

# CHRONICLE



# Sister Bobbie Nelson

lets her hair down all over the piano

BY DOUG FREEMAN • P.56

MUSIC POLL BALLOT P.61

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Chronic is now your one-stop blog shop for buzz on politics, sports, music, film, television, gaming, technology, design, gay stuff, and - do we even need to say it? - opinion. Our blogs as you knew them still exist, but now all posts will also feed into one crazy mash-up - newest on top, just like you like it.

NEW THIS WEEK!

EARACHE! U2 X 3 in Death Valley Nights, plus more disc scanning

PICTURE IN PICTURE: Unknotting 'NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN,' and breaking news for SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST INTERACTIVE

CHRONIQUE: Giving PANTONE the finger, checking out new NOLA STYLE, and more ups and downs on the design roller coaster

THE GAY PLACE: THE LAISSEZ LEZ MARDI GRAS KICK OFF, and the Kates & frens keep at least one finger on the queer pulse so you don't have to

NEWSDESK: Naming AUSTIN'S CITY MANAGER, the City Council Notebook, plus paeans to the prez primary

THE SCORE: Richard Whittaker on last weekend's TNA WRESTLING event at the Expo Center, and more sports-related blatherings and whatnot from here and afar

## W X web extra

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# The Moment Belongs to the Music

John Sayles' 'Honeydripper' takes flight **BY LOUIS BLACK**

“[R]ock ‘n’ roll’ was a term from the juke joints of the South, long in use by the forties, when a music started being heard that had no name, wasn’t jazz and wasn’t simply blues and wasn’t Cajun, but had all those elements and could not be ignored.”

– Michael Ventura,  
“Hear That Long Snake Moan,”  
*Letters at 3AM: Reports on Endarkenment*

“I played what the sax man played,” says the old man. ‘Only I played it on my guitar. There was a *hole*, see, and I had to fill it. I’m slidin’ the notes, bendin’ them around, playing blues riffs and harmonica runs and Sunday preacher Hallelujahs and it’s all squawking out of that box of mine and it’s starting to distort – but in the *mood* right? – and I can feel the people are with me. ... Maurice he’s laughing over at his piano and I go till I burn that amp down.”

– John Sayles,  
“Keeping Time,” *Dillinger in Hollywood*

The music has always been there, has always been within us, pushing through our veins and in our heads. The very first attempts to release and invoke the music was done by banging branches and smashing rocks. It progressed from there. There’s probably plenty of music we’ve all never heard trapped inside of us, carried by mothers, fathers, sisters, and brothers, by the young and the old.

In the 1950s, in a rural black community in Alabama, there is a building nearly falling down but still standing. It is not too far from the crossroads long said to be the very one where Robert Johnson sold his soul to the devil. Almost every crossroads in the Deep South has been said to be the one where that bargain was struck.

In American movies, the greatest acts of redemptive transcendence are often personal: Fred Astaire starting to dance or John Wayne standing in the road, holding a rifle.

In great rock & roll movies, this moment belongs to the music. Obviously there are folks playing instruments who are a crucial part of the magic. But the music is what causes a film to take flight, becoming greater than itself.

At the Toronto Film Festival, I saw John Sayles and Maggie Renzi’s new film, *Honeydripper*, in a large theatre, with a completely racially mixed audience, which is more common to Toronto than Austin. At the end, the entire audience jumped up, giving the filmmakers a standing ovation that went on and on. As much as anything, they were applauding the power of music and the humanist beauty of its history.

The *Honeydripper* of the movie is the name of the club run by Tyrone “Pine Top” Purvis (Danny Glover). Maceo (Charles Dutton) works for him, as does his wife (Lisa Gay Hamilton) and his stepdaughter, China Doll (Yaya DaCosta). The *Honeydripper* has fallen on hard times. The club features female blues singer Bertha Mae (Mabel John, Little Willie John’s sister), backed by Glover playing piano. As she seems almost anachronistic, folks no longer come to see her. A drifter (Gary Clark Jr.) passing through stops in, looking for a job, while an enigmatic street musician (Keb’ Mo’) playing guitar comments on life.

In the Deep South, everything is set against cotton. There is nothing quite as lovely as endless, powerful, white fields of blooming cotton. That lasts just a few weeks before it is picked – first by machines, then hand-pickers. Only you never really pick a cotton bush clean; there are always wisps of white decorating it. As lovely as the landscape briefly is, afterward there are tens of thousands of acres of bare brown bushes with bits of white all over; being there, you feel you are in the elephant’s graveyard of toilet paper. In ways, looking fire-scarred, the fields are constantly whispering about the ghosts of history, of slaves and a civil war.

The movie is set in a time of change. Jim Crow (legalized segregation) is still very much in effect in the South, but the nascent civil rights movement is beginning to come into its own. In the age of the jukebox, live music is overshadowed. Even when there are musicians, rather than being piano based, the blues are becoming dominated by the sharper, more stinging sound of the electric guitar.

Adding to Pine Top’s woes of being at the wrong end of this transition, just down the road a short piece is Toussaint’s: a newer, sizzling, neon-highlighted club that is attracting the weekend crowds he used to see. Homey, warm, and well-worn, the *Honeydripper* is a distant, not really attractive relative of the newer club. Nothing there has gone right for a while. Glover, in serious trouble, knows what he has to do but has only one Saturday night in which to do it.

Sayles is a huge music fan; listening to the car radio, talking about new releases, or even just checking the soundtrack album for any Sayles movie is a dead giveaway. Given the way he looks at the culture, the people, and the flowing patterns of that relationship, he never gets caught up in the minutiae but is almost always more interested in the greater panorama. In a way, it is almost surprising, especially in light of the knowledge that an important part of Sayles is always working, always writing. Over the years, I’ve been to many concerts with the Sayles and Renzi team: Isaac Hayes, the Flatlanders, Lucinda Williams, and Lyle Lovett among others. Both of them love music, but after the show Sayles usually goes off to write while Maggie and I hit the bars and clubs. Around them, there is always music from car radios or home stereos. Another part of John is always carefully listening, and it almost doesn’t matter what genre of music it is – jazz, rock, country, conjunto, polka, blues, or something else.

Still, this is the first film by Sayles in which his love of music dominates the whole

**Oops!** In last week’s Screens feature “Energy Forward,” we reported, in error, that the director for the movie *Owned*, James Hergott, was scouting stunt fighters at Master Yi Martial Arts Academy at a workshop on Nov. 30. In fact it was Eric Alfio, CEO of the production company and executive producer for the movie. The *Chronicle* regrets the error.

film. Music is not simply the blood pumping through the body, but the body itself. *Honeydripper* is a great blues song: There is woe and there is hardship, but in the end there is redemption and glory.

There are many arteries pumping blood through American fiction in all media. Two of the most important themes, in direct opposition to each other, are tragedy and redemption. In order for a work to be tragic, the characters’ possibility for redemption must exist even if it is never achieved.

*Honeydripper* has more power, grace, and delights than my critic-speak indicates. It is a film to watch over and over. Austinite Gary Clark Jr. shines, but the blues end up winning out over everyone. The film is set against the tragic. Issues of economic hardship, questions of faith, and the powerlessness of blacks in a world where they are rendered legally inferior, rather than being ignored, are crucial to the film. Hope struggles, and prayer is a common tongue. Whites hold the power, but blacks have largely learned how to navigate around them.

But *Honeydripper* is a joyous film, not a tragic one. It is much more a celebration of redemption than a depiction of oppression. As with all Sayles’ films, it is about people and their lives – but here that’s set against the spontaneous, “just grew” spread of the people’s music, “and they called it rock & roll!”

In the moment when the pounding of the drums is inside you, rushing through you, the guitars and horns ripping – in that moment there is redemption. Some call it the devil’s music, declaring that it is a blasphemous invitation to sin. But this is not the devil’s music; this is the music of the soul and of redemption! The music strained through tribes and slaves, farming and industry, through Christianity and voodoo, is the music of America. Within us all is the power and the glory. Music brings this out, which is really what *Honeydripper* is about. ■

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“Hopefully the gigantic spin machine on the third floor of City Hall will be sold for scrap, and Toby’s hand-selected janissaries will pick up their spears and move on down the road.”

– The Lone Gunman, Chronic forum

**CHRONICLE**

**austinchronicle.com/forums**



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# There Must Be 50 Ways to Leave Your Landlord...

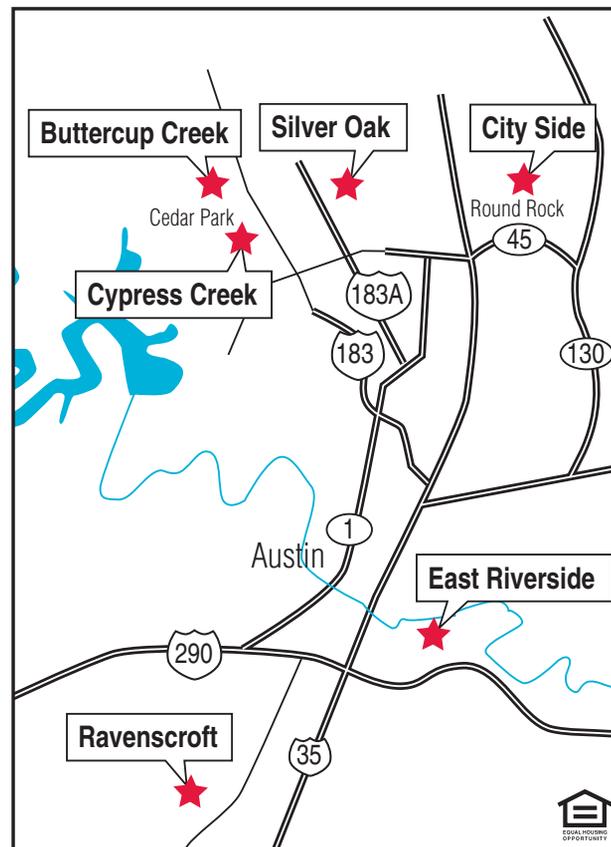
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Give 'em 30 days, Ray  
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No need to be sad, Brad  
Come take a swim, Kim  
Choose from 30 plans, Stan  
You won't pay any more, Lenore  
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Get a bigger place, Grace

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Low-maintenance lifestyle, Kyle  
It's really time to go, Flo  
Save a few bucks, Chuck  
Do not renew, Stew  
Don't need to mow the lawn, Shawn  
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You'll love the tree lined streets, Pete  
There's a cul-de-sac in back, Jack  
We got a master down plan, Jan  
You'll have a place to park, Mark  
Don't wait til after you marry, Larry  
Time to cancel your lease, Charisse  
Get a new key, Lee  
Give 'em notice and leave, Steve  
Get a sweet deal, Neal  
Come on have some nerve, Erv  
Move out of the dorm, Norm  
Leave your Mom and Dad, Brad  
Show some pride, Clyde  
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# POSTMARKS

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General e-mail address: [mail@austinchronicle.com](mailto:mail@austinchronicle.com)

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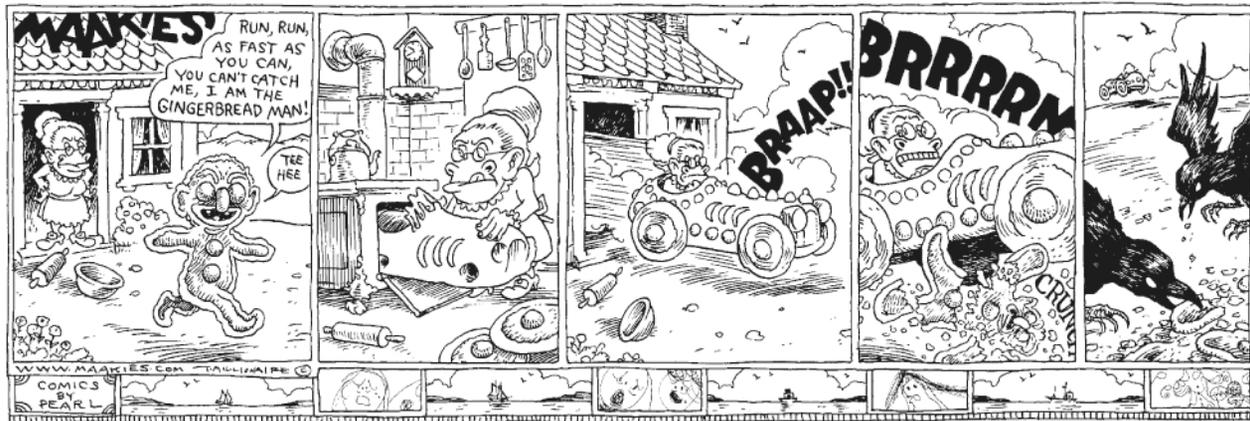
## Great on the Grape

Dear Editor,

Re: Moby Grape ["Reissues," Music, Dec. 14]: Raoul Hernandez has written the most cogent and polished-gem-perfect review of the best band you never heard that it's ever received. Sparing us the usual litany of the bogies that have bedeviled the Grape for four decades, he dives directly into the meat of the music. Hernandez, I'm submitting your name to the Grape as a potential PR man. With you writing liner notes, even the stone deaf would be compelled to buy Moby Grape!

Greg Volpert  
Lawrence, Kan.

[Raoul Hernandez replies: Thanks Greg, I'm going to make you my PR man! By now you're no doubt aware that the very same week our review ran (Dec. 14, 2007), Sundazed pulled the first three Grape titles, Moby Grape, Wow, and Grape Jam, from its active catalog for legal reasons. Even the notice on the label's website ([www.sundazed.com](http://www.sundazed.com)) lamenting the turn of events was soon yanked out of circulation. As ultimate Grape booster David Fricke wrote at year's end about Moby Grape '69 being one of the best reissues of 2007, "Legendary for its psychedelic pow and long legal battles, this San Francisco band has been screwed again."]



## Look at the Label

Dear Editor,

I would like to thank Jim Hightower for his article in the last edition, "The Luxury of Chinese Labor" ["The Hightower Report," News, Jan. 11]. It never ceases to amaze me that people will buy a product at a high-end store and not even look to see where the product is made. Do you people really think that a \$100 pair of jeans was really crafted by the fine artisans ... of Honduras? To be completely honest, I don't really care about making a distinction in the quality of items. Modern technology allows most consumer items to be produced fairly well, regardless of their country of origin. My gripe is this: A person who works on the Ford assembly line can afford to buy a Ford car. A lady that works at an olive-oil bottling plant in Italy, she can cook with it when she gets home. Do you think that one of the laborers producing your designer purse can afford to spend two months' pay to buy said purse?

Steven McCloud

## Shocked That We Failed to Mention ...

Dear Editor,

I was shocked to see your story on the city's Comprehensive Plan that failed to mention Robin Cravey ["The Bigger Picture," News, Jan. 11], candidate for Austin City Council in Place 4. Robin Cravey was a participant in the original Austin Tomorrow Plan and served on the Austin Planning Commission when it really dealt with the entire city. I wonder what your thinking was in running photos of his two opponents. If you had bothered to look at Robin's website, you would see an outline of his vision for the city, while his opponents' sites say nothing of substance. Or if you had read Cravey's op-ed piece in the *American-Statesman* last month, you would have found a strong statement about Downtown as the heart of the city.

I hope this is not an indication of the quality of your reporting on either planning in Austin or the City Council Place 4 race.

Aralyn Hughes

[Katherine Gregor responds: The article was not about the Place 4 candidates or Downtown or a municipal election that is four months away. It was on the city of Austin's current initiative to update its Comprehensive Plan document. Laura Morrison and Cid Galindo were

continued on p.10

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**POSTMARKS :: FROM P.8**

quoted and pictured because each has recently advocated strongly for a fresh city comprehensive plan as a specific planning tool. We meant no disrespect to Robin Cravey (or any other candidate), and we welcome any thoughts he may have on proposals for a new comprehensive plan.]

### Respect Neighborhoods

Dear Editor,

The next time you're stuck in traffic headed southbound on Congress or South First just south of Oltorf, consider the following: Just as you are careening down interior neighborhood streets that are largely devoid of sidewalks, we are out walking our dogs or pushing strollers. It should be common knowledge that the last place to drive like you're on fire is around an elementary school or in a cul-de-sac, but we see it happen every day when our children are out playing.

I submit the following piece of advice to those who find themselves in need of a quick escape from the long line of cars trying to get through the lights at Ben White: The only two streets in our neighborhood that go all the way through (Cumberland and Lightsey) have been conveniently marked by the city with traffic lights. We recommend you use those rather than creating your own winding routes at mind-blowing speeds, causing us to dive for the nearest lawn with puppies and toddlers in tow.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Kate Meehan  
 Chair

Dawson Neighborhood Planning Team

**POSTMARKS ONLINE UPDATED DAILY**  
[austinchronicle.com/postmarks](http://austinchronicle.com/postmarks)

### Loves Sam Baker's Music

Dear Editor,

Re: Sam Baker ["Terrible Beauty," Music, Nov. 16, 2007]: I just wanted to say how much I appreciate his beautiful music. My brother gave me *Pretty World* for my birthday, and I have to admit the first time I listened to it, I thought to myself, this is great, different music from what I really listen to, but I wondered ... is the musician a little tipsy? Then I heard/read the rest of the story.

His story is inspiring to say the least. I am a mother of three, married for 22 years, don't typically like country music, but am pressing the "on" button right now to hear *Pretty World* again.

Sam Baker, I love your music; I love the song about the horses. Keep on keeping on.

Mary Visco  
 Tampa, Fla.

### Political Signs Mar Austin's Beauty

Dear Editor,

I am madly in love with Austin. We live in a very beautiful city, which is why it bothers me so much to see so many political-ad signs all over Austin, some as large as a small car. They started popping up about two months ago, and the next election isn't till March!

Those signs are eyesores and are essentially litter. Many are placed in the right-of-way, which is totally illegal. I believe this is an abusive form of advertising. It's an abuse of our otherwise beautiful city.

I will never vote for any of the following candidates because of their ugly, abusive, and illegal advertising on public property: Jim Coronado, Ron Paul, Alonzo Reyes, John Lipscombe, Carlos Barrera, Judge Andy Hathcock, and Maria

Canchola. There are many more, and I add to that list frequently.

Yes, that's right, Ron Paul, too. I called his local campaign office about a month ago to let them know that I'm seeing their political-ad signs on telephone poles all over town, which is illegal. They said they'd put a stop to that, and since then, I've seen new Ron Paul signs on even more telephone poles. So Paul's people blew it. And Judge Andy Hathcock ... a judge should know better!

I urge all voters who care about the general appearance of our city to avoid voting for any candidate for any office who chooses to trash our precious city. Then call them, and let them know. They can take the money they spend on those signs and channel it into TV, radio, newspaper, and other legitimate forms of advertising. Votes should be earned using respect.

Joe Zamecki

### Your Vote Is Too Precious to Be Wasted

Dear Editor,

Dare I mention again some reasons besides the Electoral College for using your vote more creatively ["Postmarks" online, Jan. 4]? It's too precious to be just a gift to the preselected Democrat/Republican.

The primary system. It allows candidates to ignore 99% of the country until they've gotten the bandwagon going in Iowa and New Hampshire. Voters in the early states decide who the rest of us will get to choose from, as many of the better candidates are forced to drop out.

The campaign finance system. Molly Ivins said that nothing will change in politics until we get control of campaign finance. Currently, it is the starting place for the corruption of politicians.

continued on p.12



# THE NEW YEAR FLYER

Every Saturday during January and February, the Hill Country Flyer will depart from the Cedar Park Depot at 10:00 AM. Enjoy a 2½ hour layover in Burnet before returning at 4:30 PM.

In February, love will be in the air. The Sweetheart Special will depart from the Cedar Park Depot February 9th at 8:00 PM for a two-hour round trip. Dinner, drinks and entertainment included.



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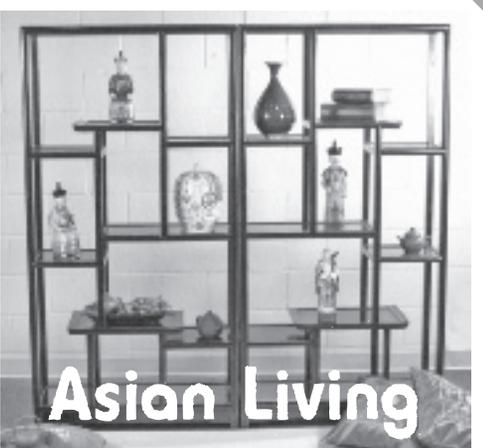
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Voting machines. They give insiders an untraceable avenue for fixing elections. As we've seen in 2000 and 2004, you only have to shift a few votes here and there to swing the presidential election, thanks to the Electoral College, and electronic voting machines make that very likely.

Ben Hogue

**Pay for What You Get**

Dear Editor,  
As a college graduate, I am blessed. Many people are not enjoying the benefits that I enjoy having that privilege. Having said that, there is one nagging truth that I see around the economic scene in Austin. While everyone seems to want a college graduate (specifically with a bachelor's degree) to work in his or her office, no one wants to pay for it.

"What do you mean by that?" Simply this: If you know that someone graduated from college, you know that someone has debt. College isn't cheap (no, not even state school), and someone who is still paying for college is going to have loans to pay, in addition to the increased cost of living. I'm not even getting into the fact that employers sometimes do credit checks, which I think should be illegal since they discriminate against the elderly (who might have debt because of medical expenses), minorities, young people (who usually don't have significant financial assets), and poor people.

Employers, use what you know about your employees to choose their salaries: 1) Most people have cars and have to pay for the maintenance of them. 2) Austin is more expensive, and gone are the days when everyone could

**THIS MODERN WORLD**

by TOM TOMORROW

**THE ADVENTURES OF CONVENTIONAL WISDOM MAN**



find loads of cheap living everywhere. Last but certainly not least: 3) If you have a former college student (recent or not), acknowledge that it costs something to graduate, and pay your staff accordingly.

Stephanie Webb



**'I Ironed Their Shirts'**

Dear Editor,  
Re: David Letterman's beard: I am kinda saddened to see the beard go. Not because I have facial hair, as well. My reasoning is he

started growing it during the Writers Guild of America strike. Being that he backs the writers, maybe he should have kept it until the strike was over, as a show of solidarity. I was surprised when he stepped out on his first broadcast back lookin' all scruffy. Cracking jokes about how he looks like that Saudi/Afghani/Pakistani cave dweller. David and I go back to the Johnny Carson era. I would be sitting on the couch in a pair of shorts and a T-shirt. Eating peanut butter ice cream, straight out of the cardboard half-gallon container with my dad. I think it was 11pm on NBC back then. The ice cream tasted great in those hot, dry, Sacramento summer nights even with the cardboard aftertaste. I would love to stay up and watch Carson's monologue with his signature golf swing after. A kid fighting the night for the Top 10 list on Letterman afterward. Anyway, I was surprised to see the beard when he came back but even more surprised he let it go. On the other hand, he would probably be tripping over it by the time this strike has officially ended. Some people, such as these two late-night heroes, have always cared. Shame on the corporate producers, unwilling to back all those people behind the scenes who keep it flowing. And damn you for airing for all these unscripted so-called reality shows! Ironic how Hillary Clinton did a cameo on *The Late Show* that night. Then comes to tears over how much she cares. I'm glad she won that primary. She can honestly say after being jeered, "I ironed their shirts in New Hampshire!" Anyway, hang in there, writers.

Mike Homa

[Editor's note: It should be clarified that this strike is really not against producers, not even "corporate producers" really, but rather the strike is the writers against corporations.]

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- ▶ Down to two finalists, City Council expects to be choosing a **new city manager** at its meeting today (Thursday). See "Point Austin," at left, and "Beside the Point," p.16.
- ▶ Before you know it, early voting will be here (Feb. 19) for the March 4 primary. The campaign shots are beginning to fly – we've caught a few, on p.21 & 22.
- ▶ Quick! Before it sells out again, go to [www.austinenenergy.com](http://www.austinenenergy.com) or call 972-7548 to subscribe to the just-reopened **GreenChoice** program, which supports electricity from **renewable wind power**. New subscriptions are now open to both residential and commercial subscribers. The new GreenChoice-batch charge of 5.5 cents per kilowatt-hour is locked-in through 2022. Going green means that today the average home consuming about 1,000 kwh/month will pay an additional \$18.50/month for GreenChoice. But based on recent history and rising conventional energy costs, the fixed rate is likely to quickly become a comparable bargain.



City manager candidates  
Marc Ott and Jelynn Burley

JANA BIRCHUM

## POINT AUSTIN

# The Process, Part II

What we told you last week? That was last week.

BY MICHAEL KING

By the time you read this, Austin will presumably have a new city manager – either San Antonio's Jelynn Burley or Fort Worth's Marc Ott. Although we persistently and politely request that nobody do anything when the *Chronicle* is on press deadline, the whole town continues to ignore us.

At City Hall, however, they don't ignore our august counterparts at the *Austin American-Statesman*. Last week, we were told by council members, and duly reported, there were going to be no city manager public forums; this week (Tuesday night) there was a city manager public forum. Having first vowed to be the sole arbiters of their primary employee, the council apparently flinched under the twin attacks of the *Statesman* editorial board and the nascent Better Austin Today Political Action Committee and accordingly trotted out the finalists for a Q&A with the citizens. (For a brief report, see p.16) BATPAC demanded that this hopelessly corrupt and feckless city government reprise the amazingly fine job it had done (no doubt inadvertently) in hiring Austin Police Department Chief Art Acevedo, and the *Statesman* thundered incoherently that a public hearing is necessary to make certain that the next city manager understands that the absolutely most important issue facing the city is cutting the public safety budget.

Just doing their parts to Keep Austin Weird.

I've got no particular beef with a floor show for the two finalists, but I can't refrain from pointing out that the mayor and his colleagues initially

made it quite clear that they had no intention of turning the CM hire into a "popularity contest." The first to crater was Jennifer Kim, who assured me two weeks ago that hearings would unnecessarily "politicize" the job – and then called a few days later to say she had pushed successfully for finalist hearings because "we really need to hear from the public." Why the abrupt turnaround? "This is the first time I've done this," Kim responded, "and I want to make certain we get it right." Asked if her change of heart had anything to do with the BATPAC press conference of the previous day (not to mention the Responsible Growth for Northcross outrage still roiling the political winds), Kim said, "I always listen to what the public has to say."

As a group, the council members apparently decided that a two-candidate forum would not inevitably upset their hiring timeline or their authority, so the rest of us were treated to a Palmer Events Center hoedown and a few TV-news sound bites. "If the candidates are not happy with that kind of process," declared Kim, "they probably are not the right fit for Austin." And if the nonpolitical city manager job just became Politics for a Day, as Usual – well, that's just too bad.

Ms. Burley and Mr. Ott, welcome to Austin.

## Food for Thought

Amid all that hoopla last week, I asked a few prospective council candidates for their thoughts on city managers, since one or two of them might be stepping onto the dais come June. I've got room for just a few nuggets:

**Randi Shade** (Place 3): "While some level of tension between a council and a manager is inevitable, even healthy, there's been too much tension in recent years. The council needs to select a strong leader who yet works at the direction of council: They set policy; he or she executes."

**Cid Galindo** (Place 4): "The city is going to grow; we need someone familiar with land use and transportation, who can help us determine how we're going to manage that growth and guide that growth where we want it. ... It boils down to skill sets and personalities: someone who can do the job but who will also be able to work with the council."

**Laura Morrison** (Place 4): "I understand the council's desire to make it clear that the city manager works for them, but from a broader perspective, the council works for the citizens. ... Whoever they hire, that person needs to be a dynamic leader of thousands of employees and someone who embraces Austin's tradition of vibrant public participation."

**Robin Cravey** (Place 4): "There are several things I would look for: a clear understanding of the relationship with council; a demonstrated commitment to open government; a dedication to good staffing; a belief in forward-thinking innovation; high ethical standards; a generalist, preferably with a liberal arts background; and someone who believes in government as the instrument of the public and the promoter of the general welfare." ■

## NAKED CITY

▶ Education Austin leader and Small Middle School teacher **Michael Poliakoff** has filed a lawsuit against the Austin Independent School District, claiming district administrators punished him for being a **whistle-blower**. Poliakoff was a teacher at Bailey Middle School during the 2003-2004 school year, when he led a campaign to expose growing tensions between the staff and the principal, Julia Hankins, which came to a head when it was discovered that Hankins had unilaterally changed the grades of a number of Bailey students. An investigation was eventually launched, and Hankins apologized for her actions. But Poliakoff says Hankins continued to punish him for his outspoken dissent, and he filed several complaints with the district about his treatment. In September 2006, Poliakoff was forced to transfer to another school, eventually ending up at Small Middle School. Poliakoff is asking a district judge to force AISD to reinstate him at Bailey, and he hopes the lawsuit will discourage the district from retaliating against other teachers. "If they can do this to an individual like me, who was clearly doing the proper thing through proper channels," said Poliakoff in a press release, "then no employee is safe, and the grievance procedure is meaningless."

