pena Flamenco, One World Theatre
Harry Bodine, Ruta Maya
Leslie & the Lys, Trophy's

MAY
TUE 1
Drive-by Truckers, Antone's
Lowrent the Clown, Luna Tart, Beerland
Julleann Banks, Evangeline Cafe
Toots & the Maytals, La Zona Rosa

WED 2
Drive-by Truckers, Antone's
Kristin Hersh, Cactus Cafe
Thee Ohsees, So Many Dynamos, Emo's
Ryan Montbleau Band, Flamingo Cantina
 Outside: **Blonde Redhead, Annuals; Inside Later: MC Frontalot**, Stubb's

THU 3
Stephen Marley, Damien "Jr. Gong" Marley, K'Naan, Antone's
Old Haunts, Beerland
Yatsuzaki, Carousel Lounge
Candye Kane, Continental Club
 Inside: **Mono, World's End Girlfriend, Grails; Lounge: In Case of Fire, Minutes Too Far**, Emo's
Eric Mcfadden Trio, Steepwater Band, Flamingo Cantina
Mute Math, the Cinematics, Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin, Club of the Sons, La Zona Rosa
Scattered Pages, the Mohawk
Mars Attacks, the Parlor
All Get Out, Schill, Eating Crow, Room 710
Don Chani, Ruta Maya

Eyore's Birthday Party w/ Rattletree, Scorpio Rising, Wajumbe, Tribal Nation, **Pease Park**

SUN 29
Brazil by Way of Music, World Preparatory Benefit w/ Doyle Bramhall & Friends, Ephraim Owens Quartet, Phil Brown w/ Pat Mastelotto, Seu Jacinto, **Antone's**
Meow, Woof, & Dine for Thundering Paws Animal Sanctuary w/ Marc Gunn, **El Arroyo**
Carl Cooley Benefit w/ 2 Hoots & a Holler, the Heymakers, Ron Flynt, Lonesome Dave Fisher, Eric Hisaw, Chrissy Flatt, Jo Carol Pierce, John Stark, Bonnie Holmes, **Opal Divine's**
Central Texas Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition w/ the Eggmen, **Ruta Maya**

THU 03
Inside Books Benefit w/ Yatsuzaki, Follow That Bird!, Funeralizer, **Carousel Lounge**
Amigos de Las Americas Benefit w/ Crying Monkeys, **Laguna Gloria**

World Fest 2007, CST Benefit w/ Susan Gibson, **Center for Survivors of Torture**
Friends of Garry Benefit, Silent Auction w/ Dan Sullivan, Marty Linville, the Minderchucks, Sister Luck, Beth Miner, Brent Allen, Make It Stop, Patrick Conway, Sounds Under Radio, Ryan Vaughn, Language Room, **Junior's Grill & Icehouse**

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

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for your benefit

THU 26

MonkeyWrench Books Benefit w/ Wax Museum Pandemonium, Yatsuzaki, Perennial Tuesday, Many Birthdays, Attic Ted, **Carousel Lounge**
Evening Under the Oaks, Museum Benefit w/ Plum Tucker, **French Legation Museum**
KVRX Local Live 11 Release, Benefit w/ Jerm Pollet, Tee Double, Lovely Sparrows, Zookeeper, **Irie Bean Coffee Bar**

FRI 27

Disability Assistance of Central Texas, Spamarama Benefit w/ Mother Truckers, **Scholz Garten**

SAT 28

World Fest 2007, CST Benefit w/ Susan Gibson, **Center for Survivors of Torture**
Friends of Garry Benefit, Silent Auction w/ Dan Sullivan, Marty Linville, the Minderchucks, Sister Luck, Beth Miner, Brent Allen, Make It Stop, Patrick Conway, Sounds Under Radio, Ryan Vaughn, Language Room, **Junior's Grill & Icehouse**

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JJ USHER BAND 9:30PM

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

DYSFUNKSHUN JUNKSHUN 9:30PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

SPRUNG 9:30PM

TUESDAY, MAY 1

TEXAS TUESDAY MARK MCKINNEY 9:30PM
18+ WELCOME

WEDNESDAY, MAY 2

LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW SALSA LESSONS 9:30PM

412-D CONGRESS AVE. • 476-8017
(entrance in the alley) • speakeasyaustin.com

GIRARD DIVERSIFIED INTEREST

club listings

Thu 26

- 219 WEST** Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30)
ANTONE'S Tyrone Vaughan, Parkers Break, Damesviolet
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Michael Ballew
AUNT TILLY'S ISLAND CAFE & BAR Open Mic w/ Rusty Wier (9:30)
B.B. ROVERS Judith Miller Band (8:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Trent Turner
BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes
BROWN BAR mr.ripley
CACTUS CAFE Solas (8:30)
CAFE MUNDI Combo Mahalo (6:00)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE MonkeyWrench Books Benefit w/ Wax Museum Pandemonium, Yatsuzaki (2012), Perennial Tuesday, Many Birthdays, Attic Ted (9:00)
CARVER CULTURAL CENTER Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival Mixer w/ DJ R.O.W., Kimbo, GreenTara, Emily Nghiem, Noush Skaugen, Lisa Richards, Jaelyn Lucas, Jana Pochop, Tchiya Amet, Melissa Waddy as Harriet Tubman (7:00)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Legs & Notes w/ Crying Monkeys (6:00)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Tea Merchants (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Rick Turcotte (5:30), Phil Pritchett (8:30)
CLUB ONE 15 Girl Guitar
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Paris '49 (10:00); In the Club: Mother Truckers (6:30), Deke Dickerson, the Ugly Beats (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
COTTON CLUB Texas All-Stars (8:30)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE No Show Ponies (8:00)
CYPRESS CREEK CAFE George Enslé
THE DETOUR BAR & GRILL The Wild Cards (8:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Bang
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Lonesome Heroes, 2 Hoots & a Holler (8:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Liz Morphis, Glenn Rexach CD Release (6:00)
EMO'S Inside: We'll Go Machete; Red X Red M; Oh, Beast!; STNNG; Outside: Assacre, Cattle Decapitation, Daughters, the Locust; Lounge: Promisebreakers
EVANGELINE CAFE Danny Britt (7:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Amy Steinberg, Jeff Daily
FREDDIE'S PLACE Phillip Gibbs (6:00)
FRENCH LEGATION MUSEUM Evening Under the Oaks, Museum Benefit w/ Plum Tucker (7:00)
FRIENDS Player One, VG
GIDDY UPS Mike Morgan's Open Mic
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Ted Roddy (8:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Triple Play
GRUENE HALL Rodney Hayden CD Release (7:30)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Johnny Gimble (6:30)
HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
HOGG AUDITORIUM Paul Nabor, Aurelio Martinez, Andy Palacio & the Garifuna Collective
HOLE IN THE WALL Chris Hawkes, Kevin McKinney, Sheboygan (9:00)
HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian
HYATT LOST PINES RESORT & SPA Melissa Sellers, Blind Orange
IRIE BEAN COFFEE BAR KVRX Local Live 11 Release, Benefit w/ Jerm Pollet, Tee Double, Lovely Sparrows, Zookeeper (6:00)
JOHNNY FINS DJ Your Way (7:00)
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA ZONA ROSA Emory Quinn (9:00)
LAMBERTS Django's Mustache (6:30), Cienfuegos (10:30)
THE LOADING DOCK Breezy
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, Anagen (6:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Bernie Calcote, Wartime Social
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)
MESSAGE HARMONY Grand Opening w/ Ethan Azarian (4:00)
THE MOHAWK Radio Moscow, The Authors (10:00)
MOMO'S Ryan Carter, 13 Sounds, Will Evans Project, Ryan Davis, Jeremy Nail (8:00)
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS Carl Koonce
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Ed Jurdi (6:30)
NUOVA ONDA Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival w/ DJ P.O.W. (11:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Nutty Karaoke
THE OAKS Singer-Songwriter Open Mic w/ Sharon May & Lew Andre' Mathews, Larry Rothwell & Jim Strickland (7:00)
THE PARLOR Not the Government
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE The Balons (8:00)
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Vehicular, Nuthin' New All-Stars (9:00)
REDRUM Dogs D'Amour
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine (6:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN The Flyin' A's
RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT Cienfuegos (8:00)
THE ROCK ROOM Jul & Chrome Wheels, Assemble the Sky (8:00)
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Eddy Main

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.

- ROOM 710** Canyon of the Skull, Force Fed, Next of Sin, Rend
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Dave Jorgenson
RUTA MAYA Road to Jazz Fest w/ New Mastersounds, Greyhounds, Topaz, Topaz, Chickens Strut, Will Bernard Band (8:00)
SAXON PUB The Fabs, Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore (8:00)
SCOOT INN Troy Campbell, Lonesome Dave Fisher (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy Dee
SPEAKEASY JJ USHER (9:30)
STUBB'S Jim Suhler & Monkey Beat, George Thorogood & the Destroyers
T.C.'S LOUNGE The Leghounds (9:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Phil Stevens, Hoa Hoa Chaing Chaing, Falcon Buddies, the Murdocks,
TROPHY'S Winovino: My Precious, Precious Gun; Das Kapital
UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen
WOODY'S SOUTH Natalie Zoe (7:00)
Z'TEJAS George Carver Trio (6:00)

Fri 27

- 311 CLUB** Drawing Back, Joe Valentine (8:30)
AGAVE Randy Pavlock (7:30)
ANGEL'S ICEHOUSE Drew Kennedy (8:30)
ANTONE'S The Johns, the Gourds (9:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Studeabakers
AUSTIN CITY HALL PLAZA Live From the Plaza w/ Guy Forsyth (noon)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Kim & Her Blues Girls
BEAUTY BAR Tammany Hall Machine, Lomita CD Release (10:00)

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THU 4/26 **THE FLYIN' A'S**
 FRI 4/27 **TEXAS SAINTS**
 SAT 4/28 **RODS AT RILEY'S CAR SHOW**
 2PM RICHARDSON SEEDS
 5:30PM JOEL HOFMANN BAND
 9PM SEAN CASTILLO & THE HUBCAPS
 SUN 4/29 **OPEN MIC** WITH GLENN ALLEN & KIM MACKENZIE
 MON 4/30 **KARAOKE**

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TRENT TURNER & THE MOONTOWERS
 FRIDAY Apr 27 - 10:30
KIM & THE BLUES GIRLS
 SATURDAY Apr 28 - 10:30
MIKE MILLIGAN & THE ALTAR BOYZ

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SUN 29 APR **BRAZIL BY WAY OF MUSIC** SEU JACINTO DOYLE BRAMHALL EPHRAIM OWENS

SUN 30 APR **WILLIE NELSON HOOT NIGHT!** WALT WILKINS & AN ALLSTAR LINEUP! HAPPY BIRTHDAY WILLIE!

TUE 01 MAY & WED 02 MAY **DRIVE BY TRUCKERS** DIRT UNDERNEATH with MARIO MATTEOLI VERY LIMITED SEATING • ON SALE NOW • WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

THU 03 MAY **STEPHEN MARLEY** PRESENTED BY GHETTO YOUTHS INT'L PRESENTS **JR. GONG & KNAAN** ON SALE NOW! WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI 04 MAY **NELO** JOHNNY COUDIE & THE LITTLE CHAMPIONS

SAT 05 MAY **CINCO DE MAYO! GRUPO FANTASMA & VALLEJO** WITH MUCH LOVE. ON SALE NOW AT WWW.ANTONES.NET

SUN 06 MAY **FLYLEAF** KILL HANNAH • SICK PUPPIES with RESIDENT HERO • ANDICE ON SALE NOW! WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

THU 10 MAY **VIDEO PREMIERE PARTY DIRECTED BY ROBERT RODRIGUEZ** **NOONER**

FRI 11 MAY **GUY FORSYTH** ON SALE NOW!

SAT 12 MAY **MOTHER'S DAY CELEBRATION** **IAN MCLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND** WITH VERY SPECIAL GUESTS! TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

SUN 13 MAY **JOE BONAMASSA** ON SALE NOW! WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

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TUE 22 MAY **REMEMBERING CLIFFORD** 1 YEAR ANNIVERSARY with a cast of thousands!

SUN 23 MAY **BLUES SOCIETY EXTRAVAGANZA** JIMMIE VAUGHAN MARCIA BALL RUTHIE FOSTER & MANY MORE! TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

WED 24 MAY **MARTIN SEXTON** ON SALE NOW! WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

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THU 4/26 • 9PM **BILLY DEE**
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 SAT 4/28 • 10PM **MYSTERIOUS WAYS**
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 TUE 4/31 • 9PM **TEA MERCHANTS**

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 SATURDAY APRIL 28TH **EVANGELINE'S ANNUAL CRAWFISH BOIL!** 4PM 'TIL THE CRAWFISH RUN OUT! LIVE MUSIC BY **CHARLES THIBODEAUX** 4-6PM
 MONDAY APRIL 30 • 6:30PM **CHARLES THIBODEAUX**
 TUESDAY MAY 1 **LOVE GONE COLD** 6PM
 WEDNESDAY MAY 2 • 6PM **COWBOY JOHNSON**

STUBB'S WALLER CREEK AM

THU APR 26

**GEORGE THOROGOOD
AND THE DESTROYERS**

WITH **JIM SUHLER & MONKEY BEAT**

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FRI APR 27

BURDEN BROTHERS

with **RIVERBOAT GAMBLERS**

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SAT APR 28

Clap Your Hands Say Yeah

"Elvis Perkins in Bearland"

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WED MAY 2

Blonde Redhead

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FRI MAY 4

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WED MAY 9

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FRI MAY 11

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and the PARLIAMENT FUNKADELIC**

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SUN MAY 13

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WED MAY 16

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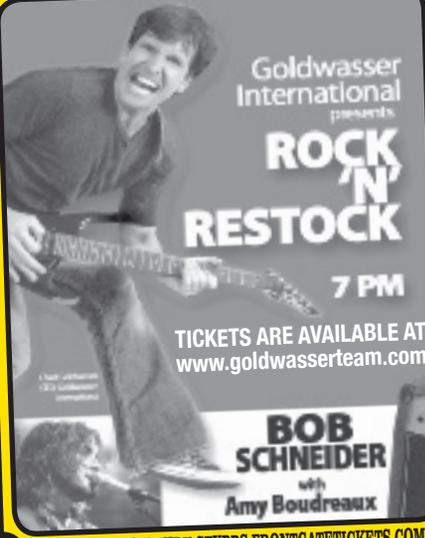
FRI MAY 18 THU MAY 24

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7 PM



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IN THE CLUB

FRI APR 27 — DOORS 11PM
BRETT DENNEN 
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SAT APR 28 — DOORS 10:30PM



MEN, WOMEN & CHILDREN
SUN APR 29

SAT JUN 9

Patty Griffin



CHILDREN RUNNING THROUGH TOUR
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SAT JUN 16

RISE AGAINST



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WED MAY 2 — DOORS 10:30PM
MCFRONTALOT
FREE WITH BLONDE REDHEAD TIX

THU MAY 3
BAREFOOT WITH AUX
IRON GIANTS
AND **MEGAN MCCALLON**

TUE MAY 8
RYAN SHAW 

WED MAY 9 — DOORS 10:30PM
VAST

THU MAY 10
THE POSTMARKS
WITH **RALEIGH**

SAT MAY 12 — DOORS 10:30PM
BACKDOORSLAM

WED MAY 16 — DOORS 11PM
ALTERNATE ROUTES

FRI MAY 18 — DOORS 11PM
BACKDOORSLAM
FREE WITH LOS LONELY BOYS TIX
SAT MAY 19
BIGBALLS
WITH **THE SUFFRAGETTES**
AND **AIRLINE**

TUE JUN 19

LES CLAYPOOL'S FANCY TOUR



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THU JUN 21

Buddy Guy



WITH **THE GREYHOUNDS**

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FRI JUN 22

WOLF MOTHER



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THURS., APRIL 26, 8PM


THE RETURN OF HAPPY HOUR FEATURING THE "LEGENDARY" **IAN MCLAGAN & THE BUMP BAND**

10PM

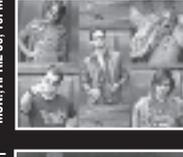

LATER: **ANAGEN**

FRI., APRIL 27, 9PM


MATT WHITE

SAT., APRIL 28, 9PM


PRIMM

MON., APRIL 30, 10PM


ROCKIN' THE 80'S "FOR THE LADIES" **THE SWELLS WAVE**

TUES., MAY 1


THE FISHERMEN AND DJ RAPID RIC
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10PM


★★ *The Incomparable* ★★
BOOMBOX

WED., MAY 2, 10PM


MERIDIAN WEST

THURS., MAY 3, 8PM


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10PM


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Thurs. Apr. 26
Carolyn Wonderland 8pm
George Devore 11pm
 Hhr. The Fabs 5pm

Fri. Apr. 27
Seth Walker 11pm
BRUCE SMITH 9:30pm
Crystal Flavola 8pm
 Hhr. The Regulars 6pm No Cover

Sat. Apr. 28
The Asylum Street Spankers 8pm
Wendy Colonna 11pm

Sun. Apr. 29
THE RESENTMENTS 7pm
 w/ Stephen Bruton, Scrappy Jud Newcomb, Bruce Hughes, Jon Dee Graham & John Chipman
WALTER TRAGERT 12am
THE SAILIN'ERS 10pm

Mon. Apr. 30 8:30pm
BOB SCHNEIDER'S LONELYLAND 11pm
 Matt the Electrician **GOLDCURE**

Tues. May 1
 \$5 **Acoustic Hero** 8pm
 Michail LaCroix, Jeff Metil, Andy Harvey, Amanda Lepre, Max Gutierrez, Matthew Blagg, Amy Wallace, Andy Macintyre, Zach Arrington, Joseph Lustru

Wed. May 2 10pm
Wendy Colonna
 8pm **Paula Nelson**
 12am **JAY THOMAS**
 Hhr. **Pauline Reese** 6pm

COMING TO THE SAXON:
 Fri. 5/4
Ruthie Foster
 Sat. 5/6 - **Jon Dee Graham**
 Sat. 5/12 - **South Austin Jug Band**

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Wednesdays
Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones
 "The Singing Bartender"

Thursday, April 26
Green Mountain Grass

Friday, April 27
Magnolia Band CD Release Party

Saturday, April 28
RUSTY WIER
OPENER: JEFF STRAHAN

Sunday, April 29
KIP ATTAWAY
 (AMERICA'S PREMIER COWBOY COMEDIAN)

Thursday, May 3
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 NO COVER

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THURSDAY MAY 10
 M.J. BABY & THE LAST WORD
 JUMPSTART

SUNDAY MAY 13
 BRIAN WILSON & THE SHORT ROAD BAND
 HONEYBROWNE

THURSDAY MAY 17
 JELLY JAM
 THE DAVID CHENU QUINTET

SUNDAY MAY 20
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 MR. BROWN

THURSDAY MAY 24
 THE INDIA TAYLOR TRIO
 THE GROOVES

SUNDAY MAY 27
 EDDIE BLUE
 THE BLUES CRAWLERS
 JOHN GAAR BAND w/ MALFORD MULLIGAN

THURSDAY MAY 31
 CODY SHAW & THE RHYTHM BOYS
 GINA LEE & THE BRISKEET BOYS

THURSDAY JUNE 7
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SUN. 4/29 @ 8PM

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FRI. 5/4 @ 9PM
JIMMY LAFAYE
SAT. 5/19 @ 10PM
FREDDIE STEADY 5

FRI. 5/25 @ 10PM
THE DERAILERS
SAT. 5/26 @ 9PM

RUTHIE FOSTER

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THU, APR 26 CHAPARRAL w/ JEFF HUGHES
FRI, APR 27 CORNELL HURD
SAT, APR 28 GEEZINSLAW BROS.
TUE, MAY 1 CHAIRMAN'S NIGHT
WED, MAY 2 JESSIE LEE 6-8 NO COVER
LUCKY TOMLIN NO COVER

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club listings << FROM SATURDAY

THE BACKYARD Eli Young Band, Pat Green
BEAUTY BAR DJ Klever, DJ Mel, DJ Nick Nack, Devin the Dude
BEERLAND Airlane, Shandon Sahn
BIG RED SUN East Side Music Fest w/ Nelson Saga & Arma Del Alma, Bombasta, Cienfuegos, Tobias Lima, Conga Groove, Rumba Braba (6:00)
BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOAT HOUSE GRILL MJ Torrance
BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Geezinslaw Bros. w/ Sam and Son
CACTUS CAFE Austin Lounge Lizards (8:30)
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole
CAROUSEL LOUNGE ML Frank, Count Dracula's Weed Smuggling Jam Engine, Cavedweller, Zest of Yore
CARVER CULTURAL CENTER Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival w/ Stacy Glazer, GreenTara, Noush Skaugen, Kerri Dopart, Lady Legacy, Melissa Waddy (3:00), Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival w/ Monica McIntyre, Stephanie Briggs, Jessica Star Rockers, Liza Garza, Lady Binx, Lisa Richards, LotSix, Yasmine Rana (7:00)
CENTER FOR SURVIVORS OF TORTURE World Fest 2007, CST Benefit w/ Susan Gibson (3:00)
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Blaze (7:00)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Palm School Choir (3:00)
CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Evildoers, the Ideals (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (10:00); In the Club: Texas Sapphires (3:00), LeRoi Brothers (12:30am)
COOL RIVER CAFE Vertigo
COPA BAR & GRILL Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival w/ Stacy Glazer, Timeca Seretti, GreenTara, DJ P.O.W., Susan Savia, Lady Binx, Jaelyn Lucas, Monica McIntyre, Karina Nistal, Leslie Kastrop, Phil Smith, Allison Thrash (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Kenny Orts CD Release (9:00)
CYPRESS CREEK CAFE Cawfish Fest w/ Forlini & Cross, Texas Renegade, Hundred Year Flood
DAN MCKLUSKY'S Mac Bynum (7:30)
THE DIRTY DOG Jeff Canada, Berry Street (9:00)
DIZZY ROOSTER Andy Macintyre & the Primal Groove (8:00)
DOMINICAN JOE'S No Show Ponies (9:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (8:00)
EGO'S The Meshbanes, Red Line Riot, Neal Kassanoff & the Infidels, Scorpio Rising (8:30)
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Mary Welch y Los Curanderos (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Lara & Reyes
ELYSIUM Haven w/ DJ Void, the Gothfather
EMO'S Inside: Pleaseeasaur, Neil Hamburger; Lounge: Promisebreakers
FLAMINGO CANTINA Grimy Styles, Green Mountain Grass (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Hand Me Down, Double Eagle String Band, Lonesome Heroes (7:00)
FLYING TOMATO PIZZA KITCHEN Rich Restaino (6:00)
FRANK ERWIN CENTER Jamie Fox
FREDDIE'S PLACE Catch a Dream (6:00)
GENUINE JOE COFFEEHOUSE Aaronstock w/ Amy Zamarripa, Clay McKelvy, Erik Berglund, Jana Pochop, Katie Lessley, Amanda Percy, Heather Bishop, the Redneck Boys, Rogue River String Band, Havilah Tower, Primitive Noise (9:00am)
GREATER MOUNT ZION BAPTIST CHURCH Will McGowan CD Release (6:00)
GRUENE HALL Gary Claxton (1:00), the Derailers (9:00)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits (6:30)
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Will T. Massey (6:15)
HOGG AUDITORIUM Five for Fighting (8:00)
HOLE IN THE WALL Stevie Tombstone, One Mississippi, the Glossary, Grand Champeen (9:00)
HYATT LOST PINES RESORT & SPA Blues Crawlers
IT'S A GRIND COFFEEHOUSE Songwriter Open Mic (7:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Andrew Crosby, Jaime Garcia (9:00)
JOHNNY FINS Crush