– Michael May

▶ AISD began the first of a series of state-mandated **national background checks** last Tuesday, starting with Superintendent Pat Forgione, whose fingerprints were taken in a public photo op with Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst and Texas Education Commissioner Robert Scott. AISD is the first district to conduct national background checks under a state law passed in 2007, requiring some 1 million teachers and public school employees to be fingerprinted over the next four years. The law was drafted in response to an alarming rise in the number of sexual-misconduct cases investigated by the Texas Education Agency. According to the agency, the number of such investigations rose from 110 in 1997 to 251 in 2007 – although there's no way of telling if that means an increase in real incidents or just rising public attention. Currently, the district is only required to run a statewide search, but under the new program, employees will have their fingerprints entered into an FBI database to detect crimes committed in other states. The background checks are mainly aimed at felony crimes, but misdemeanors will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, according to the TEA. The law only applies to teachers and nonteaching employees hired after Jan. 1.

– Justin Ward  
continued on p.17

# BESIDE THE POINT

## Six Down, Two to Go

BY WELLS DUNBAR

As she made the motion naming Austin's city manager finalists last Thursday, Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerely's mic flickered on and off. Beside the Point's initial reaction – and I doubt I was alone – was panic at having missed something. That's because only two finalists were named: San Antonio Deputy City Manager Jelynn Burley and Fort Worth Assistant City Manager Marc Ott. Surely one of those "internal" candidates – say, ACM Laura Huffman – had been mentioned, and I just didn't hear it.

But no. Last week, the City Council named two finalists – both hailing from outside Austin – for the city's top management position. Aside from ensuring that the next manager will be an African-American – a historic first – the decision also marks the first official break from the existing power structure at City Hall in recent memory. That's something the community activists and neighborhood advocates complaining about the search might want to laud (if not the *Statesman*, which has abruptly contorted the CM search into a council-bludgeoning, budget-cinching cudgel). Compared to the ascension of managers past, the current process has been pure sunshine and transparency. For those who may not remember: Toby Futrell was basically appointed by outgoing CM and mentor Jesus Garza; Garza arose as an executive fiat from ... shudder ... former Mayor Bruce Todd.

That's not to say there's no room for improvement. By waiting too long to begin – out of deference to Futrell, more than anything else – Mayor Will Wynn shoehorned the selection process into a tighter timeline. And Tuesday's hastily arranged "meet-and-greet" public reception for Burley and Ott has been accurately derided as "too little, too late" for those wanting more input on the process.

Should that process remain open for discussion? As the council unanimously resounded (well, prior to Better Austin Today's noisy calls for time and public input, at least), this is the council's decision to make. No, it hasn't mirrored the selection of Art Acevedo – but a primary goal in that search was to regain the public's trust after a series of horrific police incidents. The city manager's primary official task is to execute the will of the council faithfully.

I have to admit that my own views have softened during the progress of the search. BTP was intent on pushing the Acevedo meme – that this hire should mirror the public vetting the chief received. But frankly, that was largely in response to the persistent whispering campaign of prominent develop-

ers, attorneys, and past and present elected officials reportedly lobbying council members and others on Huffman's behalf. The deference to development and to business as usual was personified in developer Terry Mitchell's quote to the *Statesman* that probably did Huffman no favors: "She's very unassuming in saying, 'How can we work together to accomplish this?'" Also, as its crybaby petulance has since shown, the *Statesman* hoped to influence the CM selec-



JELYNNE BURLEY

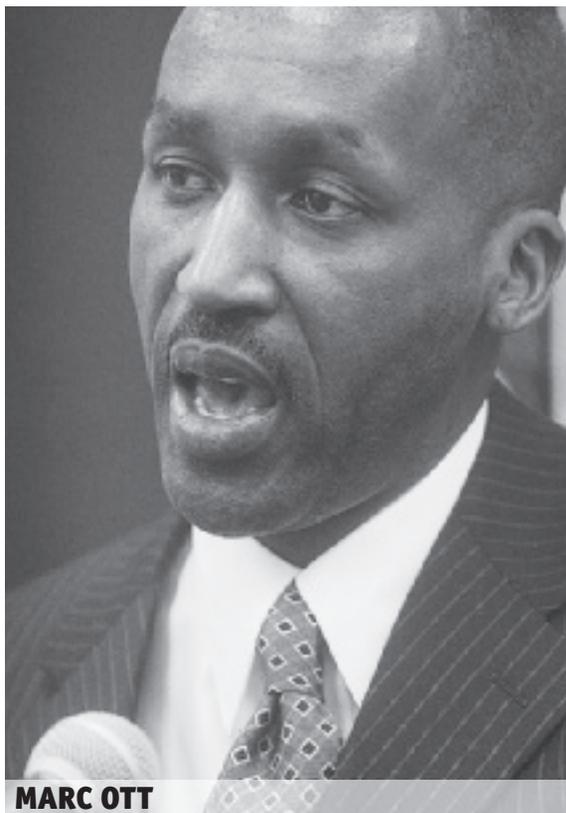
**"The role of the city manager is to support the mayor and council, understand their policies and initiatives, and implement those goals and objectives of the council. As a professional public administrator, it is my duty to raise those policy issues for the mayor's and council's consideration, those issues that are affecting the city either from its education standpoint, its neighborhoods, development, environmental policy."**

tion more directly had the process been made more "public" – and thereby more malleable to publicity.

Sometimes – not always, but sometimes – you have to trust your public officials. And yes, BTP is as shocked as you are to hear that coming out of his own mouth. Now, as for those finalists ...

### Jelynn Burley

This isn't the first time Burley and Ott have been in the running together. Late last year, both were finalists for Fort Worth's city manager position: Ott as an internal candidate as a Fort Worth assistant city manager, Burley from her position as San Antonio's deputy city manager. (Ironically, the Fort Worth CM selection, while eventually successful, featured a bitterly divided council; that precedent served as a



MARC OTT

**"The elected officials are in fact the policymakers. And from my standpoint as the city manager, my job is, to the best of my ability and partnership with staff, carry out their policies. ... Beyond that, I would want to create an environment inside City Hall, with respect to the employees, that encourages their greatest potential – that they bring that to work every day and work to do their best in all things, at all times, when it comes to the public interest."**

cautionary tale for Austin officials wary of overboard public deliberation and debate.) Now the two face off again.

Burley earned her bachelor's degree in political science from Baton Rouge's Southern University in 1982 and a master's degree from Trinity University in San Antonio, the city she's worked for since 1984. Until 1990, she worked

in housing, budget, and capital-improvement projects. It prepared her for three years in the Office of Dome Development – not the Buckminster Fuller geodesic variety, but overseeing design, budgeting, and coordination for construction of the Alamodome. She continued to work on budgeting and construction projects until 2002, when she was named assistant city manager. In that position, she focused on housing, development, and revitalization. In 2006, she was promoted to deputy city manager, where she oversees planning and development, public works, economic development, and more; a 2006 FBI probe of the city's urban renewal agency, plus its subsequent defunding and folding into the city bureaucracy, likely created plenty of headaches for Burley.

### Marc Ott

Prior to his current position in Fort Worth, Ott's done most of his work in the Great Lakes State. He earned his undergrad degree (management, focus on economics) and master's (public administration) from Michigan's Oakland University before attending a program for government executives at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government. Starting in 1982, he worked in city managers' offices in Jackson and Grand Rapids before moving to Kalamazoo in 1990.

In Kalamazoo, he quickly rose from assistant CM to city manager in three years, overseeing nearly 1,000 employees and representing the city in collective bargaining. His tenure there ended turbulently in 1997, with the city commission asking for his resignation due to what are described as "communication problems." (In fairness, the conflict appears to have been largely a consequence of the political turnover in a new administration.) Controversy continued to trail Ott, with newspapers making hay over his \$141,100 severance package and his apparent failure to register a handgun (which was determined an oversight). After a yearlong hiatus, followed by a four-year stint as Rochester Hills' city administrator, Ott came to Fort Worth as an assistant city manager, where he's presided over capital-improvement-plan businesses like the water and wastewater utility, transportation, public works, engineering, aviation, and more.

### The Other Shoe

The main question: Will we have a new city manager by the time you read this? Thursday council meetings haven't meshed well recently with BTP's weekly publication schedule. Following the public reception Tuesday, and final interviews with the council Wednesday, the council is scheduled to announce its selection today, Thursday, Jan. 17 – although they've reserved the right to take more time. Keep abreast of late-breaking news at [austinchronicle.com/newsdesk](http://austinchronicle.com/newsdesk). ■

## (STILL FURTHER) BESIDE THE POINT

Thought last week's **City Council meeting** was lackluster? Compared to the meager scraps of municipal governance today, it's enough to make last week's meeting – featuring passage of Brewster McCracken's Austin Parking Enterprise – look like an assembly atop the acropolis. Aside from the **city manager** will-they-won't-they, the other items to watch are in zoning: neighborhood-disputed design and compatibility

standards for the **12th Street Neighborhood Conservation Combining District** and the geographically related **Eastside McMansion** reduced-lot-size skirmish, starring none other than **Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson**.

Hey Hollywood – can we pin this uproar on **Jessica Simpson**, too? – *Wells Dunbar*  
E-mail any council interceptions to [wdunbar@austinchronicle.com](mailto:wdunbar@austinchronicle.com).

▶ AISD Superintendent Pat Forjone announced that 30 Austin **schools** will be **closed to transfers next school year** and that three others are only allowing transfers for certain grades. The campuses are Anderson, Austin, Bowie, and McCallum high schools; Bailey, Bedichek, Burnet, Kealing, Mendez, Murchison, and Small middle schools; and Baranoff, Barrington, Bryker Woods (except grades second and sixth), Casis, Clayton, Cook, Doss (except grade second), Harris, Hart, Hill (except grades second and third), Houston, Langford, Lee, Linder, Mathews, Mills, Odom, Perez, Rodriguez, Walnut Creek, Widen, and Wooldridge elementary schools. In addition, seven campuses could eventually be closed after priority transfers are accepted: Akins High School, Fulmore and Paredes middle schools, and Graham, Oak Hill, Pickle, and Wooten elementaries. The district will begin accepting transfer requests on Saturday, Feb. 2, at 7am and will remain open that day until noon. (Parents hoping to get their first choice should be there when the doors open.) — M.M.

▶ The district's board of trustees is deliberating where to place **two new elementary schools** approved in the 2004 bond election. AISD staff recommended one of the schools be built in North Central Austin, near Wooldridge, Wooten, and Cook elementaries and the other be built in Southwest Austin, near Clayton Elementary. But the board delayed the decision by a 5-3 vote Monday, in order to hear recommendations about overcrowding at Southeast Austin's Linder Elementary. On Jan. 28, the trustees will hear a presentation from the Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee, which may include a May 10 bond referendum that would address overcrowding at Linder. For more AISD bonds news, see p.18. — M.M.

▶ January is Poverty Awareness Month, and on that note, advocacy org House the Homeless recently had a unique opportunity to increase its knowledge of **Austin's homeless population**. At its annual Christmas clothing distribution party, the group received questionnaire responses from 526 homeless people — a full 13% of Austin's estimated homeless population of 4,000. The results? The homeless aren't looking for a handout — they say they want to work. While only 199 respondents — 38% of the survey — were working, about 90% wanted employment. The obstacles to employment were varied: 62 cited health issues as holding them back, 60 said they couldn't find work, 56 said they were disabled, and 50 had no identification. Additionally, several hurdles to getting a photo ID were cited, such as the need for other ID documents, and the cost. Close to a quarter — 23% — identified themselves as veterans. "Although homeless, more than 37% of these people are working at some point during the week," says House the Homeless President Richard, Troxell. "Furthermore, it is now clear that what is lacking for many of them to end their homelessness is a living-wage job." Troxell is also director of legal aid for House the Homeless, who recently released a "Know Your Rights" guide for Austin's homeless. The guide comes at an opportune time, since City Council recently deliberated the expansion of panhandling laws — though changes are on hold for now. "Our goal is to make sure they know their rights and are informed of the laws that affect them," Troxell says. — Wells Dunbar



**More than 350 high school students, including some from Bowie, Houston, St. Stephen's, Westlake, and Westwood, charted diplomatic waters last Friday and Saturday at UT while participating in a United Nations simulation, part of the 13th annual Central Texas Model United Nations conference, according to a press release from the university, which also notes, "By seeing how policy decisions are created in committees ... students are exposed to relevant subject matter that is not taught in a general curriculum[,] like the art of persuasive public speaking and diplomatic negotiation."**

▶ Attention bicyclists! Next time you notice some ass has decided to park their car in a **marked bike lane**, you can call 311 and have the vehicle ticketed by one of three city of Austin Public Works Department Bicycle and Pedestrian Program staffers, who have recently been deputized as badge-toting parking-enforcement officers. Bike Program project coordinator Nadia Barrera says she and two others can now ticket cars illegally parked within painted full-time bike lanes, as well as lanes where parking is prohibited during certain times. The move is partially meant to ease the burden on the Austin Police Department, which previously received such parking-violation calls. She said a first offense parking ticket will cost drivers \$40. In other bike lane news, Barrera says 311 calls to report debris in bike lanes, which can be very dangerous to cyclists, will now be expedited to Public Works, which she says will be able to clear the debris faster than Solid Waste Services, previously tasked with the job. For more local bike info and a map of Austin's bicycle routes, color-coded by ease of use, see [www.ci.austin.tx.us/bicycle](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/bicycle). — Daniel Mottola

▶ With the 35th anniversary of the landmark abortion-rights decision *Roe v. Wade* less than a week away, **Nancy Keenan**, president of NARAL Pro-Choice America, will deliver a "major" speech on the "importance of the **future of the pro-choice movement**" tonight, Thursday, Jan. 17, at 6:30pm at the University of Texas' Thompson Conference Center auditorium. In the U.S. Supreme Court's *Roe* decision — handed down Jan. 22, 1973 — the justices opined 7-2 that many laws restricting a woman's right to choose abortion violated a right to privacy embedded within the 14th Amendment's due process clause — under their ruling, abortion was made a safe and legal option for women seeking to end a pregnancy up until the time the fetus would be viable outside the womb. That decision remains controversial, and in recent years, the ruling has seen significant challenges, some of which have, arguably, weakened the original premise. For more on the event, go to [www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs). — Jordan Smith

▶ The **University of Texas** could receive as much as \$1.2 million in federal seed money to develop next generation **wireless communications for the military**, U.S. Rep. Lamar Smith announced last week. The earmarked funding is tucked away inside Congress' annual defense appropriations bill, which passed the House last week and now awaits Senate approval. The research aims to expand wireless capabilities, so data can be transmitted more efficiently. "Over the next few years, wireless networks will become massively broadband, similar to the wired Internet of today," UT-Austin President William Powers said in a press release. "With these funds, Ted Rappaport and his team ... will be able to create the next generation of wireless devices and enhanced protocols designed to use this increased bandwidth." — J.W.

## BEYOND CITY LIMITS

▶ The city of **Hutto** has followed the lead of Austin and 19 other Texas cities in signing the **U.S. Mayors Climate Protection Agreement**. In all, 755 U.S. cities have committed to follow the goals of the international Kyoto Protocol — still unsigned by the U.S. Typical municipal actions include cutting greenhouse-gas emissions and adopting anti-sprawl policies for land use. In 2010, Hutto plans to open its first dense, mixed-use development on 469 acres off State Highway 130. If little Hutto gets it, why not Washington, D.C.? — Katherine Gregor

▶ Two days before its first meeting of the interim, Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst made his appointments to the joint **Sunset Advisory Commission**, the body that recommends whether state agencies should stay in operation, be reformed, or even disbanded: Sens. Juan "Chuy" Hinojosa, D-McAllen, and

Glenn Hegar, R-Katy, plus public appointee Michael Stevens. Hinojosa had publicly lobbied to get on the committee, so he could continue to oversee reform of the Texas Youth Commission, which is up for review. But Hegar, a pro-tax-refund freshman, is a radical departure from outgoing members Eliot Shapleigh, D-El Paso, and John Whitmire, D-Houston, both of whom have been critical of slashing agency budgets. Stevens, a member of tort reformists Texans for Lawsuit Reform, is closely connected to Gov. Rick Perry, as a member of the Governor's Business Council and of his 2006 appraisal reform task force. — Richard Whittaker

▶ **Harris County's** top law enforcer, **District Attorney Chuck Rosenthal**, issued a public apology to his family late last month after intimate messages he sent to his secretary via e-mail were made public, in connection with a pending federal civil rights suit alleging misconduct by Harris Co. Sheriff's Office employees, reports the *Houston Chronicle*. In one message, dated Aug. 10, Rosenthal wrote to his secretary, Kerry Stevens (with whom he has acknowledged having an affair during his first marriage), that the "very next time I see you I want to kiss you behind your right ear." In another message, he told Stevens, "You own my heart whether you want [it] or not," the daily reported. In his apology, Rosenthal said he deeply regrets "having said those things." The 61-year-old Republican is in charge of the DA's office that is the nation's leader in handing out death sentences. He's running for a third term as Houston's DA and is being challenged for the job by Democrat C.O. Bradford, the former Houston Police chief. Bradford told the daily that Rosenthal's "personal use of government property" to send his messages of love to Stevens was "totally inappropriate." — J.S.

▶ **Shell Oil Co.**'s Houston-area plant has been illegally spewing a wide range of harmful emissions into the air in violation of its permitted limits and the Clean Air Act on the average of more than once a week for the last five years, resulting in the release of millions of pounds of excess air pollutants, according to a lawsuit filed last week by Environment Texas and the Sierra Club. "Because the state of Texas and the U.S. EPA have both failed to put a stop to these blatant violations, ordinary citizens are stepping up to enforce the law themselves," said ET Executive Director Luke Metzger. Sierra Club member and small-business owner Karla Land added, "I live and work downwind from Shell, in Channelview. My family and my employees simply can't afford to breathe in any more air pollution." The lawsuit addresses so-called upset events at Shell's 1,500-acre oil refinery and petrochemical plant, when emissions exceeding permitted limits can be vented during equipment breakdowns, malfunctions, and other nonroutine incidents. For years, watchdogs have suspected refiners of exploiting upset situations to cut costs and pollute more. Among the pollutants reportedly released are substances known to contribute to respiratory illness, heart and lung disease, acid rain, and harmful ozone. More than 150,000 pounds of known carcinogens benzene and 1,3-butadiene have also been released into the air since 2003. — D.M.

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## MEDIA WATCH

# Austin's TV Time Bandits Worry Advertisers

BY KEVIN BRASS

Thanks to its status as a first-rate city for couch potatoes, Austin is at the center of a growing industry debate about dramatic shifts occurring in how people watch television. Three years ago, **Nielsen Media Research** began tracking viewers who use TiVo and other digital video recorders to record programs and including the data in its official ratings reports. Now, with DVR use growing, the debate has intensified over the meaning and implications of the numbers, which will eventually impact how and why programs are produced.

It's a particularly big deal in Austin, which boasts the **highest percentage of DVR users** in the country – 31% of Austin TV watchers use a DVR, according to Nielsen, compared to 22% in Boston and 13% in Miami, to name two other hip media cities. Beyond reaffirming Austin as a premier hangout for the television-obsessed, the ratings reports including the so-called **"live plus"** numbers show that a large group of Austin viewers is flipping the bird at the TV schedule, watching the shows they want when they want.

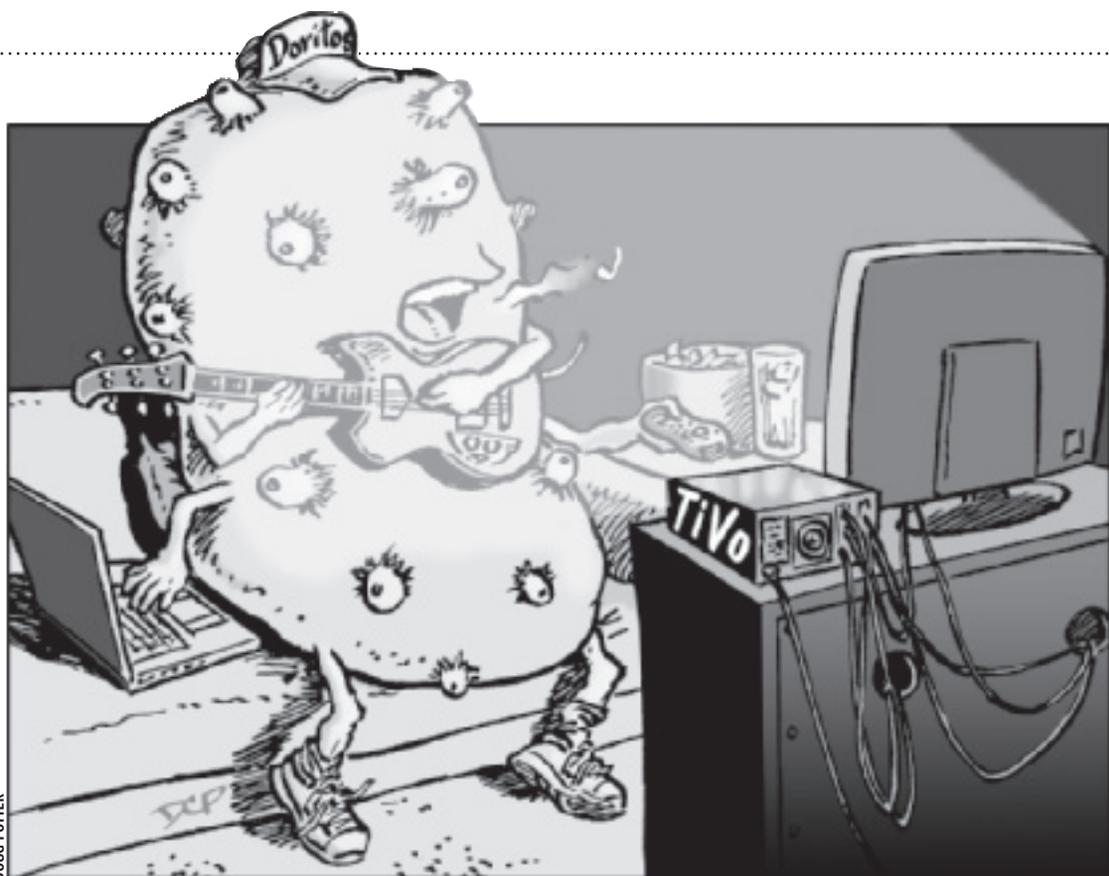
"It does change the game," said **Patti Smith**, general manager of KVUE, the local ABC channel. While the ratings were relatively unchanged for most shows in the report for the recent November sweeps period, others posted dramatic leaps when the DVR fanatics were factored in. For example, NBC's *Heroes* recorded a 9 rating among "live" viewers, representing 9% of the TV audience. But when DVR viewers were factored in, *Heroes* jumped to a 13.2 rating, a 47% increase. ABC's *Grey's Anatomy* posted a 9.9 rating in the live audience numbers and a 13.9 when the live-plus numbers were included. *Desperate Housewives*, *House*, and *CSI: Crime Scene Investigation* were also favorites with DVR users.

While it's not surprising that people record hit shows, the numbers may give renewed hope to programs struggling to find an audience, such as *Big Shots*, the new series starring Dylan McDermott. The live-plus numbers gave the show a 20% boost in November, at least in Austin.

Another benefactor is the fledgling CW network, which targets a younger audience. According to Nielsen, 18- to 34-year-olds are most likely to use DVRs to "time shift." In Austin, the CW's *Smallville* posted a solid but unspectacular 5 share in November, but jumped to a 7 with the live-plus number. "That's huge," said **Eric Lassberg**, general manager of local CW affiliate KNVA, as well as KXAN, the NBC affiliate. At this point, Austin is one of the few markets seeing such dramatic shifts, thanks to the high percentage of DVRs in use. "This doesn't happen in Bangor, Maine," Lassberg said.

Broadcasters are trumpeting the new numbers as a more accurate gauge of the real size of the audience for their programs. And, perhaps more importantly, they want advertisers to pay for the DVR audience. But this is dicey terrain for TV station executives. The numbers may be larger, but DVRs also make it easy for viewers to **whiz past commercials** – and that's very, very bad news, at least from advertisers' perspectives. "Research shows that people will still watch the commercials," Lassberg said, echoing a familiar refrain from broadcasters. "If you're in the market for a car, even if you're fast-forwarding, you're still going to stop and watch it." Many advertisers remain unconvinced. The industry has been reluctant to pay for DVR viewers, without evidence those viewers are actually watching their ads.

Advertising industry research shows "70 to 80 percent of DVR users skip commercials," said **Carolyn Fisher**, group media director of Austin-based Kolar Advertising & Marketing. "But they do see visuals while they're doing that," she said. "Do they register? Sure. But is it the same effect?"



The issues are complex. How long DVR users wait before watching a show is a constant topic of industry discussion. A retailer promoting a Friday sale – or a studio promoting a weekend release – may not be interested in an audience using DVRs to watch a show a week later.

Last year, Nielsen, for the first time, began issuing standardized minute-by-minute reports tracking the audience size for commercials watched on DVRs, a move demanded by advertisers. The standard is based on "live plus three days" viewing, which the industry prefers over the "live plus seven days" ratings, but advertisers are still clamoring for more data on how DVR users watch their commercials. (For what it's worth, *The Office* initially posted the highest percentage of commercial viewing by DVR users.)

Beyond the battle over ad rates, there is a vast array of implications for the industry, as the installed base of DVRs grows. Nationwide, only 22.3% of viewers currently use DVRs, according to Nielsen, but the audience is growing by more than 20% a year. As more and

more people watch shows on their own schedules, programs that don't spur people to record may find it tough to survive. Hit shows will grow even stronger. Conversely, there will be increasing emphasis on sports events, awards shows, and the *American Idol* ilk, which audiences watch live, offering advertisers more "quality" viewers (read: non-DVR users).

Already advertisers are designing ads that "pop," using big logos and strong visuals to entice fast-forwarding viewers to pause for a moment. Some are moving away from commercials and relying on **product placement** in programs – paying to have their products used in a scene. (A practice best illustrated on *30 Rock*, where characters often wave products at the camera, to make a point.)

As advertisers grow more frustrated trying to woo this new breed of viewers, they may simply shift more marketing dollars to new and emerging media, a trend with dark ramifications for broadcasters. Either way, there is a sense within the TV industry that the playing field is changing, with no one quite sure what the end result will be.

"This is pioneer territory," Lassberg said. ■

## CITIZENS' COMMITTEE SHUFFLES AISD BONDS

Plans are firming up for **Austin Independent School District's** interim bond-election package to propose major investments in buildings and technology. On Jan. 10, the 2008 **Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee** added items to its list of projects for the public discussion that took place this week before making its final recommendations to the board of trustees on Jan. 28.

The committee had already preliminarily approved \$172 million for projects deemed essential: new labs to meet increased math and science graduation minimums and kitchen renovations, as well as cost-cutting innovations, such as capacitor banks that could cut electricity bills by \$2 million a year. However, with overcrowding becoming a

major problem, the committee adopted proposals for a new \$25 million elementary school. This is in addition to two undesignated schools already funded under the 2004 bond issue. Four schools – Linder, Barrington, Hart, and Langford – received preliminary approval for eight new classrooms each. The construction would move students from temporary structures, but without adding to core buildings. "What does it really solve," asked Tri-Chair Mark Curry, "beyond making [the classrooms] look prettier?"

Two days earlier, the committee lent its support to more than \$69 million for technology investments, influenced by a combination of new online testing requirements, the need for equipment replacement, and the

announcement from Pearson School Systems that it will stop supporting the current records software. "We can give you a jump-start on technology," Tri-Chair Amy Wong Mok told staff, "but we need a strategic vision, so we don't have to jump-start every five years." Members were also concerned the funding could not include cash for information-technology support staff. "You wouldn't buy buses and not hire bus drivers," said member Rudy Montoya.

Not every proposal passed. Proposals for a Mueller Airport Elementary, a second undesignated elementary, and a middle school were put on hold, as was \$4.9 million for library books. The committee is wavering on the proposed **\$30 million performing-arts center**. With earlier plans to add it to the Long Center seemingly dead, the Rathgeber Family Partnership had discussed

offering land at Mueller: If that offer would expire before the next proposed full bond date, the committee may still decide to recommend it.

Repayment of the bonds, as well as the potential impact on appraisal taxes, also raised concerns. AISD has only 13 cents left for maintenance and operation costs out of the Legislature's cap of \$1.17 per \$100 of valuation. But a rate increase may be unavoidable: Resale values are static, although with Texas leading the nation in construction starts, new homes could offset that. AISD staff reported that reaching the cap could be avoided by doing two or three staggered sales of \$50 million-\$100 million each, with larger sums put off until smaller, more immediate projects are completed and partially paid off.