JOVITA'S Jodi Adair, Spencer Thomas, Will Dunlap (6:00)
JUNIOR'S GRILL & ICEHOUSE Friends of Garry Benefit, Silent Auction w/ Dan Sullivan, Marty Linville, the Minderchucks, Sister Luck, Beth Miner, Brent Allen, Make It Stop, Patrick Conway, Sounds Under Radio, Ryan Vaughn, Language Room (noon)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)
LAMBERTS Marshall Ford Swing Band (6:30), Low Expectations (10:30)
LONGHORN CAVERNS Simple Sounds w/ Fred Smith & Sharon Bousquet (5:45)
LUCKY LOUNGE Primm (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Crocodile, Oceanus, ClapClap!, This Will Destroy You CD Release
MELLOW MUSHROOM Full Service EP Release & Art Show (10:00)
THE MOHAWK White Denim, Loxsly, Golden Bear (8:00)
MOMO'S Twilight Broadcast, Nathan Singleton, This Life Electric, Graham Wilkinson & the Underground Township (8:00)
MULLIGAN'S Al Monti
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Rick Hornyak (6:30)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Vallejo
THE OASIS Alpha Rev (7:00)
OPAL DIVINE'S MARINA Dave Insley (8:00)
OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD Bonnie Holmes Trio (8:00)
THE PARLOR The Cocker Spaniels, Raised by Tigers
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Texas Swing Kings (8:00)
PEASE PARK Eeyore's Birthday Party w/ Rattletree, Scorpio Rising, Wajumbe, Tribal Nation (11:00am)
PLUSH Turntable Manners w/ DJ Tats, Dirty Harry
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Jeff Strahan, Rusty Wier
RADISSON Kent Mayhew
RED FEZ The Bumps, DJ Kurv (10:30)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Kevin Ahart (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Rods at Riley's w/ Richardson Seeds, Joel Hofmann, Sean Castillo & the Hubcaps (2:00)
THE ROCK ROOM Tish & Mizzbehavin' (9:30)
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Kirk Hale (6:30)
ROOM 710 Ironclad, Amplified Heat, Gentlemen's Social Club, New Disaster
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Earl Beaty
RUTA MAYA Channelsurf, Two High String Band, Glenn Rexach Trio CD Release (7:00)
SAXON PUB Asylum Street Spankers, Ryan Bingham (8:00)
SCOOT INN Black Joe Lewis, Golden Boys, Strange Boys, Mighty Hannibal (9:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke, Open Mic (9:00)
SKI SHORES Danny Britt (6:00)
SPEAKEASY Sprung (9:30)
STUBB'S Outside: Elvis Perkins in Dearland, Clap Your Hands Say Yeah; Inside Later: Men Women & Children
SUNSET VALLEY CITY HALL Sunset Valley Arts Commission w/ Haydn Vitera, Crying Monkeys, James Polk Trio, Palm School Choir, Bowie High School Steel Drum Ensemble (10:00am)
SUNSET VALLEY FARMERS' MARKET Danny Fast Fingers (11:00am)
TAMBALEO DJ Kurrupt, DJ Inverse (10:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Digital Juice
TRIPLE CROWN People Skills, Robbie & the Robots, Rockus Circus CD Release (9:00)
TROPHY'S A Few Nice Things, HogPig, Marshall Dylan (10:00)
UNCLE FLIRTY'S DJ Ashen
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE SOUTH JD Clark (9:00)

BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega (10:00)
BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton Adams
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Brian
CARVER CULTURAL CENTER Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival w/ Stacy Glazer, Liza Garza, Susan Savia, Rebecca Hart, Melissa Waddy, Lotsix (3:00), Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival w/ Monica McIntyre, GreenTara, Laura Maurice, Leslie Kastrop, Marilyn Rucker, Melissa Waddy, Rosalind S. Chou, Emily Nghiem, Keli Stewart (7:00)
CEDAR STREET Les & the Funk Mob (9:30)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Floyd Domino (noon)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (10:00); In the Club: Heybale! w/ Redd & Earl (10:00)
COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00), Des Nuits (9:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
EGO'S Julianne Banks, Paul Lemond (9:00)
EL ARROYO Meow, Woof, & Dine for Thundering Paws Animal Sanctuary w/ Marc Gunn (3:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Torch
ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice
FLAMINGO CANTINA Mau Mau Chaplains (6:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sunday Soul Service w/ the Bruce James Quartet (1:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE KC Edwards (3:00)
FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam w/ Walter Higen (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Redd Volkaert (4:00)
GINO'S ITALIAN GRILL Ted Hall's Blues Church Jam
GREEN MUSE CAFE Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival w/ Monica McIntyre, DJ P.O.W., Rebecca Hart, Lady Binx, Kimbo, Lisa Richards, Karina Nistal, Marilyn Rucker, Liza Garza, Jaelyn Lucas, Phil Smith, Amie Maciszewski (10:00am)
GREEN FASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)
GRUENE HALL Audrey Auld (12:30), John Arthur Martinez (5:00)
GUERO'S TACO BAR Topaz (3:00)
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Austin Sketch Group (1:30)
HOLE IN THE WALL Rebecca's Ragtime Revue, Superego All-Stars, Darin Murphy, Rock & Roll Free for All (9:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Brunch w/ the Kinkett (11:00am)
JOHNNY FINS Allen Mayes (4:00)
JOVITA'S Johann Wagner, Diminished 7 Band (4:30)
LA ZONA ROSA Carley Wolf, Tony Furtado Band
LONGBRANCH INN Woman's Film, Music & Literary Festival w/ Stacy Glazer, GreenTara, DJ P.O.W., Allison Thrash, Tchiya Amen, Liza Garza, Jessica Star Rockers, Monica McIntyre, Lotsix, Rebecca Hart, Jana Pochop, Stephanie Briggs, Emily Nghiem (10:00)
MANUEL'S David Webb (11:30am)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS McMercy Family Gospel Band, the Durdens (10:30am)
MOMO'S Phoebejebbies, Damien Green, Lost & Nameless Orchestra (8:00)
NUEVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am)
THE OAKS Sunday Social w/ Bayou Cajun Band (4:00)
THE OASIS The Brew
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Mrs. K
OPAL DIVINE'S Carl Cooley Benefit w/ 2 Hoots & a Holler, the Heymakers, Ron Flynt, Lonesome Dave Fisher, Eric Hisaw, Chrissy Flatt, Jo Carol Pierce, John Stark, Bonnie Holmes (4:00)
OPAL DIVINE'S PENN FIELD Pop Stars: Dads Who Rock (10:00am), Brunch w/ Pop Stars (1:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Kip Attaway
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)
RAIN ON 4TH Hedda Layne (6:00)
RED FEZ DJ Kurrupt (10:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen & Kim Mackenzie
ROMEO'S Rib Greenfield
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Eddy Main
RUTA MAYA Kids' Show: Drumming with Mr. Steve Marcum (10:30am), Central Texas Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition w/ the Egmen (5:30), Des Nuits (9:00)
SAENGERRUNDE HALL Last Monday w/ Eliza Gilkyson (6:00)

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 SUN. 4/29

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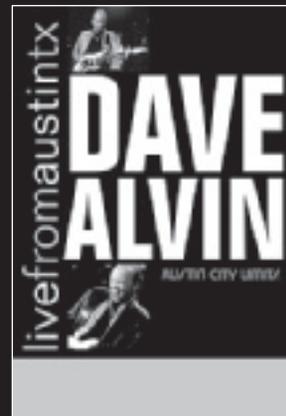
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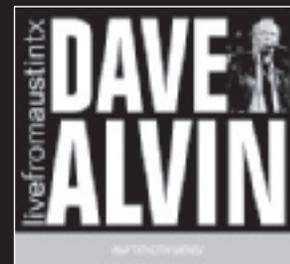
livefromaustintx

DAVE ALVIN

Dave Alvin's world lies somewhere on the margins – the seedy bus stations, bars and endless boulevards of L.A. and the reality of California's underbelly of discontent. Alvin was originally a founding member of the punk/roots scene band, the Blasters, with his brother Phil. Over the years he's continued to hone his skills as a singer, songwriter and musician. This ACL episode, recorded in 1999, includes songs from his album at the time, *Blackjack David*, his best statement to date about love, hope, and despair.



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JADE DAY 9-11PM

SATURDAY, APRIL 28
JD CLARK 9-11PM

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WILL DUNLAP

EVERY WED. 7PM
PTARMIGAN

FRIDAY, APRIL 27
WASHBOARD JUDY

SATURDAY, APRIL 28
RUBY'S JAZZ GARAGE

club listings ◀◀ FROM SUNDAY

SAXON PUB The Resentments, Walter Tragert, the Salingers (7:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D
SKI SHORES Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (5:00)
ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Conspirare Children's Choir w/ Craig Hella Johnson (7:00)
STUBB'S Brunch w/ the Gospel Silvertones (noon), Chris Cornell (8:00)
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Lee
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Gospel Brunch w/ the Bells of Joy (11:00am), Leon Russell (8:00)
TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds
THE WATER TANK Open Mic w/ Patrick
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE WEST Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra
WOODY'S SOUTH Jordan Price & Shad Blair (7:00)

NASTY'S DJ Mel, Jahmighty
ONE WORLD THEATRE Paco Pena Flamenco (7:00, 9:30)
OPAL DIVINE'S Nathan Hamilton
RADISSON Larissa Ness (5:30)
RED FEZ DJ Jeff Jupiter (10:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Karaoke
ROMEO'S Lisa Clark
ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System (8:00)
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Chip Sneed
RUTA MAYA Harry Bodine, Will T. Massey (7:00)
SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician, Bob Schneider, Goldcure (7:00)
SCOOT INN J.T. Van Zandt, Calvin Russell (9:00)
T.C.'S LOUNGE Little Elmore Reed
TRIPLE CROWN In & Outlaws (6:00)
TROPHY'S Secret Weapons, Awesome Cool Dudes, Leslie & the Lys
THE WATER TANK Tony Fant (8:00)
WOODY'S SOUTH Billy Dee

GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Open Stage w/ Cade Baccus
HABANA CALLE 6 Trey Lanshe (8:00)
HANOVER'S Pete Benz & Kevin Havron (7:30)
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Singer-Songwriter Open Mic Night w/ Sergio Martinez (8:00)
HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Leo Stokes
HOLE IN THE WALL Passed Out Flyers, the Meshbanes, Tank Engine (8:00)
JOVITA'S Mo Pair, Robert Banta, Trent Turner (6:00)
LA PALAPA Brewer Nation
LA ZONA ROSA Toots & the Maytals (8:00)
LAMBERTS Jitterbug Vipers (6:30), Phil Brown Jam (10:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Fishermen, DJ Rapid Ric, Boombox (10:00)
MOMO'S UT Ethnomusicology Concert (8:00)
THE OAKS Idgy Vaughn, Erin Condo, Sarah Glynn (6:30), Idgy Vaughn w/ Erin Condo & Sarah Glynn (6:30)
THE OFFICE LOUNGE Karaoke w/ Billy D
THE OLD ALLIGATOR GRILL Dr. Zog (6:00)
PARDNERS Open Mic w/ the Michael Petty Band (7:30)
PLUSH Mentalnote
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Troubadillos
THE PUB Karaoke w/ Justin Radisson Murphy's Inlaws
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Denia Ridley w/ Marc Devine Trio (6:30)
RILEY'S TAVERN Beverly Hensley
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE OJ Laird
RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon & the Heatherns (9:00)
SAXON PUB Acoustic Hero (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke (9:00)
SPEAKEASY Mark McKinney (9:30)
TAVERN IN THE GRUENE Songwriters Open Mic w/ Jerry Martin & Sam Sanchez (8:00)
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Asleep at the Wheel (8:00)
TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis
THE WATER TANK Karaoke w/ RJ
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Dunlap (6:00)
WATERLOO RECORDS Asleep at the Wheel (5:00)

Mon 3 0

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)
BEERLAND Rock & Roll Karaoke w/ Nathan Black
BLIND PIG PUB Chris Pennington (10:30)
'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton Adams
CACTUS CAFE Open Stage w/ Abi Tapia, Graham Weber (7:30)
CEDAR STREET Highly Likely, Jukebox Heroes w/ Robert Wagner (6:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Mike & Rob Haedge (5:30)
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Rich Demarco (6:30)
CLUB ONE 15 Shelli Coe, Trey Stapleton (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: CryBear (10:00); In the Club: Paris '49 (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:30)
DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)
EGO'S Elise Evans (8:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Three Jazz Collective, Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (6:00)
EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux (6:30)
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE DJ Ashen
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Merri Palmer, Hobos Cooking Steaks (8:00)
FRIENDS Andy Macintyre & the Primal Groove (8:00)
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic Poetry & Reading w/ Frank (7:30)
HOLE IN THE WALL Johnny Walker, Chris Brecht, JJ Baron (9:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE The Swells Wave (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic Night
MAGGIE MAE'S Butt Rockin' Blue Monday w/ the Texcellorators (8:00)
MOMO'S Jonathan Terrell, Dave Madden, Dustin Welch, Chad Dorman (7:00)
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Matt Powell & Friends (9:00)
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson & Joley Flowers

Tue 0 1

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Bruce James Quartet (3:30)
ANTONE'S Drive-by Truckers, Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan; Barfield (10:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)
B.B. ROVERS Jollyville Hayride w/ Billy Eli & Jim Hemphill (7:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Open Mic (7:30)
BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)
BEERLAND Luna Tart, Lowrent the Clown, Trouble Puppet Theatre, That Damned Band
BROWN BAR DJ Gray (9:00)
CAFFÉ MEDICI Phillipe Vieux Trio (7:00)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Sarah Sharp, Jerm Pollet & the Total Foxes
CEDAR STREET Seela Green (6:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Vela & Jordan Minor (5:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Ephraim Owens Experience (10:00), Chicken Strut (10:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE X-Perimental Night
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Open Mic w/ Bonnie & Blythe (9:00)
THE DIRTY DOG Jazz Jam (10:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EL MERCADO'S MUSIC LOUNGE Writers Who Rock Songwriters Night w/ Melissa Mullins (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Tony Campise Quartet (9:30)
ELYSIUM Sappho's Isle w/ DJ Amerykah
EVANGELINE CAFE Love Gone Cold, Julieann Banks (6:00)
FIREHOUSE LOUNGE Deep Sessions w/ DJ Toddy B
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)
FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits, Joe Richardson Express (8:00)
GIBSON GUITAR SHOWROOM David Garza, Alejandro Escovedo (6:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roots Day w/ the Horton Brothers

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Bruce James Quartet (3:30)
ANTONE'S Drive-by Truckers, Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan; Barfield (10:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)
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GIBSON GUITAR SHOWROOM David Garza, Alejandro Escovedo (6:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roots Day w/ the Horton Brothers

Wed 0 2

219 WEST Breezy (7:00)
311 CLUB Syndrome (8:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Mau Mau Chaplains (3:30)
ALAMO DRAFFHOUSE DOWNTOWN Plagues and Pleasures on the Salton Sea w/ Friends of Dean Martinez (7:00)
ANTONE'S Drive-by Truckers
APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL Marty Linville
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland (7:30)

SKY ROCKET
FRIDAY 9:30

ROTEL & THE HOT TOMATOES
SATURDAY 9:30

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THU	263 PEACE & a biscuit	LOST WOLF
FRI	27 SHAWN & PHIL	SKY ROCKET
SAT	28	ROTEL & THE HOT TOMATOES
SUN	29	LES & THE FUNK MOB
MON	30 HIGHLY LIKELY	JOHN POINTER
TUE	1 SEELA & FREINDS	FRANK GOMEZ
WED	2 TRENT & DAVE	SPAZMATICS

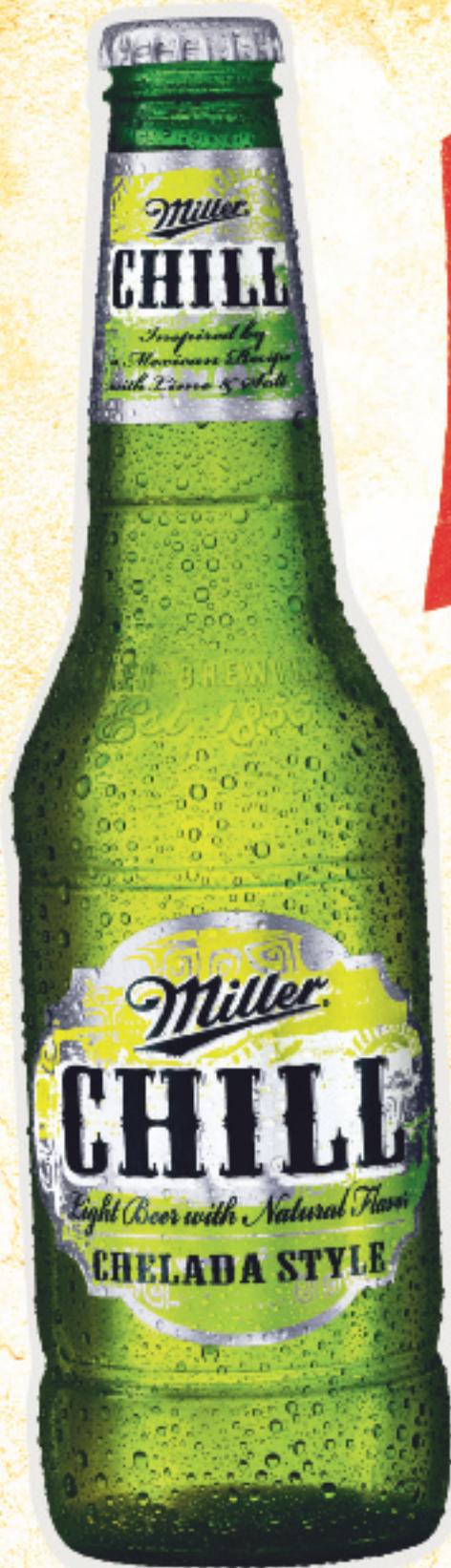


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Fr 27	Los Gallos 6pm LUG, Bangladesh, Soul Strung 9pm
Sa 28	Rockus Circus (CD release), Robbie & the Robots, People Skills 9pm
Su 29	Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 8pm
Mo 30	In & Outlaws 6pm
Tu 1	Bruce Curtis Band 6pm Scotty & the Metaphysics 9pm
We 2	Scott Wood 6pm The Egress, The 1945's 9pm
Th 3	Sean Neely & Zak Perry 6pm Móchate 9pm
Fr 4	Mark Jungers 6pm Bloodshot Pyramid, Ethereal Architect, Dead Hour 9pm
Sa 5	Word Association 10pm

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5/25 STEVE RILEY & THE MAMOU PLAYBOYS

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club listings <<< FROM WEDNESDAY

AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)
BABY ACAPULCO'S NO. 5 Singer-Songwriter Open Mic w/ Jimi Lee
BROKEN SPOKE Lucky Tomblin
BROWN BAR DJ Manny
CACTUS CAFE Kristin Hersh
CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave, Spazmatics (6:00)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Boxcar Preachers (6:30)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Missoula Slim (5:30), Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)
CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Jacinta (7:00)
CLUB 973 Karaoke w/ the Bigg Sho (8:30)
CLUB ONE 15 Heart & Soul Sound System
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Trube Farrell & Sniz (10:00); In the Club: The Explosions (6:30), Jon Dee Graham, Any Cook (10:00)
CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Kill the DJ, Smash-Ups, Robot, DJ Alib, Ghettotech w/ DJ Orion (9:30)
CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
CYPRESS FALLS TAVERN Jam Night w/ Dennis Lee
THE DIRTY DOG Gravelwhip, 85 Decibels (9:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Albert & Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (7:00)
EGO'S Austin Poetry Slam, Half Dozen or the Other (7:00)
ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Ephraim Owens Quartet (9:30)
ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Gothfather
EMO'S Sloppy Kisses, So Many Dynamos, Thee Ohsees
EVANGELINE CAFE Cowboy Johnson (6:00)
FLAMINGO CANTINA Matthew Shepherd & the Ruckus, Ryan Montbleau Band, Green Mountain Grass (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE David Hamburger Guitar Workshop, McMercy Family Gospel Band (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Jack & the Jilted
GRAFFITI'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Ian of Ecosystemz (8:00)
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Rebecca Fontaine's Singer-Songwriter Showcase (7:00)
HILL'S CAFE Adam Hood, Sunny Sweeney
HOLE IN THE WALL Wash Hamilton, Roger Wallace, Guy Town, Dickie Lee Erwin, Neal Kassaroff, Crawling With Kings (6:30)
HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian
HYATT LOST PINES RESORT & SPA Carl Settles
LAMBERTS Erik Hokkanen & His Gypsy Tribe (6:30), DJ Resinhol (10:30)
LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Meridian West (10:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mayhem
MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming (10:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Ginn Sisters
MOMO'S Matthew Grimm & the Red Smear, Band of Heathens, Macon Greyson (8:00)

MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Rick Hornyak (6:30)
PARDNERS Kara
PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)
PLUSH Original Block Party w/ DJ Tats (10:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Jimmy Lee Jones
THE PUB Jam Session w/ Frank
RADISSON The Newz
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED FEZ The Reflex w/ DJ Honeycomb, DJ Fuckin' A (10:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine Trio (7:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Jason Allen
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D
THE ROCK ROOM Jo Hell & the Red Roosters (8:00)
ROOM 710 The Big Fix, Karmin Jade, Transmography
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Glenn Collins Open Mic
RUTA MAYA Cienfuegos (9:00)
SAM'S TOWN POINT Ramsay Midwood & Friends (8:30)
SAXON PUB Pauline Reese (6:00), Paula Nelson, Wendy Colonna, Jay Thomas (8:00)
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Karaoke, Open Mic (9:00)
SOUTH FORTY Karaoke w/ J.R. the DJ (9:00)
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons, the Brew (9:00)
STUBB'S Outside: Annuals, Blonde Redhead; Inside Later: MC Frontalot
TAMBALEO DJ Mike Swing, Tee Double
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan (7:00)
Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Songwriter Night (6:30)
ZTEJAS Stephen Doster, Will Sexton, Bill Carter (6:00)

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
COTTON CLUB Texas All-Stars (8:30)
THE DIRTY DOG Bang
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies, Chris Vestre Trio (6:00)
EMO'S Inside: Grails, World's End Girlfriend, Mono; Lounge: Consider the Source, Minutes Too Far, In Case of Fire, Quiet Company
EVANGELINE CAFE Liz Morphis
FLAMINGO CANTINA Steepwater Band, Red Line Riot, Eric Mcfadden Trio (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Johann Wagner Songwriter Triangle (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Ted Roddy (8:00)
GRUENE HALL Dave Insley (7:30)
HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Brian Kremer (9:15)
HILL'S CAFE Bob Rhodes
HOLE IN THE WALL Vipers Royal Garden, Kevin McKinney, Adrian & the Sickness (9:00)
HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian
HYATT LOST PINES RESORT & SPA Lauren Dillon
JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)
LA ZONA ROSA Club of the Sons, Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin, the Cinematics, Mute Math
LAGUNA GLORIA Amigos de Las Americas Benefit w/ Crying Monkeys (6:30)
LAMBERTS Glover Tango (6:30), Porter Davis (10:30)
THE LOADING DOCK Breezy
LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, Aston Teague (6:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)
THE MOHAWK The Heirs, Mockery Birds, Scattered Pages, Honor Farm (10:00)
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Jim Bryant & Rich Cross (6:30)
THE PARLOR Johnny Cash/June Carter Tribute Show, Mars Attacks
PLUSH Get Broke! w/ Merrick Brown
RADISSON Winton Reynolds Jazz Trio
RANCH 616 Lucas Hudgins & the First Cousins (8:00)
RED FEZ Vehicular, Nuthin' New All-Stars (9:00)
REED'S JAZZ & SUPPER CLUB Marc Devine (6:00)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Lonesome Heroes
THE ROCK ROOM The Detentions, the Seiker Band (5:00)
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Eddy Main
ROOM 710 Eating Crow, Schill, Television Ends, All Get Out
ROSS' OLD AUSTIN CAFE Dave Jorgenson
RUTA MAYA Imbibe, Adventures of... Austin Daze w/ Don Chani, Grimy Styles (6:00)
SAXON PUB John Ware, Will Evans, George Devore, Brian Keane (6:00)
SHENANIGANS Billy Dee
SPEAKEASY Alpha Rev (9:30)
STUBB'S Barefoot
T.C.'S LOUNGE The Leghounds
UNIVERSITY CHRISTIAN CHURCH YerazArt Young Musicians (8:00)
WOODY'S SOUTH Natalie Zoe (7:00)
ZTEJAS Kat's Meow

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Hi-Lo

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FRIDAY The Bumps 9:00-11:00 DJ Honeycomb 11:00-2:00
SATURDAY Meridian West 9:00-11:00 DJ Thibault 11:00-2:00
WEDNESDAY Derrick Davis 9:00-11:00

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FRIDAY DJ In/Verse 11:00-2:00
SATURDAY Kelly Doze Band 8:30-10:30
DJ Esoterica 10:30-2:00
SUNDAY DJ Kurupt 10:00-2:00
MONDAY DJ Jeff Jupiter 10:00-2:00
TUESDAY Twist Up w/DJ Manny 10:30-2:00
WEDNESDAY The Reflex 10:00-2:00

THURSDAYS 8:30-11:00

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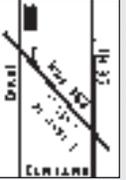
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WIN A \$100 GIFT CERTIFICATE FROM 365 DAYS, 365 WAYS!