– Richard Whittaker

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## TPPF Conference Charter Schools and Chain Saws

Conservatives shouldn't be afraid to be conservatives, even if it loses them debates and candidates. That was the message South Carolina Gov. **Mark Sanford** brought to the **Texas Public Policy Foundation's** sixth annual "policy orientation" for the Texas Legislature.

The two-day meeting, held Jan. 9-10 at the Sheraton, was an opportunity for the conservative think tank to tell Texas legislators what they think real conservatives care about. The assembled crowd of politicians, staffers, agency heads (e.g., Public Utilities Commission Chair Barry Smitherman and state Comptroller Susan Combs), and delegates from business lobbies and pro-deregulation think tanks heard the key theme summed up by closing speaker Gov. **Rick Perry**. "My philosophy of life, leadership, and governance," he said, "has pretty much boiled down to one word: 'competitiveness.'"

Steering clear of some more controversial issues, like abortion and prayer in school, the foundation pointed to ways to get business into government (more fiscal openness, more private contractors) and government out of business (deregulation, private health insurance, and school vouchers). While the meeting was nominally for the benefit of legislators, the first major legislative proposal for next session came from Attorney General **Greg Abbott**. In his kickoff keynote, he combined two policy areas that he has used to define his term in office: funding of health insurance and rigorous child-support collection. Under his new proposal, if a child who receives child support does not have health insurance, the support-paying parent could pay for insurance, via a state-run group pool, from private insurers. If the parent did not buy insurance, he or she could have his or her wages garnished.

While Abbott's proposal received applause from much of the audience, others in attendance were looking for insight on the conservative agenda, from the other side. "John Stuart Mill once said, 'He who knows only his own side of the argument knows little of that,'" said Rep. **Mark Strama**, D-Austin. The co-author of

last session's government fiscal openness law, House Bill 3430, took part in a panel with **Grover Norquist**, president of Americans for Tax Reform, on government transparency. "I represent a district with a lot of fiscal conservatives, and transparency is something on which we can agree," said Strama, although that agreement may be limited. "Like Norquist said," Strama added, "he doesn't have any delusions that he and Ralph Nader want to do the same thing with the money they free up."

Rep. **Scott Hochberg** was blunter. "You get to know what the other guys are doing," the Houston Democrat said after a panel on public education that moderator Jamie Story of the Center for Education Policy euphemistically called "exciting." After homeschooling advocate Bruce Shortt told the assembled crowd the kindest thing to do to a child in a public school was to take him or her out, Hochberg and former Houston Democratic state Rep. **Ron Wilson** (now former assistant parliamentarian to Speaker Tom Craddick) broke the general mood of consensus

with a heated exchange about urban charter schools. Wilson charged they are failing because they're underfunded, overregulated, and the public school system uses them as a dumping ground for problem students. "I think that's baloney," said Hochberg after, noting that they are less regulated than public schools.

There were attempts at bipartisanship. Perry noted that, whatever side of the aisle, legislators want what is best for Texas. Rep. **Donna Howard**, D-Austin, called it a rare interim opportunity to re-establish working relations with other representatives. "We work with the other 149 members very

closely during the session, and then we don't see each other except at events like this," she said.

Many conservatives came to see Sanford, a tax-slashing, tort-reformist darling who was briefly a rumored contender for the GOP presidential nomination. Following an invocation from Rep. Bryan Hughes, R-Mineola, who made a point to thank God for the TPPF's work, Sanford tried to rally loyalists. Comparing conservatives variously to troops in Iraq, Rosa

Parks, and **Spider-Man**, he said they are in a conflict equal to either World War. The enemy, he explained, had been revealed in the ruins of **New Orleans**. "Katrina," he said, "did not unearth poverty but something more unsettling, particularly as a conservative, and that's dependency."

Advocating personal responsibility, he claimed the American approach to such disasters was "a neighbor helping a neighbor with a chain saw." When asked later whether the lesson from New Orleans may be that badly funded levee repairs failed – while the

success of the massive **Delta Works flood protection program** in Holland might derive from its central government funding, Sanford replied: "I'll let somebody else talk about paying for dikes. The point I was making was that people are looking to government for an answer, and that's historically not the default in this country."

So how did it play to the small-government base in attendance? "The program was very good," said Dick Mills, national director for **Ron Paul Friends USA**, "although a few speakers were kind of out there on the fringe." – *Richard Whittaker*



### @CHRONIC

#### WHITHER RICK COLE?

Unless you're our mayor or one of our council members, there's no telling what happened during the closed door discussion where **Jelynn Burley** and **Marc Ott** were picked as **city manager finalists**.

One of the semifinalists generating lots of interest was **Rick Cole**, the Ventura, Calif., city manager. With his penchant for New Urbanism, design, and Austin-esque "weirdness" (no other candidate served as marketing director for the Sunset Strip-housing West Hollywood), there was talk he might be a perfect fit for the people's republic. But all that ended last Thursday.

In his hometown daily, Cole says a little: "There is nothing like a journey to remind you what you cherish about home," he said. "I also came away inspired and energized about our challenges in Ventura."

Their gain or our loss?

– *Wells Dunbar*

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RICHARD WHITTAKER

South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford

### KITTY-PUPPY LAWSUIT, ROUND ONE

The initial news was good for citizens seeking to stop the city from moving the **Town Lake Animal Center** to East Austin through a lawsuit, *PODER, et al. v. City of Austin*. As characterized by attorney **Bill Aleshire** of Riggs & Aleshire, who represents an East-West Austin plaintiffs' coalition, "City attorneys claimed our lawsuit should be thrown out because they said citizens could not enforce the City Charter against the City Council." But Travis Co. District Court Judge **Lora Livingston** denied the city's argument of "special exceptions."

People Organized in Defense of the Earth and Her Resources and friends claim City Council and the city manager unlawfully approved a \$1.5 million architectural contract for the animal shelter at a new East Austin location – because the city's adopted **Govalle/Johnston Terrace Neighborhood Plan** had not first been amended to include the new shelter. They also claim an Open Meetings Act violation. Aleshire explained by e-mail, "Now the City will have to stand trial on whether they can locate the animal shelter (or any public facility) in a neighborhood without first including that project in the neighborhood's plan." The petition has been amended to sue



Ursula, one of the many cats and kittens up for adoption at the aging, overcrowded TLAC

Mayor **Will Wynn**, each council member, and City Manager **Toby Futrell** in their individual capacities: "Since we allege that they exceeded their authority to authorize that contract, we must sue them individually." That also goes for **Mike Martinez**, who voted against the site but for the architectural contract on consent. Aleshire believes a ruling in *PODER's* favor would set a far-reaching precedent empowering neighborhood plans. He said the lawsuit points to "previously ignored"

**City Charter** provisions (Article X, sections 5 and 6) that specifically require council to include in its **Comprehensive Plan** its capital-improvement projects – such as building a new facility. (Upon adoption, each neighborhood plan becomes part of the comprehensive plan.) "In other words, Charter provisions require the City Council to amend its Plan first, then implement its city projects," Aleshire said.

In the future, prior to locating any major new city facility within a neighborhood, city staff and ultimately council would have to work with the designated neighborhood-planning team to formally amend the neighborhood plan, he stated. A citizen win also could put additional pressure on the city to update its long-outdated 1979 comprehensive plan – some specific provisions of which no one at

City Hall has apparently dusted off in quite awhile. A cleanup of the plan was initiated by council last month.

But city attorney **Anne Morgan** disagreed with Aleshire's assertions: "Our position is that there's no amendment required, because it's consistent with the zoning and the future land-use map." She added, "We have a fundamental disagreement – it doesn't look to me that anything [in the City Charter] would require an amendment to the plan." Indeed, the tract was specified in the neighborhood plan and accompanying map as a public/civic tract. Morgan asserted that neighborhood plans "certainly should be respected as a guide," but "it's too narrow a reading to say that everything that ever happens requires an amendment. We'd never get anything done." (Does every curb cut require a formal plan-amendment process?) But if the judge does rule in the plaintiffs' favor, Morgan said, the city could possibly rethink how it proceeds with capital-improvement projects not cited in neighborhood plans. "It's hard for me to say, but it would certainly make us look at it again."

Aleshire also pointed to council's failure to respect and follow adopted neighborhood plans as having political consequences for council members, particularly those running for re-election in May. "This lawsuit is sort of a poster child for the new **BATPAC**," he stated, referring to the newly formed political action committee Better Austin Today, a progressive coalition pressing for tighter council adherence to neighborhood plans and greater accountability to citizens overall.

– *Katherine Gregor*

## Senate Candidates on Centex Parade

Well, it wasn't a debate, but at least **Ray McMurrey** and **Rick Noriega** were speaking in the same room at the same time. Unfortunately, last Thursday's **Central Texas Democratic Forum** might be as close as Texas Democrats get to hearing these two candidates for U.S. Senate trade jabs face-to-face.

Earlier this month, the campaign manager for Noriega – a Houston state representative and the highest-profile candidate seeking to unseat Republican incumbent **John Cornyn** – said he had no plans for a formal debate with Corpus Christi school-teacher McMurrey, who's his closest challenger in the primary. The statement has drawn Noriega some criticism.

"I'm still hopeful that debate can happen," McMurrey told attendees of the lunchtime event held at the **Austin Bar Association's** Downtown offices. Instead, McMurrey had to settle for jabs at Noriega that got no response other than some applause from the crowd. "We want to know more than who's going to replace Mr. Cornyn," said McMurrey, as he tried to position himself as the more progressive Democrat. "We want to know what kind of platform, what kind of ideas, what kind of issues are we going to replace Mr. Cornyn with? ... My campaign is a testament to American democracy. ... The Noriega campaign has asked me where my money is. And I want to ask you a question: Where are the values? This is exactly why I'm running, when I'm asked this question. Because people want to make this about the money and not about the issues and ideas.

"I do not accept money from registered lobbyists. I do not accept money from the likes of **Bob Perry**," McMurrey said, a clear shot at Noriega's acceptance of campaign cash from

the homebuilder better known for bankrolling conservative Republicans.

Noriega spoke before McMurrey and thus never had a real chance at a rebuttal. Instead, he aimed all his cannon blasts at Cornyn – and specifically at Cornyn's Texas campaign manager, **David Beckwith**, who was in attendance: "With all due respect to our junior senator who

currently occupies the seat once held by Lyndon Baines Johnson ... not voting for the [State Children's Health Insurance Program] that would have allowed an additional 400,000 of our working-family children to have health insurance is not standing up for Texas values," Noriega said. "Please convey to our senator, with all due respect: Not voting for the Webb-Hagel amendment, which would have allowed for our soldiers to be at home for the same amount of time that they are deployed, is not understanding what it is like to have walked the talk."

(Noriega, a lieutenant colonel in the Texas National Guard, served in Afghanistan.) Noriega addressed more complaints to Beckwith and then said, "I could go on and on."

McMurrey and Noriega aren't the only Dems in the race. Another is San Antonio's **Gene Kelly**, a serial candidate who never campaigns but always attracts votes because of his famous name. True to form, he wasn't at the forum, and moderator **Chuck Herring** called him "a clown" and "a threat." (In 2006, Kelly forced **Barbara Radnofsky** into a run-off in the primary for Texas' other Senate seat.) He could have made similar comments about San Antonio's **Rhett Smith**, another serial candidate who did show. Smith contributed little to the event other than a long, rambling statement that only served to suck time from what could have been a lengthy Q&A session with McMurrey and Noriega. – *Lee Nichols*



JOHN ANDERSON

Rick Noriega



Ray McMurrey

## COMMISSIONERS REVIEW DOWNTOWN VISION

A redeveloped **Travis County Downtown campus** should be more than just another pretty facade if current planners have their way. A new civil courthouse is badly needed; from that has grown a passion to embark on a multimillion-dollar, multistructure, multiyear capital-improvement project, which the Commissioners Court formally kicked off Dec. 11. According to County Auditor **Susan Spataro**, the prevailing wish is to build a legacy. "The present courthouse was built 70 years ago, and we still appreciate it; we want people 70 years from now to say, 'Look what they gave us,'" Spataro told the *Chronicle*.

On Jan. 8, Spataro read a draft of an impassioned solicitation letter, which when finalized will be sent to various community groups seeking nominees for the citizens advisory committee, which will assist executive and staff committees, also to be named soon. The project will be born of dire necessity, Spataro read, "in order to avoid a crisis in [the county's] ability to deliver services to a rapidly growing population."

According to a Jan. 10 status report, the perimeter of the project will include **Ninth, 13th, Nueces, and Lavaca streets**, a 10-block area.

Nesting a county campus in a dense Downtown won't be easy, Spataro said. Essentially, new buildings should resonate well with nearby parks, schools, and the Capitol. Moreover, the favored site for a new civil courthouse, next door to the current one, is located in the **Capitol View Corridor**. The county probably won't seek an exemption, Spataro said, necessitating a search for another site. "We are at the foot of the Capitol – buildings must fit into the historical context," Spataro said. "The design itself should instill respect for the rule of law – I am proud to walk through the corridors of the Capitol; I want residents to be proud to walk through the corridors of the new complex."

Such populist profundity will come at a cost, however. Travis County has always been "very, very frugal," and the complex will take "more than the minimum," Spataro said. Will voters decide they need, not just want, new county digs? "If you can't sell the need, you don't sell the hundred-million-dollars-plus [that the project will cost]," Spataro cautioned the court, thus providing the first mention of a dollar figure to date. – *Patricia J. Ruland*

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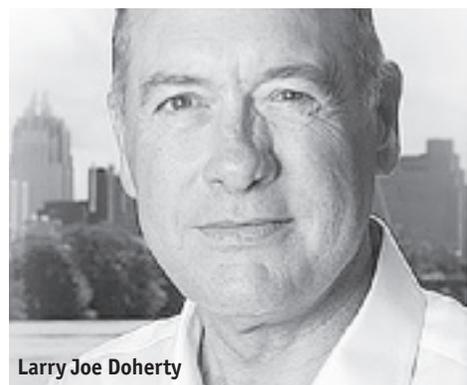
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Larry Joe Doherty

## Doherty's Romney Connection

The first real mudslinging in the **Democratic primary for Congressional District 10** has been slung, although there's no evidence it came from a candidate. On Jan. 8, **Vince Leibowitz** of the **Capitol Annex** blog wrote that **Larry Joe Doherty's** finance chair, **Jim McIngvale** – aka “Mattress Mac” of Houston TV-commercial fame – crossed party lines by hosting a reception in December for Republican presidential candidate **Mitt Romney**. And to boot, the fundraiser was hosted by Austin/San Antonio GOP Rep. **Lamar Smith**.

Leibowitz cross-posted the revelation to the widely read **Burnt Orange Report**, which set off a flurry of responses attacking and defending Doherty. One poster tarred Doherty as “McCaul lite” – **Michael McCaul** is the three-term Republican incumbent – which brought a defense of Doherty from former CD 10 candidate **Lorenzo Sadun**, who wrote, “I prefer [Dan] Grant to Doherty, but the main thing is beating McCaul,” and, “On the issues, the two candidates are very close, and are miles apart from McCaul.”

Doherty responded directly to **Burnt Orange Report**. “My friendship with Jim McIngvale was forged over shared experiences with family health care challenges, not politics. We may be from different parties, but we both continue to be vocal on the need for mental health care reform.” Doherty was far more pointed last week, when I ran into him at a forum. Noting McCaul is vulnerable but loaded with cash, Doherty asked: “Do they want a purity test for money? Anybody that naive doesn't deserve to be allowed to have political commentary. They ought to go to school and study something.”

“We're proud of our support from Jim McIngvale,” Doherty continued. “He's a longtime, long-term Democratic Party supporter. [His critics] just hadn't researched the record. He and his wife both have a track record of Democratic Party support.” Asked if he thought the flap might cost him votes, Doherty replied, “Not amongst the informed voters.”

Later at the same event, Grant told me, “I don't have any objection to people getting money from Republicans at all. I've had Republicans who believed in my race, believe in me, and maybe think it's time for change. But if in my situation, if my finance chair were actively attempting to elect a Republican to the presidency and doing it [in] conjunction with Lamar Smith, I would respectfully ask them to do it separately from my campaign, just because it creates a conflict of interest.”

– Lee Nichols

## ELECTION NOTES

▶ Is **Larry Joe Doherty** running a push poll against **Dan Grant**, his Democratic primary opponent for Congressional District 10? That's the charge made by Austin blogger **Trey McAtee** ([www.mcblogger.com](http://www.mcblogger.com)) and echoed by Grant campaign manager **Kelly Fero**. “Many of us have been subjected in recent days to a telephone push poll paid for by Doherty in which he spreads personal smears about his primary opponent,” McAtee wrote Tuesday. “This sleazy tactic is straight out of Karl Rove's playbook for negative campaigns.” Asked about such a poll, Fero replied via e-mail, “[I] am aware that Larry Joe has paid for one in his race. We have heard from numerous voters who have called the Dan Grant campaign to express their anger at the calls and their support of Grant as a result.” But Doherty campaign manager **James Aldrete** denied that the survey commissioned from pollster **Donna Victoria** constituted a push poll. “It was a 400-person survey,” he said. “Forty questions, and it was a live call. And most surveys will test positives and negatives. But when you're doing 400, as opposed to what push polls really [do], which is 10,000 or 20,000 calls, they're often automated, and they're never longer than two or three minutes to get the volume. ... They're out to spread the negative information as opposed to doing a random sample.” Aldrete declined to provide the *Chronicle* with a copy of the questions, saying the polling was done for strategic purposes and internal planning. – L.N.

▶ We're not sure how much value there is in having the **endorsements** of unsuccessful political candidates, but the CD 10 Democrats have lined up a few. **Dan Grant** has the support of the Democrats who took on incumbent Republican **Michael McCaul** in the previous two general elections: **Lorenzo Sadun**, who ran as a write-in in 2004, wrote on the **Burnt Orange Report** blog, “I prefer Grant to Doherty, but the main thing is beating McCaul.” And on Tuesday, 2006 standard-bearer **Ted Ankrum** declared: “Dan is the only Democrat in the race who can beat

**Mike McCaul**. He is uniquely qualified to redirect the tax dollars being squandered in Baghdad to our own communities in Brenham, Bastrop, and beyond.” Back in November, Larry Joe Doherty racked up praise from **Richard Morrison**, who tried in 2004 to unseat **Tom DeLay**, and **Barbara Radnofsky**, the 2006 challenger to U.S. Sen. **Kay Bailey Hutchison**. “Larry Joe can go the distance with Mike McCaul,” Radnofsky wrote in an endorsement letter, adding that they've been friends for more than 30 years. And in a letter of his own, Morrison wrote: “Make no mistake; despite the arrogance of Bush, Tom DeLay and Mike McCaul, this race is winnable. In 2006, my friend **Ted Ankrum** held McCaul to just 55% of the vote. Larry Joe has already raised four times as much money as Ted.” – L.N.

▶ Among the national names filing in Texas for the **Republican presidential nomination** are a couple of lesser-known figures, even lesser than twice-failed presidential candidate and three-time Senate also-ran **Alan Keyes**. Houston-based practitioner of Oriental medicine **Hoa Tran** was the first Republican hopeful to file, but he's been joined by physician **Hugh Cort**, a Christian conservative from Alabama who proposes bombing Iran and dismantling the Internal Revenue Service and, in his role as self-proclaimed counterterrorism expert, claims **Saddam Hussein** was behind 9/11. Cort said he is running for president because “the Lord has given me a very important message.” – *Richard Whittaker*

▶ Last week, with Central Labor Council endorsements looming, former state Rep. **Glen Maxey** again went on the offensive against 16-year incumbent **Travis Co. Tax Assessor-Collector Nelda Wells Spears**, whom he is trying to unseat in the March 4 Democratic primary. “For the past 16 years, Nelda Spears has operated the Tax Assessor-Collectors office as an At-Will employer,” Maxey wrote in a Jan. 10 campaign e-mail, labeling her a “Johnny-come-lately” on employee protections. “Every time [the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees] has asked Spears to change to a Just-Cause employee policy, she has refused. While Ms. Spears has kept

the power to fire her staff at-will, she herself has failed to show up for the taxpayers. Now that she is facing a stiff challenge for re-election, she's suddenly now promising to ‘consider’ changing her attitude toward employees and changing the policy.” The charge fell on deaf ears: Last weekend, the CLC endorsed **Spears**. “Glen Maxey has been a great friend of labor,” said **Louis Malfaro** of Education Austin, a CLC member organization. “But the sense was that we tend to support incumbents who have supported our issues. It's hard to argue that Nelda has not done a good job. ... If it ain't broke, don't fix it.” Said **Spears** spokesman and former Travis County Judge **Bill Aleshire**, who was also **Spears'** predecessor as tax assessor: “Maxey, not the county workers, tried to create this as an issue, and it failed. It shows how desperate Maxey is to come up with some excuse for him running against Nelda.” – L.N.

▶ Presidential hopeful **Dennis Kucinich** is out of the Texas Democratic primary after his legal challenge against Texas Democratic Party rules failed. On Jan. 11, U.S. District Judge **Lee Yeakel** rejected his request to be placed on the ballot after the party had rejected his paperwork as incomplete. **Kucinich** had scratched out a section pledging to support the eventual winner, which his press secretary, **Andy Juniewicz**, called “a blind loyalty oath” to a potentially pro-war candidate. **Yeakel** backed the party's contention that it had to enforce the rules as adopted by its convention. “The chairman doesn't have the authority to change the rules,” said party spokesman **Hector Nieto**. “We would have loved to have [Kucinich] on the ballot, but he decided not to follow the rules.” **Kucinich** has announced he will challenge the ruling, but this isn't his only battle over how the primary race is run. After losing on appeal his suit demanding access to MSNBC's presidential debate in Nevada, he has filed a complaint with the Federal Communications Commission against **ABC** for refusing to let him take part in the New Hampshire debate, and he requested a hand re-count of the Granite State's Democratic primary ballot. – R.W.

## HAPPENINGS

For more events, see *Community Listings*, p.64.

### THURSDAY 17

**NANCY KEENAN** The president of NARAL Pro-Choice America discusses *Roe v. Wade* on the landmark case's 35th anniversary. 6:30pm. *Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 471-5680. Free. www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs.*

### SATURDAY 19

**BUS RIDERS UNION-ATX MEETING** Any two-digit bus route will take you within three blocks of this month's meeting to help organize public ownership of Austin's public transit system. 1pm. *Little City, 916 Congress, 220-8227. Free. www.busatx.org.*

**MLK DAY OF SERVICE** pays tribute to the achievements of **Martin Luther King Jr.** with a day of service projects in his honor. Go to [www.mlkday.gov](http://www.mlkday.gov) to find a volunteer project. 9am-3pm. 225-0360. Free.

### SUNDAY 20

**TEXAS OBSERVER RABBLE ROUSER ROUNDUP** **Jim Hightower** emcees the annual event featuring

a silent auction and music from the South Austin Jug Band and **Jimmy LaFave**. All proceeds benefit *The Texas Observer*. 7-10pm. *La Zona Rosa, 612 W. Fourth, 477-0746. \$25 (\$20, advance).*

**YOUTH LEGACY AWARDS** Part of the Austin Area Heritage Council's series of **MLK Day** events, this annual awards ceremony honors Austin's youngest good citizens. 4pm. *Ragsdale Center at St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8432. Free.*

### MONDAY 21

**CITYWIDE MLK MARCH & RALLY** begins on the UT campus with a short program at the **Martin Luther King Jr. statue (23rd & San Jacinto, 9am)**, after which **Rep. Dawna Dukes** leads the procession to the Capitol (10am). Then the parade heads to **Huston-Tillotson University (Eighth & Chalmers)**, where the **Cultural Festival** kicks off at 3pm, featuring food, games, and music. Free shuttle service available to all three locations. Free. [www.mlkcelebration.com](http://www.mlkcelebration.com).

### WEDNESDAY 23

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS DINNER: STATE OF THE CITY WITH POLICE CHIEF ART ACEVEDO** 6-9pm. *UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor. \$55 (\$45, members). www.lwvaustin.org.*

### THURSDAY 24

**UNDERSTANDING HOW GOVERNMENTS BUY SERVICES** The city of Austin Small Business Development Program hosts this workshop for helping small businesses procure government contracts. 8:30am-12:30pm. *Clarion Inn & Suites, 2200 S. I-35, 974-7800. \$50. www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp.*

### ONGOING

**CHARTER REVISION SURVEY** The Austin Charter Revision Committee seeks input regarding single-member districts. *Deadline: Jan. 23. www.cityofaustin.org/charter.*

**KEEP AUSTIN BEAUTIFUL RAFFLE** Win prizes for supporting **KAB's** environmental stewardship. Three winners will receive a pair of mountain bikes, a Dell laptop, and a certificate for landscaping. *Drawing: Feb. 6. \$10 (\$50, six tickets). www.KeepAustinBeautiful.org.*

**SHERIFF'S CITIZENS' ACADEMY** is recruiting the next batch of students for the 13-week class kicking off Feb. 12. Students will get a behind-the-scenes look at what it's like to work for the Travis Co. Sheriff's Office. Call or e-mail for details. *Tuesdays, 6:45-10pm. 854-4989. vincente.galloway@co.travis.tx.us.*



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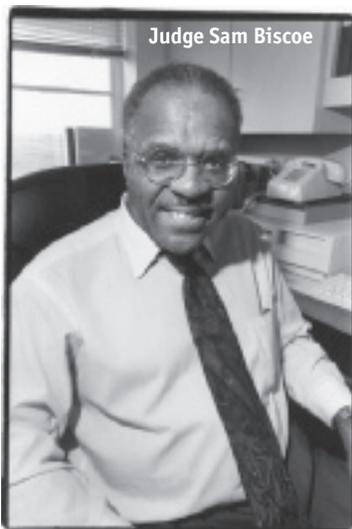
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**EXPRESSJET**

# Asked Again Public defenders for Travis County?

After years of starts and stops, Travis County will move forward once again on exploring the creation of a **public defender's office** to represent indigent adults charged with crimes. County Judge **Sam Biscoe** says he intends to jump-start movement on a feasibility study by placing the item on the Commissioners Court agenda early this year. The notion of doing away with the current system, which relies on **court-appointed counsel** to represent indigent defendants, may not sell well to those lawyers on rotation at the courthouse. "Some say having a public defender's office is the best thing; others say it's the worst," Biscoe said, adding that this sort of back-and-forth dialogue has been going on for 16 years. In 2006, for example, the court passed a resolution authorizing a task force to conduct a feasibility study. But nothing happened. "People may be resistant to change," Biscoe said.

Nonetheless, other Texas counties have jumped on the public defender bandwagon since the Legislature's 2001 passage of the **Fair Defense Act**. Before then, Dallas and El Paso and a few smaller counties already had public defender's offices in place. The first sign that Travis County was ready to take another stab at a public defender's office occurred during a passing exchange during a budget markup meeting in 2007. At that time, as commissioners approved a huge pay hike for staff prosecutors, representatives from the defense bar requested higher court-appointed counsel fees, which have flatlined for 10 years and reportedly rank among the lowest in the state. The court set aside \$300,000 for criminal-defense contingencies but made no promises to attorneys. Biscoe did use the opportunity to chastise defense attorneys for not visiting their incarcerated clients soon enough; he then announced his intention to appoint a committee to study indigent-defense issues, including the feasibility of establishing a public defender's office. Whatever system wins out,



JOHN ANDERSON

says Biscoe, a former defense attorney himself, the goal is to mitigate defendants having that "steamrolled feeling" when they see attorneys for the first time in the "jail chain" on plea day.

Some Austin defense attorneys heartily endorse public defenders. Longtime lawyer **Betty Blackwell** argues that parity between prosecution and defense teams is essential for getting a fair day in court. However, the county's defense bar is divided on jettisoning the current court-appointed system. "I never take a position either way," said **Virginia Greenway** from the Austin Criminal Defense Lawyers Association. Greenway believes the current system isn't necessarily broken and that public defender offices can be expensive and may not be able to handle the large caseload. Regardless, attorneys do need to be paid more, she argues. The county's unwillingness to raise attorneys' fees, she says, "definitely calls into question the commitment of Commissioners Court in complying with the Fair Defense Act." Greenway also defends the 200-plus lawyers who handle Travis County's indigent cases. "Few [defense attorneys] fall short," she said. "This is an extremely noble profession. Until you get into trouble, or your sons or daughters do, you don't know how critical it is to have someone fighting for you." Another attorney, who asked not to be identified, criticized the court-appointed system for

enabling the growing tendency "to let 'em rot" in jail. As for the low fees, he says the county ironically spares no expense when it finds itself on the defensive end of a civil suit.

Current fee schedules have worked to drive away some court-appointed attorneys, such as **Linda Icenhauer-Ramirez**, who recently quit after 18 years in the rotation system. "I got tired of begging for money," she said. In fact, according to Icenhauer-Ramirez, judges make one of the best arguments for public defenders. "I think we need a system in which the judges are not involved at all in paying attorneys. I find that many judges

are more interested in dollars than in seeing that people get good representation." Additionally, a public defender system would negate the necessity of begging judges for money for investigators, too, since they are so crucial in both the trial and sentencing phases, Icenhauer-Ramirez said. Indeed, longtime investigator **Louis Akin** reports that judges routinely scrimp on investigator fees, with investigators making about what they did in the 1970s – \$500 per case, tops – causing many to work virtually for free on indigent-defense cases. With that kind of small change, it's very difficult to mount a fair defense as part of a two-person team against the prosecution's legion of resources. "But that's my choice, my political commitment to the society I live in," Akin said.

While public defender's offices are fairly common in other states, Texas is still in the learning process. In 1999, the **Texas House Research Organization** released a report analyzing the pros and cons of such offices, noting they may be regarded as unconstitutional by some "because the protection of defendants is a constitutional obligation of the courts." The practical truth is that the two indigent-defense systems have not proven to be mutually exclusive, and like other counties, Travis could opt for a combo system, according to Biscoe. Akin sees the value in assigning the most serious felony cases to outside counsel and the rest to a public defender. By most accounts, Texas counties are becoming more receptive to the idea of public defenders, as reflected in pertinent research that has proliferated since the state's passage of the Fair Defense Act, which places the logistical and financial burden of compliance on counties. Essentially, the Travis County task force will have a good amount of data and argumentation at its disposal in reviewing both systems. While the House study found that most attorneys favored the court-appointed system, times may be changing, judging from the findings of last year's annual **Indigent Defense Workshop**, an event sponsored by the Texas Association of Counties, which carried the theme "Setting Up a Public Defender Office." It turns out that a key selling point for creating such offices may have more to do with dollars and cents, from a county government perspective. Exhibit A) Lower costs per case, including greater budget predictability and quality control, and decreased administrative responsibility for judges.

– Patricia Ruland

## RG4N VOWS TO FIGHT ON

The e-mail announcing the **Responsible Growth for Northcross** town-hall meeting last Friday evening read, "Most of all, we want to hear from you tonight." But the only one who actually fielded any questions from the audience was RG4N attorney Doug Young. In practice, the meeting served primarily as a pep rally for the organization trying to stop the **Wal-Mart** proposed for the former Northcross Mall property and to outline the plan going forward after losing the lawsuit that sought to force the city to overturn Wal-Mart's approved site plan.

That said, the 300 people in attendance seemed plenty willing to cheer for RG4N's leadership and left little doubt how they feel about their prospective new neighbor. As RG4N President **Hope Morrison** and communications chair (and likely City Council candidate) **Jason Meeker** laid out their vision for future action, they received often rowdy applause.

Morrison said the group's board of directors proposes four major areas of focus: Continue applying public pressure to Wal-Mart and developer Lincoln Property, become a watchdog organization, seek policy changes, and hold city leaders accountable.

On the first element, Morrison noted Wal-Mart has actually pulled out of proposed locations in response to public heat. She described the second project as an ongoing citizen surveillance of Wal-Mart's work-in-progress. "The watchdog focus has two aims: One is to slow the construction process. So we need to make sure that everything they're doing on that site is fully in compliance with their site plan. We can't let them have a pass on anything. If there's anything that looks like a violation of their site plan or a violation of city code, we've got to report it to the city. We've got to ask them to investigate it, and we've got to sit on top of the city to make sure they do it. The second focus of the watchdog function is that if they build it and they start operations, they are always completely in compliance with their site plan and with everything in the code." Morrison noted that earlier this year, previ-

ous RG4N President Paige Hill (now campaign manager for Council Member Jennifer Kim's re-election bid) took measurements of Wal-Mart's other Austin-area garden centers and allegedly found all of them in violation of city size requirements for such an operation.

Meeker told the crowd that even if the Wal-Mart gets built, the fight isn't necessarily lost: "It's not the size of the development. If I hear anyone else tell me about the size of the development, the square footage, and how they've reduced the size, I'm gonna hit 'em," Meeker deadpanned. "It's not the size. Like they say, 'It's the economy, stupid,' in politics? It's the impact, stupid. It's the impact of the development." He suggested amendment to the Big Box Ordinance and other legislative measures to stop Wal-Mart from receiving truck deliveries overnight and other such restrictions that would make this "not such a good store for them to build."

"We had a failure of leadership in this city that directly contributed to what happened here," Morrison said, especially regarding the lengthy delay of passage of the Big Box Ordinance that might have prevented the Wal-Mart. She pointed out that every City Council seat will face an election either this year or next: "RG4N is not going to endorse candidates – it's not something we can do given the federal tax status that we are pursuing, but we can certainly ask candidates for office their opinions on our issues. We can ask them to make a commitment to support our issues, and not just to support them – we can ask people if they will take a leadership role in getting some of this stuff passed that we know needs to happen, and we can let the public know how these candidates are gonna commit or not."

That line in the sand led the *Chronicle* to ask Meeker after the meeting: Would he finally give a 100% "yes" on whether he's going to run for council? Not quite: "I'm like 99.9 percent going to run," Meeker told me. "I'd be running against Lee Leffingwell for Place 1." Meeker said he isn't trying to be coy – the hang-up is that he was supposed to meet with a potential campaign manager last week, but the meeting didn't happen, and he wants that position confirmed before making a formal announcement.



JOHN ANDERSON

Jennifer Kim addressing Wal-Mart protesters

Place 3 incumbent Kim was in attendance and applauded the speeches slamming the current council. "I think the city, that we've let the people down," Kim said after the meeting. "And that's very clear. But I'm not giving up. You know, I didn't give up when I was trying to stop Water Treatment Plant Number 4 from being built in the [Balcones Canyonlands] Preserve. It's never over. I think that there's still a lot of things we can do.

"I personally am not going to vote any more for legal fees for this case," Kim said, referring to the more than half a million dollars the city paid to outside counsel Scott, Douglass & McConico to defend it against the RG4N suit. "What my colleagues want to do, it's up to them, but I'm done. I just think it's wrong. If RG4N decides to appeal, whatever they decide to do, I'll back them."

Sitting at her side was her newly hired campaign manager. Asked if the hiring of Hill was meant to send a message to voters in the area about her support for them, Kim said, "I've always supported this group." (That was news to Meeker, who described Kim as "lukewarm on us.") Summing up her feelings generally on the Wal-Mart, Kim said, "It's going to be a freaking disaster."

– Lee Nichols

# THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

## FORECLOSING ON RENTERS

Ponzi schemes are illegal – unless they're being run by Wall Street bankers and delivering fat profits to some of the world's richest speculators. Then, such scams are legal, unregulated, and have respectable banker monikers like "subprime mortgage pools."

The ongoing collapse of the subprime loan scheme has been widely reported, including stories about millions of foreclosures, billions of dollars in losses, and even a couple of Wall Street CEOs getting the boot. Little attention, however, has been paid to one group of Americans who had no role in the scam – yet now find themselves homeless as a result of it: renters.

All across the country, landlords took out big loans with adjustable interest rates to build apartments – especially in low-income areas. When interest rates zoomed up, landlords began defaulting on these loans, and renters are suddenly getting eviction notices from far-away corporate strangers. Unbeknownst to tenants, the landlord's mortgage was sold by his local lender to some investment pool created by a Wall Street bank, which resold the loan to faceless investors.

When the landlord defaults, the new owners of the apartment complex are the investors, living in places like Hong Kong, Hollywood, and Go-to-Hell, Texas. These are not people who are going to deal with your plumbing problems, so the investment pool serves its profit interest by putting the property up for sale, abrogating leases, and tossing out the tenants – on the theory that vacant buildings are easier to sell.

When Ponzi schemes like this are on the rise, the money flows to the top. When they collapse, the trouble rushes to the bottom. Rep. Barney Frank plans to introduce federal legislation to help renters who are finding the subprime loan scam crashing down on them. For more information, call Frank's office: 202/225-5931.

## THE OLYMPICS: LET THE SPYING BEGIN

It's another Olympic year – that biennial spectacular of athletic prowess, international goodwill, and government spying on all who attend.

The government this time around is the authoritarian regime of China. As in all other countries, the Chinese leaders are eager to put their best foot forward by building world-class sports facilities, removing poor people and beggars from sight, and generally putting polish on everything.

But – psssst – look around. Isn't that a surveillance camera up there, over there, and back behind you, too? Indeed, the host city, Beijing, will have almost as many cameras as visitors – and there has been a gold rush of U.S. corporations vying to get the multimillion-dollar contracts to set up the high tech surveillance state before the summer games.

Honeywell is working with state police to install elaborate computer monitoring systems to analyze feeds from cameras throughout one of the main Olympic areas. General Electric has sold its powerful VisioWave system, which allows authorities to control thousands of video cameras simultaneously, automatically alerting them to "suspicious" behavior. IBM has provided a computer system to analyze and catalog people's movements.

Officials claim this surge in techno-spying is necessary to protect visitors from terrorists. But the system's targets seem more designed to protect the regime from democracy activists and dissidents – cameras are to be installed, for example, in Internet cafes, places of religious worship, and even in the Olympics media center. And when the games and visitors leave, the see-all spying apparatus will remain in place.

In the interest of quick profits, Honeywell, IBM, GE, and the rest are putting an American imprimatur on Chinese authoritarianism, providing the regime with the most advanced tools of repression. Not exactly the Olympic spirit, is it?

For more information on Jim Hightower's work – and to subscribe to his award-winning monthly newsletter, The Hightower Lowdown – visit [www.jimhightower.com](http://www.jimhightower.com).



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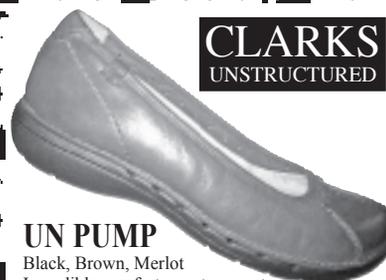
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# Can Austin Waste Not?

City vows to cut landfill-bound garbage to zero

BY DANIEL MOTTOLA

George Carlin once joked that the only reason human beings were given the ability to spawn was that the earth couldn't produce plastic on its own. Now that plastic is here to stay (and after we've helpfully crammed tons of it into landfills and spread layers of it everywhere else), we humans – call us *homo petroleum byproductus* – can be phased out. Mother Earth, Carlin mockingly argued, has managed to save herself quite well, for more than 4 billion years. The bitter truth is: "The planet is fine; the people are fucked."

Regardless of the level of individual enthusiasm about recycling, you're no longer likely to find anyone arguing in favor of burying valuable reusable materials – plastic, metal, paper, etc. – in landfills, whence they can never be retrieved. The city of Austin just paid considerable lip service to this idea, with its recently declared goals of reducing waste by 20% in four years, and achieving "zero waste" by 2040. So, with a population as earnestly and volubly green as Austin's, is the city really doing enough to promote the practice of recycling and composting? A growing number of local waste experts say no – and they say the reason Austin lags behind similarly progressive cities is, bluntly, a lack of municipal leadership. What's more, local activists say, city officials and business leaders are literally throwing away opportunities to create what could be a golden, green-collar niche market in Austin, based on practices like broadened construction and demolition recycling.

Most glaringly absent from the recycling picture is any serious progress in providing recycling options to apartment residents and downtown dwellers. Downtown garbage collection is outsourced to a private company, and only paper recycling Dumpsters are picked up in Downtown alleys (glass is being phased in this year). No metals or plastics are collected, and there is no residential service. Outside of Downtown, waste handling is also outsourced for apartment complexes larger than four units, and city law requires only apartments with more than 100 units to provide recycling. Citywide, that means recycling opportunities are practically nonexistent at midsized and smaller complexes. Activists say that even at large, 100-plus-unit complexes recycling is rare, and enforcement of the city's Recycling Ordinance (requiring collection of at least four recyclables) is absent.

According to the city's Solid Waste Services Department, apartment management is required to submit a waste plan, and enforcement is done on a complaint basis. Asked for recycling stats, staffers said the department has none. Asked what options are afforded residents and businesses without recycling, city reps pointed to the Ecology Action drop-off recycling center at Ninth Street and I-35, which receives support from the city to be there for citizens and businesses willing to haul in their own recyclables.

Meanwhile, the city isn't exactly blazing new trails on the recycling front. Austin and Travis County are waist-deep in a dump feud over the proposed expansion of BFI Waste Systems Inc.'s Sunset Farms Landfill in Northeast Austin. In May, the City Council passed a resolution vowing to fight BFI's expansion application, currently under review at the industry-friendly Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. (See "Dumped by County," Nov. 16, 2007.) Symbolic actions have their uses, but local officials say they also understand the need to ratchet up their current zero-waste mantra with proper funding and commitment – especially if they hope to succeed in closing problem landfills and avoiding future dump-expansion fights.

Toward that end, the city has hired California-based consulting firm Gary Liss & Associates to spend the next four months developing a plan to help Austin achieve its goal of sending "zero waste" – or as close to zero as possible – to landfills by 2040. The 2040 mark follows the international standard crafted by the United Nations environmental accord. Austin's first step calls for a 20% cut in the amount of garbage going to landfills by 2012. I last reported on the city's zero-waste intentions in October 2005; that means that with the recent hiring, the city is only two years behind on its promise to retain a consultant.

## Getting Dirty

Solid Waste Services Director Willie Rhodes admits the department has "stumbled a few steps" in getting its zero-waste program off the ground. Gerry Acuña, chairman of the city's Solid Waste Advisory Commission, said coaxing zero-waste progress out of the city has been "very challenging" because of departmental bureaucracy. Robin Schneider of Texas Cam-

locations are available for the safe disposal of materials ranging from hazardous chemicals to Styrofoam to old shoes.

The city of Dallas transitioned in 2006 to single-stream recycling for the 240,000 single-family houses it serves. Since then, 85,000 customers have signed up to trade in their city-provided 13- or 30-gallon plastic recycling bags for free 96-gallon recycling carts for every-other-week curbside collection. Dallas accepts all plastics except No. 6, all glass, metal cans, most paper, corrugated and pressed cardboard, and picks up brush and bulky items once a month. Dallas doesn't do recycling pickup for apartments but does operate drop-off centers.

In Houston, recycling collection occurs every other week, but the range of acceptable items more closely resembles Austin's, with one exception: Houston doesn't recycle glass. Houston does offer curbside yard-trimming collection in select areas and began a large brush-collection pilot program in October. Like Austin, Houston and Dallas both offer hazardous-waste drop-off facilities.

Note also that in each city, including Austin, recycling service in the surrounding suburbs, normally provided by private waste haulers, is typically no more ambitious than city programs, generally much less comprehensive, and often nonexistent.

– D.M.



City of Austin Material Recovery Center

DANIEL MOTTOLA

paign for the Environment said a task force convened to advance the zero-waste plan "didn't get sufficient support from city staff." Now that wheels are in motion, though, Council Member Lee Leffingwell, who co-authored the resolution opposing BFI's expansion, wants to see composting added to the city's recycling program. "To get to zero waste," he said, "composting has to be part of the solution."

Organic matter such as veggie scraps, soiled paper towels, and coffee grounds and filters account for 12% of the waste stream and give garbage its raunchy smell, but these materials easily break down into top-notch soil. San Francisco collects compost, reprocesses it into nutrient-rich dirt, and sells it back to locals as gardening soil. Since 1989, Austin has used collected yard trimmings and sewage sludge to make Dillo Dirt, a popular soil product. Seattle accepts both yard waste and household compostables, giving citizens three bins: one for garbage, one for recyclables, and one for yard waste and compost. Portland, Oregon, collects yard waste and picks up compost from businesses and restaurants. Here in Austin, Solid Waste Services encourages home composting and offers instructional materials on its website but currently has no plans to begin accepting compost from residents or businesses (see "The Dirt on Composting," p.28).

Although the city has a fairly comprehensive array of recycling, brush composting, and hazardous-waste disposal options, the city's overall waste-diversion efforts fall short of many cities with less ballyhooed green egos. Moreover,

Austin's waste-diversion rate has actually been declining since 2003 and is now in the 27% range – while, according to a February 2007 Waste News report, the city of San Francisco diverts more than 60% of its waste from landfills, and Chicago 55%.

Specifically, Solid Waste Services has been slow to roll out its long-awaited single-stream recycling program, set to move beyond its 5,000-home pilot program and go citywide by the end of 2008. The move will broaden the fairly limited range of items collected at most residential curbs, including additional kinds of plastic and cardboard boxes, and will let residents combine all their recyclables in new 60-gallon carts. Austin now only accepts Nos. 1 and 2 plastics, while many other cities recycle Nos. 1 through 7; only corrugated-cardboard box material is recycled, while pressed-cardboard cereal and shoe-type boxes end up in the landfill. These items will be included in the upcoming single-stream recycling program, expected to raise the recycling rate by 40%. The expansion, local waste watchers say, is long overdue. (See "At Your Solid Waste Service," p.28.)

Collecting recyclables is not a cut-and-dried issue, Rhodes explains, particularly considering the mountains and variety of packaging materials that go into the receptacles. The city must find buyers for all the recyclables it collects, he said, and he notes the difficulty of keeping trash – the stuff that belongs in landfills – from contaminating recycling receptacles, especially the ones Downtown. American man-

continued on p.28

## ELSEWHERE IN TEXAS ...

In other large Texas cities, recycling is a mixed bag. The city of San Antonio claims to have the largest curbside recycling program in the state. Every week it collects glass, metal cans, all types of plastic containers bearing Nos. 1 through 7 (Austin accepts only bottles in categories 1 and 2), and more paper products than Austin, including pressed-cardboard, which Austin only accepts in its pilot single-stream recycling neighborhoods. San Antonio does not offer curbside yard debris or compost pickup, but it does have periodic large-brush collections. According to the SA website, public and private drop-off

## ZERO WASTE BY 2040: A RECOMMENDATION SNEAK PEEK

"My life is garbage, but now I'm in recovery," began **Rick Anthony**, one of two zero-waste plan consultants recently hired by the city of Austin. He was addressing a packed house at an introductory public meeting last Wednesday hosted by the city's **Solid Waste Advisory Commission**. Anthony and his partner, **Gary Liss** of Gary Liss & Associates, will shepherd the city's progress toward its ambitious **zero waste by 2040** goal, working with city staff and the public to assemble a zero-waste plan over the next four months. Zero-waste planning prioritizes the reduction and reuse of waste and looks to recycling and composting as a last resort, Liss said. To keep from getting laughed out of the room, Liss quipped, "We say, 'zero waste or darn close to it,'" explaining that a business or locality diverting 90% or more of its waste from landfills is considered to be achieving zero waste.

Here's a sneak peek at some of the team's **near-term recommendations**, which Liss emphasized are subject to change based on further input from the public and the city:

- Expand the **1998 Commercial Recycling Ordinance** to include all businesses and apartments, and strengthen its goals (with an emphasis on getting organics and construction and demolition debris out of landfills).
- Develop policies and programs to support **reuse businesses and nonprofits**

in Austin, like Habitat for Humanity's ReStore, Goodwill, and thrift stores such as the clusters on Burnet Road and South Congress.

- Support expansion of **recycling and composting facilities**, including more reuse and recycling capacity for deconstruction, remodeling, construction, and demolition activities, and more composting capacity for both residents and businesses.

- Identify **zero-waste businesses** that divert more than 90% of their waste, develop education and training programs to learn from those successes, and focus on how best to engage other businesses.

- The duo also discussed the waste reduction and economic development potential of **Resource Recovery Parks**, described by the EPA as the "co-location of reuse, recycling, and compost processing with manufacturing and retail businesses in a central facility to which the public can bring all their wastes and recoverable materials, recover some value from their discards, and buy other items at bargain prices." The plan could include one or more local parks.

Opportunities to participate in the zero-waste planning process are coming up. Attend one of three public meetings scheduled each month beginning in February; see [www.ci.austin.tx.us/sws/zerowaste.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/sws/zerowaste.htm) for meeting locations and times.

— Daniel Mottola

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ufacturers could learn a thing or two about packaging from European countries, Rhodes said, adding that stricter packaging laws are badly needed in the U.S.

## Rubbish Reforms

Raising garbage-collection fees could also generate more enthusiasm about recycling. "With a few modest changes, Austin's recycling rate could easily be doubled," said Neil Seldman, president of national nonprofit the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. He points out that Austin's trash-collection fees are among the lowest in the country and that although the city has a "pay as you throw" system — charging residents ascending rates based on the size of their trash carts — Seldman believes those rate differences should be much greater. Leffingwell concurs, adding that the city must also fully enforce its rule against picking up overstuffed trash cans.

Schneider is calling for new leadership in the city's Solid Waste Services Department and argues that waste diversion should be a more integral part of the city's new Climate Protection Plan, which is considering a raft of new technologies to help make Austin one of the greenest cities in the country. She also

pointed to a recent study commissioned by the Capital Area Council of Governments that identified great opportunities for recycling construction materials like gypsum dry wall, concrete, and untreated wood. What's more, she said, construction and demolition recycling are identified in a recent Pathways out of Poverty project as prime sources for new, well-paying trades. "It matches the needs of low-income folks with the needs of the planet," Schneider says.

Ultimately, the solution to Austin's rubbish predicament will depend on the people involved. How quickly and effectively can the city's zero-waste consultant propose workable trash-minimizing tactics? How actively will the city's leaders enact the proposed reforms? Most importantly, can we count on the current Solid Waste Services Department to execute the waste diversion transformations that could eventually deliver us to zero waste?

Individual citizens and consumers can also play a central role, by choosing goods with minimal packaging, avoiding disposable products, and recycling and composting what they can. All but forgotten in all the local planet-saving hoopla are two simple words: Waste nothing. ■

# At Your Solid Waste Service

## CURBSIDE RECYCLING

You can pick up city-provided blue bins at any local fire station (or call 311 for more info). Here's what you can recycle: glass bottles and jars, plastic bottles with No. 1 or No. 2 on the bottom, metal cans, and empty aerosol cans. In a separate bin or brown paper grocery bag place: paper, junk mail, magazines, catalogs, and sticky notes. Corrugated cardboard should be flattened and folded into 2-foot-by-2-foot squares, bundled with twine or string, and placed next to the bin. Ecology Action ([www.ecology-action.org](http://www.ecology-action.org)) at Ninth and I-35 recycles a broader range of paper and plastic.

## BRUSH AND YARD-WASTE COLLECTION

Yard trimmings are easily composted and don't belong in the landfill, where their decomposition emits potent greenhouse gases. The city offers a separate collection for items like grass clippings and leaves, which should be placed in reusable containers (e.g., clean trash cans) or tall brown paper bags available at most hardware and grocery stores, and placed curbside on recycling day. Keep bags off the street when rain is expected. Small branches shorter than 5 feet and less than 3 inches thick should be tied in bundles. Look for large-brush-collection notices twice a year in the mail.

## HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE

It is very detrimental to throw certain chemicals into the garbage — not only for you but for trash handlers and the environment. The city operates a hazardous-waste drop-off facility at 2514 Business Center Dr., open noon-6pm Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and the first Saturday of each month, 7am-noon. The facility accepts up to 30 gallons or 300 pounds of the following materials: paint, paint thinner and solvents, pool chemicals, automotive fluids, cleaning products, weed killers, pesticides, fertilizers, batteries, mercury thermometers, and compact-fluorescent and fluorescent lightbulbs. More info at 974-4343.

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— D.M.

## THE DIRT ON COMPOSTING

Compost happens. It's nature's way of sustaining herself nutritionally, sending all manner of life to take apart and recycle decaying organic matter, a symbiosis that allows insects, worms, and microorganisms to feed while transforming everything from leaves to lemon peels into rich soil that minimizes the need for chemical fertilizers and watering. But the way we commonly dispose of much of our organic waste — by bagging it in plastic and burying it in tomblike landfills — makes it very hard for nature to do her thing. According to a Texas A&M report, 20-50% of waste sent to landfills is made up of organic matter like kitchen scraps, tree leaves, grass clippings, and other landscape debris. We pay for it directly, through our garbage-collection bills, and indirectly when tax dollars are devoted to the recent odious task of finding new landfills or keeping old ones in operation — as with the twin Northeast Austin dumps operated by Waste Management Inc. and BFI, loathed by neighbors for odors and litter yet currently seeking expansion permits. Landfills are also the largest source of human-produced methane, a greenhouse gas more than 20 times more effective at trapping heat than carbon dioxide.

There are plenty of ways to compost at home, with or without access to a yard. (Check out some examples at [www.ci.austin.tx.us/sws/compostbin.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/sws/compostbin.htm).) The payoff, aside from doing your part to reduce waste, is really good fertilizing soil. Compost is considered a soil amendment — nature's own nutrient-rich, slow-release fertilizer. Common compostables — in addition to yard debris like grass, leaves, and twigs — include kitchen waste such as veggie scraps, egg shells, coffee grounds and filters, old bread, and fruit, as well as shredded newspaper, junk mail, and soiled paper towels, as long as they're free of chemicals. Even pet hair and floor sweepings can be composted. Composting rejects include nonbiodegradable plastics and metals, meats and bone (which attract rodents), and pet droppings (which can contain dangerous bacteria).

Local organic gardening authority and Natural Gardener founder John Dromgoole calls compost "earth's healing tool" and "the basis for the organic technique." He recounts composting's manifold benefits, including diminishing the greenhouse effect, allowing soil to retain more moisture and to become more drought tolerant, replenishing nitrogen without petrochemical fertilizers, and slowing the growth of landfills. A compost pile can be constructed for less than \$15, he says, and if kept at the proper moisture level, it will never have an odor. The pile should be kept as moist as a wrung-out

sponge. Too much water will restrict air penetration, making the pile's chemistry anaerobic, and thus odorous and ineffective. Turn the pile as needed to keep it aerated or to speed up the process. Dromgoole recommends collecting leaves now to keep beside the pile year round to cover up new additions, as well as rinsing out recyclables over the top of the pile to incorporate moisture and the residuals from inside the containers.

Jessica Wilson, project coordinator for nonprofit Keep Austin Beautiful and head of the group's Compost Critters program, teaches composting to local grade-schoolers. The kids get hands-on experience in vermicomposting: the use of worms called red wigglers (similar to night crawlers) to do the grunt work of composting indoors. Vermicomposting, or vermiculture, is an ideal option for apartment dwellers; Wilson recommends an online tutorial at [www.wormmaine.com/Worm\\_Bin\\_Instructions.pdf](http://www.wormmaine.com/Worm_Bin_Instructions.pdf). Wilson estimates that a pound or two of worms in a 20- to 25-gallon container can handle the composting needs of a three- to five-member family.

A handful of cities (Seattle, San Francisco, and Los Angeles) are beginning to accept household compostables along with yard debris, collected curbside. Since 1989, Austin has picked up yard debris curbside each week; it is shredded and mixed with "biosolids," or treated sewage sludge, then cured, sifted, and sold locally as Dillo Dirt. Asked recently about allowing Austinites to include their kitchen scraps along with yard debris, representatives of the city's Solid Waste Services Department said they aren't considering the practice; they do wholeheartedly encourage backyard composting. Other cities do more; Seattle, for example, provides residents with a large bin in which they can combine household compostables and yard debris. San Francisco accepts both of those, in addition to meat and bones.

Texas Disposal Systems operates a regional landfill south of Austin in Creedmoor and currently accepts 100% of Austin's residential garbage. TDS is also one of the largest commercial composters in the state, preventing approximately 142,000 tons of organic matter from being landfilled per year — more than all of Austin's 120,000 tons of annual residential trash, according to TDS President Bob Gregory. Among the items TDS composts, processes with shredded brush, and sells commercially: off-spec Coca-Cola products, Whole Foods' spoiled produce, roadkill, milk fat, and clean Sheetrock and untreated wood from construction sites. Gregory commends Austin's yard-debris collection program but

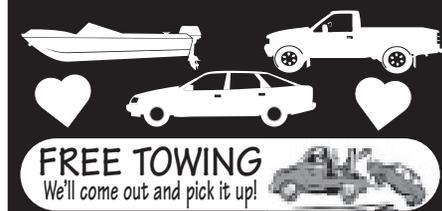


says, "The city could divert more waste from the TDS landfill." He recommends the city broaden curbside compost collection or offer drop-off centers.

Waste expert Neil Seldman, president of D.C.-based nonprofit Institute for Local Self-Reliance, said composting can save up to 18% per year per household on trash hauling and disposal costs. "If everyone did these small steps collectively," said Dromgoole, "it would have one of the biggest impacts. You don't necessarily have to join a big environmental organization to save the planet."

— D.M.

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# A Primary Miscellany

BY MICHAEL VENTURA

Quote quiz: "I felt I heard God's spirit beckoning me. I submitted myself to his will, and dedicated myself to discovering his truth and carrying out his works." Mike Huckabee? Nope. Barack Obama (*The Atlantic Monthly*, December 2007, p.49).