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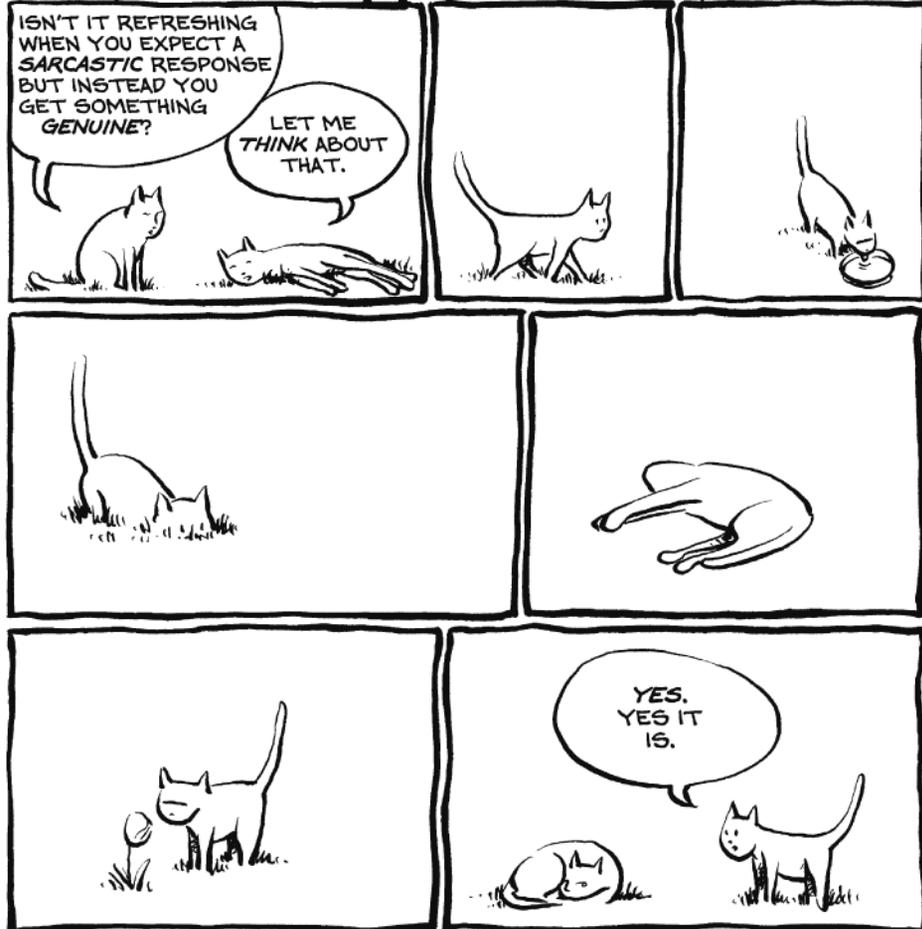
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COMICS

How to Be Happy

by Shannon Wheeler



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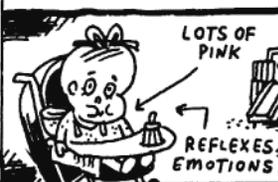
TROUBLETOWN THE AMAZING UNSEEN LIFE OF THE FEMALE

BY LLOYD DANGLE

WHEN A BABY IS BORN IT USUALLY HAS TEN FINGERS AND AN EQUAL NUMBER OF TOES. ROUGHLY 50% OF THE TIME IT'S FEMALE.



THE FEMALE'S HEART WILL BEAT AS MANY AS 37 MILLION TIMES IN THE FIRST YEAR.



THE FEMALE WILL GROW AND SHED BILLIONS OF CELLS A YEAR. SHE WILL LOSE THOUSANDS OF HAIRS IN THE SHOWER BY HER SIXTEENTH BIRTHDAY.



AT AROUND 4745 DAYS THE FEMALE WILL HAVE GROWN TALLER THAN BOYS AND STARTED TO DEVELOP BREASTS. BY 4765 DAYS SHE WILL MENSTRUATE.



SOME FEMALES WILL PAIR OFF WITH HIGH SCHOOL JOCKS, SOME WON'T, SOME WILL MARRY, SOME WON'T. SOME WILL BE LESBIANS AND WON'T BE ALLOWED TO MARRY.



DEVELOPMENTS IN THE BRAIN OF THE FEMALE WILL CONTINUE AND COGNITIVE ABILITIES WILL MATURE.



AT A MICROSCOPIC LEVEL, INSIDE THE FEMALE'S FALLOPIAN TUBES, TINY EGGS ARE EJECTED EVERY MONTH WITH PRECISE EFFICIENCY.



IN ONE OF SEVERAL WAYS, THROUGH EXPOSURE TO SPERM, THE FEMALE MAY BECOME PREGNANT.



WITH FETUS ON BOARD, THE FEMALE'S SIGNIFICANCE IS DISCARDED. STATE & LOCAL AUTHORITIES MUST ENSURE THAT IT POPS OUT AS EXPECTED.



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TO HAVE and HAVE NOT

BY RYAN OZ

IS IT BETTER TO HAVE A DEAD MOM OR A MEAN MOM? MARLYS ASKS THE QUESTION. I DON'T KNOW HOW TO ANSWER.



THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO PLAY WITH TRASH. WE ARE THE TRASH. MRS. BLEVINS DIED DURING SECOND SHIFT AT THE CANNERY. MY MOM WAS BESIDE HER ON THE LINE. HEART ATTACK.



ACROSS THE STREET THE HOUSE IS EMPTY. THEY ARE AT THE FUNERAL. THE KIDS OF MRS. BLEVINS ARE MANNY, LISA AND SCOTT.



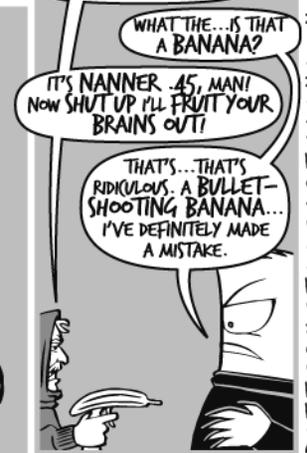
SHE USED THE BELT ON THEM AND SCREAMED AT THEM AND YANKED THEIR ARMS. SHE HIT SO HARD SHE BROKE THINGS. THE POLICE CAME AND TOOK THE KIDS, TOOK HER TOO. BUT THEY CAME BACK, SHE CAME BACK, THE BELT CAME BACK. IS SOMEBODY BETTER THAN NOBODY?



"ADVENTURES IN TIME TRAVEL"

BITTER YETI IN THE CITY

JASON STOUT @ 2007



MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



Bucolic, although often used as an adjective, was originally a noun describing a type of pastoral poetry.

Comet Lovejoy is rapidly approaching our solar system. What makes it unusual is that its coma appears green, and it's approaching from the bottom of our solar system plane.

At birth, Einstein's head was shaped like a top-sided medicine ball.

The grandfather of adult film star Nina Hartley was one of the lawyers involved in the "Scottsboro Boys" murder trial in Alabama in 1931.

Americans consume 26 barrels of oil per person each year, down from 32-33 in 1978.

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.

TRADE UP

454-5767

austinchronicle.com/tradeup

CLASSIFIEDS

100 JOBS

- 110 Art/Design
- 115 Beauty/Salon/Spa
- 120 Entertainment/Casting
- 125 General
- 130 Healthcare
- 135 Hospitality
- 140 Legal
- 145 Office/Clerical
- 150 Non-Profit
- 155 Professional
- 160 Research Study
- 165 Retail
- 170 Sales/Marketing
- 175 School/Training
- 180 Technical

200 HOUSING

- 210 Reader Notice
- 215 Apartment/Condo/Townhome
- 220 Duplex/Houses
- 225 Vacation
- 230 Commercial
- 235 Roommates
- 240 Real Estate For Sale

300 BUY/SELL/TRADE

- 310 Antiques/Collectibles
- 315 Appliances
- 320 Baby/Kids Stuff
- 325 Clothing
- 330 Computers
- 335 Electronics
- 340 Free Stuff
- 345 Furniture
- 350 Garage/Estate Sales
- 355 General
- 360 Jewelry/Accessories
- 365 Pets/Pet Supplies
- 370 Recreational
- 375 Tickets/Entertainment
- 380 Tools
- 385 Trades
- 390 Wanted to Buy

400 SERVICES

- 410 Business
- 415 Computers
- 420 Counseling
- 425 Health/Wellness
- 430 Home
- 435 Financial
- 440 Fitness/Training
- 445 Legal
- 450 Licensed Massage
- 455 Psychic/Astrology
- 460 Travel
- 465 Miscellaneous

500 NEIGHBORHOOD

- 510 Activities
- 515 Classes/Workshops
- 520 Discussion Groups
- 525 Events
- 530 General
- 535 Lost & Found
- 540 Volunteers
- 545 Legal Notices

600 MOTOR

- 610 Cars
- 615 Trucks
- 620 SUV's
- 625 Motorcycles
- 630 Recreational
- 635 Parts
- 640 Repairs

700 MUSIC

- 710 Equipment for Sale
- 715 Music Instruction
- 720 Musicians Available
- 725 Musicians Wanted
- 730 Recording Studios
- 735 Rentals/Services
- 740 Shameless Promotion

PERSONALS

- Lovers Lane
- Easy Street
- Shot in the Dark
- Messages

Please check your ad for accuracy the first time it runs. *The Austin Chronicle* is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. *The Austin Chronicle's* liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be submitted by Tuesday, 1pm.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm
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Phone: 512-454-5767
Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com



115 BEAUTY SALON/SPA

HAIR STYLIST needed, up to 50% commission. Ongoing training provided. Organic Hair & Beauty Center, an upscale busy salon in Round Rock. Call Nicky 255-6763

HAIRSTYLIST Salon has station for rent, some clientele preferred. \$110/wk. Central location w/parking 477-9166.

HAIRSTYLIST CENTRAL AUSTIN HAIR STUDIO. Build Your Business Now. Parking. Ph 576-4683.SO-LA District.

HAIRSTYLIST CHAIR RENTAL. Available at well established salon. Excellent location. Central Austin. 451-6267 or 451-1629.

HAIRSTYLISTS / NAIL TECHS Lease \$130/wk. Downtown location. Lots of walk-ins. 320-5907.

MASSAGE THERAPISTS Needed in a therapeutic massage clinic. Now hiring licensed massage therapists at several locations. Immediate client base, plus FT / PT. Contact Don at 512-971-6873 or dwright@massageheights.com

SALON STAFF Looking for professional, well-balanced massage therapist, facialist, nail tech, and hairstylist to rent a space at a long, well-run, established and friendly salon. FRENZ 454-3736 ask for Celia or Heidi.

STYLIST Wanted experienced stylist for busy, upscale, West Lake salon. Generous commission, all products provided. Call 347-1900 for appointment.

120 ENTERTAINMENT CASTING

DANCERS Actors, Models needed for upcoming parties, club promotions, & events. M/F All types (512) 440-7171.

125 GENERAL

AIRPORT SALES ExpressJet hiring airport sales agents at Bergstrom Airport. Work ticket counters, gates and ramp areas. Competitive Pay, flexible hours, great benefits, growth potential, travel perks. Apply at www.expressjet.com

ALL GLACIER NATIONAL PARK Spend a summer working in the Montana Rockies!

Glacier Park Inc. operates the 7 historic lodges in Glacier National Park. We are actively seeking the following positions for the 2007 summer season (May-Sept.):

- TOUR DRIVERS
- WAITSTAFF / SERVERS
- LINE / PREP COOKS
- RETAIL ASSOCIATES
- NIGHT AUDIT
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- LAUNDRY
- WAREHOUSE
- FRONT DESK
- BARTENDERS

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BODY CASTING Hiring muscular males for plaster casting. \$25-\$100/hour. Call Bodycaster at (512)779-5228.

BODYBUILDERS WANTED Got six-pack abs and tree trunk thighs? Make \$500-\$800/day. (512)927-2448

CAULKING/WINDOW CLEANING Requires great physical condition, English reliable phone and auto. Experience preferred. Call Forrest 444-5144

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MERCHANDISERS Needed to service supermarket routes in the Austin area. Fle A.M. hours M-F P/T Perm approx 12 hours weekly. Need vehicle, DL & insurance. Hourly + mileage. Call (800) 216-7909 x759. www.ATARetail.com

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Gain experience in the afternoons with elementary age kids. Position includes paid ongoing training, and the opportunity to work on 64 school campuses. Work hours 2:15-6:15 p.m. M-F. Starting pay \$9.00-\$9.60/hr. EOE. Apply at Extend-A-Care for Kids, 55 North IH 35, or download an application from www.eackids.org or call 472-9929 x408.

PERSONAL ASSISTANT Dream Job! Founder of Bargain.com looking for first employee. Assist me in starting the next "big thing." MBA preferred, but BA required. Know Sales and Contracts. Email resume to employ@fotofix.com.

RECEPTIONIST For doctors office. Are you dependable, professional, and eager to help people? \$8/hour, full time with benefits, train and advance, Far West Optical. 343-0432

SALES REPS

Sales Reps sought for windshield repair company. Great pay structure. Call Jon @ 587-3317

SANDWICH MAKER We are hiring for AM/PM shifts at Thundercloud Subs. Must be energetic, and be able to play well with others. No experience necessary, we will teach you! We offer a great work environment. Please come by your neighborhood Thundercloud before 11:30 or after 1:30.

SEWING MACH OPERATOR Sewing Machine Operator - P/T may lead to F/T. Basic sewing machine operating knowledge and fluent English reqd. Call Harold 837-1300 M-F 9-5:30

SIGN BUILDER Custom sign shop looking for young and energetic person to learn and help with manufacturing of electrical signage. Top pay and benefits. Contact Jamie at 512 374-9300 customsigncreations.com

TRAVEL COOL TRAVEL JOB!! One Month Paid Training! \$500 Sign On Bonus Must be free to travel & Start Today. 1-800-735-7409. (AAN CAN)

130 HEALTHCARE

CARING ATTENDANT For evening and weekend help. Room & Board plus pay. 512-944-3886

DENTAL RECEPT ASSIST Part Time M-Tu-Th varying hours, no early morn, slower paced office, minimal ins., must live in general area, dental exp. much preferred, close to MoPac-Spicewood, must really want PT, 345-8556

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MESSAGE THERAPISTS FT/PT RMTs for therapeutic Round Rock clinic. Flexible schedule/benefits avail. Call 947-0599

135 HOSPITALITY



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"It's a Zen way of life." Please send all resumes to Adam at eatzen.com or fax to 519-4057.

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Potential for big money. Hiring waiters, busboys, and chefs.

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www.texasenvironment.org



The Belmont

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- Bussers
- Doormen
- Barbacks
- Bartenders
- Hosts
- Grill Cooks
- Prep Cooks
- Line Cooks
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Please apply in person at The Belmont, 305 W. 6th Street, between 2pm and 4pm daily.

The Belmont is an Equal Opportunity Employer

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Current Full and Part Time Positions available at Barton Creek Resort & Spa
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

ALL POSITIONS

Hiring Full or Part-time. 2 yrs min. exp for servers. Hosts & Bussers, no exp necessary. Apply in person: Monday - Thursday, 2-4 at

THE HULA HUT

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BARTENDER [BARTEND! Up to \$300 a day. No experience necessary. Training Available. 1-800-965-6520 x207.

BARTENDERS NEEDED: Looking for part/full time bartenders. Several positions available. No experience required. With hourly wages and tips make up to \$300 per shift. Call (800) 806-0082 ext. 200. (AAN CAN)

CHEF ASST. 360 Uno, Trattoria and Wine-bar, is now hiring an assistant to the chef. Great income!

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COOKS WAITSTAFF Cain & Abel's is now hiring experienced WAITRESSES, and LINE COOKS for all shifts. We are located at 24th & Rio Grande and serve UT-Austin's West Campus from 11AM to 2AM 7 days a week. Prefer open/flexible schedules.

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Have you ever wanted to work for a local, friendly, and respectable business?

If you are interested in working for us, here is what we need. We are looking for people who have worked in the restaurant business for at least six months to one year, have experience working with the Aloha system or any other POS system, must be computer literate, must be quick learners, must be flexible with your schedule, should be able to do the job fast and effective.

Current openings: F/T & P/T

Runners-Village and S. Lamar location
Kitchen Staff-The Village & S. Lamar locations.

MUST BE 18 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER

To apply, please send resume to constance@originalalamo.com or you may fill out an application in person at any of our locations.

Alamo Draffthouse Cinema was named "Best Theater in Austin" 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, and 2006.

EOE

DANCERS & WAITRESSES

The Landing Strip

MAKE BIG \$\$\$
FT/PT, flex. sched., no exp. nec., 745 Bastrop Hwy, one mile from the airport. 385-2878.

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DoubleDave's Pizzaworks PT/FT delivery drivers. \$25 per hour possible plus pizzal Must have a decent vehicle and a good driving record. Call Chris at 301-3283 or stop by 7010 W Hwy 71

DELIVERY DRIVERS A.M. positions available. Good driving record. 2-4 shifts per week. Apply in person 2111 Dickson Ste A. Monday or Thursday from 9-4. Or email tracy@kerbeylanecafe.com

ENTERTAINERS



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.

GENERAL Kerbey Lane Cafe has positions available for bussers & expo. Weekend AM shifts. Please apply in person at 3704 Kerbey Lane for immediate consideration. Email resume to tracy@kerbeylanecafe.com.

GENERAL P/T Cashier & Driver positions avail. Oriental Express. Call Courtney @ 945-9057

HOST & BUSSERS Castle Hill Cafe is looking for AM Host and PM Bussers. Please come in between 3pm and 5pm. 1101 West 5th Street

MANAGERS Kerbey Lane Cafe has Manager on Duty shifts available for dinner & late nights. Ideal candidates must be enthusiastic, run shifts effectively, and motivate staff. Potential for future growth. Please email resume to tracy@kerbeylanecafe.com.

PIZZA DELIVERY DRIVERS/ COOK PIZZA CLASSICS: Now Hiring Delivery Drivers, and couponers. Up to \$15/hr. Also hiring cook. Please apply in person at 604 W. 29th after 4PM.

SERVERS & CASHIERS

Chilli's Restaurant @ 360 and Westlake Dr. now hiring full and part time hosts and servers. Chilli's provides great benefits such as tuition assistance, meal discounts, insurance, and flexible schedules. We're a fun restaurant looking for upbeat energetic people. Apply daily or call 330-0953.

SERVERS 18 or over, personable with mad skillz, apply in person - tHe RiO - 3rd and San Jacinto.

SERVERS Now Hiring! Las Palomas Restaurant & Bar, Westwood Shopping Center, 3201 Bee Caves #122. Apply in Person Tues - Sat. laspalomasrestaurant.com

SERVERS & CASHIERS

Mongolian Grille Downtown, 183 North, Round Rock. Call 775-2241 / Apply In Person.

WAITSTAFF

360 Uno, Trattoria and Wine-bar, is now hiring waitstaff. Great income!

3801 Capital of Texas Hwy. N. #G100. Apply at mail@360uno.com or call 512-327-5505

WAITSTAFF Waterloo Ice House is hiring Waitstaff our 360/2222 location. Apply in person at: 6203 N. Capital of Texas Highway (corner of 360 & 2222) 512-418-9700

145

OFFICE/CLERICAL

ADMIN/ACCT ASSISTANT
Statewide distributor of spinal fixation implants & devices. Seeking highly motivated & organized person for customer service & accounting duties. Multiple companies, fast paced & growing. Salary based on exp. plus benefits. Reply to jobposting@ossmmedical.com

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Executive's Assistant needed to assist two on-the-go TV producers. Duties include but not limited to booking travel, errand running, note taking, word processing, filing, and organizing. Applicant must be bright and punctual. Experience and references necessary. Please e-mail resumes to summerleaffinley@gmail.com.

GOVERNMENT JOBS \$12- \$48/Hr. Full Benefits/Paid Training. Work available in areas like Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Wildlife & More! 1-800-320-9353 x2001. (AAN CAN)



Great Opportunities Are Available At The City of Pflugerville!

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
(\$65,548 - \$83,573/year)

BUILDING INSPECTION III
(\$35,654 - \$44,568/year)

URBAN PLANNER I
(\$35,654 - \$44,568/year)

FACILITIES TECH (CUSTODIAN/GROUNDS KEEPING)
(\$9.21 - \$11.05/hour)

RESUMES MAY BE ATTACHED TO BUT WILL NOT SUBSTITUTE FOR A COMPLETED APPLICATION FORM.

Applications available at: 100 E. Main, STE 100 Pflugerville, TX 78660. Download application at www.cityofpflugerville.com/jobs. E-mail to staffing@cityofpflugerville.com. EOE



BARTON CREEK RESORT & SPA

Are you looking for an exciting & dynamic job or career? The world class Barton Creek Resort & Spa is looking for you! Come work in a luxurious environment full of fun people, beautiful surroundings, and great benefits! Full and Part-time positions available.

Apply in person
Monday - Friday 8:30am-5pm,
8212 Barton Club Dr. Austin, Tx 78735.
Résumés can be e-mailed to
jobs@bartoncreek.com
or fax your information to 512-329-4014.
Web site: <http://www.bartoncreek.com>
BARTON CREEK OFFERS A COMPLETE BENEFITS PACKAGE & COMPETITIVE WAGES.



GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Spend a summer working in the Montana Rockies!

Glacier Park Inc. operates the 7 historic lodges in Glacier National Park. We are actively seeking the following positions for the 2007 summer season (May-Sept.):

* Tour Drivers	* Housekeeping
* Waitstaff / Servers	* Laundry
* Line / Prep Cooks	* Warehouse
* Retail Associates	* Front Desk
* Night Audit	* Bartenders

Meals and housing provided for \$10/day. Added incentives for management/bonus potential. Visit our Web site at www.gpihr.com to apply or call **406-892-6719**

AUSTIN
Independent School District
A Great Place to Learn! A Great Place to Teach!

Teacher Job Fair!
Public Job Fair for CERTIFIED Candidates

Austin Convention Center
Saturday, May 5th,
12:30pm - 3:30pm
500 East Cesar Chavez

-  Representatives from 111 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 website listed below.
-  Please bring several copies of your résumé.

Additional information and driving directions to Austin Convention Center can be found on the Austin ISD website at: www.austinisd.org

**150
NON-PROFIT**

ENVIRONMENTAL CORPS
Austin Environmental Corps - AmeriCorps Positions (Austin, TX & Some Travel) Want to work outside? Need money for college, helping paying student loans, or just want to give something back to your community? As of a recent Corp program, Environmental Corps, is recruiting members between ages 17-25 years. Benefits include \$3,000 cash award, \$2,285 health insurance, \$900/month living allowance, day care assistance, housing, personal career counseling, and travel to Texas State Parks for work. Next term of service starts JUNE 11, 2007. Apply today! This is an AMERICORP'S NATIONAL SERVICE PROGRAM. CONTACT Carol Ann Chavez, AmeriCorps Recruiter at (512) 744-1912 or hawc@americorpsouthworks.org

Human Need Over Corporate Greed!!

Seeking passionate, dedicated people to fill 27week paid campaign positions. Good communication skills are a must. M-F, 2-10 PM, \$150K-\$200K/yr. + Bonus, Full Medical Benev, Fed Train., Leadership & Travel Opps. Some College Experience Preferred.
www.foxaustinenvironment.org

EMPLOYMENT
Tired of the daily grind? The rat race? Working for the man?

Well, we can't help you with that ... but we can help you find a job where they have casual Fridays.
Austin Chronicle Employment section. It's a safari.

**155
PROFESSIONAL**

ENGINEERING QUALCOMM
Inc. has the following positions available in Austin, TX: Sr. VLSI RF Analog IC Engineers ISS 06113. Mail resume with Job # to QUALCOMM, Inc., P.O. Box 9165 13, San Diego, CA, 92161-9213.

OFFICE MANAGER/WEB MANAGER/FACILITIES MANAGER

Austin Film Society Employment Opportunities - updated!

- An experienced Office Manager to oversee the Internship Program, office management and in-house and contract technical operations

- A part-time Web Manager with strong technical and design skills to manage the AFS web site and email marketing system

- A Facilities Manager with strong organization and customer service skills to supervise maintenance and facilities operations for Austin Studios

See full postings at www.austinfilm.org

RESEARCH
You've given blood for money. Donated plasma for money. We want your marrow for the other things you've done for a little extra cash.

MANAGEMENT

VICE PRESIDENT OF FRANCHISE SUPPORT

DreamMaker Bath and Kitchen is seeking a highly motivated individual to lead to join the team as Vice President, Franchise System Management. 5-10 yrs exp as a Senior level manager of a large department or company with a proven track record as an exceptional leader/strategist. Must be an intelligent, strategic thinker, yet possess strong interpersonal skills, as well as organizational skills. A bachelors degree is preferred, franchising experience is a plus and a training background working with groups is desired. The primary responsibility is managing a franchise support team to work with franchisees to grow their businesses. This person will be someone who will count it a blessing to teach so many people's lives and help grow the department for this dynamic company. Relocation may be required.

Send resume and cover letter to Rene Washington at rene.washington@dwynegroup.com or by fax to 252-745-2565.

**160
RESEARCH STUDY**

HEALTHY MEN/WOMEN HEALTHY?

Covance needs healthy men and women to take part in a clinical research study.

Qualified participants must be:
• Between the ages of 18 and 35
• If you qualify you will receive study-related care, exams, labwork and daily medication at no cost to you. Compensation is available up to \$1,500 for time and travel.

Call Now. For more information, **877-851-1064**
212 E. Anderson Lane, Suite 200
Austin, TX
Please reference Study #037028
www.TestWithTheBest.com

COVANCE
THE CLINICAL RESEARCH SOLUTIONS COMPANY

DONOR PROGRAM SEMEN DONORS NEEDED

Farlex Cryobank seeks college educated men 18-39 to participate in a 6 month donor program. Avg. \$750 per specimen. Call today for free application or apply online at <http://www.123cryobank.com>.

WOMENS HEALTH Participate in a UT Austin research study on physical fitness and sexual function among sexually active women ages 18-35. Call 512-485-0855 for more info; all calls are confidential.

OBESITY

"ARE YOU OVERWEIGHT?"

If you, then you may qualify for a weight loss research study or an investigational medication.

- To qualify:
- You must be between 18-70 years of age
 - You must be looking to lose weight
 - You must not have diabetes
 - You must be willing to participate in a 2-year research study involving approximately 20 evaluation visits
 - You may be compensated for your time and travel

For more information contact:
1-800-369-2875
www.benchmarkresearch.com

BENCHMARK RESEARCH

SEX STUDY LOW SEXUAL DESIRE!

Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin are seeking an investigational treatment for low sexual desire in women between the ages of 30 and 50. The study involves two visits to our laboratory and 4 weeks of treatment. For more info, please call

(512)232-4805
All calls are confidential.

**165
RETAIL**

SALES Great Bug Co. Hiring 15 sales, no evenings or sun. hourly wage plus excellent benefits, exp not req'd. Please apply in person at 7901 Skumel Rd.

SHIFT MANAGER Local Music Store needs Shift Manager for evenings & weekends. Record store experience a plus. Please apply in person at MusicWorld, 35112 St. out at IH35, next to Fossil. No phone calls.

**170
SALES MARKETING**

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY
WORK FROM HOME
USE YOUR COMPUTER
\$500+/mo. FT
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**175
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Call 512-249-0290-88

WEBSITE
Looking for something more? Check our austinchronicle.com/classifieds for even more great ads online.

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H-E-B

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Employment opportunities available

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- Grocery

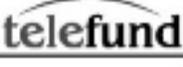
Café on the Run located at HEB #28 (Escarpment) Driver
Sales Representative
Platter Representative

Job Fair
Saturday, April 28, 2007
10:00am-12:00pm
4001 North Lamar
(38th @Lamar), Austin, TX
1-866-FRESHJOB

Equal Opportunity Employer/
Drug Free Workplace.

FIGHT BUSH MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

Help the Dems, HRC, & Amnesty Int'l.
Up to \$16/hr w/guaranteed base, Flexible PT& FT schedules.
Call 916-4001 for interviews.
www.Telefund.com



AUSTIN FILM SOCIETY EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES-UPDATED!

- An experienced Office Manager to oversee the Internship Program, office management and in-house and contract technical operations

- A part-time Web Manager with strong technical and design skills to manage the AFS web site and email marketing system

- A Facilities Manager with strong organization and customer service skills to supervise maintenance and facilities operations for Austin Studios

See full postings at WWW.AUSTINFILM.ORG

RESOURCE OPERATOR
Generation Dispatch ERCOT Region

Brazos Electric Cooperative, an electric utility that is a QSE in ERCOT Region, is seeking applicants for the position of Resource Operator. Duties include coordinating the real time operation of power plants, power supply contracts and fuel operations. Minimum of 5 years transit/operation/power plant experience with the knowledge of generation resources and electric power systems. A bachelor's degree in a related technical or business discipline may substitute for a portion of the experience requirements. NERC and ERCOT Certification preferred. Requires working rotating shifts and scheduled hours outside the normal shift hours. Requires sitting for extended periods and repetitive manual tasks. Requires hearing, vision and quick, calm action in response to emergency situations.

Brazos Electric offers a competitive salary and benefit package. This position is located at our Waco, Texas headquarters. To apply, submit a resume to Manager Human Resources, P.O. Box 2515, Waco, Texas 76782-2515. Email response to jobs@brazoselectric.com or FAX to 254-758-6242. An Equal Opportunity Employer M/F/D/V

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Regional airline seeks fresh faces in the Austin area.
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work ticket counters, gates, and ramp areas.

Please apply online at www.expressjet.com.



The Belmont
is accepting applications for all positions from experienced individuals:

- cocktail, servers, bussers, doormen, barbacks, bartenders, hosts, grill cooks, prep cooks, line cooks, saute cooks

Please apply in person at **The Belmont**, 305 W. 6th Street, between 2PM and 4PM daily.

The Belmont is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Long
Center

We are looking for artistic individuals
to fundraise over the phone for our
fabulous Performing Arts Center!

PART TIME EVENINGS
GREAT PAY and INCENTIVES
Call Bette at 391-0094

RESEARCH

LOW SEXUAL DESIRE?

Researchers at the University of Texas
at Austin are testing an investigational
treatment for low sexual desire in women
between the ages of 30 and 50.
The study involves two visits to our
laboratory and 4 weeks of treatment.

For more information, please call
(512)232-4805

All calls are confidential.

research
STUDIES

“Are you overweight?”

If yes, then you may qualify
for a weight loss research
study of an investigational
medication.

To qualify:

- You must be between 18-70 years of age
- You must be looking to lose weight
- You must not have diabetes
- You must be willing to participate in a 2-year research study involving approximately 20 outpatient visits

You may be compensated for your time and travel

For more information or to see if you qualify for the trial,
please contact...

1-800-369-2875

www.benchmarkresearch.net

BENCHMARK
RESEARCH



HEALTHY?



Covance needs healthy men and
women to take part in a clinical
research study.

Qualified participants must be:

- Between the ages of 19 and 55

If you qualify, you will receive study-related care, exams,
labwork and study medication at no cost to you. Compensation
is available up to \$1,500 for time and travel.

Call Mon - Fri for more information.

877-851-1064 COVANCE.

313 East Anderson Lane, Ste. #200
Austin, TX

Please reference Study #207428

www.TestWithTheBest.com

CALL 512/517-4658

FUTURESEARCH TRIALS IS CURRENTLY
CONDUCTING INPATIENT AND OUTPATIENT
RESEARCH STUDIES FOR PEOPLE WITH:

SCHIZOPHRENIA SCHIZOAFFECTIVE BIPOLAR DISORDER

PARTICIPANTS SHOULD BE

- AT LEAST 18 YEARS OF AGE
- BE ABLE TO PROVIDE WRITTEN INFORMED CONSENT
- FINANCIAL COMPENSATION TO THOSE WHO QUALIFY



FutureSearch Trials

HOUSING

215

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CENTRAL Barton Creek Greenbelt access, washer/dryer included, private porch facing trees. Direct access to hiking trail. Community covered with 200 year old oak trees!
1/1... \$690 w/d included!
2/2... \$990 w/d included!
HUGE layout (perfect roommate plan)
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Hidden Gem, Fitness, Gated
1 BR \$500
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CENTRAL Live on Town Lake! Hike and bike trail at your doorstep. 2/2 \$845. Lakefront studio \$689. APP 474-4900. bestaustinproperties.com

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Walk to shops & restaurants.
STUDIO... \$625!
(Private Deck!)
LARGE 1BRDM... \$745
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<http://www.austindowntownliving.com>



CENTRAL 78704
• EFF - \$445 - Subtract 3% for student - 1/2 OFF 1st month

• 1Br - \$499 - private pond & tanning bed

• 1Br - \$545 - Townlake access, free cable, buses. NO KIDDING!!

• 2br - \$639 - W/D Conn, Tennis Cts, 2 pools, UT Bus Rts

• 3br - \$895 - Free Cable, Skate Park, 1600 sqft.

• 4br - \$895 - Made for kids, YMCA, Afterschool care

Specializing in difficult situations, immediate moves, luxury, downtown & cheap rent. You name it, I will find it with no problem mon! Available Weekends too...so call now, mon.

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Fast, Friendly, & FREE!

CENTRAL Walk to 15 local restaurants. Barton Creek Greenbelt access, washer/dryer included, private porch facing trees. Direct access to hiking trail. Community covered with 200 year old oak trees!

1/1... \$690 w/d included!

2/2... \$990 w/d included!

HUGE layout (perfect roommate plan)

Call Team Leasing for show!

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CENTRAL
CAMPUS SOUTH
• Efficiency \$400, 1-1 \$500
• 2-2 \$639, 1010 s.f. UT Bus
• Studio \$415, • 2 Bedroom Townhome \$625. Large Patio 1-1 \$465 Great Location.
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Bad Credit? Broken Leases? Felonies? Big Dogs? OK!
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3 1 1/2 TOWNHOME... \$1575
ALL BILLS PAID!
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Washer/Dryer, patio, dishwasher. 34th/Speedway
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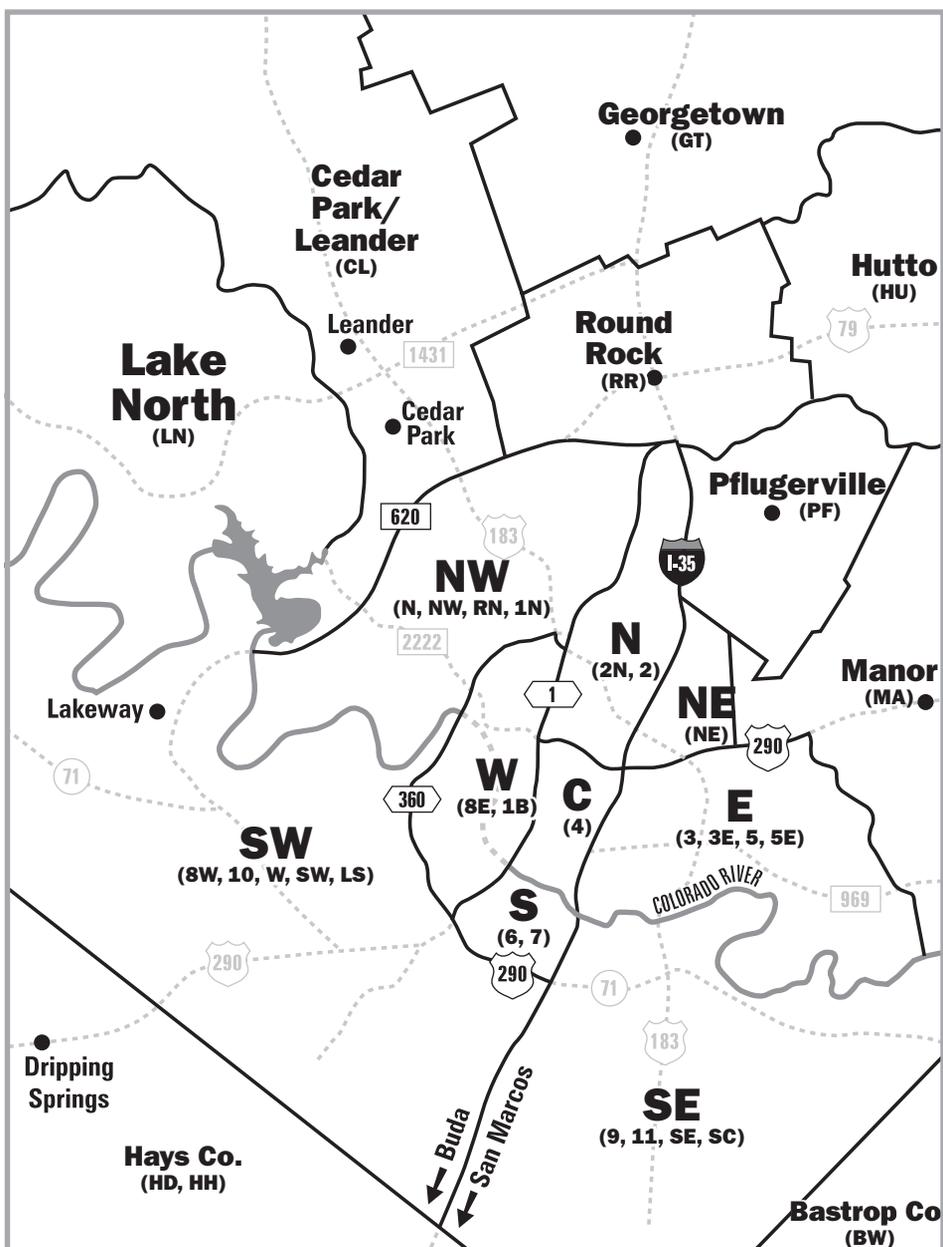
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Enjoy apartment living in a residential neighborhood. Close to eateries, grocery stores, sports/health centers. Walk/Bike/bus to campus.
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Wood floors! 1-1s \$675-700; 2-1s \$800-825; Small 2-2s \$900-925 & Large 2-2s \$950-975. Gas/Trash paid! Not far from Central Market/Seton. City Bus line.
Call Chris Bee 512-293-7737. Avignon Realty

CENTRAL <http://www.austindowntownliving.com> Near Whole Foods, short walk to Townlake! 1/1+Study \$750. rare unit! 2BRDM townhouse \$895. Ready for move-in! Call Team Leasing for show! (512)416-8333

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NORTHWEST: 1-1 \$509 Huge 2-2, 1314 sf, \$729. 3BD \$900.

SOUTHWEST: 1B \$470, 2B \$619

SOUTH: Studio \$415, 2 Bedroom Townhome \$625, "Large Patio" 1-1 \$459. Great Location. Greenbelt: 2B \$610

CAMPUS, CENTRAL AND HYDE PARK

Move-ins May through August!
Some short term leases.

ALL BILLS PAID
1/1 \$675
2/1 \$1,000

SOME BILLS PAID
EFFs \$450-\$535-\$550
1BR \$625

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Keeping Austin weirder one day at a time

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• 1Br - \$545 - Townlake access, free cable, buses. \$420 gets you in. NO KIDDING!!

• 2br - \$639 - W/D Conn, Tennis Courts, 2 pools, UT Bus Routes

• 3br - \$895 - Free Cable, Skate Park, 1600 sq ft.

• 4br - \$895 - Made for kids, YMCA, Afterschool care

Specializing in difficult situations, immediate move-ins, and cheap rent. You name it, I will find it with no problem mon! Available weekends too ... so call now, mon.

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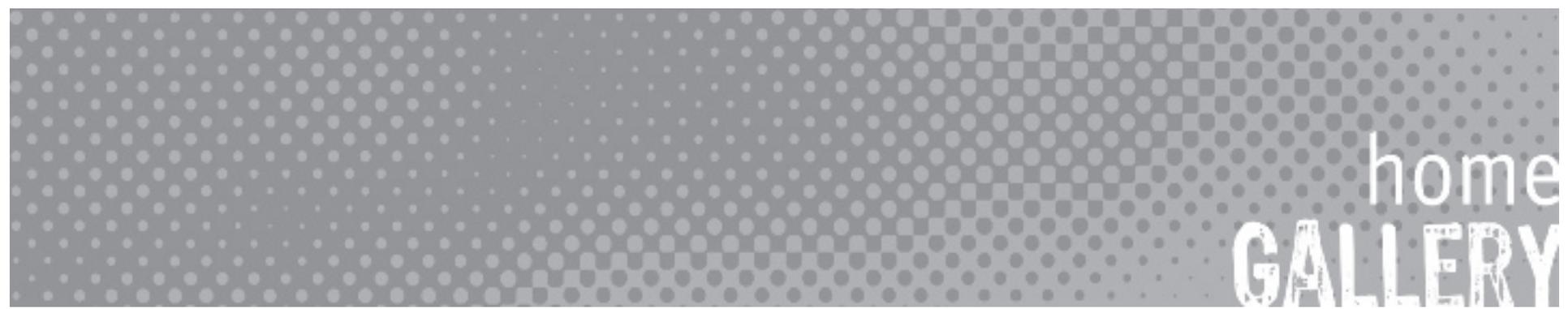
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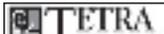
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DEEP TISSUE New NW location. Absolute Indulgence. Swedish Relaxation, Sports Massage, Deep Tissue, Hydrotherapy. Shower available, Draping Req'd. Flexible Hours 8AM-8PM. Back in Town. Call 731-4907. RMT#029206

DEEP TISSUE Work for men. Available evenings/weekends. Replenish your well being. (rmt 24006) Bob. 458-5656.

DEEP TISSUE Deep Tissue Therapeutic Massage. Sore shoulders from Computer work? Sport Injury & Fitness Massage. Call Mike (512) 415-1620. Central Austin. RMT46621

DEEP TISSUE BY PERSONAL TRAINER \$50 per hour. Appts til 10pm. Out/In Call. RMT#021317, 658-1946

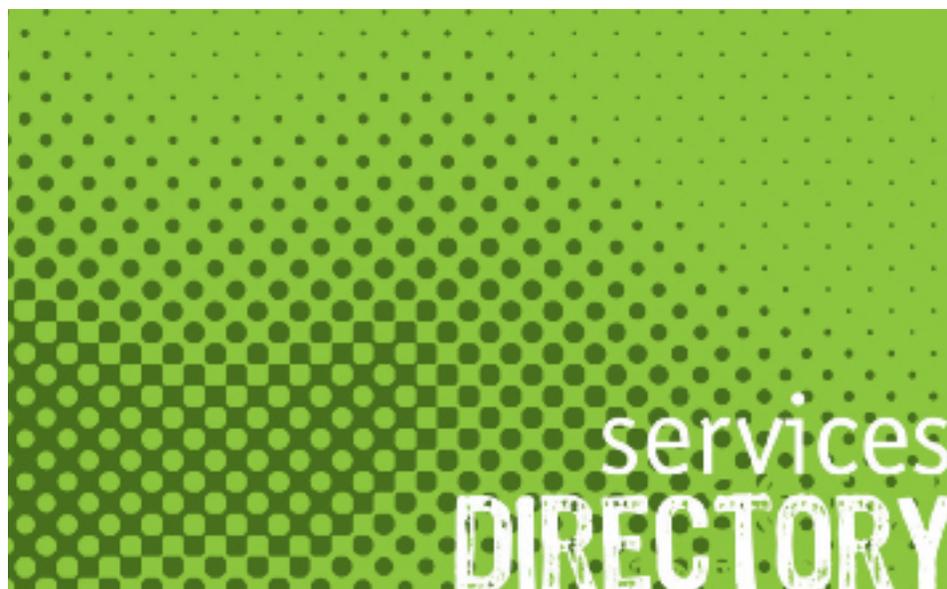
DEEP TISSUE/SWEDISH 12 yrs. exp. Initial 1 1/2 hr \$65. Nina Powers #8574 708-1970 bodyharmonymassage.com

GENERAL Central Amazing Massage, effective pain/stress relief. Gentle/Deep. (RMT6361) 296-3227.

GENERAL A Great Massage for Men by Bob. North location (RMT#013795) Call 9am-10pm, 7 days/week. (512) 296-4111.

GENERAL Stop the Chaos. Enjoy excellent Esalen Massage in a country setting. Worth the drive. Carole (MT3195) Call 985-5015.

GENERAL NOW OPEN. Relax - Relieve - Enjoy. Swedish Massage, Deep & Soft Tissue, Full Body Massage, hot stone treatment. Bee Cave Rd, quiet office. RMT#39907. Call 698-1615 or 905-7668



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 Serving Central Texas
 Monthly \$40 Bimonthly \$35
 Lots up to 1,200 ft²

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 "Your locally-owned personal professional movers!"
 From one item to the whole house!
Call Anytime!
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World Tai Chi & Qigong Day
 One World... One Breath...



A tribute to Laoshire Stan Rossi
Saturday
 9:30 A.M. April 28, 2007
 6th Annual Town Lake Gathering
FREE at Auditorium Shores
<http://worldtaichiday.org/>

9:30AM Tai Chi Work Shops Free! Beginners Welcome!
 10:00AM Mass Tai Chi Movement
 10:30AM Demonstrations and registration for 9/8/07 AAU Tournament

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 Carpentry, plumbing, electrical, stained concrete, furniture repair, & metal working.
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 Home Improvements such as Remodeling, Repairs, & Small Jobs
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 Now offering good deals on refurbished PCs, laptops, and Macintosh computers
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 Professional service at a fair price
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 Serving the Austin Area for the past 15 years

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Therapist Trained in Pampering

MONDAY-THURSDAY 10-6
CALL FOR FRIDAY APPOINTMENTS

Gisela 797-3171 RMT #19847



Allow the body and the spirit
the serenity you deserve....

BRUCE KIMBALL MASSAGE THERAPIST

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Bruce@healtosoul.com RMT#38417

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rmt 031809

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• Hot Stones • Gift Certificates

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RMT # MT045563

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Shoulders Sore from Computer work?
Sports Injury & Fitness Massage

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Central Austin Location - RMT46621

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holistic

• 14 years experience
• Beautiful Central Austin
(Travis Heights) location

(512) 983-6602

www.sarahrosemassage.com

MT#010471

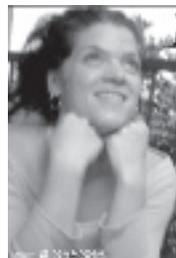
Ilse Rachut Quality Massage Therapy

by strong & intuitive
hands that heal

great downtown location

11am-9pm

264-4500



RMT#037007

BEST

• Swedish & Sports Massage
• Deep and Soft Tissue
• Full Body Massage
• Hot Stone Massage

698-1615 Mon-Sat, 10am-7pm

Bee Caves Road - Nice Quiet Office



A Journey Beyond
Sensations
by Mary Ellen
The Ultimate Experience
In Relaxation
EXQUISITE!
Full Body Massage • Herbal Baths
Warm Oil • Hot Tub Massage
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by Jeannie

360° FULL BODY

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RMT 8896



A Gentle Touch Massage Therapy

by Julie

RMT #42743

75 Minutes \$55

1 Hour only \$45

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Soothing Swedish or Deep Tissue

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Total relaxation massage
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by Jade Liu
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RMT #36404

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Swedish Massage
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RMT 042276

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Massage ~ Hot Stone ~ Deep Tissue
Therapeutic ~ Relaxation

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Gift Certificates Available LMT#40870

Therapists - Have clients?

Need a room? \$10/hr - call for details

DeWolfe's
On-Site
Chair Massage

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Absolute Indulgence

• Deep Tissue
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New NW Location, back in town • 8am-8pm • 7 Days
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Incalls \$50 • Outcalls \$75
Swedish • Deep Tissue
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Registered Massage Therapist #031330
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• Deep Tissue
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9AM-MIDNIGHT
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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 work 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

CONTINUED **450**
LICENSED MASSAGE

GENERAL * PAMPER YOURSELF! * The Executive Touch Massage. Specializing in Total Relaxation. Call Kim 828-2151, RMT023154

GENERAL Treat yourself to a relaxing hot oil, full-body Swedish massage in a candle-lit, private room/shower, 24/7, in/out calls. Clint 775-9164 - RMT# 34842

GENERAL NURTURING TOUCH, "Sense-sational" Heavenly Full Body Massage for the Discerning Gentleman. Mon-Fri, 10am-6pm. Linda (MT4330) 241-3619.