Quote quiz: "The whole model of our health-care system is upside down. We really don't have a health-care system; we have a disease-care system. ... The real problem is that our model, both in the insurance model and the health-care model, waits until people are catastrophically ill before it intervenes. And we really have to change the concept to a preventive focus rather than an intervention focus. And that means the entire system starts working on health and wellness, because 80 percent of the 2 trillion dollars that we spend on health care goes to chronic disease." John Edwards? Nope. Mike Huckabee (Jan. 6, ABC debate).

Money quiz: Which candidates rake in the most from the health-care and insurance industries? Hillary Clinton, \$2.7 million. Barack Obama, \$2.2 million. Nobody else comes close (*The New York Times*, Oct. 29, 2007, p.1). Not to worry. A noble woman like Clinton and a pure soul like Obama, they wouldn't give service in return for all that money, right?

Most impressive statement: In a speech carried live on CNN, Jan. 4, Obama said, "When we're negotiating that [health-care] plan, we're going to have C-SPAN on." I couldn't scribble fast enough to get it all verbatim, but he actually said that his health-care negotiations would be covered on C-SPAN live. Was he improvising? Did his advisers shit a brick and tell him to button up? No one has mentioned this stunning idea again in my hearing or reading. It's not on his site.

Torture quiz: Does Huckabee, a self-described "Christian leader," approve of torturing suspected terrorists? I've seen the debates; no one's asked Huckabee about torture. But Huckabee has said Duncan Hunter would be the perfect secretary of defense. Hunter said, "In terms of getting information that would save American lives, even if it involves very high-pressure techniques, one sentence: Get the information" (Fox News debate, May 15,

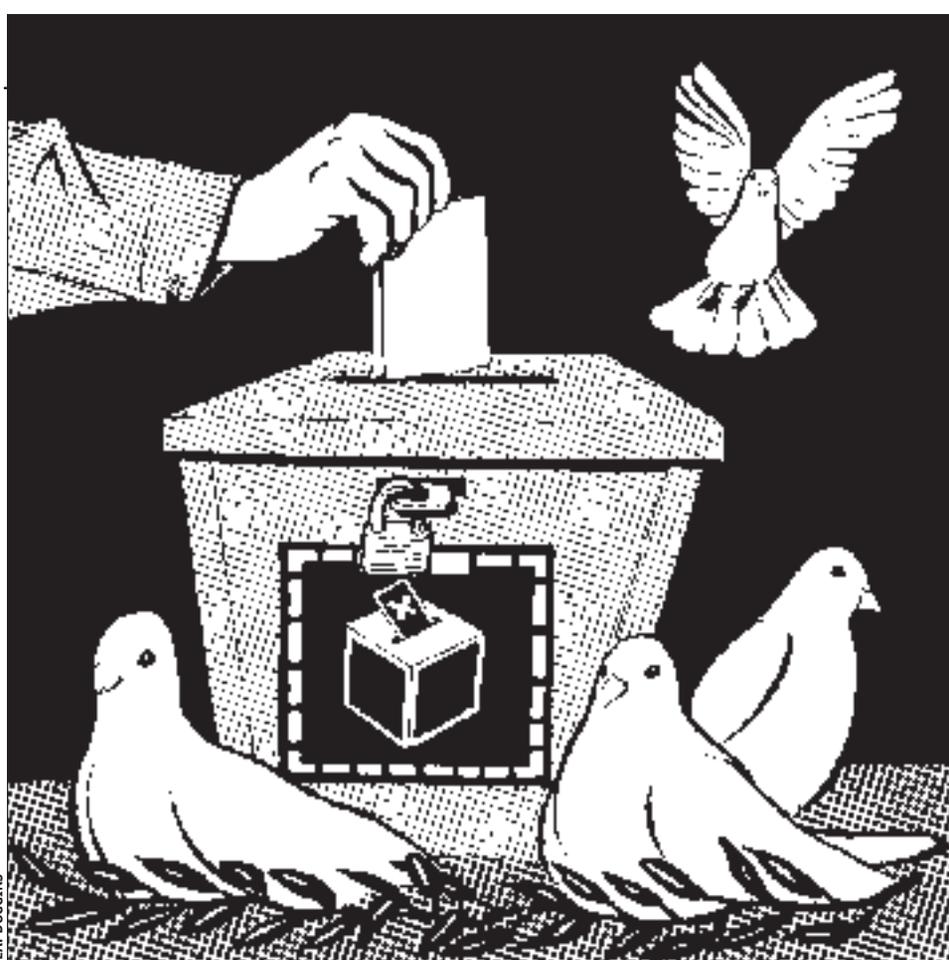
2007). Huckabee was right there. He heard it. He wants Hunter to helm Defense. (What would Jesus do?)

The poor: Corn ethanol hikes the price of food because it increases the demand for corn, and corn is basic to our food chain (*The Economist's* cover story "The End of Cheap Food," Dec. 8, 2007). Corn farmers get rich, while single mothers have a harder time buying groceries. Obama, Clinton, and Edwards (self-styled champions of the poor) really wanted a win in corn-rich Iowa. Each has consistently pushed for corn ethanol (single mothers will just have to get by). Who stood up for affordable food? John McCain, the guy who needs farm-state votes to win a national election – in Iowa he stated, "I will also eliminate subsidies on ethanol and other agricultural products" (PBS/CNN debate, Dec. 12, 2007).

History quiz: During the Watergate hearings, who was the Republican chief counsel who asked the question that revealed the existence of Nixon's tapes? Fred Thompson (*The New York Times*, Jan. 1, p.10). That article relates that later, in the Senate, Thompson "was hand-picked by the Republican leadership to investigate Democratic fund-raising scandals. ... [He] infuriated conservative groups and many of his colleagues by widening the investigation to include Republican improprieties, even threatening to quit if forced to abandon his bipartisan goal." But it's open season on hillbillies, apparently, so ol' Fred's become a media joke.

Imagine if Hillary Clinton said, "I have to constantly remind myself not to be timid, not to be distorted by the fears of losing, in order to make a real difference in the lives of the American people." My dear disappointed Lord (disappointed in all of us)! How the pundits would pund! They'd play that line over and over, spin it this way and that, while Clinton's rivals would find quasi-gentlemanly ways to tut-tut-tut about how a woman ain't really up to the job. But Barack Obama said it (PBS/CNN debate, Dec. 13, 2007), so it was no big deal.

Speaking of prejudice: There is no underestimating the bigotry Obama faces, but we often underestimate the sexism aimed at Clinton in the good old USA. Here is its precise measure: In



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a global poll on the number of women in government, the United States ranks 67th (BBC World News America, Dec. 18, 2007). Yep. 67th.

The Leave Your Mind Behind Department: Obama, in his New Hampshire concession-victory speech, declaimed, "There has never been anything false about hope!" His audience ejaculated joyful approval, though every one of them, even the youngest, has more than once been bitterly disappointed by false hopes. Ain't that something?

Quote quiz: "I'm a passionate, ardent supporter of having music and art in every school for every student at every grade level. Because if we don't develop the right side of the brain at the same level of attention as we do the left – which is the logical side – we end up with an unbalanced, bored student, which is exactly what we've been doing." Hillary Clinton? Barack Obama? Nope. Mike Huckabee (PBS/CNN debate, Dec. 12, 2007).

Money bulletin: Hedge funds and private equity are Real Big Money, and they've given

Obama \$976,000 – more than they gave Romney! Commercial banks, they ain't your corner banks, they're Real Big Money, too. They've given Obama \$865,000, second only to Clinton (CNBC, *Power Lunch*, Jan. 7). That money won't turn his head, nor hers neither, right?

Foreign policy. During the June 3 CNN debate, Obama said: "Osama bin Laden has declared war on us, killed 3,000 people, and under existing law, including international law, when you've got a military target like bin Laden, you take him out. And if you have 20 minutes, you do it swiftly and surely." (He's mistaken, by the way, about international law.) Obama was speaking specifically about an air strike on unstable Pakistan with its many nukes. A swift and clean air strike? Swift, maybe, but clean? Bin Laden's people would whisk away his body, and there'd be no way to prove he was dead; there'd just be their camera-phone photos of the inevitable "collateral damage" to inflame the whole world. Obama had seven months to

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think about that before being asked in the Jan. 5 ABC debate whether he stood by it. "Absolutely," he said. Edwards agreed. Two foreign-policy virgins on the road to chaos.

When Clinton joined that discussion, she said: "The stateless terrorists will operate from somewhere. Part of our message has to be, 'There is no safe haven.' If we can demonstrate that the people responsible for planning the nuclear attack on our country may not themselves be in a government or associated with a state but have a haven within one, then every state in the world must know we will retaliate against those states." Clinton's policy warns not to harbor terrorists and says starkly that if you harbor terrorists that nuke us, we'll nuke you. She puts the onus of controlling terror on the states that harbor terrorists. I don't hold with killing innocent people, even in our self-defense. Still, it's a policy that she's thought out clearly, and, whether I approve or not, it could work.

Leave Your Mind Behind Part II: "The logic behind the candidacy of Obama ... has little to do with his policy proposals. ... Even on the issues that are seen as integral to [our domestic] polarization, *the practical stakes in this election are minor* [my amazed italics]." Those are the words of one Andrew Sullivan, a senior editor of the liberal and posh *Atlantic Monthly*, in its December cover story on (or love letter to) Obama. It's further proof that we may gauge the seriousness of an election by the silliness it calls forth from the inky depths of the usually unsilly.

Hey, I am impressed by Barack Obama and Hillary Clinton. Impressed, not in love. They are damned smart and goddamned brave. But, oh, remember ... you don't get to where they are without making shady deals and shaking dirty hands. Lincoln did. Jefferson, too. A woman or an African-American in the Oval Office, yes, that's transformational on the deepest psychic level. But before the presidency is anything else, it's a job – a job that requires familiarity with the grimmer behaviors of power. A job that, dare I say it, *requires* a dash of corruption. To insist differently is to sleepwalk through history. Clinton and Obama – neither is an innocent; neither is pure. Clinton, Obama ... either would be a fascinating president.

Reality check, *The New York Times*, Oct. 16, 2007, p.1. Off-the-cuff, soft but raw, Clinton said over her shoulder, "That's the real management challenge – staying sane." ■

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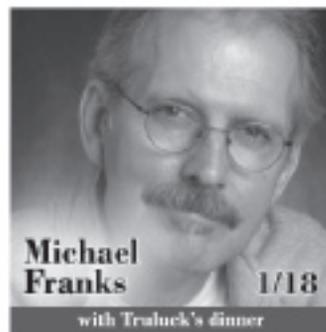
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70 ARTS LISTINGS

## Catherine Lee Moving fluidly through the landscape

Catherine Lee grew up in the Panhandle plains of Texas and spent the last 30 years in New York City. Recently, the acclaimed artist came back to Texas and decided, of all the places she could live, the Hill Country was where she felt most at home. Now, Lee has a pair of prominent projects showing locally: a two-person exhibition with Bodo Korsig at D Berman Gallery, opening this week, and the display of her work *Raku Amends* at the Blanton Museum of Art.

Lee's work is rooted in minimalism and post-minimalism, but there's nothing minimal about the abstract language she creates using colors and forms. Lee moves between various sculptural mediums and processes: everything from raku ceramics and fiberglass to bronze, concrete, and steel – sometimes within the same piece. Looking at the work, her choice of colors and sense of texture took me back to high school art assignments, arranging various shapes of different colors into compositions, as well as finding pieces of American Indian pottery in Pot Creek, N.M. – a primitive language of utilitarian objects and symbolic shapes left behind.

The connection between Lee's sculptural work and a place is not apparent on first glance. But after spending a day visiting her studio in Wimberley, I was stunned by the way Lee moves fluidly through the landscape, walking her dogs by the Blanco River, noticing the shapes of the cypress tree trunk and roots, which relate to the shapes and language in her work. After the visit, she spoke to the *Chronicle* about her career, her process, and what she's learned. – Rachel Cook

**Austin Chronicle:** Can you talk about the two current projects in Austin and how they came about?

**Catherine Lee:** [Bodo Korsig] and I have known each other since the Nineties. We have been discussing ideas and art for years, hence the title of the show, "Exchange." *Raku Amends* just went on view at the Blanton Museum of Art. The piece is in their huge and glorious foyer, so it's the first thing you see when you enter the museum. I have kept my profile very low for the last 13 years in Texas, because this was my retreat from the art world, a place where I could just work. I can make things here that aren't allowed in Manhattan: welding, casting, kiln firings, etc. Everything I do seems to be fire-related, none of which was too popular with my neighbors in New York City. Now that I live in Texas full-time, it feels like the right time to share my work with this amazing community.

**AC:** How do you construct a title, and what do you like to get across with it?

**CL:** Titles are the fun part; all the rest is work. They almost always come after the piece is completed and not during the actual making of a work. Once the piece is finished, my relationship to it changes and a certain respectful distance develops. It may sound odd, but if the piece were not complete, then that sense of respect or worthiness wouldn't occur at all. I would have to keep working on it. Sometimes that is how I know when a thing is finished. Once complete, a title will reveal itself to me.

Most of my titles are a bit oblique. For example, the Hebrides sculptures: To me, it is relevant that these were spawned in the Outer



Catherine Lee

Hebrides, [Scotland], where there are some amazing Stonehenge-like structures and massive menhirs [standing stones]. They are not meant to mimic any of these things, they are not representational, but they address that sense of awe I felt when I was there. In another series called the Clad Sentinels, I think they contain a sense of sentries standing guard, and the raku-fired ceramic facets that cover them are akin to armor, as if they are samurai or medieval warriors. To someone else, they might seem like ghosts, fence posts, or a dream they once had; you never know. We see what we need to see.

**AC:** After being an artist for more than 30 years, what keeps you inspired each day? And do you have any advice for the younger generation?

**CL:** Wow! OK, yes, advice. If you don't have to make art – and I mean really, really have to – then don't. You will spend years doing a thankless task, and maybe one day it'll be recognized, maybe not. It's only if you are compelled to make something that that kind of risk makes any sense at all, and even then it doesn't. Also, you can't do it part-time, though we all have to in the beginning, of course. But in the end, you have to give it everything you have, or else you'll end up making decorations and not art. There are other more important and noble things to be

done anyway. My mother was an RN, and I have a sister who is an ER nurse, and I see every day how great a service they provide to this world. And yet I have to do this, so I do.

Staying inspired is never the problem; what I need are breaks. At 57, I realize there's no way I'll ever get it all done, never finish, never catch up, so I'm always at it. Sometimes I wish I could take a vacation, but my work just follows me around wherever I go. Artists don't really get weekends. And retirement? Forget it. What I do, making art, for me it's a good thing and a necessary thing.

"Exchange: Catherine Lee and Bodo Korsig" is on view Jan. 17-Feb. 23 at D Berman Gallery, 1701 Guadalupe. For more information, visit [www.dbermangallery.com](http://www.dbermangallery.com).



## Jake Foster In memoriam

Jake Foster, who took on the role of production manager for the choral group *Conspirare* last year, died Jan. 2 at his family home in Stillwater, Okla., after a long fight with cancer. He was 30. Foster had previously served as company manager for *Conspirare*, as well as company manager for Santa Fe Desert Chorale; managing director of Houston Masterworks Chorus; and executive director of the Princeton Singers and an administrative staff member at Westminster Choir College, both in New Jersey. The Westminster Choir, which is touring Texas this month, dedicated its Jan. 15 concert at the University of Texas' Bates Recital Hall to Foster's memory. *Conspirare* Artistic Director Craig Hella Johnson reports that the company will dedicate its performances of the Verdi *Requiem* this June to his memory. Services for Foster were held Friday, Jan. 11, at Highland Park Methodist Church in Stillwater. Foster is survived by his parents, Bart and Gayla, and brother Matt. Donations may be made to the Jake Foster Memorial Fund, c/o *Conspirare*, 1033 La Posada #130, Austin, TX 78752. – Robert Faires



## Dame Edna Hold your horses, possums

Sad news for those anticipating Dame Edna's long-awaited first visit to our fair city, and while I could break it to you in my leaden prose, how much better to hear it in her own beguilingly spanned, lilac-scented language. From her native Australia, she writes:

Dear Loyal Possums,

No woman is indestructible, not even me, I am afraid.

I have lived an unselfish life nurturing others with no thoughts for myself. I call it "putting something back," and I notice every little glamour puss has copied this phrase.

However, the other day my personal doctor, after the usual checkup, told me there was a little feminine procedure I needed that could not wait.

"Not Botox!," I said in horror.

"No," he said, snapping on his surgical gloves, "but if you want to go on putting it back, I have to take something out."

"What about my Austin possums, and my other adoring fans in Texas?"

"They love you, and they will wait," said Dr. Shadenfreude (a Tommy Lee Jones look-alike).

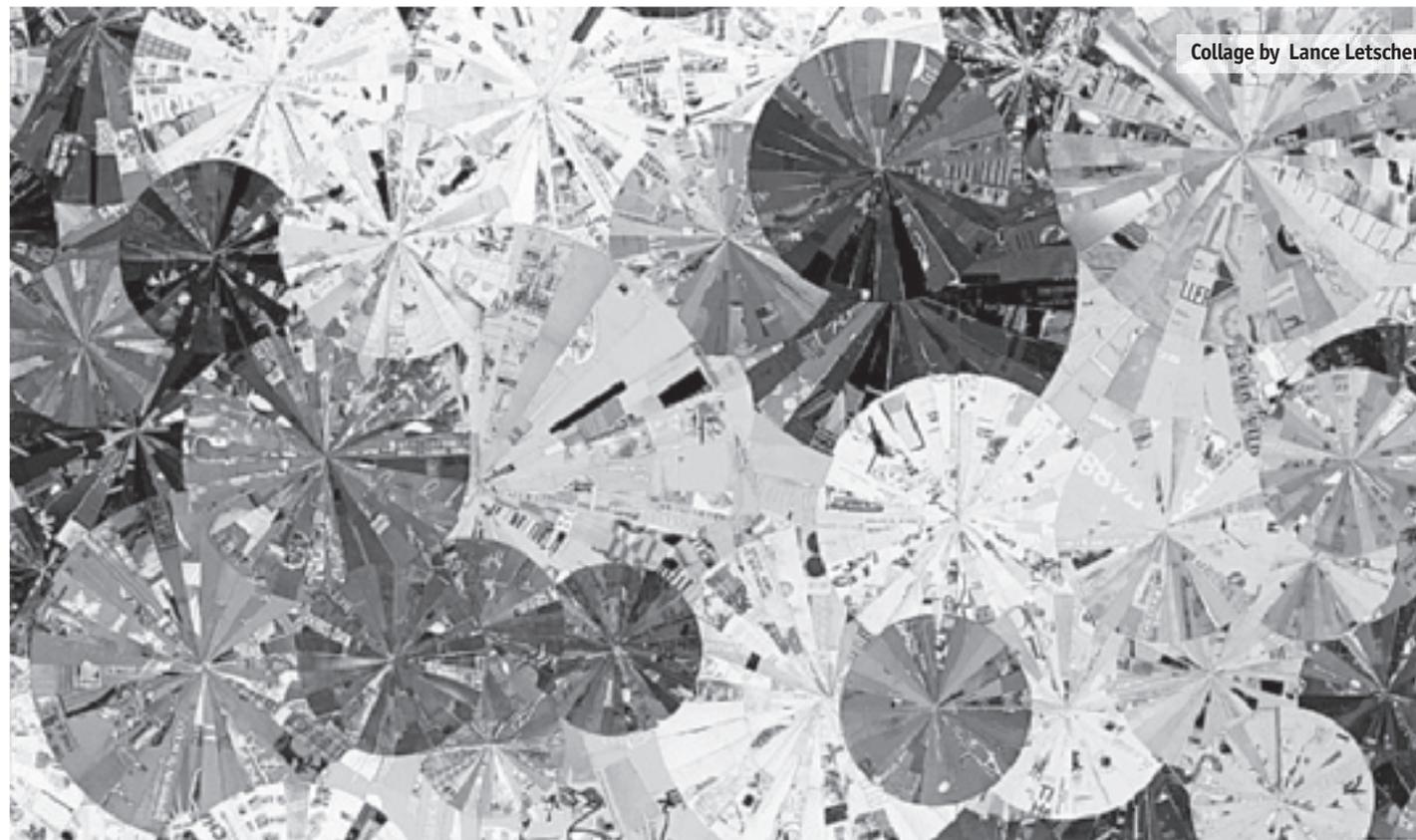
Texas is no country for sick Megastars, so I will see you in November, possums. "You will be back at the height of your powers," said the doctor – and I will.

A joyous heart always,

Dame Edna

The Paramount Theatre, which allows that the unnamed medical procedure was an emergency appendectomy, says that tickets for the Dame's January appearance will be honored for her rescheduled shows Nov. 7-9. Ticket holders also may exchange tickets for another Paramount-presented show or obtain a refund, but this must be done by Feb. 29.

And while nothing can truly take the place of Dame Edna, the void left in the Paramount's January schedule is being filled with something scrumptious, possums – for Ridley Scott fans, anyway: more showings of *Blade Runner: The Final Cut*. For more information, visit [www.austintheatre.org](http://www.austintheatre.org). – R.F.



Collage by Lance Letscher

# Art for Healing

## The stunning art collection of the Dell Children's Medical Center

BY REBECCA S. COHEN

Hospitals can be scary places, especially for ill or injured children and their families, and, as I understand it, many people find art museums almost as intimidating. But fear gives way to wonder when patients and families enter the new Dell Children's Medical Center and stop to turn the knobs of the loopy, multisensory, hands-on contraption that greets them. Most of the moving parts of this walk-in-closet-size audio/kinetic sculpture by 83-year-old New York artist George Rhoads are contained in a see-through box with a Ferris-wheel-shaped component towering on top. All eyes, young and old, follow the rubber balls that drop and roll along Rube Goldbergian routes past chutes and ladders and animal cutouts. Similar works by Rhoads can be found from Philadelphia to Los Angeles in airports and children's museums and private collections, and now Austin has its own.

And that's not the only artwork you'll find in Austin's newest hospital. The Children's Medical Center is filled with prints, drawings, photographs, sculptures, ceramic murals, and brightly colored, stitched fabric tableaux. Works may be found in every lounge, conference area, and patient's room (including individual emergency rooms), and while the mix includes art posters, original, unique, and limited-edition works predominate. Pieces by acclaimed artists such as Donald Baechler, Jennifer Bartlett, Chris Burden, and Jose Luis Borges (and those are just *some* of the names that begin with "B") mingle with lesser-known but equally interesting talents. To date, upward of 800 works have been assembled at a cost

of roughly \$900,000, 20% of which came through discounts and donations.

"This is the [city's] largest public art collection outside of a nonprofit institution," says art consultant Sandra Gregor. Gregor speaks with an authority born of her experience working at Laguna Gloria Art Museum and the Texas Commission on the Arts and serving as executive director of the Texas Fine Arts Association (now Arthouse) from 1983 to 1997. As a paid consultant for the Dell Children's art committee, she spent the past 2½ years surfing the Internet, traveling to galleries and artists' studios, and guiding the committee through Friday afternoon PowerPoint presentations. While she makes no claim to competing with the Blanton or the Austin Museum of Art, Gregor says that "in terms of any collection that the public can access, I can't think of a better one." To verify that claim, one needs only to measure the collection against the goals that the hospital set for itself and to consider the unique role of art in health-care facilities.

"We wanted [the art] to be uplifting, to be positive, cheerful, and visually dense," says Gregor. That idea was in line with a landmark 1984 study by Roger Ulrich from the Texas A&M School of Architecture and a board member of the Center for Health Design, which showed that patients whose rooms provided

a view of trees recovered more quickly, used less pain medication, and suffered fewer complications from surgery than those whose rooms looked out at a brick wall. Common sense and subsequent research expanded the findings to show statistically significant correlations between reduced recuperative times and the environment, exposure to light, and art. So Dell Children's was designed to provide a soothing environment for visitors as well as

staff. Throughout the complex are six unique gardens representing the six specifically identifiable ecosystems found within the 46 counties that make up the hospital's service area. The color palette from those gardens continues inside the building, where walls are bathed in natural light and filled with art.

"Nature in many dimensions flows throughout this hospital," explains Gregor, who received blueprints from the architect marked to show where the art should go. In a museum – whether the Museum of Modern Art in New York or AMOA in Austin – such determinations are art-driven, and a gallery's ambience may shift from exhibition to exhibition, but at Dell Children's, art and architecture work together to maintain a stable, nonthreatening environment where spiritual and physical healing can occur. If those pictures could sing, you'd be listening to "Here Comes the Sun" by the Beatles rather than Black Sabbath's "Neon Nights."

Art in a hospital engages with viewers on a very different time frame than in other settings. Visitors to museums or galleries spend, on average, only seconds with each individual artwork. People who go to a hospital may remain there for hours and sometimes return day after day until a patient's outcome is determined. The art hasn't brought them in, and it isn't the reason they stay, but it has an extended opportunity to bond with, distract, entertain, and even soothe its audience. For this reason, it's useful to have art that is visually dense, that is, layered in ways that visitors can find something new and potentially reassuring each time they return to it. The ultimate exemplar of this in Dell Children's is the 9-foot-by-12-foot framed collage by Austin artist Lance Letscher. Maneuvered through a hospital door with barely an inch to spare, the behemoth collage looms above a row of chairs in a large waiting area on the second floor. Comprising a series of overlapping pinwheels made from children's books – *The Pokey Little Puppy* and several Walt Disney titles are among the many represented – it offers viewers an opportunity to invest time in searching for bits and pieces of favorite bedtime reading material or to take refuge in the



Carousall by George Rhoads

comfort of the soft palette and engaging patterns.

Much smaller but similarly complex is Pamela Nelson's *Rose Window*. The brightly painted wooden discs placed around a large, sunlike center look something like variations on the game Chinese checkers. Nearby, an azure-toned photograph of a tree by Christopher Burkett (he used to be a monk and now feels that photography is his spiritual expression) and silk screen by Pat Steir (a New York-based print-maker whose abstractions often evoke images of cascading water) provide more sedate, though no less layered, focal points. Ten small ink-and-gouache drawings by California artist Amy Jean Porter, a series titled *Tiny Horses Say What*, illustrate the ability of art to be childlike and yet not childish. This is a collection that does not talk down to its audience, even as it shows them a good time.

Gregor and her committee also aimed for cultural diversity. On the third floor, visitors are treated to large color photographs by Jeongmee Yoon (a perfectly pink little-girl's room and a brilliantly blue boy-child environment); Polish circus posters; Peruvian Arpilleras (three-dimensional pictures made of hand-sewn swatches of brightly colored fabric); a screen print called *Tire Swing* by Glenn Ligon, a black artist better known for his more political, text-based works; etchings by Gee's Bend quilter Louisiana Bendolph; and stunning little collages by University of Texas art professor Ken Hale. Narrative scenes by Carmen Lomas Garza, an artist and children's book illustrator, appear here, there, and everywhere. "We wanted the artwork to look like our community," affirms Robert Bonar, president and CEO of Dell Children's.

Bonar credits his dedicated art committee with responding well to the hospital's needs, which included the preservation of traditions established at the prior site. When Bonar wanted to use hundreds of acoustic ceiling tiles that patients in the old Children's Hospital had painted but declined to install the deteriorating tiles in the ceiling of his new \$200 million building, the group found an innovative solution. Many of the images were scanned into a computer, reformatted (from rectangular to square), enhanced with the background color, printed on 24-inch-by-24-inch Plexiglas, and framed so that images could be changed out over time. These pictures, especially the ones produced and signed by chronically ill children who returned often to the hospital, have special resonance for staff who knew them.

Members of the community at large also contributed to the acquisition of art in all its forms. Dr. Erik Pronske, a practicing anes-

*Boy on Tire Swing* by Glenn Ligon



thesiologist and accomplished photographer, donated enlarged photographs of individual Texas wildflowers to the hospital's collection. In response to a suggestion from within the art committee that a space should be found for musicians and other performers to entertain children, a small amphitheatre was created near the hospital entrance, thanks to a \$1 million gift from HEB. Local philanthropists Betty and Bill Nowlin chaired an event at Volitant Gallery for the Children's Medical Center Foundation of Central Texas, raising more than \$42,000 in one evening to purchase art selected by the committee. Bill Nowlin donated his own intensely colored photographs, as well.