GENERAL All stressed up and no place to go? Tony's Wonderful Massage RMT#3233, 346-6210.

GENERAL A journey beyond sensations... by Mary Ellen. The ultimate experience in relaxation! Full Body Massage, Herbal Baths, Warm Oils, Hot Tub Massage, MC/VISA (RMT#9644) 927-8366.

GENERAL Get Pampered with a Swedish, Deep Tissue, Sports, Chair, or Hot Stone Massage by Rebecca. North Austin, 183 & Anderson Mill. Gift certificates avail. Call 512-699-9165, MT#031330

GENERAL Therapeutic Relief. In/Out calls, 9am-7pm daily. Eva, Call 282-4426. RMT#3830.

LOMI LOMI Catch the Wave! Hawaiian Bodywork... An extraordinary experience. (RMT44052) Call 220-6880.

PRESSURE POINT MASSAGE & FACIALS
Specialising in Chinese Pressure Point Massage and Deep Pore Facial.
Southwest Austin Pao-Chuan (Bonnie Yu), RMT #23296, 656-2054

READER NOTICE
The State of Texas Department of Health requires registration numbers for individuals who practice massage. These registration numbers are included in all ads within the therapy section. They are as follows: TR = Temporary Registration is a temporary licensed number which is good for six months as a registered massage therapist in Texas. RMT = Registered Massage Therapist or MT = Massage Therapist, which is the permanent registration number once all state tests have been passed. ME = Massage Establishment, which is a place of business that offers licensed massage therapy and is a licensed massage therapist on site of the business establishment. MI = Massage Instructor, an individual who is a registered massage therapist approved by the State of Texas to offer instruction to 1 or more students of massage therapy. Any concerns should be directed to the Texas Department of Health in Austin at 512-834-6616

REIKI MASTER & SWEDISH. SOUTH. New Locale!! Ben White/Hwy. 71 & I-35. LOWER BACK Specialty. Weekdays after 5pm to LATE O.K., ALL DAY FRI., Weekends before 5pm. Call Jen, Cell: 203-7271. RMT#7400 Short Notice O.K.

RELAXATION Massage by young college student. Call Greg for soothing massage. In/Out calls. RMT# TR19001. Cellular: 512-496-3527.

HOTEL OUTCALLS
IN/OUT TIL 2AM
459-3535 RMT #4676

FULL BODY WARM OIL CANDLELIGHT MASSAGE
IN/OUT 444-3831
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BLISSFULLY RELAXING! ... SPECIAL EXPERIENCE!
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ESPECIALLY FOR MEN!
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• Hot Stones
• Warm Oil
In/Outcalls 9am-2am 569-7001
Se Habla Español RMT 45207

RELAXATION Fabulous massages. Full body relaxation, body scrubs, hot stones, warm oil. Outcalls, 9am-12am. 569-7001. TR#45207.

RELAXATION
Private setting in S. Austin. Full body massage with warm oil by masculine guy with strong, sensitive hands.
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www.elmforestmassage.net

RELAXATION Full Body Massage for the discriminating man; soothing techniques to remedy your needs; wkdays, 6-9 PM, Weekends/Holidays, 10A-9P, Don, 436-9240, Zilker Pk. area. MT #032673

RELAXATION The Right Touch. Chinese, Swedish style. Sensitive. Call Jade Liu 804-0794 - RMT#36404

SWEDISH Relaxing, experienced and tailored to your individual needs. South Austin location 707-8018. Marilyn Marques MT030602

SWEDISH Massage Gustavo Marquez. By Appt: Flexible Schedule. Call 512-577-7555. MT032836

SWEDISH Massage Therapy Swedish, Hot Stone, Reiki. 9am - midnight. 636-3661. RMT #40870.

SWEDISH Handsome, well-built, black-male, massage therapist looking for an open-minded female clientele to enjoy techniques. Cell #577-9505. MT029711

SWEDISH "Forget the rest... try the best." In/Outcall. Massage by Joy. (MT1151) Call (512) 280-2995.

SWEDISH 14yrs experience. Nurturing, Intuitive, Holistic. Beautiful central Austin, Travis Heights location. (MT#010471) www.sarahrosemassage.com Call Sarah at (512) 983-6602.

SWEDISH Gift yourself to a luxurious massage from a recent Fine Arts UT graduate. Thanks for all your encouragement and support! Kasey Smith, MT#17406. 457-8496.

SWEDISH A Gentle Touch Massage. Experience a meditative massage to decrease stress & increase your well being. \$55/75 min., \$45/60 min. 10:30am-6:30 pm.. Call Julie today! 512-585-4752. RMT#042748.

SWEDISH/DEEP TISSUE Massage Therapy by Gida. Swedish & Deep Tissue. In/Outcalls. Call 786-2881 North Austin. RMT#021809.

THERAPEUTIC Feel better now... Therapeutic Massage by Ilse Rachut, RMT#355386, 5 years of professional experience. Sports, Swedish, Shiatsu, deep tissue. Central Location. 264-4500.

THERAPIST In North Austin. See website for info www.awakeningsmassage.com MT 101274

455 PSYCHIC ASTROLOGY

PSYCHIC LOVE SPECIALIST, MADDELYN Returns lovers. Helps in all matters of life. FREE reading by phone. 1-800-515-0991

PSYCHIC READINGS Tarot or channeled writing; Austin unique. This is it. Donations only. Phone (512) 569-4767.

460 TRAVEL

BEST RATES Travelaxe.com searches many travel websites in real-time and compares their rates side-by-side. Save time and money and get the lowest rates.



510 ACTIVITIES

ADULT BASEBALL Recreational adult baseball league, semis/championship at Dell Diamond! Go to www.ctbl.org for more information

AUSTRALIAN RULES Football in Austin! We have a team up and running and are seeking new players. Visit www.austin-footy.com

SUMMER CAMP CampSHE: An empowering, fun, ALL GIRL camp with all kinds of activities and events! Ages 9-12. www.CampSHE.com

515 CLASSES WORKSHOPS

SPANISH Learn to speak Spanish. This ongoing course relies heavily on visual material, word association and games. http://www.creativelanguagecenter.com 453-8680.

SPANISH
Someday, I'll Learn SPANISH!???
No luck with traditional classes and workbooks? Hate Studying? Don't have much time? Think learning can't be fun? Use your whole brain by tapping into the extraordinary mental capacities we all have, but seldom use, with the most advanced and enjoyable teaching and learning method available today. 263-9944 * All Levels * Class Schedules, Fees and more at <http://www.RapidSpanish.com>

525 EVENTS

YHPAA SCHOLARSHIP "Soaring to New Heights-a Night of Wine Flights" The Young Hispanic Professional Austin Association invites you to stop by and enjoy a University Themed Wine Flight Featured Flights include: Longhorns, Miners, Wolverines, Fighting Irish, Bobcats...and more! Monday, May 7, 2007 5:00 o'clock Cork & Co 308 Congress Avenue 10 Scholarship Donation at the Door RSVP: rsvp@yhpaa.org www.yhpaa.org

530 GENERAL

ADOPTION PREGNANT? CONSIDERING ADOPTION? A married couple seeks to adopt. Financial security. Expenses paid. Call Kathy & David. (Ask for Erin/Adam). 1-800-923-6781. (AAN CAN)

at 4134 Felter Ln, Ste A, Austin, Travis County, Texas. Officers of said corporation are Eleftherios Nikol Karamolegkos, President; Evangelos Polycrates, Vice President; Antonios Apostolos Petropoulos, Sec/Treasurer.

535 LOST & FOUND

LOST POMERANIAN REWARD Bk/tn 6lb male lost on Asmara Dr in Austin, Tx On 1/13/07 microchipped 269-244-5782

LOSTLONG COAT CHI LOST: Our long coat chi. Answers to Charlie. 4yrs/6lbs/black + tan. plz bring him home. hes older w/health issues. 5125905012

545 LEGAL NOTICES

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and a Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit by Hilltop Bar & Grill, Inc. d/b/a Poodie's Hilltop Roadhouse to be located at 22308 Hwy 17 W, Spicewood, Travis County, Texas. Officers of said corporation are Brooks Avery Ellis, President; James Randall Locke, Secretary.

Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and a Mixed Beverage Late Hours Permit by ABL International, Inc. d/b/a Hot Bodies Too to be located

CAUSE NO. 83,862 IN RE: THE GUARDIANSHIP OF JANET LONG FISH, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Guardianship for the Guardian of the Person and Estate With Full Authority of JANET LONG FISH, an incapacitated person, was issued on April 9, 2007, in Cause No. 83,862, in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to DAVID B. PHARIS, as Guardian of the Person & Estate With Full Authority of JANET LONG FISH.

The residence of the Guardian is in Austin, Travis County, Texas, the post office address is: c/o Deborah Green, The Law Offices of Deborah Green, 7200 North MacPac Blvd., Suite 300 Austin, Texas 78731
All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Dated this 19th day of April, 2007.
By: /s/ Deborah Green Attorneys for Guardian

NOTICE OF SALE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY STATE OF TEXAS COUNTY OF TRAVIS

By virtue of a WRIT OF EXECUTION issued by the clerk of the Justice Court at Law Precinct No. 1 of Travis County, Texas and for TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, March 08 2007, in caused numbered 010660 styled Monreal, Michael versus Vasquez, Ernest Sr. On a judgment rendered against Vasquez, Ernest Sr. at 12328 Yarmont Way Austin Texas 78753. I did on April 11, 2007 at 08:00 A.M. levy upon property of Vasquez, Ernest Sr. the described property TO WIT:

1. 2000 Mazda 4 Dr passenger Vin # 1YVGF22EXY5105543 L.P. 452 WGF Brown

On May 1 2007 being first Tuesday of the month between the hours 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM Beginning at 11:AM at 9301 Johnny Morris Rd. Austin, Texas 78724. I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, ownership and interest of in and to the above-described property.

NOTICE TO BIDDERS
You are buying whatever interest, if any; the debtor has in the property. Purchase of the debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interest held by other persons. There are no warranties of title, merchantability of fitness for particular purpose. Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas April 12, 2005 /s/ CPL J VILLALOVOS-104

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF RAYMOND MORRIS BRYANT, Deceased, No. 86475 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
REBECCA CLAY BRYANT al-

leged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 27th day of MARCH, 2007, an Application to Determine Heirship and Appointment of Independent Administrator in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said RAYMOND MORRIS BRYANT, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of

its issuance, it shall be returned unreserved.
GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 27th day of March, 2007.
DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748,
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JOAN STERLING, Deceased, No. 86561 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.
SHAYEYA KING alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 11TH day of APRIL, 2007, an Application to Determine Heirship & Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said JOAN STERLING, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from

date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unreserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 11th day of April, 2007.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748
Austin, Texas 78767
By Deputy: /s/ Gloria Cantu

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KEITH LLOYD WAMPLER, Deceased, No. 86407 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

DON BURCHAM alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 15th day of MARCH, 2007, an Applica-

tion and for Issuance of Letters of Independent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said KEITH LLOYD WAMPLER Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unreserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 15th day of March, 2007.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR
County Clerk,
Travis County, Texas
P.O. Box 1748,
Austin, Texas 78767

By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-06-005251

To: CHARLES EDWARD WHIPPLE and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and petition, a default judgment may be taken against you.

YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear and answer before the Honorable District Court, 345TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT, Travis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after the expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE filed in said court on OCTOBER 16, 2006, and said suit being number D-1-FM-06-005251 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF JERRYLYNN FRAZIER WHIPPLE and CHARLES EDWARD WHIPPLE".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the marriage of the parties, appoint managing and possessory conservators, and divide the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems just and right.

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judgment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property which will be binding on you.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, March 15, 2007.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ Krista Welch, Deputy REQUESTED BY:

CARLA GAY DICKSON
13740 N HWY 183 BLD L STE 1
AUSTIN, TX 78750
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 336-9994
FAX: (512) 336-9996

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-06-004623 To: ROY D. CARNAHAN AND JUNIE CARNAHAN A/K/A JUNIE ROGERS Defendant(s), in the herein-after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the May 21, 2007, and answer the PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 201ST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on APRIL 3, 2007, a default judgment may be taken against you.

Said suit being number D-1-GN-06-004623, in which IK-SNIBUL WAHS, INC., Plaintiff(s), and ROY D. CARNAHAN AND JUNIE CARNAHAN A/K/A JUNIE ROGERS Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows:

BEING A SUIT TO REMOVE CLOUD ON TITLE TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY TO-WIT: SURFACE ESTATE ONLY OF LOTS 15 AND 16, SANDY CREEK RANCHES, PHASE ONE(1), SECTION FIVE, ACCORDING TO THE MAP OR

PLAT RECORDED IN VOLUME 54, PAGE 9, OF THE PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS.

ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S FIRST AMENDED PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, April 3, 2007.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701

/s/ Marchelle Dukes, Deputy

REQUESTED BY:
KIRT H. KESTER
611 WEST 14TH STREET, SUITE 100
AUSTIN, TX 78701
BUSINESS PHONE:
(512) 477-5796
FAX (512)477-5821

Haiku of Texas, LLC, Joshua H. Zahn, President DBA Haiku Japanese Restaurant is Making Application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit and a Food and Beverage Certificate On the Address of 9600 South IH-35 Svc Rd Suite 600, Austin, Travis County, Texas.

IN THE COURT OF THE CHIEF JUDGE CITY CIVIL COURTS AT HYDERABAD OS NO 396 OF 2004 Between, T. Hanumathi and others (Plaintiffs) AND R. Ashok Reddy and others (Defendants)

To, R. Ashok Reddy (Defendant No2), S/O R. Narayana Reddy, Residing at 3614 Kentfield Road, Austin, Texas 78759, USA

Take notice that the above case is posted on 27/06/2007 in the above referred court. You are required to appear either in person or through Advocate or otherwise the matter may be decided in your absence as exparte. BY THE ORDER OF THE COURT (signed) SHARAD SANGHI, M/S SHARAD SANGHI & ASSOCIATES, Advocates, # 5-8-277 TO 279, III Floor, Vansh Towers, Mahesh Nagar Colony, Nampally, Station Road, Hyderabad-1, INDIA, 09848050544, +91 40 23200746, +91 40 66782541.

LEGAL NOTICES

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE accepts LEGAL NOTICES at the low rate of \$2.10 per line OR \$25 per column inch (for display advertising.)

Notarized affidavits of publication and audited circulation statements are provided upon request.

Call Jessica @ 512-454-5765 ext. 168 for more info.

NO. 86147 IN THE ESTATE OF CLARENCE MAXIE, A/K/A CLARENCE MAXIE, JR., DECEASED IN THE PROBATE COURT

NUMBER ONE (1) OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that on the 3rd day of April, 2007, Letters Administration of the Estate of CLARENCE MAXIE, A/K/A CLARENCE MAXIE, JR., Deceased were issued to W. Timothy Weaver as Administrator in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, Cause No. 86147, pending in said Court, and that he now holds such Letters.

All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to the said Administrator of said Estate, at the post office address given below and within the time prescribed by law.

The address of said Administrator is in the City of Houston, Harris County, Texas, and is as follows:

Mr. W. Timothy Weaver
1300 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 777
Houston, TX 77056
DATED the 27th day of April, 2007.

Respectfully submitted,
/s/ W. Timothy Weaver
TBA #21014500
1300 Post Oak Blvd., Suite 777
Houston, TX 77056
(713) 622-1075
(713) 621-0134 (telecopier)
Administrator

Notice is hereby given in accordance with the provisions of the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Code that Prime Choice Consulting, Inc. d/b/a Nunzia's at the Y, is making application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit, Beverage Cartage Permit, and Food and Beverage Certificate located at 7720 Hwy 71 W, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78735. Shawn Denham, President of Prime Choice Consulting, Inc.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned motor vehicle act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

- 1990 Dodge 4d, 507XHZ OK, 1B3XC5634LD781012
- Suzuki ATV
- 1989 Honda, NP, JHMCA5667KC126219

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas abandoned motor vehicle act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

- 1)OWNER: ROSA BECTON
1987 TOYOTA TERCEL
VIN: 1HGCA5632HA068784
- 2)OWNER: HORACIO RENE CHAVEZ RICO
1986 VOLKSWAGON JETTA
VIN: WVWGB016XGW864637

- 3)OWNER: MARGARITO RANGEL
1990 CHRYSLER NEW YORKER
VIN: 1C3XY66R4LD900417
 - 4)OWNER: KYLE GRAY
1995 NISSAN 240SX
VIN: JN1AS44D9W5005896
 - 5) OWNER: JULIE PROCELL
1995 CHEVROLET BLAZER
VIN: 1GNDT13W4S2201607
 - 6) OWNER: ROGER METZLER
1988 CHEVROLET
VIN: 1GDCG15H2J7166787
 - 7) OWNER: SEAN MCKEE
1992 FORD TAURUS
VIN: 1FACP50U8NA219224
 - 8) OWNER: AUGUSTIN FRAUSTO
1992 FORD TAURUS
VIN: 1FACP52U2NA174505
 - 9) OWNER: ABRAHAM GUI-TIERREZ
1977 TRAILER
VIN: CCL447F396358
 - 10) OWNER: UNKNOWN
1996 MITSUBISHI
VIN: 4A3AK24Y8TE35384
- AUCTION: May 11, 2007 @ 6:00 AM**
About Town Towing
2905 W. Howard Lane
Austin, TX 78728
(512) 837-0000

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: AMY BOWMAN
1994 INFINITI J30
VIN: JNKAY21D8RM104413
 - 2)OWNER: JOHN PARSON
1991 CADILLAC SEVILLE
VIN: 1G6KS53B7MU818291
 - 3)OWNER: MARIA VILLANUEVA
1991 PONTIAC 6000LE
VIN: 1G2AF54TXM6202713
 - 4)OWNER: JOSEPH DARBRY
1991 ACURA LEGEND
VIN: JH4KA8269MC001365
 - 5) OWNER: JOHNNY SHIRLEY
1996 CHEVROLET BLAZER
VIN: 1GNCS13W0T21811422
 - 6) OWNER: ROSA LINDA FUENTES GARZA
1995 PONTIAC GRAND AM
VIN: 1G2NE15D85M563239
 - 7) OWNER: NOAL F SHAW
1999 CADILLAC ELDOREADO
VIN: W06VRS2R6XR027182
 - 8) OWNER: JIM CROCKER
1986 SUBARU
VIN: JF2AN53B6GE404239
 - 9) OWNER: MARIA MACIAS
1987 FORD ESCORT
VIN: 1FAPP2893HW329055
 - 10) OWNER: ROJELIO BENITEZ
1986 FORD F250
VIN: 1FTHF2515GKA35808
- AUCTION: May 4, 2007 @ 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 motor vehicle act, the following vehicles will be auctioned off by the Travis County Sheriff's Office unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

OWNER: UNKNOWN
1988 ISUZU
VIN: JAACL11L9J7215167
LP: 39708H (IL)

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT TO TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS.
GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX.
1993 CADILLAC

the **COMMON LAW**
by Luke Ellis

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

MY OLD BOSS SAID WHAT?

I thought I had a fairly good relationship with my old boss, but I just found out that he gave a new potential employer a bad recommendation about me. Is that grounds for a lawsuit?

You are optimistic about the possibility of an exciting new job. You've interviewed for the position and offered several previous work references that you think will give you an advantage in the hiring process. When you don't get the job, you ask why and, among other things, learn that one of your previous employers provided a poor recommendation about your work performance. Mad and in complete disagreement with the negative recommendation, you wonder whether you have grounds to file a lawsuit against your former boss.

Generally speaking, a bad recommendation is not grounds for a lawsuit. Merely voicing a negative opinion is an act of free speech and is probably not actionable. In addition, the Texas Labor Code specifically grants employers limited immunity for disclosing information about a current or former employee's job performance to a prospective employer requesting that information. The term "job performance" is fairly broad; it not only includes professional skills and abilities but also attendance, punctuality, attitudes, behavior, relationships with co-workers, and generally anything relating to criticism of a person's work.

That immunity is meant to be limited, though. An employer could be liable if he disclosed harmful information unrelated to job performance or if he disclosed information to someone other than a prospective employer. Comments questioning an employee's honesty, integrity, or virtue might cross the line, even if job-related. An employer can also be liable if he discloses information that he knows is false or if he discloses information that he would have known was false had he conducted a reasonable investigation. There are also specific federal and state laws beyond the scope of this article that prohibit an employer's disclosure of certain health and medical information, even to prospective employers.

In most cases, however, telling a prospective employer honestly that you are less than impressed with a former employee and why is perfectly legitimate.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns.

Paying too much for your Legal Notice Ads? Call the Austin Chronicle Classifieds!

The *Chronicle* accepts legal notices for publication at a rate of \$2.10 per line, \$25 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.

For a rate quote call Jessica Nesbitt at 512-454-5765, ext.168, e-mail jnesbitt@austinchronicle.com, or fax to 512-458-6910, attn: Jessica

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE
austinchronicle.com

IGCC53B5P4295954
 1995 JEEP CHEROKEE
 1J4FT7856TL316807
 2006 DODGE PK
 1D7HA16K17J520796

NOTICE OF APPLICATION OF MASTER PLAN APPLICANT LCRA acknowledges that an application for Master Plan approval has been submitted, and is administratively complete, for West Cypress Hills, Phase 2 located southwest of SH71 and Cypress Ranch Blvd. The project is a 244 lot residential subdivision with a reserved school site, streets, and utilities.

Any interested person may comment on the application. Written comments should be either mailed or delivered to the LCRA no later than 15 days from the date of this notice in order to be considered in the review of the application. Additional information regarding this application may be obtained by contacting the LCRA Watershed Management Office at 473-3200, ext. 2324.

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATION Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulations:

No Parking Regulation on Edgewater Drive, and Speed Limit Regulations on Haynie Flat Road, Janice Lane & Conroy Lane all 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

PS OrangeCo, Inc., and Shurgard TRS, Inc., 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 **16TH and 17TH of MAY, 2007** on or after the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified:

NO CHILDREN OR PETS PLEASE.

Wednesday May 16th 2007
9:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 1033 E 41st Street, Austin, TX 78751

2112 YVONNE SHEFFIELD, TV, TABLE, COUCH
 3096 MARGRETT COLLINS, TV, SPEAKERS, BOXES
 4093 GREG AUDEL, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

10:30 a.m. Public Storage (formerly known as Shurgard) @ 10001 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

8033 CHRIS WILLIAMS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
 3003 LISA MOUNCE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
 4004 PAM HAUSMANN, LAWN EQUIPMENT, TOYS, BICYCLE
 5086 DAVID THADEN, TOOLBOX, MITER SAW, LAWN EQUIPMENT

1040 LAKEHA JAMES, TV, TOYS, COUCH
 1006 MARION SUMMERS, TOYS, BIG SCREEN TV, WASHER & DRYER

11:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 10100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

B029 RICHARD WARD, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
 B026 DOROTHY BRANIFF, OVEN, TOYS, BICYCLE
 C031 FLOREESE, BOXES, CHAIRS, TOTES

(formerly known as Shurgard) @ 1517 Round Rock Ave., Round Rock, TX 78681

4104 MARSHALL HUSSAIN, MONTIOR, DESK, CHAIRS
 4137 SARA SMITH, DESK, MIRRORS, MATTRESS
 6118 ROBERT CHARLES HARRINGTON, TOTES, TOYS, BICYCLE
 3106 JIMMY JARRET, TOTES, WASHER, DRESSER
 3103 SHANE STOWALL, TOTES, TABLES, TV, DRESSER

10:30 a.m. Public Storage (formerly known as Shurgard) @ 13675 US Hwy 183 N., Austin, TX 78750

1317 JUSTIN FIORITTO, WASHER, DRYER, BOOKS, BOOKCASE
 0242 MORYELLE GREENE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
 0411 ALEXANDRIA TOWNSEND, ARMOIRE, DINING TABLE, TOTES

11:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 12915 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78750

C005 GENA GUITERREZ, BOXES, FOOTLOCKER, SHELIVING

12:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 12318 N. Mopac Expressway, Austin, TX 78758

D560 TRENCE KITCHENS, FILING CABINET, TOTES, TOYS
 A078 THOMAS WHITE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
 D484 CHIQUITA STEPHEN, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

1:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 10931 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759

G032 BRIAN HILL, TV, CHAIR, COUCH

2:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78758

D040 SHAROLL PORTER, COUCH, TABLES, RUG
 D113-A JOANN HICKS, SEWING MACHINES, TV, EXERCISE EQUIPMENT
 D079 JAVIER MAGANA, DESK, COMPUTER, BOXES
 D039 NACOY DAVIS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT
 A293 ROBERT TAYLOR, TABLES, STEREO, BOXES
 E088 ANTONIO CERVANTES, TOTES, PICTURES, MIRRORS

3:00 p.m. Public Storage @ 8128 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

E022 ABEL LOERA, TOOLBOX, DRESSER, LUGGAGE
 E003 WILEY FULLER, VINYL RECORDS, GOLF CLUBS, BBQ GRILL
 D025 c/o BRENDA DAVENPORT, SHANA GILMAN, DRESSER, PICTURES, TV
 B026 LEO WATSON, FIVE GUMBAL MACHINES, TV, LAWN EQUIPMENT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Austin Southwest Self Storage under Chapters 59 & 70 of the Texas Property Code, hereby gives notice of sale under said act, to wit: On May 12, 2007 at 9:00 AM at 9493 East Hwy 290, Austin, TX 78724, seller will conduct a sale of the contents of each unit in its entirety to the highest bidder for cash to satisfy a landlord's lien. Units contain appliances, furniture, clothing, TVs, mower, tires, wheels, tools, and misc.

#201 Francis Haynes
 #231 David Barnett
 #428 Tami Harper
 #510 Ava Mills
 #610 Johnny Johnson

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

to satisfy mechanic's lien-1997 Yamaha serial# Yama4289a797, motor# 65v004839 and trailer vin # 4h1001312w0221516 on May 29th at 8am, 2007. 15835 Foothill Farms #3126, Pflugerville, TX 78660, 512-635-8755

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, A-Austin Storage Center, 1805 Frontier Valley Drive, Austin TX 78741, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale

will be at 10 AM on Tuesday, May 15, 2007 at the above address. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Auction will be to the highest bidder and complete removal of contents will be required the day of auction. Property includes contents of spaces of the following tenants:

Jimmy L. Brown: Furniture, tools, household items, bicycles
 Alvin Chavez: Furniture, bicycles, electric scooter
 Alfonso Cruz: Furniture, pool table
 Carmelo Fraire: Furniture, tools, appliances
 Raina Flanery: Furniture, household items, boxes
 Asuncian Flores Gomez: Bicycle, car parts
 Frederick Macias: Exercise bike, household items, bicycles
 Patsy Hisbrook: Tricycle, clothes, suitcase
 Rene Moreno: Chevy car skeleton
 Diane L. Porras: Furniture, household items
 Dararith P: Clothes, boxes
 Jose G. Rivera: Bicycle, mattress
 John Segura: Furniture, household items, clothes
 Zulema Vega: Household items, furniture, pool table
 Patricia Warren: Boxes, clothes
 Marshall Wright: Furniture, tools, scaffolding, ladder

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

PS OrangeCo, Inc., and Shurgard TRS, Inc., 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 **15th of MAY 2007** on or about the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified: NO CHILDREN PLEASE.

TUESDAY, May 15th 2007.
9:00 a.m. Public Storage (formerly known as Shurgard) @9814 Westgate Blvd, Austin, TX 78748

0212 MICHAEL HARRIS JR, WASHER, DRYER, BOXES
 0249 CASEY RODRIGUEZ, TV, MATTRESS, BOXSPRING

9:30a.m. Public Storage @ 7200 S 1st Street., Austin, TX 78745

B031 KATHERINE GUERREIRO, DRESSER, CHAIR, BOXES
 B056 MARY CASTILLO, BABY CRIB, BOXES, CAR SEAT
 C074 MELANIE ROBLES, DRYER, STEREO, DRESSER
 F193 CHRISTOPHER VANCE, MESSAGE CHAIR, DRESSER, SPEAKERS
 H232 MEGAN POWELL, HAND DOLLY CHAIR, DRESSER
 #2003 MICHAEL ROMERO, TOTES, BOXES
 J268 SUSAN BARRERA, SHELIVING, CHAIR, TOTES
 J277 JUAN MACIEL, TOOLS, CAR PARTS, TV
 L327 DERRICK GUTIERREZ, SPEAKERS, COUCH, CHAIR
 N416 CHRISTINA MILLS, COUCH, CHAIR, BOOKCASE
 N431 RENE METCALF, TV, TRUNK, TABLE
 R555 JAMES LAWLER, RIDING MOWER, GENERATOR, BOXES
 S567 JONATHAN CARDENAS, BOXES
 T601 JANET POWELL, LAWN EQUIPMENT, BOXES, CHAIR
 U624 ISIDRA VALLAFRANCA, MICROWAVE, COUCH, BOXES
 U685 DAVID WILKERSON,

AV0510 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

MAY 10, 2007 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

070990854	1987	CADI	4DR	451DPF	TX	1G6DW51Y9H9718707
071040688	1994	FORD	2DR	Z13KDC	TX	1FALP62W2RH108458
075017371	1982	BMW	2DR	JTK5AR	TX	WBAAH3105C7455268
075017614	1991	ISUZ	LL	N78VMY	TX	JACCH58R0M7912967
075017617	1998	BUIC	4DR	V58GSW	TX	2G4WS52M6W1402924
075017619	1991	HOND	SW	X65KJT	TX	1HGCB9757MA003492
075017627	1993	CHEV	LL	M82XTJ	TX	1GNCS13W9P2173468
075017985	1994	MAZD	4DR	P06NBF	TX	1YVGE22C5R5148707
075017986	1984	MERZ	4DR	V08WDY	TX	WDBAB33A1EA174681
075017987	1991	BMW	4DR	S99KMY	TX	WBAJ9312MEJ04036
075017988	1991	MAZD	4DR	FJ83SV	TX	JM1BG2247M0279730
075017991	1993	DODG	PK	4WZP65	TX	1B7GL23Y1P166609
075017994	1994	INFI	4DR	727LLC	TX	JNKAY21D5RM108497
075017996	1987	CADI	4DR	J38NSZ	TX	1G6CD518X44218330
075018003	1993	STRN	4DR	K91ZSX	TX	1G8ZFJ5572P2127095
075018004	1987	FORD	PK	02VK1	TX	1FTDF15H7HKA17513
075018005	1989	BUIC	4DR	Y51VYT	TX	1G4CX54CXK1637416
075018009	1997	FORD	PK	XK0087	TX	1FTDX1768WKA43042
075018053	1989	HOND	4DR	XMY155	TX	JHMCA5647K0046068
075018554	1976	CHEV	PK	6MFW76	TX	CCD146J139402
075018557	1990	MTS	4DR	013DCB	TX	JA3CR46V4LZ036379
075018561	1997	STRN	SD	928FPS	TX	1G8ZF5282VZ370157
075018562	1986	OLDS	4DR	T80SLX	TX	1G3AJ19R86D407771
075018563	1991	MERC	4DR	T98HCX	TX	1MECM50U1MA640945
075018663	1998	FORD	4DR	ZSN9R2	TX	1FAFP13P8WV156884
075018665	1983	CHEV	PK	62DRDZ	TX	1GDCD144HD5139901
075018667	1994	TOYT	4DR	C72YYY	TX	JT2AE04B9R0054341
075018670	1973	CHEV	PK	4MRX93	TX	CCY143F303895
075018671	1994	TOYT	2DR	G79FHL	TX	JT2EL46S7R0413004
075018672	1994	CADI	2DR	F58PPP	TX	1G6GKS5Y2R2U829468
075018673	1997	FORD	4DR	R72LCY	TX	3FALP6530VM116307
075018676	1989	JEEP	LL	ANC928	MIN	1J4FJ28L7KL542337
075018942	1989	DODG	4DR	XJH68T	TX	1B3BC5634KD513361
075018952	1999	PONT	2DR	H04ZYJ	TX	1G2NE12E2XM823140
075018955	1995	MTS	4DR	228NVJ	TX	4A3AJ56GXSE015188
075018956	1989	PONT	SW	TLR26L	TX	1G2BL81Y4KA200531

Car Talk
 by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

OIL-FILTER MAGNETS DON'T HURT, BUT DON'T HELP A LOT

Dear Tom and Ray:
 I recently saw a car catalog that had an oil-filter magnet for sale. The magnet was placed on the bottom of an oil filter and was strong enough to remove any metal shavings from the oil stream. Is this product worthwhile, or am I just wasting my money? – Ron

TOM: These things have been around for years, Ron. They certainly don't do any harm.

RAY: They sell magnets that go inside the oil pan, magnets that are built into the oil plug, and magnets, like this one, that attach to the filter.

TOM: Now, keep in mind that the oil filter itself already removes any metal shavings, or anything else that's bigger than about 25 microns – or about half the width of a human hair. So they do a pretty good job.

RAY: Does stuff that's smaller than that – stuff that gets through the filter – harm your engine? Probably, at least a little. But with the magnet, you'll only get the metallic stuff that sneaks by the filter. You won't catch any soot or pieces of aluminum, which are also harmful.

TOM: If a magnet really made engines last longer, don't you think that GM and Ford would already have spent the three cents per car it would take to build one into the oil plug?

RAY: So I'd have to say that oil-filter magnets fall into the general category of "overkill."

TOM: But if you're the kind of guy who believes in overkill, Ron, then go for it. Do you wear a surgical mask on an airplane? Do you go back and double-check to make sure you've turned off the stove before you leave the house? Do you have your brother taste your food before you eat it? If so, you should get one of these magnets, Ron.

RAY: In fact, you should get two, in case one falls off.

TOM: Seriously, it certainly can't hurt anything. And it's possible that there's some small benefit. But in the big scheme of things, it's not high on the priorities list. Changing your oil regularly will probably extend the life of your engine more than any magnet.

If you buy a used car, will you just be inheriting the previous owner's problem? Tom and Ray dispel this and other myths about used cars in their pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk Web site at www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on

cut 90.5
 AUSTIN TEXAS

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TABLE, CHAIR, TV
1212 LAW OFFICE OF WILLIAM DUFOUR, DINING TABLE, FILING CABINET, BOXES
2135 STEPHEN RIDEAUX, DRESSER, TV, BOXES
3089 STEPHEN FERGUSON, WASHER, COUCH, CHAIR
4023 DAVID LATIMER, BAGS, BOXES, CHAIR
5115 THOMAS BRESSORIAN, TV, STEREO, DRESSER

NOTICE OF SALE In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an owner's lien of the goods hereinafter described and stored at Stor Self Storage locations listed below; And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash only. **Store Self Storage 7401 W. Slaughter Ln. Austin, TX 78739, 512-394-9898**, May 4, 2007 at 10:30am. Unit# 4065 Tracy L. Waller, portable TV, shelf, end table, lamp, misc. boxes. And will continue on to the following **Stor Self Storage 7728 Bee Caves Rd. Austin, TX 78746, 512-306-0776**. Unit# 123 Nathan Davidson, desk, chairs, boxes, table, rug, electric saw, computer monitors, bed frame. **Stor Self Storage Pflugerville, TX 78660, 512-990-1000**. Unit# 326 John D. Rueter, organ, bar stools, baby bed, lamp, misc. items. Frank R. Reufer Unit# 326 organ, bar stools, baby bed, lamp, misc. items.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF LOUISE SMITH, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LOUISE SMITH, Deceased, were issued on April 18, 2007, in Cause No. 86,447, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to: EDWIN MCMURRAY SMITH, JR. and MARGARET LOUISE SHELTON, Co-Independent Executors. The residence of Co-Independent Executor EDWIN MCMURRAY SMITH, JR., is in Austin, Travis County, Texas. The residence of Co-Independent Executor MARGARET LOUISE SHELTON is Houston, Harris County, Texas. The post office address is: Estate of LOUISE SMITH Law Office of Diane Hebner 507 West 7th Street Austin, Texas 78701

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARVIN C. SCHLECTE, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Marvin C. Schlecte, also known as Marvin Charles Schlecte, deceased, were issued on April 19, 2007, in Cause No. 86526, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Marvin Charles Schlecte, Jr. as independent executor. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent executor's attorney at the following address: D'Ana H. Mikeska, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARGARET SILLS, DECEASED Administration of the estate of Margaret Sills, Deceased, has been commenced by the issuance of letters testamentary to the undersigned on March 8, 2007, by the County Court At Law No. 4, of Williamson County, Texas, acting in Cause No. 07-0080-CP4, styled In The Matter of the Estate of Margaret Sills, Deceased, in which court the matter is pending.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BONNIE LEE CRAIG, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 863322, styled Estate of Bonnie Lee Craig, Deceased, pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on April 18, 2007, to John A. Craig and Charles M. Craig. Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representatives of the estate in care of their attorneys at the following address: c/o GRAVES, DOUGHERTY,

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROSALIE JOYCE CLOSSER, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ROSALIE JOYCE CLOSSER, Deceased, were issued on March 28, 2007, in Cause No. 86358 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Earl Wayne Closser, 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 1004 West Avenue Austin, Texas 78701

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JENNIE L. SHIPSEY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that Let- ters Testamentary in the Estate of JENNIE L. SHIPSEY, DECEASED, were granted to JOSHUA WILLARD SHIPSEY on April 18, 2007, by Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Cause No. 86,478.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ADELE AMELIA CRAVEN Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ADELE AMELIA CRAVEN were issued on April 18, 2007, in Cause No. 86,484, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: CANDICE ANNE CRAVEN a/ k/a CANDICE ANNE CRAVEN HOWARD

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ADLE AMELIA CRAVEN Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ADLE AMELIA CRAVEN were issued on April 18, 2007, in Cause No. 86,484, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: CANDICE ANNE CRAVEN a/ k/a CANDICE ANNE CRAVEN HOWARD

HEARON & MOODY
A Professional Corporation
Attn: E. Clark Lutz
P. O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200
Austin, Texas 78767-0098
All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
DATED the 23rd day of April, 2007.

GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY
A Professional Corporation
P. O. Box 98
401 Congress, Suite 2200
Austin, Texas 78767-0098
(512) 480-5600 Telephone
(512) 478-1976 Telecopier
By: /s/ E. Clark Lutz
State Bar No. 12709500
ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT CO-EXECUTORS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ROSALIE JOYCE CLOSSER, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Rosalie Joyce Closser, Deceased, were issued on March 28, 2007, in Cause No. 86358 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Earl Wayne Closser, a resident of Travis County, Texas.

The residence of the Independent Executor is 249 Bryn Mawr Circle, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77024. 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 18, 2007.

WALKER ARENSON, Attorney for Marsha Lynne (Unruh) Taylor, 512.327.4422

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JENNIE L. SHIPSEY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that Let- ters Testamentary in the Estate of JENNIE L. SHIPSEY, DECEASED, were granted to JOSHUA WILLARD SHIPSEY on April 18, 2007, by Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Cause No. 86,478.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARVIN C. SCHLECTE, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Marvin C. Schlecte, also known as Marvin Charles Schlecte, deceased, were issued on April 19, 2007, in Cause No. 86526, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Marvin Charles Schlecte, Jr. as independent executor. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent executor's attorney at the following address: D'Ana H. Mikeska, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARGARET SILLS, DECEASED Administration of the estate of Margaret Sills, Deceased, has been commenced by the issuance of letters testamentary to the undersigned on March 8, 2007, by the County Court At Law No. 4, of Williamson County, Texas, acting in Cause No. 07-0080-CP4, styled In The Matter of the Estate of Margaret Sills, Deceased, in which court the matter is pending.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BONNIE LEE CRAIG, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 863322, styled Estate of Bonnie Lee Craig, Deceased, pending in Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on April 18, 2007, to John A. Craig and Charles M. Craig. Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representatives of the estate in care of their attorneys at the following address: c/o GRAVES, DOUGHERTY,

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ANNIE MAE JURRELLS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Annie Mae Jurrells, deceased, were issued on April 19, 2007, in Cause No. 86525, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Ira Jurrells, Jr. as independent executor. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent executor's attorney at the following address: D'Ana H. Mikeska, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JAMES BRADLEY UNRUH, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James Bradley Unruh were issued to Marsha Lynne (Unruh) Taylor, on April 18, 2007, in Cause No. 86,492, now pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Sitting in Matters Probate.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ANNIE MAE JURRELLS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Annie Mae Jurrells, deceased, were issued on April 19, 2007, in Cause No. 86525, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Ira Jurrells, Jr. as independent executor. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent executor's attorney at the following address: D'Ana H. Mikeska, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JAMES BRADLEY UNRUH, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of James Bradley Unruh were issued to Marsha Lynne (Unruh) Taylor, on April 18, 2007, in Cause No. 86,492, now pending in Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Sitting in Matters Probate.

The residence of the Independent Executor is 249 Bryn Mawr Circle, Houston, Harris County, Texas 77024. 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 18, 2007.

WALKER ARENSON, Attorney for Marsha Lynne (Unruh) Taylor, 512.327.4422

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF JENNIE L. SHIPSEY, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that Let- ters Testamentary in the Estate of JENNIE L. SHIPSEY, DECEASED, were granted to JOSHUA WILLARD SHIPSEY on April 18, 2007, by Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, Cause No. 86,478.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ADELE AMELIA CRAVEN Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ADELE AMELIA CRAVEN were issued on April 18, 2007, in Cause No. 86,484, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: CANDICE ANNE CRAVEN a/ k/a CANDICE ANNE CRAVEN HOWARD

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ADELE AMELIA CRAVEN Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of ADELE AMELIA CRAVEN were issued on April 18, 2007, in Cause No. 86,484, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: CANDICE ANNE CRAVEN a/ k/a CANDICE ANNE CRAVEN HOWARD

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ANNIE MAE JURRELLS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Annie Mae Jurrells, deceased, were issued on April 19, 2007, in Cause No. 86525, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Ira Jurrells, Jr. as independent executor. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent executor's attorney at the following address: D'Ana H. Mikeska, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ANNIE MAE JURRELLS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Annie Mae Jurrells, deceased, were issued on April 19, 2007, in Cause No. 86525, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Ira Jurrells, Jr. as independent executor. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent executor's attorney at the following address: D'Ana H. Mikeska, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF ANNIE MAE JURRELLS, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that the original letters testamentary for the estate of Annie Mae Jurrells, deceased, were issued on April 19, 2007, in Cause No. 86525, which is being administered in Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to Ira Jurrells, Jr. as independent executor. All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law in care of the independent executor's attorney at the following address: D'Ana H. Mikeska, McGinnis, Lochridge & Kilgore, L.L.P., 600 Congress Avenue, Suite 2100, Austin, Texas 78701.

DATED this 18th day of April, 2007.
NANCY N. SCHERER
SCHERER & SCHERER
602 WEST 13TH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701
ATTORNEYS FOR THE INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Marie Lena Kastner, Deceased, were issued on April 17, 2007, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, Cause No. 86,171, to David Cecil Kastner. Claims may be presented in care of the attorneys for the estate, addressed to Gibson, Hotchkiss, Roach & Davenport, 4214 Medical Parkway, Suite 202, 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. Dated the 18th day of April, 2007.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Carolyn Campbell Goetz McManus a/k/a Carolyn McManus a/k/a CAROLYN CAMPBELL-McMANUS, Deceased, were issued on March 14, 2007, in Cause No. 86284, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Ralph C. Campbell. 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: Ralph C. Campbell, executor, PO Box 90, Bullard TEXAS 75757, DATED the 23rd day of April, 2007. Telephone: (903) 825 2501 Facsimile: (903) 825 2534

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On April 13, 2007, Bonnie Sue Cannan qualified as Administrator of the Estate of Donna Marlene Cannan, Deceased, in Cause No. 83,867, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Administrator is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th, Suite 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law. Bonnie Sue Cannan Administrator of the Estate of Donna Marlene Cannan

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On April 13, 2007, Bonnie Sue Cannan qualified as Administrator of the Estate of James Howard Cannan, Deceased, in Cause No. 83,866, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Administrator is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th, Suite 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law. Bonnie Sue Cannan Administrator of the Estate of James Howard Cannan

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Emma Jean Colding Connelly Simmons AKA Emma Jean Colding Connelly, Deceased, were issued on April 17, 2007, in Cause No. 86485, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Pamela Johnson, Independent Executor Without Bond. 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.

/s/ Pamela Johnson
16800 Forest Way
Austin, Texas 78734
DATED the 23rd day of April, 2007.

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. On Site Security Guard Services; B070238-NB
Opens: May 7, 2007 @ 3:00 p.m.
2. Non OEM Automotive Parts, B070231-RG
Opens: May 7, 2007 @ 3:00 p.m.
3. Water Treatment Services, B070235-DR
Opens: May 14, 2007 @ 10:00 a.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON MAY 2, 2007 @ 11:00 A.M.
4. HVAC Units, B070244-NB
Opens: **BID OPENING DATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MAY 7, 2007 @ 3:00 P.M.**

2007, in Cause No. 86498, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Brenda C. Waterfield and R. Bruce Waterfield as Independent Co-Executors.

The residence of the Independent Co-Executors is Austin, Travis County, Texas; the post office address is: Brenda C. Waterfield and R. Bruce Waterfield c/o William T. Peckham, Attorney
1104 Nueces Street, Suite 104
Austin, Texas 78701-2106

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 19th day of April, 2007.
/s/ William T. Peckham

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On April 18, 2007, Julie Anne Branch, now known as Julie Anne Parsons, qualified as Independent Executor without bond of the Estate of LaVerne Branch, Deceased, in Cause No. 86,489, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Administrator is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th, Suite 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law. Julie Anne Parsons Independent Executor of the Estate of La Verne Branch

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On April 5, 2007, Jeffery Clay Tappe was issued original letters testamentary for the Estate of Janet G. King, Deceased, in Cause No. 86,016, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Executor is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th, Suite 808, Austin, Texas 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such address in the manner and time required by law. Jeffery Clay Tappe Independent Executor of the Estate of Janet G. King

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Emma Jean Colding Connelly Simmons AKA Emma Jean Colding Connelly, Deceased, were issued on April 17, 2007, in Cause No. 86485, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Pamela Johnson, Independent Executor Without Bond. 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.

/s/ Pamela Johnson
16800 Forest Way
Austin, Texas 78734
DATED the 23rd day of April, 2007.

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. On Site Security Guard Services; B070238-NB
Opens: May 7, 2007 @ 3:00 p.m.
2. Non OEM Automotive Parts, B070231-RG
Opens: May 7, 2007 @ 3:00 p.m.
3. Water Treatment Services, B070235-DR
Opens: May 14, 2007 @ 10:00 a.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON MAY 2, 2007 @ 11:00 A.M.
4. HVAC Units, B070244-NB
Opens: **BID OPENING DATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MAY 7, 2007 @ 3:00 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 obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Marketing Plan for Travis County Parks, RFS S070230-JW
Opens: May 16, 2007 @ 2:00 p.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON MAY 2, 2007 @ 10:00 A.M.

Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

SUMMONS (CITACION JUDICIAL) FIRST AMENDED NOTICE TO DEFENDANT: (AVISO AL DEMANDADO):

DIMENSIONS NETWORK, INC. fdba BETACORP MANAGEMENT, INC., a corporation; J. DAVID SPITZER, an individual; RON EDGMON, an individual; C. CLAY BOYKIN, an individual; KEYSTON ENTERPRISE, LLC, a limited liability company; OMG I, OMG IV, OMG V, OMG VI and OMG VIII, limited partnerships and DOES 1 through 20, inclusive. YOU ARE BEING SUED BY PLAINTIFF: (LO ESTA DEMANDANDO EL DEMANDANTE): PROVISION INTERACTIVE TECHNOLOGIES, INC., a corporation

You have 30 CALENDAR DAYS after this summons and legal papers are served on you to file a written response at this court and have a copy served on the plaintiff. A letter or phone call will not protect you. Your written response must be in proper legal form if you want the court to hear your case. There may be a court form that you can use for your response. You can find these court forms and more information at the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), your county law library, or the courthouse nearest you. If you cannot pay the filing fee, ask the court clerk for a fee waiver form. If you do not file your response on time, you may lose the case by default, and your wages, money, and property may be taken without further warning from the court.

There are other legal requirements. You may want to call an attorney right away. If you do not know an attorney, you may want to call an attorney referral service. If you

cannot afford an attorney, you may be eligible for free legal services from a non-profit legal services program. You can locate these non-profit groups at the California Legal Services Web site (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), the California Courts Online Self-Help Center (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp), or by contacting your local court or county bar association.