And that huge George Rhoads sculpture in the entry lobby? *Carousaball*, as it's titled, was made possible by a generous gift from Barbara Paul, a member of the Children's Medical Center Foundation of Central Texas board of trustees, and her husband, Carl, in honor of their daughters, Beth Rinke, Kelly Redding, and Marnie Paul. The Pauls' interest in the Children's Medical Center began when Marnie, who has cerebral palsy, had several surgeries at the old site. "It was important to me to support a hospital where she got such great care," says Barbara Paul, who acknowledges that the old facility had considerably less art than the new one has. "It really pleases me that it's affecting so many people, entertaining so many children. It was just our pleasure to do it." And for those of us who are afraid of hospitals, she adds, "They couldn't have put it in a better place. ... It kind of takes your mind off what you're there for."

One has only to watch as children and parents alike interact with the Rhoads sculpture to understand that this collection accomplishes its mission. ■



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Yehyun and Her Pink Things by Jeongmee Yoon



Terry and His Blue Things by Jeongmee Yoon

## More Than Something Hanging on the Wall Robert Bonar on the Dell Children's collection

The most prominent work of art in the modestly cluttered office of Robert Bonar, president and CEO of Dell Children's Medical Center, is a contemporary lithograph given to the hospital by visiting Japanese physicians that depicts rabbits and frogs cavorting amid indecipherable text against a vivid red background. With a grin, Bonar says he chose to keep it in his office because he has no idea what the words mean. He doesn't want to shock anybody, least of all the Daughters of Charity, the Catholic order that founded Seton Hospital and has provided health-care services in Austin for more than a hundred years. Today approximately a dozen Daughters still work for the hospital, including Sister Teresa George, vice president and chief operating officer. "They are important in guiding us on our mission," explains Bonar. "They remind us why we are here." — R.C.

**Austin Chronicle:** So how did being part of the Seton Family of Hospitals, a faith-based group, impact the hospital's collection?

**Robert Bonar:** Catholic health care is fairly ecumenical. We take care of anybody who comes through the door, regardless of their faith tradition. So when we were planning the hospital, we struggled with how to do that properly. We put together an art committee [with] a lot of content experts, excellent artists, and folks who had technical understanding about art.

**AC:** And you were part of that process?

**RB:** My main role on the committee was to worry excessively and to ask, "How much is that?" to make sure we had resources to do what the committee wanted to do. There

were folks like Michael Ray Charles [artist and professor of art at UT], Judith Sims [art school and site director of AMOA at Laguna Gloria], Kati Hernandez Cowles [artist, educator, and curator]. We also had Daughters of Charity. We knew reverential art had to be part of it, but we didn't want to be in a position that others may feel unwelcome because it was overdone. Sister Joanne Vasa formed a subgroup, and we hired a liturgical consultant to work with us to figure out a way to tastefully commission the reverential art so that it would be the right kind of art in the right place but at the same time not interfere with what the art committee is doing for the rest of the hospital.

**AC:** Where would someone look for reverential art?

**RB:** We wanted that artwork to be in and around the chapel. But we wanted to be careful about what we did outside the chapel and in the patient-care areas and in the patients' rooms. We wanted it to be healing, uplifting, to inspire a sense of hope, not a sense of dread or not a sense that, well, I might die. Now, that may be the case, but we don't want that conveyed through the artwork in a child's room. We want that to be conveyed at the proper time [in the proper way]. The children's hospital plays a special role in the community. There's only one. We have to be careful that we have a facility that is welcoming to all.

In terms of how we talk about spirituality here, we are really referring to the oneness of the human race, all of us. So we worked hard to establish an environment that was contemplative and allowed families to be lifted up and be hopeful but also respecting

their faith traditions and providing them spaces that were safe. So we have a lot of spaces in the hospital where families can go to ... some would call it worship; others would say pray; some might say meditate; some would say think. Some would say have quiet time. We hoped to reflect that in our artwork.

**AC:** Both Sandra Gregor and Judith Sims praised your leadership in bringing this art collection to the hospital.

**RB:** I appreciate that, but my philosophy is [that] one of the most important things you can do as a leader is to know what you don't know and then surround yourself with really smart people who do know what you wish you knew. That's why we got all these people involved and hired Sandra, because we knew it was going to take a lot of time. We wanted someone who could work full-time on it and coordinate the efforts of the art committee. I just sat in there and watched that symphony play. I figured I'm just the compost in that garden.

**AC:** You made a major commitment to purchasing art early on.

**RB:** The whole project was \$200 million; the art was \$716,102.39 to be exact [with an additional \$178,957 in discounts and donations]. We thought with 788 pieces, we were going to have tons of art, [but] after we moved in, we found some hallways that were pretty bare-naked. There's a tunnel connecting this big building and the doctors' office building. That tunnel is very sterile — 400-feet-long, white, and shiny. A child was being brought over, and he asked his mother, "Is this where they take the children to die?" So I said, "Well, we've got to get that fixed." We are

going to do something with that. Maybe some children's art or fresco paintings to brighten it up a little bit. So we're still working.

**AC:** What's next for the collection?

**RB:** We're going to most likely hire a curator. It's going to take some work to maintain the artwork that we have already, and we're looking at additional acquisitions. There's more we want to do to work with the schools to generate children's art we can rotate as time goes by. We've talked about having self-guided tours of the art in the hospital. We could have a booklet, or we've even kicked around the idea of having audio tours that folks could use while they're here. There's a lot we can do to make sure we expose as many people as we can to the artwork in the hospital, because there's a story behind each one of them — either about the artist or the piece itself and where it came from and what it depicts and why. I just don't want it to become something colorful hanging on the wall that people glance at and move on. There's so much more to it than that.

**AC:** So tell me about those distinctive white nurses' caps or whatever they are outside the building.

**RB:** [Chuckles] Those aren't nurses' caps. Those are actually models of the old coronet that the Daughters of Charity used to wear. We wanted to have a visible linkage with the Daughters, but we didn't want it to be an overtly Christian symbol. We wanted it to be meaningful to the people for whom it could be meaningful. Others will say that's an interesting piece of artwork. You see art speaks in different ways to different people.

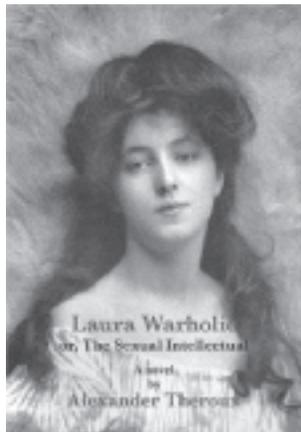
**AC:** Amen. ■

**LAURA WARHOLIC OR, THE SEXUAL INTELLECTUAL**

by Alexander Theroux  
Fantagraphics, 878 pp., \$29.95

What lies between the opening and closing sentences of Alexander Theroux's most recent tome, his first novel in 20 years, is the testimony of an unbridled logophile. Prurient readers be warned: For Theroux, character is plot, and from the first locution, Theroux, himself an unconventional intellectual, releases all dams of inhibition and lets forth endless cascading streams of grandiose characterization, specification, explication.

Theroux's apologue features Eugene Eyestones, an erudite sex columnist who suffers from farsightedness. Eyestones is reclusive and naive, curious about everything, a connoisseur of all that is saporous. His foil and inspiration for his printed musings on the "average woman" is Laura Warholic, an unapologetically lackadaisical and avaricious woman, referred to by those who know



her best as "Cum Dumpster." She is the bad egg to Eyestones' good egg. Warholic is homely, malodorous, and – if nothing else should be taken from this dense drama, in which many of the words employed by Theroux can be found only in fat, unabridged dictionaries or not at all, because he made them up – she is thin. Warholic is "a homely, long-shanked, bony, spindle-nosed slattern," whose "thinness was actually dreadful, her breasts as flat as frit-

ters." She is "slightly bowlegged" and walks "like a camel on stinky, calfless legs, bony and pencil-thin." She is bumless.

As Eyestones and Warholic individually succumb to the depths of their despair, Theroux's unfiltered currents flood pages with curious characters who at times fondly resemble John Kennedy Toole's ridiculous and charming personalities; however, Theroux's, with a few exceptions, are rotten individuals. They have conversations with one another, talking in monologues, constantly quoting philosophers and varied celebrities ("Who was it that said ...?"), a Theroux trademark. Theroux's criticisms of modern society come through easily enough, yet the abundance of anti-Semitism, misogyny, and anti-homosexuality found in his lyrical prose gives the reader the troublesome task of deciphering satire from straightforward belief. What should not be downplayed is Theroux's knack for creative observations and clarity, as well as his undeniably vast

knowledge of literature and sex.

*Laura Warholic or, the Sexual Intellectual* was published in December by Fantagraphics Books, generally a publisher of comic books and the only one willing to claim *Laura Warholic* as its own, which is certainly fitting, because the characters are far too animated and absurd to be accepted in a conventional book. As for Theroux's writing, probably to his delight, 'tis caviar to the general. — Sofia Resnick



See [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com) to find out about Texas State's new acquisition of Cormac McCarthy's papers.

**JANE BOLEYN: THE TRUE STORY OF THE INFAMOUS LADY ROCHFORD**

by Julia Fox  
Ballantine Books, 400 pp., \$25.95

Julia Fox enters the field of historical biography on a path well-trod but littered with deadly dull tomes. For Fox, the story of Jane Boleyn came about by accident: Her intent was to write about Anne Boleyn and Catherine Howard, Henry VIII's wives No. 2 and 5, yet her attention was drawn to Anne's sister-in-law.

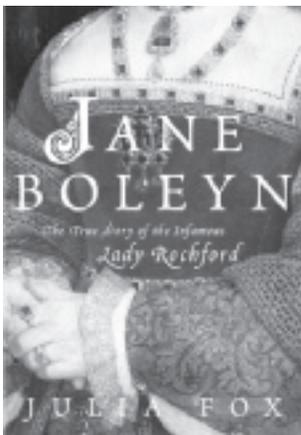
For hundreds of years, Jane Parker Boleyn, Lady Rochford, suffered a dreadful reputation, vilified for what was likely induced testimony that sent sister-in-law Anne and her own husband to the Tower of London for execution. Yet her unexpected tenacity, resourcefulness, and guile overcame that stigma enough to keep her head as lady-in-waiting to five of Henry's notorious wives. Undone by the accusations of royal wife Catherine Howard's slutty past, Jane followed her to the axe and ultimately joined the fate of so many others on the chopping block.

*Jane Boleyn* paints a portrait of the royal court with heavily researched details and heretofore unacknowledged documents that Fox

uses cannily. In discovering a copy of Jane's marriage settlement, for example, Fox employed a very modern m.o. to determine the reasoning behind her reinstatement to court after her husband and sister-in-law's executions: She followed the money trail.

Fox is an English historian, an area that imbues her writing with rich detail and confident knowledge but sometimes falls short of personal style. That's not to say the story isn't engaging, only that historians such as Simon Schama (*History of Britain*) make those dusty pages less tedious with tricks such as referring to Mary Queen of Scots' husband as a "homicidal nitwit." But Schama is a pro, and this is Fox's first time at the galliard; her subject has been one-dimensional throughout history, and from that, she's given depth and character to Jane Boleyn.

With the much-hyped *The Other Boleyn Girl* hitting the screens this year, court intrigue will be hot stuff. After six centuries, the wronged Boleyn girl may finally be vindicated. And if, as Fox states, she's looking for another shadowy but crucial figure to excavate, how about the glorious Edith Swan-neck, common-law wife of the last Saxon king, Harold? — Margaret Moser



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Saturday, January 19 3 PM

Douglas Preston is a master of suspense and the co-author of the Pendergast series. His new book *Blasphemy* is a shining example of his creative genius. In the mountains of Arizona, the world's most expensive and powerful machine, the Torus, is getting ready to make history. The Torus is a super collider that is meant to recreate the Big Bang. But this experiment just might prove or disprove the existence of God and could simply destroy the world. Come by BookPeople tonight while the author will be discussing and signing copies of *Blasphemy*.

**SACRED GAMES**  
VIKRAM CHANDRA  
Harper Collins  
Sunday, January 20 3 PM

Vikram Chandra's first two books, *Red Earth and Pouring Rain* and *Love and Longing in Bombay* garnered accolades the world over. His latest work, seven years in the making, is an almost 1000-page epic that is sure to outdo them both. *Sacred Games* explores the world of organized crime and corruption in Mumbai. Meticulously researched, Chandra's novel led him to personal encounters with the denizens of Mumbai's underworld of organized crime. Chandra will be at BookPeople tonight.



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# AFTER A FASHION BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

**SEPARATES BUT EQUAL** We attended the **Equality Texas Merry Merry Martini Mixer** at **Mercury Hall** last Saturday. Pre-pre-cocktails at home, followed by pre-cocktails at **Stephen Rice** and **Mark Erwin's**, followed by pre-cocktails at the home of **Patricia Paredes**, where Patricia tried to leave the house wearing some little faux-fur shrug with her **Pucci** dress. "What?!" I shrieked, "Where is your real fur, young lady?" Moments later she appeared in a full-length black fox that made me so envious I wanted to spit blood from my eyes. "Omgod, you have to wear that," I commanded. But suddenly I felt like a fashion orphan in my black velvet blazer and demanded that we stop by my house on the way, so I, too, could wear my black fur (well, it was cold!). So we sashayed into the mixer and had a ball being glamorous (I mean drunk) and getting petted like we were trapped in a children's petting zoo. Packed to the gills, it seems like the event must have raised a zillion dollars for Equality Texas. Later, tearing up Downtown and hanging at **Oilcan Harry's**, some little twink confronted me about my usual drag – you know, waaaay too much jewelry, gaudy shirts, and jackets – and said, "The thing about you, girlfriend, is that you have **AGD**." Frightened that I may have been diagnosed with yet another life-threatening ailment, I asked **Dr. Twink** to explain exactly what AGD was. "It's

called **Attention Getting Disorder**, and you have it in spades." The nerve of the bitch. She may be right.

**AUSTIN DRIPS** I saw a private showing of writer, director, and editor John Sayles' new movie, **Honeydripper**, starring Austin boy-wonder **Gary Clark Jr.**, as well as **Danny Glover, Charles S. Dutton, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Stacy Keach,** and **Mary Steenburgen**, among others. Despite having already seen it, I still wouldn't dream of missing the premiere on Tuesday, Jan. 22, at 7:30pm at the **Paramount** (Sayles and his partner, **Maggie Renzi**, along with Clark, will attend). Clark shines as the new kid in town who brings a whole new kind of music to the blues-soaked Deep South in the Fifties. For more details see our Screens section, p.49, our Music feature, p.60, or go to [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org). And while you're at that site, take a look at the upcoming **Texas Film Hall of Fame** info. Emceed by **Dan Rather**, honorees include **Jayne Mansfield** (who attended UT), whose daughter **Mariska Hargitay** will accept the award; **Mike Judge; Thomas Haden Church;** and the movie **Urban Cowboy**, with **Debra Winger** accepting the award on behalf of the cast and crew. Omgod, I love Debra Winger – Deb, where have you been?

**HONORABLE MENTIONS** Famed Austin architect **M.J. Neal** has won the **2008 Institute Honor Award for Interior Architecture** from



Equality Texas Executive Director Paul Scott and Rep. Donna Howard at the Equality Texas Merry Merry Martini Mixer.

**BESS, YOU IS MY WOMAN** We know what **Zach Scott Theatre** Artistic Director **Dave Steakley** can do with a musical: turn it upside down, inside out, and reveal the raw soul that often gets buried under the glitz in the hands of a lesser director.

the **American Institute of Architects** for the stunning design of the **Anthony Nak Fine Jewelry** flagship store on Eighth Street and Brazos. Neal's design for the Anthony Nak store has also garnered awards such as the **International Interior Design Association award, Texas Society of Architects Design Honor Award, an Honor Award at AIA Austin Design Awards,** and the **Couture International Jeweler Retail Design Award** given by the **National Jeweler and Couture International Jeweler** publications. The award was presented to **Anthony Camargo** and **David Nakard**, the owners of the renowned jewelry top brand... **Sally Jacques** and **Blue Lapis Light** won the latest edition of **Famecast**, bringing in a \$10,000 prize (see the video at [www.bluelapislight.org](http://www.bluelapislight.org)). Yippee, Sally! You're a true Austin treasure.

Steakley's versions of **Hair, Cabaret,** and **Jesucristo Superestrella** proved that emphatically. Zach opens the classic **Porgy and Bess** at the new **Austin Music Hall** for a limited run (Friday, Jan. 25, through Sunday, Feb. 3), blending Austin's live theatre scene and live music scene into what will undoubtedly be a memorable show, leaving the audience humming "Summertime" and "Ol' Man River" for weeks after. For me? I'm all a-quiver at the idea that Zach is producing the musical **Chicago** later in the season, and we know what a kickass production that will be. Go to [www.zachscott.com](http://www.zachscott.com) for complete information.

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

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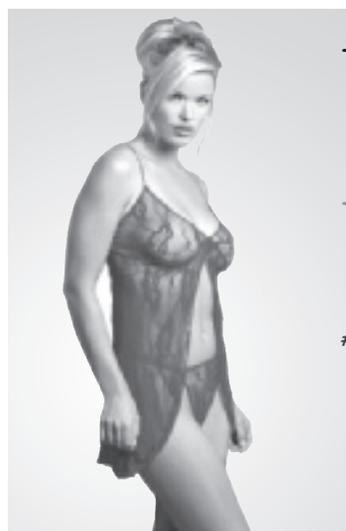
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# food

42 TRATTORIA LISINA/BJ'S RESTAURANT & BREWHOUSE  
45 RESTAURANT ROULETTE

## FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

2008 is certainly off to a brisk start. The newest **Austin Java Cafe** (9600 S. I-35, 292-9500) outlet has just opened in the **Grove at Southpark Meadows**. They serve breakfast all day, as well as lunch, dinner, and desserts daily. There's also an Austin Java Coffee House next door to the **Cinemark** theatre... The **Triangle** also boasts a new tenant, the **Flying Saucer Draught Emporium** (4700 N. Lamar, 454-8200, [www.beerknurd.com](http://www.beerknurd.com)), a chain restaurant outfit known for its multitap beer selection and a menu that focuses on pairing beer and food... Three vegetarian varieties of the delicious handheld Aussie pies from **Boomerang's** (3110 Guadalupe, 380-0032) are now available at **Central Market** stores across Texas, with plans to add other flavors in the future. Look for the spinach and mushroom, curry veggie, and roasted veggie varieties in the chef's case... Salted caramel is the hottest new flavor in all kinds of desserts just now, so it's no surprise that you'll find luxurious salted-caramel and caramel-chocolate-chip gelato flavors at **Tèò** (1206 W. 38th, 451-9555; 500 W. Canyon Ridge). Another new offering at the Tèò mid-city outlet in **26 Doors** is a tasty selection of hot and cold Italian panini and pasta salads that are great with the imported coffee, gelati, and sorbetti... Congratulations to **Belmont** (305 W. Sixth, 457-0300; [www.thebelmontaustin.com](http://www.thebelmontaustin.com)) Executive Chef **Ben Nathan** and his wife, **Zaira**, whose son, **Lucca Joseph Nathan** (8.5 pounds), was born Jan. 8... Culinary students interested in competing in the **Stephan Pyles Culinary Scholarship Cook-Off** must submit their applications by Jan. 21. The *Iron Chef*-style competition will be held at the Art Institute of Houston on March 1-2; the winner will receive a \$15,000 scholarship, and the two runners-up will receive \$1,000 each. Any student enrolled in an accredited culinary program at the time of the competition is eligible to enter, and applications are available to download at [www.winefoodfoundation.org](http://www.winefoodfoundation.org)... Two talented Austin chefs are joining forces to provide a once-in-a-lifetime foodie vacation that offers the opportunity to live off the land and sea on the Pacific coast of Mexico for five days and four nights over Memorial Day weekend, May 22-26. **Elizabeth Winslow** (529-8569) of **Dishalicious** and **Jesse Griffiths** (769-7261) of **Dai Due Supper Club** will prepare all the meals with fresh seafood caught daily and fresh local produce and serve dinner on the beach by candlelight. Space is limited, so make reservations now. For more info about activities, prices, and accommodations, go to [www.dishalicious.com](http://www.dishalicious.com).

## WINE OF THE WEEK

### CHRISTIAN MOUEIX MAKES A FEW WINES FOR THE REST OF US

Have you ever had a bottle of the French Bordeaux wine **Château Pétrus**? Most of us will never get close to it, since the wine generally runs about \$2,000 a bottle on release. I was graced with about a tablespoon one time. Otherwise, I'll just have to leave Pétrus in the dream category.

But winery owner Christian Moueix has taken pity on us mortals and has come out with three wines aimed at the less-than-\$20-a-bottle buyers. Each has the name of its growing location – **Pomerol**, **Médoc**, or **St. Emilion** – written vertically on the black label in a rich gold print, with Moueix's signature and the vintage. Leaving off the name of the grape is in perfect keeping with French tradition. They worship location above all else, followed by the maker. The grapes used in the wine are of only minor importance. For the record, the Pomerol and St. Emilion are blends

based on Merlot, while the Médoc is based on Cabernet. Both the Médoc and St. Emilion are well-structured wines that will go well with vegetarian fare or light meats. The Médoc is the better of the two, with plenty of tannic structure and acidity to allow it to match up well with food.

The real find is the Pomerol. Pétrus is also a Pomerol, and given Moueix's 60-plus years tramping around the area, he knows where to find the best grapes. The current vintage, 2005, is one of the great vintages in Bordeaux in the last quarter-century, and I would assume Moueix wouldn't put his very valuable signature on the bottle if he didn't feel like he had something to offer. He does. This is an outstanding Pomerol at the price, or even at double the price.

Well worth asking for, Moueix's wines are available at fine wine shops all over town. – *Wes Marshall*



## MAKE IT GOURMET DOG FOOD SEASONING BLEND

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Dogs get tired of eating the same thing all the time, just like we do. Whether you feed your dog dry food, canned food, or homemade food, enthusiasm wanes when there's no variety. Local recipe-tester and cooking-class teacher **Barbara Beery** began making additions to her dog's food to make it more palatable: one day a little parsley, another day some Worcestershire sauce. Over time, she discovered a variety of flavors that not only revived her dog's enthusiasm but also benefited her dog's health. "Then one day, I had a eureka moment," Beery laughs. "I could make what I had learned into a product. There are a lot of people making dog treats and toys; this would be something entirely new!"

Partnering with her longtime friend **Lutie Butler**, Beery developed five different flavors of seasoning blends: **Tail-Waggin' BBQ**, **Top Dog Teriyaki Bowl**, **Bow Wow Bacon Cheeseburger**, **Pawsitively Pizza**, and **Poochie Pot Pie**. Dogs are very motivated by scent, and each seasoning blend is wildly aromatic. A tiny sprinkle of seasoning blend, less than half a teaspoon, is all that is needed to get your dog ecstatically interested.

Each blend contains only the finest natural ingredients, primarily powdered broth, acidophilus, herbs, spices, and dried cheeses and vegetables. Many herbs, such as parsley, dill, and ginger, are great for your dog's health, and acidophilus is as beneficial for canine digestion as it is for ours.

I could not recommend a product so effusively without trying it out on my own (exceedingly well-nourished, rather finicky) dogs. If anything, Beery and Butler are not making wild enough claims. An unseasoned bowl of food, having been greeted initially with cheerless disdain and a long-suffering gaze into the distant horizon, was manically gobbled down once a pinch of Tail-Waggin' BBQ had been applied. Pawsitively Pizza had an equally dramatic success, and the only reason I haven't tried the other flavors is that they have already sold out.

You can get Make It Gourmet at Fetch, Midtown Grooming, Camp 4 Paws, Sweet Charity, and the Menagerie (\$9.95, and a single bottle lasts for months). – *Kate Thornberry*

## EVENT MENU: JAN. 18-22

▶ Representatives of **Highland Park Single Malt Scotch Whisky** will be in town to pour samples of their Highland 12 and Highland 18, in addition to sharing samples of two unique cask strengths bottled specifically for the city of Austin and the state of Texas. The tasting (\$20) is at **Opal Divine's Marina** (12709 MoPac N., 733-5353), and reservations are necessary. Friday, Jan. 18, 7-9pm.

▶ **Girl Scouts of Central Texas** is one of 16 councils across the country participating in a pilot program that allows customers to locate cookie-sales booths with the use of an online cookie locator when sales commence this weekend. To locate a cookie booth in your area, go to the council's website, [www.gsctx.org](http://www.gsctx.org); follow the link; and enter your ZIP code. Cookies are \$3.50 per box at a booth or from any Girl Scout member from Jan. 19 through Feb. 22.

▶ **The Wine & Food Foundation of Texas** (327-7555, [www.winefoodfoundation.org](http://www.winefoodfoundation.org)) is partnering with the Washington Wine Commission to present a grand tasting of the wines from more than 60 Washington wineries. There will also be appetizers and desserts at this exciting event to be held at One World Theatre (7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500). Tickets are \$50 for foundation members and \$60 for the general public. This event is sure to sell out, so make reservations now. Tuesday, Jan. 22, 6-9pm. – *V.B.W.*

## recently reviewed

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When respected Houston chef/restaurateur Damian Mandola relocated to Central Texas, local foodies paid attention. Mandola settled his family on some property in northern Hays County and busied himself planning and opening an excellent Italian neighborhood market bearing his name in Austin's new Triangle development in 2006. During the same time period, he planted Italian grape varietals on acreage near Driftwood and made plans for the final phase of the project, a Tuscan-inspired family restaurant called Trattoria Lisina. The Mandolas and Houston Drs. Stan and Lisa Duchman are partners in both Mandola Estate Winery and Trattoria Lisina. The impressive stone manse sits on a gentle hill overlooking a formal garden, the west face offering lovely views of sunsets over the vineyard. The entire estate is so naturally attuned to its surroundings, in fact, but for the young vines, it appears to have been part of the landscape for many years.

Our first visit to Trattoria Lisina was part of a ladies' culinary road trip in early December. We arrived just as the restaurant was opening one Saturday and were seated immediately. The large, open dining room has a big fireplace along one wall and is filled with dark wooden tables and tall ladder-back chairs with woven cane seats that add to the room's country charm. Chef John Lichtenberger's busy kitchen is in full view: Homemade charcuterie cures, meats turn slowly on the rotisserie, baked dishes and thin-crust pizzas emerge from a wood-fired oven, while members of the corps de cuisine sauté items and toss pasta dishes with sauce. Customers who sit at the counter are in for some fascinating culinary theatre. On that first visit, both the food and service were every bit as impressive as the setting and the ambience.

Meals begin with baskets of Italian bread, delivered fresh daily from Mandola's in-store bakery in Austin, and bowls of a peppery olive oil for dipping. One of my guests saw an old favorite of hers on the appetizer menu, so we enjoyed an order of Mozzarella en Carozza (\$8), pieces of homemade mozzarella coated in crumbs and deep-fried, served with a sauce of anchovies, capers, and olives. The warm, mellow cheese in its crisp crust offered a tasty counter-

point to the salty sauce when smeared on pieces of that wonderful house bread. Our four entrée choices were very satisfying, but the favorite turned out to be the Ravioli Quattro Formaggio (\$13), dainty pasta pillows stuffed with four Italian cheeses and bathed in a buttery cream sauce. The absolute winner among the four desserts we sampled also made it to my list of Top 10 "Sweet Bites" for 2007. *Bombolini* and *sfinci* (\$7) are two varieties of deep-fried Italian doughnuts. The bombolini resembled spice-cake doughnut holes dredged in cinnamon sugar, served with a little pot of honey for dipping, while the sfinci were softer, dusted with granulated sugar, and filled with a dollop of sweet custard. The doughnuts were delicate, warm, spicy, and sweet – the perfect ending to a meal paired with cups of cappuccino (\$3).

The first experience was so positive that two of the friends from that same party were eager to return for the next visit. We had been told that reservations are now being accepted and that they are a good idea since the winery and restaurant have become a popular weekend destination. Even though we chose to eat early, the entire dining room filled with many large parties within minutes of our 6pm reservation. A few of my guests started the meal with glasses of sparkling Mionetto Prosecco (\$7 a glass), while two others opted to split a bottle of

Mandola 2005 Sangiovese (\$20 per bottle), a big, food-friendly red. Bread and appetizers arrived promptly. This evening we chose the Calamari Fritti (\$9), tender pieces of octopus dusted with semolina flour and spices, lightly fried, and served with a tangy peperoncini aioli and the house marinara for dipping. Curious about house pizzas from the wood-fired oven, we chose one topped with prosciutto and arugula (\$11) and were rewarded with a pie sporting creamy fontina cheese covered with slices of the distinctive Italian ham topped with a tangle of peppery, astringent greens and shaved Parmesan cheese. Both items matched well with the wine choices and disappeared quickly in anticipation of our entrées.