Tiene 30 DIAS DE CALENDARIO despues de que le entreguen esta citacion y papeles legales para presentar una respuesta por escrito en esta corte y hacer que se entregue una copia al demandante. Una carta o una llamada telefonica no lo protegen. Su respuesta por escrito tiene que estar en formato legal correcto si desea que procesen su caso en la corte. Es posible que haya un formulario que usted pueda usar para su respuesta. Puede encontrar estos formularios de la corte y mas informacion en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol), en la biblioteca de leyes de su condado o en la corte que le quede mas cerca. Si no puede pagar la cuota de presentacion, pida al secretario de la corte que le de un formulario de exencion de pago de cuotas. Si no presenta su respuesta a tiempo, puede perder el caso por incumplimiento y la corte le podra quitar su sueldo, dinero y bienes sin mas advertencia. Hay otros requisitos legales. Es recomendable que llame a un abogado inmediatamente. Si no conoce a un abogado, puede llamar a un servicio de remision a abogados. Si no puede pagar a un abogado, es posible que cumpla con los requisitos para obtener servicios legales gratuitos de un programa de servicios legales sin fines de lucro. Puede encontrar estos grupos sin fines de lucro en el sitio web de California Legal Services (www.lawhelpcalifornia.org), en el Centro de Ayuda de las Cortes de California (www.courtinfo.ca.gov/selfhelp/espanol) o poniendose en contacto con la corte o el colegio de abogados locales.

CASE NUMBER: (Numero del Caso): PC035420

The name and address of the court is: (El nombre y direccion de la corte es: Los Angeles Superior Court - North Valley
9425 Penfield Avenue
Chatsworth, CA 91311

The name, address and telephone number of plaintiff's attorney, or plaintiff without an attorney, is: (El nombre, la direccion y el numero de telefono del abogado del demandante, o del demandante que no tiene abogado, es): J. Randy Dorcy
Law Offices of J. Randy Dorcy
14501 Calvert Street, Ste. 202
Van Nuys, CA 91411
(818) 442-9789

DATE: (Fecha): March 05, 2007
Clerk, by (Secretario) A. Soto, Deputy (Adjunto)

FREE ADS
Got a car you need to sell? Looking for a roommate? Want to unload that old refrigerator? Got a great idea for a band, but missing some musicians? All you need to do is go online to **www.austinchronicle.com/classifieds** and post your ad for FREE.

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You can even run it in print! Ads run online for 30 days, and are posted immediately. After all, immediate gratification takes too long!

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610 CARS

'02 HONDA Accord DX. 93k. Very clean, nice car. 1 year warranty. \$3500. Can trade. www.autodepotaustin.com.

'03 TOYOTA COROLLA 4 door, white. 83,000mi. Manual transmission. Stephen (512) 809-0548

'95 Dodge Custom Van. Nice, clean unit, new timing chain, radiator. Good stickers. \$2500. autodepotaustin.com

'95 MERCEDES E320 Gorgeous, 53k. Can trade. \$7950. autodepotaustin.com

1993 TOYOTA 4Runner. 4WD, automatic. Absolutely a beautiful car. 99k miles. Full Warranty. \$5450. Can trade. www.autodepotaustin.com.

1997 ACCORD 4 dr, auto, EX, loaded. Really clean, nice car with full warranty. \$4800. autodepotaustin.com

91 MAZDA PROTEGE 5 speed with newly rebuilt motor, clutch. Minor cosmetic flaws, but runs like a rocket with cold AC. \$1850. autodepotaustin.com

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BUY AUTO Don't lose money before you trade in or sell. We buy: Cars, Trucks, & SUV's (used or not running). Call 512-442-4444 topdollarspaid.com

HONDA ACCORD, EX 2005 05 Accord, EX, V6, 4DR Sedan 21K mi, \$21,300, Austin Leather, sun/moon roof, AC, all pwr, Cruise, XM, 6CD, loaded 503-956-1220, cwdey@yahoo.com

MERCURY COUGAR CONVERTIBLE RAM AIR 1969 convertible racer super beautiful trans am racer sidepipes ram air induction at, pb, ps, pt 25,000 obo 9568788070

MINI COOPER 2001 1.6i 5 speed, black, tan interior, 83K miles; No accidents, some exterior scratches. Records available. Call 372 2469 lv message. \$14,350

NISSAN SENTRA 1.8S 2004 4dr, Black, 27k mi, Automatic, A/C, Cruise Control, Accident-Free, \$9,900 (512) 947 5781

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Onsite biodiesel fueling equipment & site delivery for diesel fleets 1000, 500 & 250 now available! Special pricing on fuel and equipment this month! Non petroleum fuel alternative for the green minded fleet. High quality biodiesel delivered to you from a weird Austin business balances cost, convenience, and environmental benefits! robby@austinbiofuels.com 512 677 3230

615 TRUCKS

TRUCKS
CENTRALTXAUTOS.COM
2500+ Local Vehicles

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GUITAR Rhythm Guitar looking to join classic rock band arhrdeg@yahoo.com 358-8972

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BASS Singer/songwriter seeks 2nd guitar, bass, drums, more. VU, SY, Wilco. Email: godstar@charter.net

BASS SAINT STREET BRAWLERS need a fulltime bass player. See myspace.com/saintstreetbrawlers for contact info. Cheers.

BASS Alternative Christian rock band, Relative Circle, needs talented exp. bassist, call Ronne at 203-7148, 929-0264, relativecircle@yahoo.com.

BASS the rite slayers looking for a bass player. Check us out at www.myspace.com/theriteflyers or contact us at theriteflyers@austin.rr.com.

BASS Giggng duo needs experienced amplified Upright slap for early (1950's) rockabilly covers & originals. Influences Cash, Horton, Elvis, Vincent, Holly, Sleepy LaBeef, Mac Curtis, - Starday, Lin & Cliff, Sun Records Have high profile / paying gigs lined up. 512 218 9331 Thanks

BASS (Alt./Metal) Songs & details available @: www.myspace.com/obediencislaw If you like what you hear, hit me up.

BASS Hibagon NEEDS bassist/vocalist. Think Mastodon. 14-19yrs old. contact Raanen for more info @5124847293

BASS Dead City Records artists Die Cobra, seeks fulltime bassist. No douchebags. Email PK... www.myspace.com/diecobra

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GUITAR Austin death/thrash metal band looking for two guitarist. If interested, e-mail me. matt@xulmedia.com or myspace.com/allaxul

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VOICE Rock band seeking vocalist to join band. Listen to on myspace.com/dartmyth. If any questions dartmyth@gmail.com

VOICE Classic rock band needs vocals. Pros only. We have full p.a. and a huge sound. Call Johnny at 436-4253 or email kennof@hotmail

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SEXY FUN

We're a sexy Latin/Black couple looking for some discreet, fun! I'm inexperienced with women and want to find the right person to show me the "ropes." He's 5'11, tight body, she's 135, 5'7. DDF

read the rest of **NUTHIN SERIOUS 28's** profile or enter your own profile for **FREE** online at austinchronicle.com/easystreet

THE LUV DOC

Dale Watson Record Release • Fri., Apr. 27
10pm • Continental Club
1315 S. Congress • www.dalewatson.com

Nobody could argue that Dale Watson hasn't lived up to his end of the bargain when it comes to keeping Austin weird. He may not parade around in a chartreuse banana hammock, twirl flowers on Sixth Street, or spout paranoid vitriol on late night access TV, but Dale still has enough quirks to peak most people's freak meter. Unlike many of his country contemporaries, Dale brings it old skool 24/7. He rocks a Jethro (that'd be *Beverly Hillbillies* and not Tull) style pompadour, the upkeep of which probably requires vintage hair products found only on eBay or maybe a dusty bottom shelf in the back of some bordertown farmacia. He tools around on a big, fat Indian motorcycle, an anachronistic steel Clydesdale that looks like it was hand-crafted out of pig iron and buffed to a pearly shine by a small town blacksmith from the 1950s. He wears vintage clothes (or maybe they just look vintage when he's wearing them) even when it's blistering hot or freezing cold and every song he sings sounds like classic country regardless of what style music he's singing. Most importantly, he never breaks character because he is the character. Unlike his idols, Watson wasn't born in a sharecropper's shack and he didn't spend time in San Quentin. He's a city boy born in Alabama and raised in the smoky stank of Pasadena, Texas, but, in the words of country legend David Allan Coe, "If that ain't country, it's a damn good joke." Watson may be a living caricature of a classic country singer, but he's definitely not a joke. Sure, he's gone a little batshit crazy in recent years – and with good reason – but no one has ever doubted his sincerity. In fact, one of the things people love most about Dale Watson is that he can't be anything other than Dale Watson. That's a rare commodity in a time when most peoples' intellectual and moral compasses are spinning off the post. Dale's compass is always true north, and that makes him something of a freak, but maybe a freak isn't such a bad thing to be – especially not in Austin. As weird as he is, fundamentally Dale is a really nice guy who went through some really hard times and came out reasonably intact. He's the kind of stuff country music legends are made of, and if country music ever comes back in style, Dale will be carrying the standard. This Friday he'll be at the Continental Club celebrating the release of his latest CD, *From the Cradle to the Grave*, which features 10 songs written by Dale in three days at Johnny Cash's cabin in the Mountains of Tennessee – a cabin owned by Johnny Knoxville. Weird? Yes, but weird is often how legends are made.

MRS NAUGHTY DAYDREAMER
 I tend to daydream alot during the day about sexual acts that I would like to do to varies people I see. I.e. The stocker at the store. Maybe you? **MrsNaughty-Daydreamer**, 26, ☎, #121534

TOXXIC PINK
 I'm new to the Austin area and just want to meet people and have some fun! **toxicpink**, 20, ☎, #120162

YOUNG SEX FIEND
 Just got out of a relationship and looking for some hot fun. Well endowed gentlemen a plus. I'm up for almost anything. Trust me, you'll keep cumming back for more. **missJ**, 19, ☎, #119914

YES PLEASE MASTER
 Submissive woman would love to find an honest Master to help me become the submissive that i can only dream of. **subntx**, 53, ☎, ☎, #119874

BIG BREASTED BOMBSHELL
 Looking for a man who appreciates an hour glass figure and big, beautiful all natural breasts for play, discreet encounters, or a relationship. Big, muscular guys are a turn-on! **DDarling**, 34, ☎, #119360

IT'S PLAYTIME BOYS
 I'm looking for a man that's sweet and caring but i get bored easily so he needs to be full of surprises so that i never get bored. **austinpartygur1985**, 21, ☎, #119045

BEAUTIFUL BOUNTIFUL WOMAN
 If you are tall, dark, handsome, smart, sexy, funny, well off and well hung, please contact me immediately. Please see my online profile for more. **Queen**, 42, ☎, ☎, #118644

BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY
 Masturbation is okay, but I miss sex. I like 'em tall, athletic, attentive, creative/romantic, intelligent/philosophical. I/you live centrally and exercise daily. Looking to enjoy life/safely satisfy my sexual cravings. Peace! **she_bop**, 38, ☎, ☎, #118419

ROMANTIC NERD
 I am a big nerd. I enjoy intelligent debate, gaming and a little romance. I love cuddling and long makeout sessions. I am always looking for new adventures in bed. **AmbyRhodes**, 18, ☎, #115371

SEXY FUN!!!
 We're a sexy Latin/Black couple looking for some discreet, fun! I'm inexperienced with women and want to find the right person to show me the "ropes." **nuthinserious28**, 29, ☎, ☎, #121567

CASUAL FUN COUPLE
 We are an attractive couple open to meeting fun, smart, clean, and sexy girls (or couples) for fun. Almost anything goes. No expectations, just some hot, open-minded adventures. **preciouscouple**, 27, ☎, ☎, #121507

HOT LATIN COUPLE
 I'm bi, 30yrs old, 5', 118lbs, long brwn hair, brwn eyes, in shape, 36D. My hubby is 31yrs old, 5'8", 160lbs, blk hair, brwn eyes, in shape, 7" cut tool. **gandmjz**, 29, ☎, ☎, #121503

NAUGHTY WOMEN ONLY
 Cute & Sexy female couple looking to play with another woman. Curvy or thick is great..... We like it semi- rough. We have tattoos and are naughty & fun. **dirtydoll**, 32, ☎, ☎, #121445

KITTEN NEEDS LOVIN
 young attractive couple looking for female play-date for a first time experience whose cute, sweet fun and adventurous. inhibitions welcome; fantasies fulfilled; eager to please; slow; thoughtful. We won't disappoint! **qt_flurty**, 19, ☎, ☎, ☎, #121378

WATCH US
 first time couple. He's 30, she's 26, both hot and sexy. Seeking women/couples to watch our intense sex sessions then showing us their own unique style. **wannawatch**, 26, ☎, ☎, ☎, #121135

FIRSTTIMERS
 we would like to try being with another woman see how it goes maybe ltr. **caro969**, 38, ☎, ☎, #121018

CUTE UNTIL
 my name is justine i am 22 and married to a wonderful man named buck who is 20 and i am looking for a woman for me and possibly us. **bandj**, 22, ☎, ☎, #120784

HYPER HENTAI CHIC
 I'd like to find a gorgeous hentai loving domme to help me explore my inner desires and self. No boys, icky icky icky. Contact me if "Usagi" rings a bell. **HentaiChic**, 19, ☎, ☎, #121188

NEW TO AREA
 seeking sane, intelligent, self respecting woman for friendship with perks.... I am a big woman with lot's to offer, have experience with women, and would love to please... **nikkid1234**, 33, ☎, ☎, #121145

SEEKING NEW ADVENTURES
 I am a married asian female looking for female fun. I need someone that wouldn't mind including my husband later. Right now you're mine. Drinks first and maybe more later. **suyoki69**, 22, ☎, ☎, #120638

CUTE, HORNY, CURIOUS
 I've never been with a girl before, but would really like to experience something crazy. I have a great bod and supportive bf. Hit me to find out more. **LadyLove**, 19, ☎, ☎, #120616

ATTRACTIVE, INEXPERIENCED, BI-CURIOUS
 Attractive, mid 40's/5'3"/110lbs, hispanic female, married d/d/free, looking to explore with another woman also bi-curious and inexperienced. Prefer attractive, d/d/free, open minded, height/weight proportionate hispanic/caucasian female. Must be willing to occasionally include my shy handsome husband. **davn**, 46, ☎, ☎, #120088

A BIT COMPLICATED
 Open-minded, intelligent people who love to laugh. She's a BBW, so another smart, curvy girl would fit in perfectly. We also both have a fantasy of finding that special T-Girl to get to know. **Life-needsmore**, 35, ☎, ☎, #119936

GIRL PLAYMATES
 Sexy femme girl looking for the same to play. I'm into fashion and style and i prefer girls who share the same interest. **Catwalk**, 29, ☎, ☎, #119900

MARRIEDBW LOOKING FORFRIENDSHIP/FUN
 I am 5'9, plus size married woman. 30 years old looking for another plus size woman. For ROMance and friendship. Age/Race not issue. Only serious people please. **BiWomanBBW**, 30, ☎, ☎, #119088

LOOKINGFOR SEXY FEMALE
 Hi 19 yr old Blk/Cherokee looking for a discreet encounter ith another female, race, no issue. I havent really done anything with another woman. So Im willing to try anything. **xxxxbrexxxx**, 19, ☎, ☎, #118251

BI-GIRL WANTS PLAY
 I'm looking for nice, fun, ddf & clean playmates. I'm friendly, chubby, fun, smart and very sexual. I'm not looking for a relationship, just friends. With benefits, of course. **miasola67**, 40, ☎, ☎, #119279

OPEN MY EYES
 Newly single 23 year old seeking new experiences with attractive girls, guys, or couples. Never been with a girl but want new things. Show me what I've been missing! **CuriousCutie**, 24, ☎, ☎, #118149

DAGUYINBLU
 I'm a young guy looking for action.. and looking for dat sugardaddy, wanting to experience new things.. **daguyinblu**, 18, ☎, ☎, #119820

SEXY IN STILETTOS
 W/M, 49, married and Bi seeks secret encounter with other crossdressers or M/M or M/F couples for erotic pleasures. Too sexy in my stilettos and stockings. May introduce wife later. **eddyfreestyle**, 49, ☎, ☎, #118296

HOTGUY LOOKING FOR
 Hispanic Bottom, looking for a discreet encounter and a relationship with a Top guy. I am discreet Open to new things with guys around my age or younger. **46yrs. antonio_3638**, 42, ☎, ☎, #118402

HOT GAY SEX
 MWM seeks 50+ GWM. Open to ideas, but not very experienced. Let's get together some afternoon or weekend. Safe only, but otherwise no limits. **M4Fun**, 57, ☎, ☎, #116038

MASCULINE DISCREET GUY
 Full headline should be: Regular masculine discreet guy seeks women ok w/bi men, bi/curious men, or a mf couple with one of each. **jack8762**, 41, ☎, ☎, #115629

SEXAHOLIC
 Swm who loves life to the fullest. I enjoy sex with women and couples. Enjoy swingers clubs, not shy when it comes to group actives. Very open as long as it's fun. **ricstarr**, 46, ☎, ☎, #121300

SHY BOY
 I'm a shy 36 year old UT nursing student. I'm looking for a woman, transvestite, transsexual or couple. Don't like S&M and bondage. Looks, weight, age, and race don't matter. **Tommy1**, 36, ☎, ☎, #121267

SECRET FORBIDDEN SINNING
 Looking for Discrete fun, get in contact and we'll talk more about it. **FallenAlchemist**, 20, ☎, ☎, #121189

10 DAYS ONLY
 Tall dark stranger visiting Austin looking for exciting adventures. D&D free, no hangups, Great sense of humour, well-hung, good social skills and a rock'n'roll attitude. We only live once... **TallDarkStranger**, 41, ☎, ☎, #121114

SMOOTH SEXY CROSSDRESSER
 I'm looking to have some fun up in austin every once in awhile with men and trannies of all ages. **zgonzo**, 42, ☎, ☎, #121026

WELL HUNG GENTLEMAN
 I am looking for very selective couples and or females that would enjoy playing with an athletic, well hung, sincere, respectful gentleman. **sdcfun78735**, 37, ☎, ☎, #120955

SENSUOUS, SILLY, SEXY
 I'd love to be the 3rd in your fantasy, or, I'll put on a show for y'all to watch, too. I'm silly, respectful, intelligent, sensuous and energetic. **Johnnie_Green_Eyes**, 33, ☎, ☎, #120710

EAGER LEARNER
 mwm wishes to discreetly explore long held fantasies. Shemales, couples, etc. **hushfun**, 47, ☎, ☎, #120559

SURPRISE PACKAGE
 I'm a quiet guyy - I get the looks but havent done enough about it until now! Looking for a friend for some discreet mutual fun... **jamesdog**, 29, ☎, ☎, #119683

MAKE OUT CLUB!
 vamp of a gal loves bubblegum rock-roll tattoos slumber parties making out! seeking like minded bi gals for "super secret makeout club" discreet monthly get together for ages 25+. **MakeOutClub**, 35, ☎, ☎, #121614

HI GUY'S
 im looking for generous guys only for some good discreet fun. **halle**, 29, ☎, ☎, #120827

YOUR PERFECT GURL
 Adventure loving, happy go lucky Gurl seeks mentor for sharing, caring, exploring, intimate fun. You will not be disappointed with a pleasure oriented devotee looking for like minded girlfriend. **Lynda61521**, 47, ☎, ☎, #119822

CROSSDRESSER ISO GIRLFRIEND
 I am a very passable and kinky crossdresser. I am bisexual, but prefer women. I'm primarily looking for a girlfriend, but occasional play partners and friendships are good, too. **kinky_violet**, 25, ☎, ☎, #120083

SUBBOTTOM SEEKS TOPS
 Submissive Bottom looking for other men to play with. Luv to cross dress if you like that. Safe play and DDF required. **jess53**, 54, ☎, ☎, #116914

ME AND YOU
 I am a new to austin looking for a single female that wants to hook up for some fun nights. I want to meet someone 18-30 in alright shape. **thordog**, 24, ☎, ☎, #121582

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women SEEKING men

MERMAN FOR MERMAID?

I love: the ocean, SCUBA, travel, animals, drinks on a patio with friends, new & exciting music, good food & wine, artsy-craftsy stuff, the outdoors, spontaneity & adventure. You? **socodivka**, 29, #121593

CRAZYGRANDMALADY

Bufffrankster available for constructionwork, not taxadvice. Please put me on the bus to Mexico. Wanta dressy-oupp in mylove, and my unitards And then take pictures. Seeking strawberry horchata and meatpies. **madsadbad**, 26, #121552

FUN CREATIVE GIRL

Normal chick looking to date some fun cute guys. Alamo, ethnic food, live music is an ideal date for me. No high maintenance metro guys or conspiracy theory hippies. **nolalola**, 27, #121487

CLASSIC FIRST TIMER

cute, outwardly normal inwardly nutty SWF, 28, seeks tall, smart, cute guy to pal around town with. must like all things art, the outdoors, new experiences in general. no douchebags. **supernord**, 28, #120986

EX-GRACELAND TOUR GUIDE

I've been back in Austin for two years now. While it's nice being back, I think it would be even nicer having a partner-in-crime with whom to have adventures. **FNA76**, 30, #121454

HEARTFUL, INTELLECTUAL, ARTISTIC

Am: Present, Intuitive, Curious, Adventuring, a Tinkerer, Heartful, Playful, Contemplative, Conceptual, Sensitive, Low key, Loving, Honest, Compassionate, Multi-cultural, Passionate. Love: Singing, Discussion, Learning, Affection, Integrity, Animals, Dancing, Travel, Quiet Time. **IpanemaGirl**, 39, #121438

POP

Insert clever and witty paragraph here that will capture the attention of charming, quirky outgoing gentleman for rendezvous in and around Austin. **lolli**, 40, #117412

GENTLEMEN ONLY, PLEASE

Student, worker, animal-lover, romantic. Interested in meeting an old-fashioned gentleman with good conversation, good manners, and strong convictions. **hilikus1024**, 20, #121404

LOVEISONETyme

Im funny,Im smart,I make people laugh,Im creative,I stand out, and dont mind putting myself last.Im thoughtful,I oyal,trustworthy, charming, and can keep a conversation going, and going, and going.I love to talk,talk,TALK!
BGNL2, 30, #121393

SUMMER WINDS...

Art, film, photography, hunting for odd items at flea markets, long country drives, small intimate cafes, spicy foods, red wines, live music and good conversation. **til69**, 38, #121392

JERSEY GIRL'N AUSTIN

Im just looking for something more to life or perhaps someone to share that life with me. Isnt that what we all want, whether we admit to it or not?
QuirkyDork, 21, #121371

READING THE PAPER?

That's so old school! Adventurous, intellectual, sarcastic, sensitive, a bit random, witty, and open minded. Good words, all. If you know who Johnny Longtorso is, find me online. **yiraphasic**, 32, #121077

FUN AND SEXY

I'm love to have fun in whatever I do. I am looking for a white or hispanic male who likes to have fun and who can make me laugh. **cuddlycrys**, 24, #121038

VIVACIOUS SERENDIPITOUS GREGARIOUS

27 yo If the sun were not going to rise tomorrow, I'd paint today. If the moon were not going to rise tomorrow night, I'd make love under it tonight.
my_green_eyes, 27, #121019

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WANT REAL COMPANIONSHIP

Intelligent, funny, attractive young woman looking for friends or more to enjoy free time with and get to know. Nothing up my sleeve. Free for real relationship, metal shops, fun. **test2time**, 18, #121354

DOCILE AND IRATE

I am a record collecting nerd that is charismatic. I know that a music elitist and a charismatic person cannot be the same person, but I am a different case. **mcedes29**, 24, #121345

CARING, SWEET, FUNNY

I am looking for someone who is funny, smart, caring, and semi-intelligent. He should be someone who realizes that ibeauty isnit only skin deepi. **seurose**, 25, #101202

GNARLY KILLER COUNTRY

I'm pretty damn goofy...spontaneous... never done this before cause I don't consider myself a shy person but eh..I figure why the hell not, wtf?! 30 words? not enough!
darchaos, 24, #121315

LOOKING FOR LOVE

Very fun-loving, outgoing, crazy, adventurous, city girl, looking for that special guy to spend all my time with... to come home to... to call my own. **texasgrl07**, 21, #120617

FUN AND SWEET

I enjoy Austin a lot. I like being single, but it would be nice to meet someone special. Someone who makes me feel great!! am relaxed and like to have fun!
myandi7, 26, #121218

men SEEKING women

AUSTIN'S NEW ROMEO

Im a funny, outgoing, trustworthy guy thats looking for someone to enjoy life with, not too much to ask is it? By the way, I LOVE MUSIC!
Tex, 19, #121647

HARLEY RIDER

I am divorced, live alone, no children, and ride a Harley (but have a mustang also) I want nobody controlling or trying to change me. I large but not obese. **fsawyer**, 45, #121634

HYPERACTIVE & HYPOGLYCEMIC!

I know how to appreciate someone with a good heart. It's important never to play games and communication is the most important thing to me for a healthy relationship. **soam72**, 34, #121624

SEEKING SOULFUL GAL

Are you an engaging conversationalist, a ready wit, and soaring spirit? Do you love words? Do you love sensual and sexual play and exploration? Perhaps we have something to share... **mmoran62**, 44, #121621

RU THE ONE

Hoping to meet a woman with a good sense of humor and enjoys good conversation. We should start there and see what else we have in common. **run531**, 55, #121607

PENNILESS SITAR PLAYER

Unknown Destination. Uninvited yet arrived. Greetings dear reader. I moving to Austin in couple of weeks and wanted to find some one to date and hang out. Cheers. **Zurich**, 26, #121595

LOL

am a hard working individual who has never been married nor have kids,so am looking for a woman that is loving,caring and sex active. **smiling-smith1966**, 36, #121585

THOUGHTFUL, SPONTANEOUS, SECURE

Looking for someone that knows when to let it all go but also doesnt mind staying home and watching a movie as I give them a foot massage. **hillcountrysarge_2005**, 42, #115344

NEW TO TOWN

SWM looking for someone fun and energetic... someone who likes getting out and trying new things. I enjoy live jazz, dancing, theatre, and horseback riding. I love my alma mater. **UTgrad**, 26, #121580

CREATIVE MUSICIAN

I am a musician and have been for about 16 years. I write lyrics play drums and front a band called A Crack In The Wall. **CrackedWall**, 27, #121474

SUBVERTING ESTABLISHMENT COMPLACENCY

Darryl-24/SWM. Travelled, educated, hard-working and independent. Well-rounded and spontaneous. X-Games type sports. 6' and 205 lbs. Making others laugh is easy but i have a dark sense of humor. **xanadu**, 24, #121538

OPTIMISTIC HELPFUL DREAMER

Wanted:Well off woman looking for an attractive science project.Bad luck/crossroads have pushed this optimistic fellow into a dark place.Looking for support and restoration.Very appreciative toward such a woman bringing salvation.Everyoneneeds someoneonature. **optimist**, 37, #121537

LIVE MUSIC DRINKER

Looking 4 a Nice girl to have fun with & whatever happens,happens. Someone I can go out and party with, but doesn't mind staying in for a blockbuster night. **ChillWitMeNATX**, 25, #121498

A GOOD IDEA

I try to work hard and play easy. Sense of humor required and the ability to honestly see people and things. Nonetheless, all of us has to squint sometimes. **JustInTime**, 53, #121514

SOUTHERN CHARM

Born and raised in Austin, mother gave me a smile that gets me into and out of Trouble. **that_southern_charm**, 23, #121511

ARTIST SEARCHING FOR...

Little about meO. nst50 at that yah and hoo place Grew up adjacent to my Grandfathers working farm. Been creating one thing or another as long as I can remember. **norman1**, 56, #121508

LOVE ME DO

College grad, jack of many trades, wants to be your man of the hour. Let's meet, let's have fun, and let's see what love has in store. **eurochasgym**, 26, #121500

TRY SOMETHING NEW

You stay young by always learning new things, a new language, song, dish, theory, physical experience... Do you like to travel? Let's plan something then!
manray, 31, #121488

BLUE IS GREAT

Active yet lazy. Laughter. I enjoy bbq,disc golf,bowling,hiking,mtn biking,movies washers,horseshoes,volleyball,cards,videogames,traveling Texas,tubing the guadalupe,campin g,amusement parks,putt putt, happy hours,queso and laughter. Looking for someone who understands my unusually way of thinking. **closeyourblinds**, 31, #121472

JESSEINAUSTIN

Hi there ladies. I'm a Hispanic/Latino professional male, amorous, zealous, brown hair and eyes, great smile, medium built, great personality, great sense of humor, and great company. **jesseinaustin**, 40, #121458

TAURUS GEMINI SCORPIO

I'm new to austin, moved here recently from singapore. Would be glad to meet someone to relate to regular and hang out with. **keavepoh**, 29, #121444

ADVENTURE?

I am constantly searching for new music and I'm always up for a vacation. Dive Bars or Patios on a Sunday afternoon always lead to a good time. **thisiscasey**, 28, #121442

PACIFIST RENAISSANCE MAN

Honest, educated, and quiet Liberal. A great listener if you have something to say. The ability to understand other people's point of view is my secret super power. **waves106**, 39, #121441

women SEEKING women

HONEST, OPEN-MINDED, WILLING

Just looking for companionship, either in a friend or a lover. Kids, dogs, movies, clubs, bingo, dinner, and photography. Anything else, just ask...I'm honest, open-minded, and willing! Are you? **justme666**, 28, #121620

ROCKIN' AWAY

'They' say I am way laid back (stress will kill ya!) My true passion lies within the Living South Austin Music Scene & my rocks...Carpe Diem et al! **Rokhead**, 49, #121611

GREAT FRIEND-PARTNER

I am honest and fun-loving. I'm very easy-going and I love the outdoors . Contact me. What have you got to lose? If nothing else you'll gain a great friend!
Just_Out, 30, #121569

FRIENDLY, FUNNY, FREESPIRIT

A good sense of humor can get you through hard times when all else fails. Life has so many beautiful things to offer, I want to share them with someone. **suzieQ**, 52, #121548

TRANSPLANTED NEW GIRL

Recent transplant who loves anything outdoors. Rowing, biking, golfing and just about any outdoor sports. I love life and don't like to wait for it to come to me. **JudyBlueEyes**, 47, #121540

YES, I'M PRETTY.

I am fun,a listener, lover and friend. I'm looking for a partner...but definately NOT just someone to hook up with. My body is sacred, so treat it as such. **austinaudrey01**, 21, #121509

LOVE AND COFFEE...

Or, we could just have coffee first. Adventurous, spontaneous, and rebellious lass looking for romance or friendship. Love travel, dining, film, live music scene. You're charming and witty? Do Call!
homochic, 31, #121329

men SEEKING men

TODREAMISTOACHIEVE

I enjoy being me and am always changing.I am feisty,cool,opinionated,loving and funny.I am happiest when helping others, but am aware of my needs as well.FamilyFriendsFunFoodFuc....!
HavingFun, 33, #121576

CLOSETED PUNK ROCKER

Okay, so I'm not closeted but I do love Punk Rock. but that doesn't define me...an overall nice guy who likes to laugh, sneak a kiss or hold hands. **ChuckRocks**, 38, #121597

CRAZY COLLEGE KID

I am relaxed, funny, witty, and love to have a good time. I love going to the river, laying out by the pool, dancing... Seeking person who thinks outside box...
txstatedstudmuffin, 20, #121159

HERE I AM

Im a very laid back easy going type person I like animals and the outdoors I sometimes like to be lazy around the house Sometimes I like to go out. **mfg2005**, 43, #101030

CITY BOY, IMAGINATIVE, DREAMER.

just another boy looking for someone who shares my likes and who will help me to grow stronger. **mikel**, 43, #120220

LIKE TO WATCH

Looking for younger guys for an occasional hook-up, dining partner or cuddle buddy. Very straight acting, not out. Enjoy videos. Love to watch others. **Feeler1159**, 39, #120022

HIDDEN JEWEL

Gregarious, intellectual, professional, world traveller that loves a flare for life and living. Honest, sincere and loyal with a touch of class. **Fede**, 41, #119762

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Socodivka

A MERMAN TO MY MERMAID

I guess you can tell a lot about a person from what they love: I love the ocean; I love travel; I love animals (especially my two rescued dogs); I love spending time with friends on a patio; I love anything artsy-craftsy; I love discovering new, exciting music; I love good food and wine; I love the outdoors; I love spontaneity and adventure.

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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsy for April 27 - May 3

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): One of the most demanding and exhilarating transitions of 2007 is coming. Here are five tips to help you get maximum enjoyment out of it. 1) Be an early adapter, a quick study, and a resilient improviser. 2) Hang out in places where things are just beginning. 3) Intensify your commitment to the lessons that spontaneity can bring. 4) Be a specialist in uprisings and breakthroughs. 5) Give your generous attention to influences that are pure, innocent, and buoyant.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): In the quest for enlightenment, no experience is irrelevant. Meditating for days in a mountaintop sanctuary may work well for some seekers, while others are more likely to uncover hidden truths about the nature of reality as they microwave a burrito in a convenience store or play soccer in the living room with their drunk friends, using a rolled up pair of socks as the ball. Even if your spiritual search usually fits the first description, Gemini, I suspect it will more closely match the second in the coming weeks. The secrets of the Divine Wow are primed to reveal themselves to you in the midst of everyday chaos.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): The U.S. Army has dramatically lowered its recruitment standards. Since 2004, the number of new soldiers who've entered the ranks even though they've committed a crime has risen by more than 50%. I urge you to move in the opposite direction, Cancerian. According to my understanding of the astrological omens, your success in the coming months depends on you raising your expectations, demanding more excellence, and absolutely insisting on ethical impeccability. If you have a goal that seems to require you to lower your standards, I suggest you abandon that goal.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): "Problem-solving is highly overrated," says artist Chuck Close. "Problem-creation is far more interesting." Whether or not you're inclined to agree with that assessment, Leo, I invite you to make it your hypothesis in the coming week. In other words, put yourself in an experimental mood, and act as if problem-creation is where all the action is. How might your life be different if you were not chronically worrying about the dilemma of the hour, but instead were always on the lookout for the next tricky challenge that will awaken sleeping portions of your heart and mind?

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): You're capable of pulling off some unprecedented mixing and matching in the coming weeks, Virgo. You could figure out a way to blend oil and water, metaphorically speaking. And you might find a logical loophole that allows you to reasonably compare apples and oranges. But those examples represent only the most obvious ways your skills at juxtaposition could work. You might also, for example, be a matchmaker for the son of a Saudi Arabian oil magnate and a Jewish goth performance artist, or convince the Dalai Lama to have a summit with Paris Hilton.

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): On Dec. 10 last year, 36,000 couples got married in Delhi, India. The mad rush to the altar was prompted by Vedic astrologers, who decreed that day to be an auspicious time to wed. I don't know enough about the Vedic system to judge whether its practitioners would also regard the coming weeks as propitious for ritual unions. But my reading of the omens says that from the perspective of Western astrology, it's very favorable for you Libras. If you've been thinking about deepening your commitment to a trustworthy partner, you've got cosmic mojo on your side – not just for romantic mergers, but also for business deals, artistic agreements, mutual oaths, and just about any splashy adventures in togetherness.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): "Dear Rob: My plan has been to steal the man I love right out from under his wife's nose without feeling a raging case of the guilties. Here's what I've discovered thus far: You can only do something like this if you're not friends with his wife, and if you love the guy so much that the beating of your heart drowns out the drone of your conscience. Any advice? -Scorpio Under a Spell." Dear Scorpio: It's rarely a good idea to break up a committed intimate relationship by stealing one of its members, but it's an especially unfavorable time to pursue that goal now. May I recommend instead that you sublimate the urge by seducing your inner male? It's an excellent time for you Scorpios to get crazy sexy deep with the part of your psyche that feels like the opposite gender.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Poet Kay Ryan told the *Christian Science Monitor* that her poems often begin "the way an oyster does, with an aggravation." Her ultimate intention, however, is to liberate her readers. "I like to think of all good poetry as providing more oxygen into the atmosphere; it just makes it easier to breathe." I believe this progression from aggravation to liberation is a strategy you could profitably pursue in the coming days, Sagittarius. If you agree to absorb what's bugging you, you'll ultimately create an expansive new swath of breathing room for yourself and everyone around you.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): In *The Book of Thoth*, Aleister Crowley says that for Capricorns, the impulse to create can be so strong that it transcends logic, ignores tradition, and eschews foresight. It might even be "divinely unscrupulous, sublimely careless of result." Why is this urge so wild? The formula for Capricorn, he writes, is "the complete appreciation of all existing things . . . rejoicing in the rugged and barren no less than in the smooth and fertile." While his assessment might be a bit extreme, it does contain far more than a few grains of truth – especially as it applies to you in the coming weeks. Given the current astrological omens, I believe your will to create will be relentless, majestic, and primordial.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): According to the macrobiotic approach to diet, the healthiest food for you to eat is that which has been grown near you, or at least in the same latitude. Unless you live in the tropics, for instance, bananas shouldn't be on your menu. Let's make that meme your Metaphor of the Week, Aquarius. According to my interpretation of the omens, all your best bets will be local and homegrown. You should pluck pleasures that are close by, and avoid temptations beckoning from a distance. You should trust clues that arrive from sources you can personally verify, and be skeptical of those from friends of friends of friends.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Summing up his ongoing attempts to understand the truth about reality, *San Francisco Chronicle* columnist Jon Carroll wrote, "I am grasping one hair at the end of the tail of a very large tiger, whose exact nature and intentions are not known to me, nor will they ever be. I can only hope to describe a few things about the hair. And I could be wrong." While this is in general an apt description of the quest most of us are on, I think it's overly modest in light of your current astrological omens. For the foreseeable future, Pisces, I bet you'll have the tiger's entire tail in your clutches, and your ability to extrapolate from it to surmise the nature of the whole tiger will be extraordinary.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): "If you hold your dreams too tightly, you'll crush their little ribs," was the message scrawled on the wall of a public restroom I visited today. I immediately recognized that as excellent advice for you. While I'm usually all in favor of cultivating a ferocious devotion toward one's goals and desires, I've noticed lately that your grasp on yours has turned into a manic clench. Please let them breathe better. Give them some slack. Maybe tell yourself a joke about how funny you look applying that death-grip.

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsy's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

messages

D. THAT DECISION is yours. Im waiting. Sweet Angel

BRIAN HEIDEMAN, CHECK your linkedin.com as no one has your current contact info. Your FAVE ex tech writer, Jenn.

YOU ARE WONDERFULLY beautiful. See you next Sunday

CELL PHONE TALKERS on MoPac driving 45 mph are a pain. **LOOKING FOR MICHELE** doing Aids Bike Race, I met in front on Homeslice Pizza around April 5. Want to go out?

I WILL NO longer worry about the things going on inside your head

I LOVE YOU, Vicki...

REGINA DEJESUS, I'D still love to know how you are doing. Paul

BASS

saw you at the 6th floor of bass for aretha franklin. hope that wasn't your girl-friend ... **When: Friday, April 20. Where: PAC. You: Man. Me: Man. #901677**

HUMBLE

Is that your real name? My cute pup say she wants you to be her daddy, and I can call you that too...if you want. love, South Austin Sno girl. **When: Thursday, April 19. Where: South Austin/Cipollina/In my dreams. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901673**

TRANSAM, EMOS, FRONT

we exchanged smiles many times but a guy was around so i bolted before giving you my number. i was on your right. We were both enjoying the tunes. **When: Monday, April 16. Where: emos. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901672**

SCRATCHES ON NECK.

Still want to get married in Vegas? We can camp along the way. I'll bring the toothbrushes, you bring the Chicken noodle soup. I promise I'll conserve on the water. **When: Wednesday, April 18. Where: Elevator at work. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901671**

LOCAL DENTED RAPPER

Saw your last show at La Tazza Fresca on Guadalupe! You were wearing a I Keep Austin Dented shirt. Loved your rhymes, and wanna be your inspiration!! Wink, Wink! **When: Friday, April 6. Where: La Tazza Fresca. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901670**

3 FORKS

was told your name is andy and work on cars,we share same restruants,you ballcap,smells great thur same place i'll be in black maybe even a ballcap? **When: Thursday, April 12. Where: downtown. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901669**

ART OUTSIDE 4/15

Shelly! We talked with photographer Christina Falise. You gave me your phone number, but alas, it's not working! Should have given you my number too. Please contact me here. B. **When: Sunday, April 15. Where: Art Outside at Enchanted Forest. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901668**

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WHOLESOMLY QUIRKY

Unconventional, fun, young, open-minded. Hiking, biking, dancing, concerts, libraries, projects, new things together? **18greeneyes, 18, #120898**

HAPPY ADULT

I've been told I'm handsome,have a great voice,and my Personality Rocks. I believe it,but YOU can tell me what you think. **Fred5000, 46, #120674**

SOLIDLY ME

Looking for friends to know the city better. I love the outdoors, the indoors, a margarita, anything that gives me time with those that make me happy makes me happy. **Recycled_Texan, 29, #120659**

LA EX-PAT

I'm 53, straight female, smart, slightly quirky, transferred here from Los Angeles and I miss my grouchy straight guy pals, my bitchy gay/lesbian friends and my even bitchier straight girlfriends. **Notcinderella, 53, #120513**

ANGELICA AT AVANT

you cut my hair & stole my heart. **When: Wednesday, April 18. Where: avant. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901683**

MULLETS ARE BAD

You: Creep guy with giant mullet at Club de Ville, 4/20. Samantha and I: Terrified. Dude, mullets are like, so, 20 years ago. Please go to Great Clips soon. Thanks. **When: Friday, April 20. Where: Club de Ville. You: Man. Me: Man. #901682**

SOUL THERAPY

Charlotte! We played pool. You didn't have a card. I didn't ask you for your number. I turned around. You'd gone. I'd still like to ask you for your number. **When: Friday, April 20. Where: Hole in the Wall. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901681**

KERBY LANE, FRIDAY

You: Long brown hair, silver necklace and green shirt. Wish I'd said hello. Me: Tallish guy, striped shirt, Dark blond hair. Look for buis card at K.L. Evolution Digital. **When: Friday, April 20. Where: Kerby Lane south. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901680**

RED WITH BOXER

You're blonde, was wearing something red on top, and was walking a really cute Boxer. I was with a friend - couldn't say hello ... but would like to now. **When: Monday, April 16. Where: Town Lake Trail. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #901679**

OFFICE DEPOT LAMAR

You: 5'7"-ish, long brownish hair, brown skirt. Me: 6'1", striped t-shirt, black cap. We smiled in line, and then again as you drove off in your blue Echo. You're beautiful. **When: Thursday, April 19. Where: Office Depot South Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901678**

ARETHA 2ND BALCONY

You in black with johnny winter hair~ you seemed detached from it all, maybe a bad read on my part **When: Thursday, April 19. Where: bass concert hall. You: Man. Me: Man. #901676**

TOY JOY BOY!

we were at Toy Joy April 18. You said you liked my shirt as you walked out. I didn't know what to say... you're really cute. Want to get coffee? **When: Wednesday, April 18. Where: Toy Joy. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901675**

CARWASH LIVE OAK

4/19 You: Beautiful redheaded woman detailing SUV. Me: Tattooed taxi driver I know I was stealing glances in your direction, but did I catch you looking at me too? **When: Thursday, April 19. Where: Carwash Live Oak & South 1st. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901674**

MAKE ME LAUGH

Simply looking for a nice guy who will treat me well and make me laugh. A sharp sense of humor and keen grasp of pop culture are a must. **bluest_eyes, 41, #121553**

WANT TEXAS FUN

Looking for someone to explore Austin & surrounding area. Like running, dancing, movies, good food? I'm your guy. Recently transplanted from California. Platonic interest only need apply. **ExCalifornian, 31, #121385**

LETS HANG OUT

I'm looking to meet new people and make new friends. I'm looking for open minded females and not afraid to try new things. **afflos, 25, #121291**

ANIME ROCKER CHIC

I just want some cute female friends who don't mind carnage, practicing martial arts,getting dressed up in Japanese street fashion or cosplay outfits and love rock/metal concerts. **ViolentUsagi, 19, #121187**

PICK UP HITCHHIKERS?

I was walking down 620. You picked me up just when I thought no one would. You took my breathe away. We exchanged numbers but I goofed yours...will we meet again? **When: Saturday, March 31. Where: highway 620. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901693**

STRAWBERRIES/CHOCOLATE

To that hot guy in the Judge Judy hat. I love rainbow collages. Wanna go out for italian icees sometime? **When: Monday, April 23. Where: Ridge of Skyline Drive. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901692**

SMILES AT WHATABURGER

You: wearing a leather jacket and had a bearded friend with you. Me: green shoulder tattoos. When you were in line, you looked back at me, and we exchanged smiles. **When: Thursday, April 12. Where: South side Whataburger, near I-35. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901691**

TAPES 'N TAPES

Concert @ Emo's on 4/21. Met you with my red-haired friend in the 2nd row. I liked your philosophy. I know you're traveling, but I should've gotten your email address. **When: Saturday, April 21. Where: Emo's. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901688**

SAILOR'S DELIGHT

You: Baby Koala. Me: Blue cheese Santa. Lets meet in the walk in for CFS GOS. **When: Friday, April 20. Where: Threadgills North. You: Man. Me: Man. #901687**

FLIGHT FROM VEGAS

You were in Vegas for NAB expo. I was visiting my daughter. You, beautiful blond sitting in the middle seat, Me, guy at window with the Aggie shirt on. Maybe... **When: Friday, April 20. Where: On a Flight from Vegas. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901686**

ILENE LA TAVERNA

Hey Ilene, I enjoyed chatting with you on Sunday even though it was brief. I would love to talk again. Meet for a drink sometime? The pager stays home! Randy **When: Sunday, April 22. Where: La Taverna. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901685**

DRAUGHT HOUSE BEAUTY

Friday 20th. Watching baseball highlights. We exchanged smiles, and conversation about the Astros. You gave me your leftover snacks. Love to continue our conversation, only let me buy the snacks. **When: Friday, April 20. Where: Draught House Pub. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901684**

JUST friends

HELLO, WORLD!

Im looking for impetuous girls all over the world :) **kaygee1981, 25, #12137**

a Shot in the Dark

KNOW YER LAKES

You rattled off those lakes on LS7, then gave us the red light special under the bridge. I asked the highly intelligent questions: Does she MAKE the swans? Another Heineken? **When: Saturday, April 21. Where: Town Lake. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901700**

TWO GOLDEN'S MOM

Hope your dogs weren't too bothered by yours. Sorry I didn't talk more. See you for coffee again? **When: Tuesday, April 24. Where: Starbucks at 45th & Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901699**

LINCOLN GOLD'S GYM

You have short black hair, were wearing dark shorts and a white tank top shirt. You were doing cardio and reading behind me. I wore a black Texas Tech hat. **When: Tuesday, April 24. Where: Golds Gym. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901698**

PEN HANDY

lent you a pen at ufcu steck sat mornin,u & friend in silver subaru me silver toyota, ur cute, should've asked for number u made me smile **When: Saturday, April 21. Where: ufcu steck branch. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901697**

BUMPER STICKER BABE

Me: wolfing down sandwich at the bus stop. You: at the stop light with friends, laughing. "Is that good?" It was. Dark hair, dark eyes, cute smile. Dinner again sometime? **When: Wednesday, April 18. Where: 24th & Drag. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901696**

BILL CALLAHAN BEAUTY

you: tall blonde boy with glasses, black shirt and a tie. we stood in the back enjoying the crazy band inside. they stopped playing just before i got the nerve. **When: Saturday, April 21. Where: The Mohawk. You: Man. Me: Woman. #901695**

IHOP @ DOWNTOWN

YOU, SEXY LOOKING LATINA LOOKING AT ME WITH YOUR BEDROOM EYES... ME, SITTING ACROSS SMILING BACK AT YA WEARING BLACK SHIRT WITH BLUE JEANS "DID WE GO TO SAME SCHOOL?" **When: Sunday, April 22. Where: IHOP @ CEASER CHAVEZ. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901694**

MAILING HEART AWAY

you petite hispanic,high heels, slacks,black polo at automated postal center West Lake Hills. Me thin, hispanic, blue polo, blue jeans. Our eyes intersected Wednesday,4/18 2-3pm. Ilcarray our packages, anytime, seriously. **When: Wednesday, April 18. Where: West lake hills branch Post Office. You: Woman. Me: Man. #901690**

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