Unfortunately, the fact that the entire dining room had been seated with big parties at almost exactly the same time caused some problems. Almost an hour had elapsed by the time our harried waitress returned with our food, and four of our six entrées arrived at the table no better than lukewarm. Rather than make an issue of the problem and wait even longer for hotter food, we dug right in. My osso buco (\$22) was marvelous – fork-tender meat in a hearty, wine-rich sauce fell off the shank bones onto the creamy pool of garlic mashed potatoes. The Tagliatelle ai Funghi (\$12) was another flavor revelation – homemade pasta and a mélange of toothsome mushrooms bathed in an earthy sauce of mushroom broth, olive oil, garlic, herbs, and a dose of truffle oil. This is truly wonderful food – rustic, robust, and comforting.

One of the treats we had anticipated when returning to Trattoria Lisina was another order of the delicious doughnuts for dessert. Along with some of the regular seasonal menu changes, we noticed that the menu description of the doughnuts had changed, as well. We ordered sfinci (\$7) and tiramisu (\$8) and experienced another lengthy wait for their arrival. The Lisina version of tiramisu is a large parfait glass filled with a luxurious Italian trifle of espresso and rum-soaked lady fingers and ultrasoft sweetened mascarpone cheese, topped with shaved chocolate. There was plenty for all six of us to sample and more for one friend to take home. When the sfinci arrived, it was obvious more than the menu description had changed – the little balls had a completely different texture and consistency than the ones we had enjoyed before, and the custard that once was filling was now served along with the honey as a dipping sauce – we found the new version merely acceptable rather than remarkable.

Overall, our second trip to Trattoria Lisina could not have been more different from our first. I certainly cannot fault the restaurant for being busy and popular, and I wish them every success. However, the service issues of that evening need to be addressed. They were woefully understaffed to handle so many large parties all at the same time, and since many people had made reservations, the management of both the kitchen and front of house should have planned accordingly. And after sitting for more than two hours, we were painfully aware that those tall ladder-back chairs really distracted from the enjoyment of our dining experience. There were six women of varying sizes at our table, and the fanny consensus was that the chairs were excruciatingly uncomfortable. We also noticed that the tall backs were difficult for both customers (sleeves and shoulder bags caught) and busy waitpeople with armloads of dishes to navigate around in the close quarters on such a busy night. I suggest the designer who chose the chairs sit in one for two hours, and I'd be willing to bet they become kindling in a heartbeat. I'll plan my next visit for off-peak hours and request a table on the patio where the furniture is different.

Torture chairs notwithstanding, I really love this place.

– Virginia B. Wood



PHOTOS BY JOHN ANDERSON



**BJ'S RESTAURANT & BREWHOUSE**

5207 Brodie #300, Sunset Valley, 512/892-3800  
 Sunday-Thursday, 11am-12mid; Friday-Saturday, 11am-1am  
 www.bjsbrewhouse.com

I'll confess, I went to BJ's with low expectations. In fact, I almost didn't go at all – after all, the world doesn't really need a review of the latest corporate megachain to hit Austin. But this one had a difference: It has its own beer. That piqued my curiosity. Still, having your own doesn't necessarily mean it will be good. And Austin is a beer town – if you're going to brew here, you'd better bring your "A" game. (And actually, BJ's doesn't brew here – because they don't want to build an individual brewery for each Texas restaurant, they contract with Houston's Saint Arnold Brewing Co. to avoid legal requirements that would force them to hire a distributor to ship from one restaurant to another.)

Despite the misgivings, color me impressed. This California-based company isn't slouching into this market. I went with three friends, beer snobs all, and we tried everything except their pilsner, with opinions ranging from "not bad" to "very good." On the low end was the Harvest Hefeweizen. Now, I'm not a big fan of this style of wheat beer generally, but my tablemates who had an appreciation for it thought the flavor was too light and couldn't muster up anything more enthusiastic than "not the best I've ever had." Of course, we also noted that January might not be the best time to review a hefe, a variety best appreciated ice cold on a sweaty summer day. More appropriate to the weather was the PM Porter, a pitch-black ale that owes a similarity to Guinness Stout due to its reliance on nitrogen instead of carbon dioxide for its fizz. It had a deep, roasted flavor that lingered on the tongue well after drinking. Also pleasant enough was the Nutty Brewnette, an American-style brown ale whose chocolate malts dominated the palate.

Stepping up in quality, we were pleasantly surprised by BJ's Brewhouse Blonde, a crisp, pale beer in the style of a German Kölsch. Now, in a city that boasts hometown favorites like Fireman's #4 and Shiner Kölsch, a blond ale has a high hurdle to jump. BJ's variety doesn't quite clear it, but it comes close with a recipe that isn't shy on flavor – don't let the color fool you into thinking this will be a watery light beer. The Tatanka Stout is also no wallflower – an imperial stout, this goes well beyond what you might expect if you're a Guinness loyalist. At 8.5% alcohol, it's not for the faint of heart, and with a heavy-hitting combination of chocolate and black malts, roasted barley oats, brown sugar, and molasses, it's not for the faint of taste bud, either. The bold mix of flavors initially struck me as a bit strange, but I quickly developed a liking for it.

The two biggest stars of the night, however, were the Jeremiah Red Irish Style Ale and the Piranha Pale Ale. The hopheads in my crew were definitely taken with the latter, with a strong dose of hops that punches you right in the mouth with a lovely bitterness, and we all fell in love with the Jeremiah's bright, clean taste and full body that settled into an enjoyable fruit note as it washed across the tongue.

We concentrated our reviewing efforts on the brew, but BJ's food menu was solid enough to satisfy, if not inspiring. From predictable chain fare such as baby-back ribs, sandwiches, burgers, and deep-dish pizza, we selected a BJ's Favorite pizza, a stomach-warming mix of meatballs, pepperoni, sausage, green peppers, black olives, mushrooms, and tomatoes, and we were particularly pleased with the appetizer sampler – especially the creamy spinach & artichoke dip, the tangy Santa Fe spring rolls, and the very flavorful avocado egg rolls.

In a corner of town (Southwest) that is woefully deficient in places catering to beer connoisseurs, BJ's more than competently fills a void and demands that anti-chain prejudices be set aside.

– Lee Nichols



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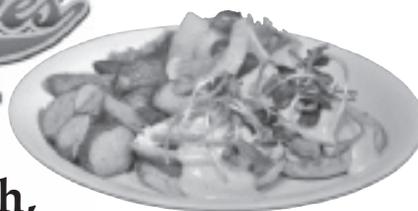
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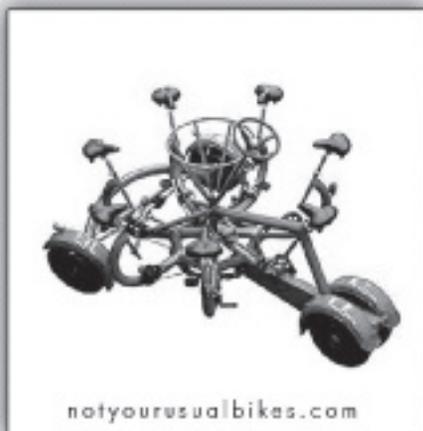


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# RESTAURANT ROULETTE

## ESTIMATED MEAL COST PER PERSON

\$ <\$10   \$\$ \$10-25   \$\$\$ \$25-40   \$\$\$\$ \$40+

### DOWNTOWN

**AMERICAN CAFE: KATZ'S DELI & BAR** New York, New York! Austin's own posh-nosh, a sit-down deli for the late-night crowd. 618 W. Sixth, 472-2037. [\\$](http://www.katznevercloses.com)

**AMERICAN CAFE: MOONSHINE PATIO BAR & GRILL** Features an affordable American regional menu and a busy bar. The macaroni and cheese will make you forget where you parked. 303 Red River, 236-9599. [\\$](http://www.moonshinegrill.com)

**BURGER JOINT, PUB GRUB: CASINO EL CAMINO** Famous for huge and juicy burgers with a variety of toppings, excellent hot dogs smothered in chili, and great hand-cut french fries. Great jukebox, too. 517 E. Sixth, 469-9330. [\\$](http://www.casinoelcamino.net)

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

**FINE DINING: 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. \$\$\$

**FINE DINING: DRISKILL GRILL** A grand and sophisticated experience you can proudly share with the most exciting Manhattanite. Housed in the ornate Driskill Hotel, the Grill is home to soon-to-be-celebrity-chef David Bull's imaginative cuisine that is hardly economical but certainly a value. 604 Brazos, 391-7162. [\\$\\$\\$\\$](http://www.driskillgrill.com)

**FINE DINING: TRIO AT THE FOUR SEASONS** Look over Lady Bird Lake and transcend the usual hotel dining scene. Focus on unusual and creative preparation of appetizers and side dishes, and terrific steaks and seafood. At dinner, find a special occasion place with romantic lighting and efficient service. 98 San Jacinto, 685-8300. [\\$\\$\\$\\$](http://www.fourseasons.com/austin/dining)

**INTERIOR MEXICAN: MANUEL'S** Somehow Manuel's manages to be chic and casual at the same time. It continues to be our favorite place for value-priced drinks and appetizers. Look for live music on Sundays. 310 Congress, 472-7555. [\\$](http://www.manuelos.com)

**ITALIAN, PIZZA: BRICK OVEN RESTAURANT** Serves some of the best home-style, thin-crust pizzas with a personal touch. 1209 Red River, 477-7006. [\\$](http://www.brickovenrestaurant.com)

**JAPANESE: KYOTO** This elder statesman of Japanese restaurants offers scrumptious sushi and other Asian fare. Non-sushi items cover the basics in Japanese cuisine, but don't expect surprises. 315 Congress, 482-9010. [\\$\\$\\$\\$](http://www.kyotodowntown.com)

**TEX-MEX: COPA BAR & GRILL** This popular Latin dance club features drinks, eats, live salsa and merengue on Fridays, as well as a Saturday DJ. 217 Congress, 479-5002. [\\$](http://www.copabaranandgrill.com)

**TEX-MEX: SERRANO'S** Muchas margaritas and full-service Tex-Mex overlooking the Symphony Square amphitheatre. 1111 Red River, 322-9080. [\\$](http://www.serranos.com)

### EAST

**BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: LA REYNA BAKERY** This offshoot of the original South First La Reyna Restaurant carries a mouthwatering selection of tortillas, breads, cookies, and other treats. 1505 E. Seventh, 476-4211. \$

**BURGER JOINT: GUS'S GRILL** In addition to great, cheap hamburger baskets, the sampler platter allows you to try almost everything on the menu. 3223 E. Seventh, 385-8898. [\\$](http://www.gusgrill.com)

**DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: AZUL** Look for gourmet sandwiches for breakfast, lunch, and dinner that are consistently among the best in town. Also, find simple, creative bar snacks. Great coffee drinks keep regulars coming back. 1808 E. Cesar Chavez, 457-9074. \$

**DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: RIO RITA** Go during the day for soups, kolaches, miniquiches, vegetarian wraps, and don't forget the Inca Burger! Go by night for wine and good company. 1308 E. Sixth, 524-0384. [\\$](http://www.riorita.net)

**INTERIOR MEXICAN: LAS PALMAS** The food is honest and made with care, almost as if someone's grandmother prepared it at home. 1209 E. Seventh, 457-4944. \$\$\$

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

**PIZZA: EAST SIDE PIES** Try this place for a fine selection of pies (and delivery in the 78702). Go for the Deep with anchovies, black olives, and feta, or try the Wild Blue with salmon, capers, red onions, and goat cheese. We're afraid of the Tremor. 1401-B Rosewood, 524-0933. [\\$](http://www.eastsidepies.com)

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

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

**TEX-MEX: EL CHILITO** Fresh, fast, and portable: That's what you can expect from this festive corner taqueria. Don't miss the *conchinita* in fresh corn tortillas or the great *paleta* selection. 2219 Manor Rd., 382-3797. [\\$](http://www.elchilito.com)

**TEX-MEX: VIVO** Try their affordable San Antonio-style Tex-Mex fare and margaritas on the decks. 2015 Manor Rd., 482-0300. [\\$](http://www.vivo-austin.com)

### LAKE

**CHINESE: PAO'S MANDARIN HOUSE** Open 24 hours a day, Monday through Friday, this Mandarin restaurant offers daily lunch and dinner specials. 2300 Lohman's Spur #134, 263-8869. \$\$

**FINE DINING: HUDSON'S ON THE BEND** A lake-side fine-dining fixture for two decades, specializing in game of all descriptions: rabbit to rattlesnake, pheasant to frogs' legs. The ambience is romantic, too. 3509 RR 620 N., 266-1369. [\\$\\$\\$\\$](http://www.hudsonsonthebend.com)

**ITALIAN: CIOLA'S ITALIAN-AMERICAN RESTAURANT** The sister restaurant of the Virginia-based original has been pleasing lake dwellers and Hill Country residents with its traditional Italian-American recipes. 1310 Hwy. 620 S., 263-9936. [\\$\\$\\$](http://www.ciolas.com)

### NORTH

**CHINESE: T&S SEAFOOD** This Chinese seafood restaurant is the choice for many local chefs and restaurateurs on their days off. The Cantonese seafood selections and dim sum stand out. 10014 N. Lamar, 339-8434. \$\$

**DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: JASON'S DELI** The sandwich selection ranges from traditional deli to wraps and pita pockets, plus there are special menu sections dedicated to heart-healthy and kids' choices. 10225 Research #1010, 345-9586. [\\$](http://www.jasonsdeli.com)

**INDIAN: BOMBAY EXPRESS** Predominately South Indian street food, served in a clean space by helpful and friendly staff. Be sure and try the fried *idli*, *pani puri*, *khasta kachori*, and the chole samosas. 13000 N. I-35 Bldg. 12 #216, 491-5055. [\\$](http://www.bombayexpressaustin.com)

**INTERIOR MEXICAN: CURRA'S LONG-BAR** Already a popular happy-hour spot, this new location of the popular chain sports a menu strong on seafood as well as other favorites. 6301 Parmer, 257-2500. [\\$](http://www.curragrill.com)

**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. \$\$\$

**KOREAN: KOREANA GRILL & SUSHI BAR** Very reasonable lunch specials highlight this pretty restaurant. The Koreana lunch features a California roll and *inari* sushi (fried tofu stuffed with tuna, corn, carrots, and beef). 12196 MoPac N., 835-8888. \$\$\$

**MIDDLE EASTERN: BYBLOS FALAFEL & DELI** Think authentic Lebanese comfort food (*tabbikh*), enormous servings, inexpensive prices, and warm, friendly natives doing the cooking. Everything here is fresh and homemade, and even the vegans get to stuff themselves. Byblos rocks! 13000 N. I-35 Bldg. 12, #204, 490-1212. [\\$](http://www.byblos-deli.com)

**SEAFOOD: OPAL DIVINE'S MARINA** This menu features some seasonal seafood items in addition to favorite Opal's staples. 12709 N. MoPac, 733-5353. [\\$](http://www.opaldivines.com)

**SOUTH AMERICAN: CAFE MANGÜ** *Muy autentico* from Dominica, Cuba, and Puerto Rico served lovingly from a bright-yellow house. Enjoy *lechón* pork that melts in your mouth, a killer Cubano sandwich, or *ropa vieja* by the pound. 15200 FM 1825, 990-3121. \$\$

**THAI: BANGKOK CUISINE** They boast a clientele loyal to the array of stellar vegetarian dishes, and their pad thai (with or without meat) is said to be memorable. 9041 Research, 832-9722. \$\$

### NORTH CENTRAL

**AMERICAN CAFE: HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL** Gotta have those batter-dipped fries, we know. But this spot at the fork in the road does other things very well, too, such as fish, chicken, and beef. 4206 Duval St., 458-3168. \$\$

**BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: NEWORLDEL** This concept cafe stresses customer comfort, and that starts with offering lunch for less than \$5. 4101 Guadalupe, 451-7170. [\\$](http://www.neworldeli.com)

*continued on p.47*

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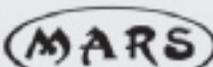
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**BURGER JOINT, TEX-MEX: ALONZO'S/JALAPEÑO JOE'S** Present yourself at the window, and order an Angus beef burger or the pile of Tex-Mex sustenance known as the Alonzo Platter, but save room for Ernest's Enchiladas. 4905 Airport, 451-3326. \$

**INTERIOR MEXICAN: JANITZIO** Grab a couple of cocas en botellas from the icebox, and choose from among the Michoacan-style steak dinners, seafood platters, sopas, gorditas, tacos, and tortas. 1422 Town Creek Dr., 442-6275. \$

**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 take-out is fast and easy. 5900 W. Slaughter #490, 301-0063. www.mangieris.com. \$

**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. \$

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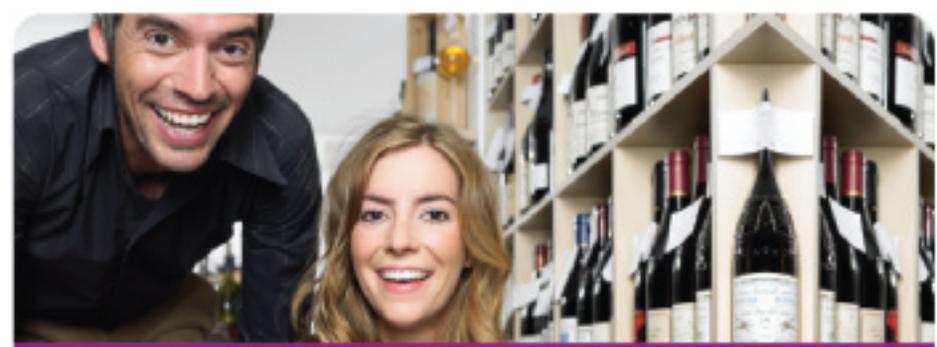


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# Screens

50 BURNT ORANGE FIRES UP

53 TV EYE

76 FILM LISTINGS

## FILM NEWS

BY JOE O'CONNELL

### INVASION OF THE TWEENER POP STARS!

Setting up shop at Austin Studios for a February shoot is Walden Media's *Will*, a coming-of-age "dramedy" featuring both **Vanessa Hudgens** of *High School Musical* fame and **Alyson Michalka** of pop-singing sistahs **Aly and AJ** and the film version of MTV's *Super Sweet 16: The Movie*. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, the plot is about "a high school outcast and a popular girl who form an unlikely bond through their shared love of music. They assemble a like-minded crew of misfits and form a rock group to perform in a battle of the bands competition at their school." Look for Hudgens as a 15-year-old former stutterer. **Todd Graff**, a longtime actor, is directing a script he wrote with **Josh Cagan**.

### INCENTIVES STILL ON THE WAY

**Bob Hudgins**, director of the **Texas Film Commission**, says *Will* was written with New Jersey in mind. How did it end up in Austin? My educated guess is that last year's passage of a \$20 million filming incentives program helped. But not a single incentives check has been cut so far. For future trivia contests, the first project to get a Texas film incentive will be neither a film about Texans nor made by Texans. It's an episode of the BBC television mystery series **Wire in the Blood**, which was shot in Austin last summer. But it's not a done deal yet. "No one wants this to happen quicker than we do," Hudgins says of getting the incentives payments process moving. "I don't know what could publicly transpire to move it any more quickly than it has. I am as frustrated as anyone else." The good news? As of Jan. 9, 98 projects that were completed in 2007 have applied for an incentives grant. Of those, 65 met the requirements. Those 98 projects are estimated to have brought to Texas 12,755 jobs and more than \$90 million in in-state spending, according to Texas Film Commission figures. The second project likely to receive a payment? A series of interstitials, short scenes meant to air between shows on the Disney Channel. Close to 50 of them were shot in Texas, Hudgins says, including 15 in the hallways of Del Valle High School. Hudgins believes Disney was testing the Texas incentives program for viability with its future shoots.

### AND THE REST...

**Richard Linklater** directing a film in Europe? That's what my sources say. More details as we get them... **Javier Chapa** and **Laura Perez**'s film *Harvest of Redemption*, which was shot on the Texas-Mexico border with a cast and crew of Austinites, is now available at Blockbuster... Look for the series of short films created through the American Trustees Project, a statewide program from the Annette Strauss Institute for Civic Participation at the University of Texas at Austin, to show up on the KLRU series **Docubloggers**. The UT program won a Chris Award from the Columbus International Film and Video Festival for its series of short documentaries aimed at helping young people become better citizens. Also honored was UT professor **Nancy Schiesari**, who directed and produced the series.

Send tips to [filmnews@austinchronicle.com](mailto:filmnews@austinchronicle.com).

## Here's Blood in Your Eye

'Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors eviscerates the 512

BY MARC SAVLOV

In 1978, I was a scrawny little proto-geek with a penchant for all things *monster*. I had my own staticky version of the *Videodrome* signal skipping over the airwaves and into my parents rec room via Syracuse, N.Y.'s WSYR, whose Saturday afternoon *Monster Movie Matinee* – complete with creepophonous lead-in music lifted from 1955's *This Island Earth* – infected me with a love of American International Pictures' scratchy black-and-white horror shows, Sixties-era *Godzilla* stomp-a-thons, and Roger Corman's sumptuous shoestring cinematic artistry. I was already a tweenage devotee of Forry Ackerman's seminal monster mag, *Famous Monsters of Filmland*, but watching Ray Milland in *X: The Man With the X-Ray Eyes* blew my impressionable young mind, even as Allison Hayes in *Attack of the 50 Foot Woman* somehow made my trousers too damn tight. I was a "monster kid," and it was, to paraphrase *Twilight Zone* scenarist Jerome Bixby, a *good life*.

It got even better one day in 1979, when I spotted a new cover in among the corner pharmacy's usual well-thumbed assortment of Warren Publishing's post-EC horror mags *Creepy*, *Eerie*, and *Vampirella*. The new mag on the rack was shiny and semislick and somehow related to then-sci-fi bible *Starlog*, but what jangled my eyeballs was the striking cover image of my Toho-go-to *kaiju eiga* *Godzilla*. It was the debut issue of *Fangoria* magazine, but more important to my 12-year-old self, it contained a terrifically disgusting, photo-heavy feature on Tom Savini's supermoist zombie effects from George Romero's landmark, *Dawn of the Dead*, a film I'd never seen but had heard about plenty. Long story short: I coughed up the cover price, went home, and read it cover to cover. It changed my life and eventually got me kicked out of Introduction to Algebra, when I freaked out assorted classmates by crowing over the remarkable versimilitude of Savini's handiwork in *The Burning* and *Maniac*. (Which also goes a long way toward explaining why I remained dateless throughout high school.)

All of this serves to point out two things: Horror filmmaking and its attendant ephemera weren't always the status quo, and horror fans love nothing more than to gross other people out (the better to surreptitiously infect them with the splatterpunk version of Romero's psychoses-inducing bioweapon Trixie of *The Crazies* fame). And, too, they love to get together and geek out among their own kind – à la Austin's QT Fest and Butt-Numb-a-Thon – to watch half-baked work prints of upcoming gut-busters; meet and paw their fave filmmakers, actors, and special-effects artisans; and troll Geek Valhalla, i.e., the dealer's room, in search of that ever-elusive *Black Devil Doll* one-sheet.

So it should come as no shock whatsoever that Austin's already dangerously overengorged film-fest circuit is at long last playing host to *Fangoria's* Weekend of Horrors, a Cronenbergian electrified-clay-wall-to-electrified-clay-wall of horror-show hysterics, with everyone from semi-reviled director Uwe Boll (fresh off his surprisingly untraumatic appearance at last year's Fantastic Fest) to Donnie Dunagan, the one-and-only, once-upon-a-time *Son of Frankenstein* slated to appear, speak, mingle, and, as likely as not, get entertainingly smashed at some point. And, hell yes, Savini will be there, too. He'll even sign your prop machete if you ask nice.

Co-sponsored by the Alamo Drafthouse – shocking, no? – and based out of *Grand Guignol* headquarters the Renaissance Austin Hotel, which probably has no idea what it's gotten itself into, the Weekend of Horrors includes such not-to-be-missed events as the premiere of Boll's post-*Postal*, *Seed*; the first-ever cast reunion of Tobe Hooper's Austin-shot (in what is now the *Austin American-Statesman* building, no less) *Texas Chain Saw Massacre 2*; and a rare screening of the William Lustig-directed, Larry Cohen-scripted *Maniac Cop 2* ("You have the right to remain silent ... forever!").

Local genre author, screenwriter, and artist Stephen Romano will be on hand, at *Fango's* invitation, to promote his new coffee-



Fangoria's 1979 debut issue

table nightmare tome, *Shock Festival*, and his acclaimed short-story collection, *The Riot Act*. (Although if, after a few drinks, you find yourself in the mood to argue the pros and cons of Marjoe Gortner vs. Christopher Plummer in Luigi Cozzi's *Starcrash*, bring your A-game: Romano's no slouch in the *Scontri Stellari Oltre la Terza Dimensione* department.)

"A horror convention, for me, is like a meeting of my people," Romano says, explaining the perennial popularity of events like *Fango's*. "It's all the cool people, who understand all the coolest shit, the shit you understand but maybe no one else around you gets. You have all these people – directors, stars, writers, artists, special-effects guys – in one room, basically, and you realize that not only are you not alone in your pseudo-deviant cinematic affections, but your world is much bigger than you thought it was. I mean, where else could you conceivably go to find enough people in one place to merit a *Friday the 13th Part 8: Jason Takes Manhattan* cast reunion?"

*Fangoria's* Weekend of Horrors convention takes place Friday-Sunday, Jan. 18-20, at the Renaissance Austin Hotel (9721 Arboretum Blvd.). The Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar will host affiliated screenings (Weekend of Horrors ticket holders will have priority seating). For more information, visit [www.creationent.com/cal/fangotx.htm](http://www.creationent.com/cal/fangotx.htm). For more about Stephen Romano, visit [www.shockfestival.net](http://www.shockfestival.net).



### 'HONEYDRIPPER' DROPS ON AUSTIN

He's taken on race relations, bad land deals, a coal-miner strike, and crooked cops in Texas' borderland. John Sayles, perhaps our most exacting chronicler of the American experience, now visits 1950s Alabama, where the blues bumps heads with the advent of rock & roll, in his latest, *Honeydripper*. (See "'Honeydripper' Blues," p.60, for an interview with *Honeydripper* star and local musician Gary Clark Jr.) This week marks two occasions to check out the film the National Board of Review named as one of the top independent releases of 2007: The Austin Film Society hosts the Austin premiere at the Paramount (713 Congress) on Jan. 22, followed by a musical showcase at the Continental Club (1315 S. Congress); one day later, you can do it all over again at a screening and post-film performance at Antone's (213 W. Fifth). – Kimberley Jones

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [www.austinfilm.org](http://www.austinfilm.org)

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at [austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Blogs/](http://austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Blogs/) for a sneak peek at SXSW Interactive's keynote speaker on Sunday, March 9. Hint: He's 23 years old, and he founded Facebook.

# Changes in the Weather

## As Burnt Orange cools, the UT Film Institute heats up

BY JOE O'CONNELL

Bryan Poyser was driving to the wrap party for *The Cassidy Kids* in 2005 when the tears started to flow. They were tears of joy. Everything he'd worked toward was coming true. He'd made a real film, the kind with a cast and crew he couldn't count on one hand, the kind of film that would perhaps screen in the local megaplex and mark his career as legitimate to family and friends. "Finally, after 10 years of struggling and having small successes and meeting incredibly talented people, we were making a movie, and everyone was getting paid," he says of that golden moment. It was all the more special because the film was produced by Burnt Orange Productions, a grand for-profit experiment aimed at teaching students at the University of Texas – Poyser and filmmaking partner Jacob Vaughan's alma mater – about the realities of the business behind making a movie.

Flash forward almost 2½ years, and the reality for *The Cassidy Kids* is a scant three film-festival showings (including a well-received opening at the 2006 South by Southwest Film Festival) and a possible deal to send the film straight to DVD and cable television likely to be announced this month. "Making movies is like alchemy – trying to make things into gold that are not made of gold," says Poyser, who is now director of artist services for the Austin Film Society. "I know the movie we made is a good movie, though it may not be a great movie. It's gotten a raw deal in terms of interest, and I think it deserves to be seen more widely than it has so far." The lowered expectations for the film are shared by Burnt Orange, which itself is officially in "hiatus" after making four films, according to Tom Schatz, the longtime UT film professor and former Radio-Television-Film Department chair who championed the notion of connecting film academia with film business realities. "What we hoped to do we've pretty much done," Schatz says. "The question is whether we can produce films that are significantly successful enough to continue. Until we see revenue from our projects, we won't make more."

Instead, look for the University of Texas Film Institute to fill the void by shooting an entirely student-made film this coming summer as part of the Feature Film Lab, which has been expanded from a two-semester program to one that lasts two years with a new film starting the cycle each year. Schatz believes that by totally using UT resources, UTFI can create the equivalent of a half-million-dollar film, but it will do so without much of the real-world component of Burnt Orange. Leading the new UTFI charge is Creative Director Alex Smith, a Michener Center for Writers fiction grad whose 2002 film, *The Slaughter Rule*, rated Film Independent's Spirit Awards and Sundance Film Festival nominations. "The biggest difference [from Burnt Orange] is it's nonprofit, so we're not dependent on investors," Smith says. "We can afford to take risks and tell raw stories. It's okay if it doesn't sell, as long as it tells a good story."

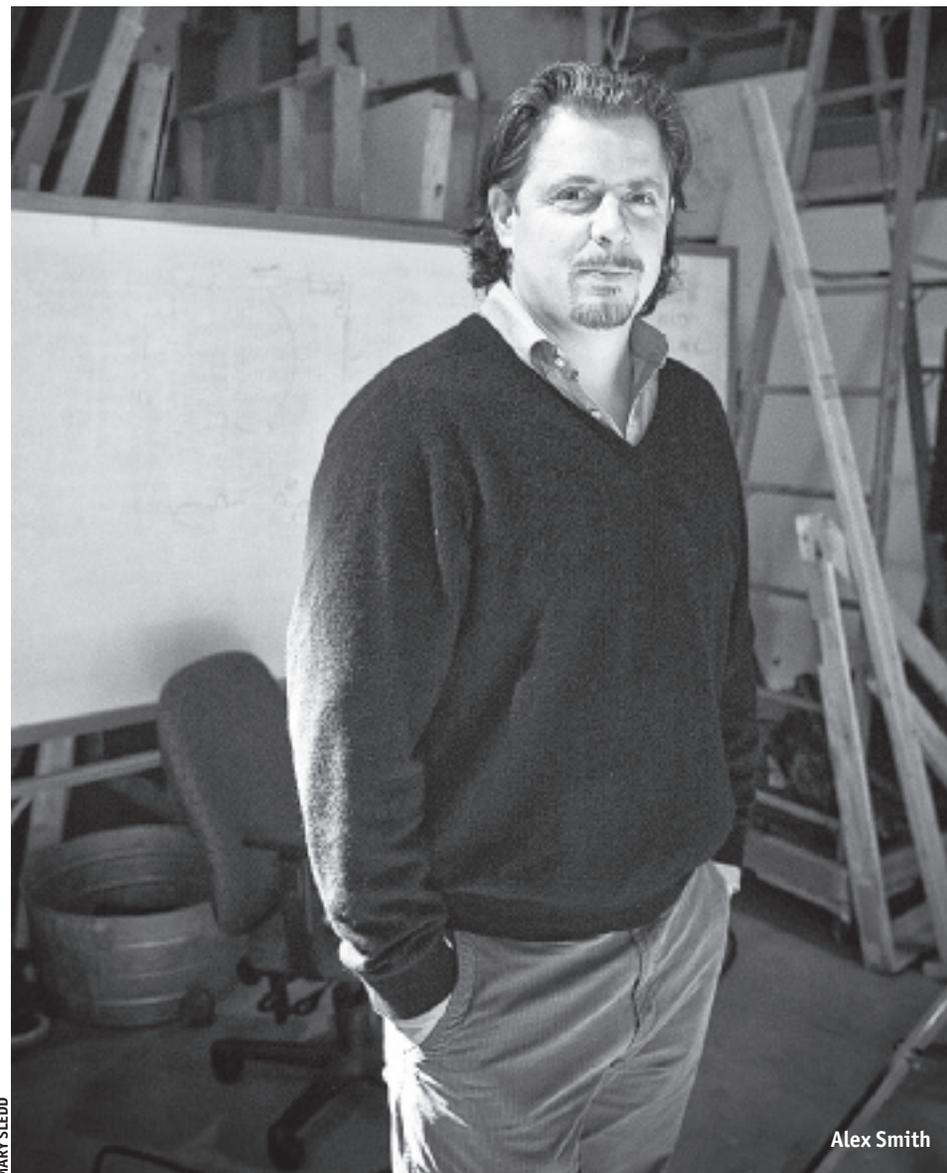
The project comes with the aid of UT's Michener Center, which is funding course instruction – the filming itself will be part of a course – and potentially all tuition and fees for students who work on the feature during principal photography, as well as teaching-assistant pay. Schatz says the Michener commitment is multiyear, with additional funds coming from the dean of the College of Communication and the UT provost's office. Schatz says there are "no strings attached" to the Michener funding, with possible film scripts for features coming from Michener Master of Fine Arts students and from the RTF Department's production and screenwriting MFA students.

Burnt Orange and UTFI opened for business in 2003 but were in the planning stages for years before that, Schatz says. The idea was to utilize a tax-code loophole that allows a nonprofit organization to operate a for-profit company if their basic goals are in line. UTFI was formed as the nonprofit research unit, operating separately from UT's RTF program, while Burnt Orange would serve as the profit-maker with an original goal of raising enough capital from about 20 silent partners (all but one with strong Texas ties) to make eight low-budget, independent films in three years, some in the \$1 million to \$3 million range, others shot digitally for less than \$1 million. The more expensive projects would come with outside partners who would come in with both projects and partial funding. William Morris Independent was recruited to seek distribution for the films, and Carolyn Pfeiffer, an experienced producer and former vice chair of the American Film Institute Conservatory, was brought on board to lead Burnt Orange.

Schatz, who was among a new guard that came to UT's fledgling RTF Department in the mid-Seventies and helped build it into a program with a national reputation, encountered one seemingly insurmountable problem: Film programs at California and New York schools could rely on geographically available industry pros to come in as adjunct instructors in narrative film and give students a dose of

**"We can afford to take risks and tell raw stories. It's okay if it doesn't sell, as long as it tells a good story."**  
– Alex Smith on the UT Film Institute

film-biz reality, while UT's rep was primarily built on documentary filmmaking. And film-industry leaders remained forever skeptical that a college degree prepared students to work in the business. Burnt Orange, born out of Schatz's conversations with former Universal head Thom Mount, was designed to fill the gap. It took almost three years for the Internal Revenue Service to approve nonprofit status for UTFI, followed by fundraising that fell well short of the original \$8 million goal. "We raised several million dollars from serious investors who were excited to see the University of Texas



Alex Smith

try something bold like this," Schatz says. "At the same time they expected it to be run as a serious business venture."

Three films were expected to test the model: *The Quiet* (originally titled *Dot*), country & western musical *Austin Angel*, and *The Marfa Lights*. The latter, which originally seemed pegged to be the first Burnt Orange film, grew from a project legendary film auteur Terrence Malick started with screenwriting students in UT's Michener program to adapt for the screen six works of fiction that had entered

the public domain. Kathleen Orillion adapted George Sand's book *Le Petite Fadette* into the family saga *The Marfa Lights*, which Malick and Edward Pressman planned to produce. But Pressman's reputation as a "tough cookie" sidelined the project. "He has his own sense of what is reasonable," Schatz says of the producer, while adding that he remains hopeful the project will one day lens. *Austin Angel* also never came to fruition.

Schatz saw the goals of Burnt Orange as threefold: Make a strong film program demonstrably stronger, get academia out of

its ivory tower and connected with the business world and the local community, and raise funds to support the university system itself. The latter concept was one pushed hard by UT's then-President Larry Faulkner in light of decreasing state support for higher education. It also has been the sticking point, and an even greater problem has been achieving financial success and quality films simultaneously. Burnt Orange's first film, *The Quiet*, premiered at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival and was snatched up by Sony Pictures Classics (whose Co-President Michael Barker is a UT grad) and provided both a boost in confidence for the program and a cash infusion. But Sony recut the film drastically and added voiceover narration before releasing it in about 350 theatres. "I would love to get the director's cut out there," Schatz says. "I'm proud of the film we screened in Toronto and delivered to Sony. With the rest of it, we'll just let the chips fall where they may." But *The Quiet* was on the film community's radar, made money both in theatres and on DVD, and inspired investor confidence.

Next up for Burnt Orange was *The Cassidy Kids*, a project that hewed closest to the model of heavily involving UT students and alumni. Poyser and Vaughan had been stopping occasionally at Schatz's office and knew about plans for Burnt Orange, plans that Poyser admits they strongly doubted would

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

materialize. Poyser and Vaughan also knew they were red-hot after *Dear Pillow*. The dark but engaging feature Poyser wrote and directed and Vaughan produced earned an Independent Spirit Award nomination. Then the pair traveled overseas to show *Dear Pillow* at the Edinburgh International Film Festival and crashed at fellow UT grad Tasca Shadix’s place. Shadix told them of a script she’d written with yet another UT alumnus Tom Willett. In it a group of young friends solve a murder and inspire the creation of a cheesy Saturday morning children’s show. But the true-life crime solvers discover years later that they may not have gotten the facts right.

Vaughan and Poyser loved the idea and pitched it to Burnt Orange, which quickly bought into it with Vaughan directing. Poyser began script rewrites – at one point, turning out three rewrites in 10 days. Vaughan remembers stressful and heady times. “I was on a steep learning curve, and so was Bryan,” he says. “The film is obviously not perfect – no film is – but I think the idea of Burnt Orange was fantastic. They were just very inexperienced, and we were very inexperienced.” They weren’t alone. Schatz recalls at the last preproduction meeting asking how many of the crew members were working their first feature film. “Two-thirds of their hands went up,” he says. The crew of 111 included 62 students and 23 alumni. “We were making a quote-unquote real movie with more equipment than we knew what to do with, a real sound person, actors we’d seen in other things, and we brought our friends along,” Poyser says. Those friends included such hot local names as cinematographer P.J. Raval and editor Kyle Henry.

Vaughan, who has relocated to Los Angeles to pursue a career concentrated on film editing (he both shot and edited *Dear Pillow*), says the film taught him plenty about the realities of helming a film. “I think, for me, I learned a little bit more about where to compromise and where not to,” he says. “I didn’t fight for some battles that I should have, and maybe I fought ones I didn’t need to fight.” In particular, Vaughan says he should have spoken up about efforts by Burnt Orange to aim for a PG-13 rating for the film. “The whole industry is about making sure you hold on to the center of your vision,” he says. “Bryan and I had a concept of *The Cassidy Kids*. When we got in Burnt Orange, it got diverted to something else. Ultimately we learned something. I really appreciate having been given that opportunity, even if it was hard and painful at times, but now I know more about the types of films I want to make.”

Vaughan also looks back with pride at the boost the project gave many students’ careers. Some moved into key positions on the Austin-shot television series *Friday Night Lights*, while others are working in Los Angeles at Paramount or assorted production companies. “I’m very proud of the fact that of the four films made, ours was the one that truly fulfilled the mission statement,” he says. “If nothing else happens with *The*  
*continued on p.52*

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 March 2, 2008) 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.

*Cassidy Kids* – and it looks like nothing will happen – I’m proud of that.”

For filmmaker Adam Rifkin, whose caveman comedy *Homo Erectus* was *Burnt Orange*’s third film project, a young woman named Meriwether Tull personifies his experience with the UT film arm. Tull was hired as Rifkin’s personal assistant during filming, a position often known as gopher, as in “go for” coffee or “go fetch” lunch. Rifkin was so impressed with her work that he and *Homo Erectus* producer Brad Wyman promised Tull a job if she moved to Los Angeles. Within a couple of months she was there, Rifkin says, and when the post-production supervisor on their next film, *Look*, dropped out, Tull got the job. She was then hired to also handle ongoing postproduction on *Homo Erectus*, which resulted in a co-producing credit. “She embodies what *Burnt Orange* is all about – give students the opportunity to work on real movies with professionals in the field, and then let them try to parlay that into careers,” Rifkin says. “It was a lot different from other experiences I’ve had making independent films. That attitude is so contagious and infectious. You can’t pay people enough to fake that. It comes from youthful optimism.”

Schatz and Pfeiffer say more than 70% of students working *Burnt Orange* projects continue to work in the industry. “I do feel strongly that the academic mission was successful,” says Pfeiffer, who has left *Burnt Orange* and moved to Marfa, a city she fell in love with when scouting locations for the film *The Marfa Lights*. “Forty to 50 students per film got to work on these pictures and got more than a toe into the industry. Plus, they got very good evaluations and reviews from the professionals.”

Pfeiffer says *Burnt Orange*’s success – whether past or, if one is possible, future – comes down to money and the vagaries of the industry. “The market shifted from when we started this thing,” she says. “It became more and more difficult to sell independent films without huge names attached. We did very well without a lot of money. If we had raised a little more money to start, it is possible we’d still be actively making pictures.” She, like Schatz, also recognizes that *Burnt Orange* suffered from little control over the means of distribution. “If I were starting from ground zero today, I would want to figure out how to get films to the market and not be at the mercy of the buyers,” says Pfeiffer, who is now producing projects independent of *Burnt Orange*, including a potential adaptation of former Austinite (and former *Austin Chronicle* contributor) Marion Winik’s memoir, *First Comes Love*. “I don’t think the history is totally written. I think what we did was very bold, and the university was fantastically supportive. I feel good about it, and I’ll feel even better about it if one of these films makes a lot of money.”

The future for *Homo Erectus* looks promising. National Lampoon picked it up after a showing at the Slamdance Film Festival and is expected to finally release it in March

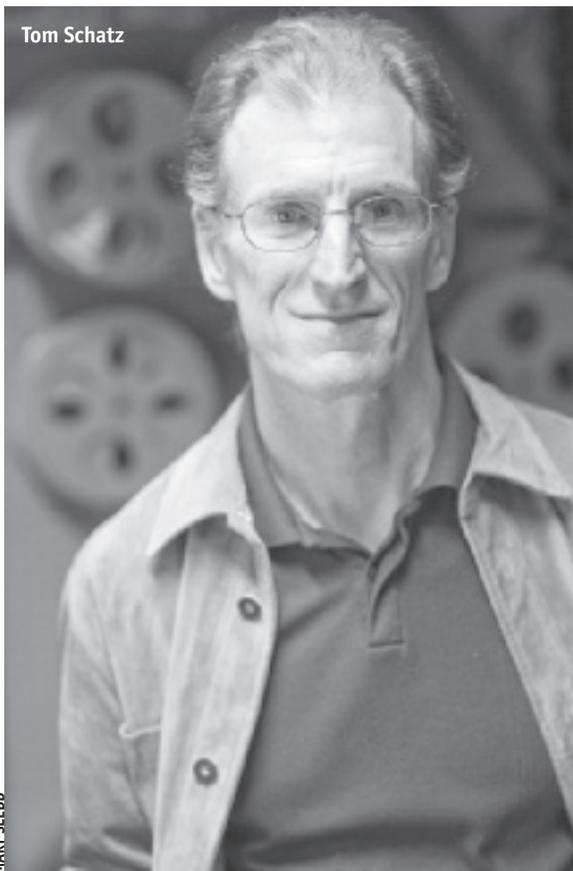
as *National Lampoon*’s *Homo Erectus*, after a 2007 release was delayed in hopes of piggybacking on the interest in Roland Emmerich’s bigger-budget caveman film, *10,000 BC*. While *Burnt Orange* moved out of leased offices Downtown last June and is now back on the UT campus (in four offices in the UA9 building near the Radio-TV-Film Department), during its hiatus from production, *Burnt Orange* retains Sam Marshall as a full-time chief financial officer and business manager leading the *Homo Erectus* release efforts. Rifkin applauds Schatz and Pfeiffer for taking a big risk and letting him take the lead role in the film he also wrote and directed. “I think the whole *Burnt Orange* concept was a great concept,” Rifkin says. “I wish they were making more movies.”

The image that sticks with Will Geiger, writer/director of *Elvis & Anabelle*, the final *Burnt Orange* production, is of a group of students eagerly painting more than a thousand fake sunflowers needed for a scene in the quirky tale of a funeral-home worker who magically brings a dead beauty queen back to life. Geiger got his own film-school education at what he describes as a “poor man’s film school” – a junior college that had some 16mm cameras and a couple of decent instructors. He tried to offer just as big of lessons to the student hired to drive him to the set every day. “I don’t think of the University of Texas as a [University of Southern California] or AFI, but I think maybe it’s becoming more of that,” he says.

If that is to happen, it may be up to Alex Smith to lead the way through UTFI. He is the instructor for both the recently completed fall screenwriting class and the spring production lab, both modeled after the Sundance Institute Writer’s Workshop and Filmmaking Lab (of which Smith is a graduate). The first film is expected to be chosen by April 1, with principal photography set for the summer. The next academic year will involve postproduction in the fall and a marketing and distribution class, perhaps the advanced producing class now taught by John Pierson, ending the process that spring. “Making a film is a complicated beast,” Smith says. “It takes a lot of organization, cooperation, and a unified vision. I hope this will be a lovely evolution of what *Burnt Orange* started out to be.”

Schatz sees the UTFI effort as one that can also be truly interdisciplinary, drawing in Architecture students to do production design, Theatre & Dance to choreograph, Michener Center students to produce scripts. “This is something no other film school or university has been able to do, and we fully expect it to further distinguish UT from all those other big dogs on the coasts,” he says of film schools located closer to Hollywood and New York City. Whether it’s the new UTFI initiative or new life for *Burnt Orange*, he says the program will push forward. “I remain optimistic about the viability of this idea,” Schatz says. “It ate up a lot more of the last five or six years of my life than expected, but I learned a lot, and it’s been an adventure.” ■

Tom Schatz



MARY SLEDD

## THE BIOGRAPHY OF BURNT ORANGE

### THE QUIET

**D:** Jamie Babbit  
(shot in 2004)

**The story:**

Following her father’s death, deaf-mute teen Dot moves in with her godparents and their teenage daughter but soon discovers the home contains dark secrets.

**Starring:** Elisha Cuthbert, Camilla Belle, Edie Falco

**What happened:** Premiered at the 2005 Toronto International Film Festival, purchased by Sony, and released in theatres in 2006. Now out on DVD.

[www.sonyclassics.com/thequiet](http://www.sonyclassics.com/thequiet)



### THE CASSIDY KIDS

**D:** Jacob Vaughan  
(shot in 2005)

**The story:** A group of young friends solves a murder and inspires a Saturday morning children’s show à la *The Hardy Boys*. Reunited as adults, the real-life Cassidy Kids aren’t so certain about the events that resulted in their fame.

**Starring:** Kadeem Hardison, Anne Ramsay, Judah Friedlander

**What happened:** Premiered at the 2006 South by Southwest Film Festival. No theatrical release, but a cable-television deal and DVD deal are in the works.

[www.burntorangeproductions.com/the\\_work/tck/](http://www.burntorangeproductions.com/the_work/tck/)



### HOMO ERECTUS

**D:** Adam Rifkin  
(shot in 2005)

**The story:** A comedy about a philosophical caveman who yearns for more out of life than sticks, stones, and raw meat.

**Starring:** Rifkin, David Carradine, Ali Larter, Talia Shire, Ron Jeremy

**What happened:** Premiered at the 2007 Slamdance Film Festival and was picked up by National Lampoon. Limited theatrical release expected in March.

**www.cavemancomedy.com** (At press time, the domain name had expired and was “pending renewal or deletion.”)



### ELVIS & ANABELLE

**D:** Will Geiger  
(shot in 2006)

**The story:** A dead beauty queen is miraculously resurrected by a funeral-home worker, and the two form a connection.

**Starring:** Max Minghella, Blake Lively, Mary Steenburgen, Joe Mantegna, Keith Carradine

**What happened:** Premiered at the 2007 South by Southwest Film Festival. *Burnt Orange* has had distribution offers but none yet acceptable to it or co-financer Goldcrest Films.

[www.elvisandanabelle.com](http://www.elvisandanabelle.com)



# And the Winner Is ...

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Viewers with short attention spans. The Golden Globes were announced last Sunday on NBC in a live, hourlong event billed as the **Golden Globes Winners Special**. But there was nothing special about this perfunctory presentation, a last-ditch effort by the network to present something in spite of the continuing writers' strike, which put the kibosh on the typical extravaganza surrounding this annual Hollywood prom.

Ordinarily, NBC carries the gala in its entirety with pre-awards-show hoopla covered by entertainment networks on cable. But with the ongoing Writers Guild of America strike and actors vowing not to cross a picket line, the gala was pared down to a press conference featuring clips of nominated films and TV series, with stills of the winners. Yet, the WGA vowed to picket even the press conference unless NBC allowed other media outlets (TV, print, and radio) to cover the big reveal, as well. So the show may have been more interesting on cable, but NBC is where the majority of the viewing public would have seen the event.

You'd think that *Access Hollywood* hosts **Billy Bush** and **Nancy O'Dell** would be up to the task of bringing a little brio to the event. The show must go on and all that, right? Not exactly. The pair was as dry and stiff as stale bread. Standing awkwardly side by side behind a podium made it difficult for the pair to offer responses to the announced winners, as they felt it necessary to address each other as opposed to the large audience that was presumably watching at home (no ratings numbers were available at press time). Bush's goofy and distracting necktie and O'Dell's plastic smile and spray-on tan only added to the weirdness of what could have been a good save of an otherwise lost event.

Faring better were *Access Hollywood* correspondent **Shaun Robinson** and **Dave Karger**, senior writer from *Entertainment Weekly*, who appeared periodically to offer responses and predictions. The pair appeared to have a natural rapport, helped by Karger's obvious ease with off-the-cuff commentary and a more comfortable setting (seated, facing each other). While Karger was the most watchable among the assembled talking heads, it was surprising to see a writer of any stripe appear at the presentation. So much for solidarity.

Personally, I can do without the red-carpet festivities and the related close-up look at all the trappings that go into producing a gala. But this glum Globes presentation was only a short step above scrolling the names of nominees and winners across the screen.

With or without the hoopla, I was happy to see that many of my favorites were tapped: **Glenn Close**, *Damages* (FX); **Tina Fey**, *30 Rock*



(NBC); and **Jon Hamm**, *Mad Men* (AMC), all won best-actor nods in their respective categories. While I was rooting for **30 Rock** to take the trophy for best comedy, **Extras** (HBO) was the deserving recipient, as was **Mad Men** for the best-drama category.

Fortunately, the *Golden Globes Winners Special* wasn't the only thing to watch. Sunday also marked the premiere of the long-awaited **Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles** on Fox. This new series, based on the *Terminator* film franchise, stars **Lena Headey** as Sarah Connor and **Thomas Dekker** as Connor's teenage son, John, and the amazing **Summer Glau** (*Firefly*) as Cameron, sent from the future to protect the Connors from a future generation of robots bent on destroying mankind.

The series picks up where the film *Terminator 2: Judgment Day* left off. Sarah and her son are on the run. Sarah's lover – a time-traveling resistance fighter battling Skynet, the organization that created the artificial-intelligence devices that turned on their human creators – is long dead. His heir is John, Sarah's only son and the potential savior of mankind ... if only he can make it through high school.

Sent from the future to help them stay alive is Cameron, another robot, who is relentless in her mission to protect the Connors. The three of them pose as a typical, single-parent family, but when an assassin robot (i.e., the Terminator) inevitably shows up to wreak havoc, they all whip out their formidable cans of whup-ass to produce heart-pounding action sequences that make similar series featuring fugitives on the run (*Prison Break*) or a race against villains (24) look like cooking shows. In fact, those going through 24 withdrawal (the new season is in the vault pending the conclusion of the writers' strike) will forget to grouse when they tune in to this stylish sci-fi thriller.

*Terminator: The Sarah Connor Chronicles* airs Mondays at 8pm on Fox.

E-mail Belinda Acosta at [tveye@austinchronicle.com](mailto:tveye@austinchronicle.com).



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**EORACHE!** MUSIC BLOG

**Death Valley Nights shoots Strait:**

*"When George Strait walked out onto it at 9:25pm in his starched white shirt, not one hollering Texan doubted his championship form for a minute. If 'Bob Wills Is Still the King' of the Lone Star State, then Strait's commander-in-chief."*

- Raoul Hernandez

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# music

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## OFF THE RECORD music news

BY AUSTIN POWELL



Vintage Bubble Puppy

### A GATHERING OF PROMISES

Not long after the initial publication of the **2008 Austin Music Poll** ballot (p.61), **Bubble Puppy** guitarist **Todd Potter** contacted the *Chronicle* music staff in hopes of an honorary (and overdue) induction into the **Austin Music Hall of Fame**. To quickly recap, Bubble Puppy crafted one of the most torrid singles from the psychedelic era, "Hot Smoke & Sasafress," which peaked at No. 14 on *Billboard's* Hot 100 and landed the Corpus Christi-bred quartet on **American Bandstand**. The band's lone album for Houston's **International Artists**, 1969's *A Gathering of Promises*, was a radical rendering of post-British Invasion Texas-psych: pastoral harmonies, airtight rhythms, and a dual guitar front that was rivaled at the time only by the **Allman Brothers Band**. According to Potter, bassist **Roy Cox** is currently in rehab after breaking two vertebrae in his neck on Thanksgiving, while drummer **David Fore** suffered a seizure in mid-December. Both are expected to make full recoveries. "If I could get the guys together and do reunions to put ourselves back on the map, I would, but with each passing year, it seems less doable," says Potter, who last played with the Puppy in 1987, resulting in the oft-forgotten *Wheels Go Round*. "I'd really like to see it while we're all still here." The band's a shoo-in for next year's Music Poll ballot, while this year's Hall of Fame nominees await your vote.

### RANDOM PLAY

With the **South by Southwest Music Conference**, it's not the bands you know but the ones you'll discover. After all, **Beck** once played to a handful in **Emo's** front room, and the **Strokes** ransacked the **Iron Cactus**. That said, **Dolly Parton** is confirmed to headline the **Austin Music Hall** on Friday, March 14, in support of her aptly titled *Backwoods Barbie*. **UGK's Bun B** is presenting a tribute to **Pimp C**, while **David Banner**, **Q-Tip**, **N.E.R.D.**, and **Dizzee Rascal** round out what promises to be a strong delegation of hip-hop. Other acts signed on for March madness include **Mick Jones' Carbon/Silicon**, **My Morning Jacket**, the **Donnas**, **Jens Lekman**, **Shelby Lynne**, the **Cool Kids**, and **Delta Spirit**.

**Willie Nelson**, **Miranda Lambert**, **Gretchen Wilson**, **George Jones**, and **Kevin Fowler** top the list of performers slated for the **2008 Star of Texas Rodeo**, taking place Feb. 29-March 15 at the **Travis County Expo Center**. For the rest of the lineup and more news from **White Denim**, **Kina Grannis**, and **Ghostland Observatory**, see [austinchronicle.com/earache](http://austinchronicle.com/earache).

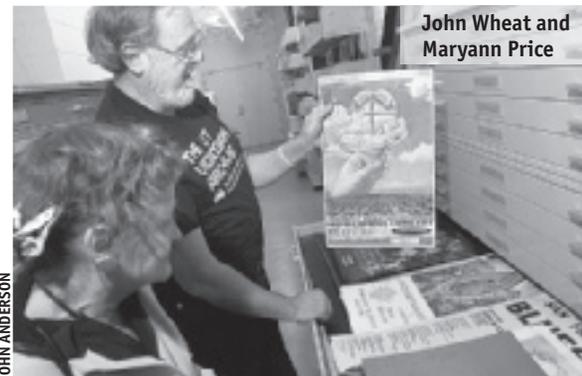


### THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH

Since overcoming his bout with hepatitis C, **Alejandro Escovedo** (pictured) has been caught in a suspended state of self-reflection, a sentiment that defined his 2006 **John Cale**-produced comeback, *The Boxing Mirror*. For his **Iggy Pop**-inspired new album, *Real Animal*, due June 24 on **Back Porch**, the local luminary takes things one step further. "It tells the story of my life in music, starting in San Francisco on through **Rank & File** and the **True Believers**," says Escovedo of the album, which he wrote with former **Green on Red** axe man **Chuck Prophet** and which was helmed by **Tony Visconti**, mastermind behind classics from **David Bowie**, **T. Rex**, and **Thin Lizzy**. (Originally tapped producer **Glyn Johns** in turn handled **Ian McLagan's** latest, *Never Say Never*, at London's **Sphere Studios**). Known for his balance of blockbusters (*Silence of the Lambs*, *Philadelphia*) and concert films (*Stop Making Sense*, *Neil Young: Heart of Gold*, *Storefront Hitchcock*), filmmaker **Jonathan Demme** is applying a similar technique for his Escovedo documentary, scheduled to begin shooting next month at **Las Manitas**. "The plan right now is for me to watch my life unfold as a spectator to a battle of the bands where groups are portraying various phases of my career," Escovedo relays. "I started in a fictitious band, the **Nuns**, for a film I was making on the world's worst band, which we became, so this brings things full circle." Escovedo worked with the director on the score to Demme's new **Jimmy Carter** documentary, *Man From Plains*, collaborating with Nigerian violinist **Djamel Ben Yelles** and revisiting *Gravity's* "By Eleven." "I really felt a connection with Carter's compassion and honesty, his grounding to the earth," Escovedo concludes. The film doesn't open in Austin until Feb. 15, but Escovedo hits the **Cactus Cafe** on Saturday and holds down Tuesday nights at the Continental Club, where Prophet plays Jan. 25.

### TARY'S GOLD

Quite rarely is one man's clutter actually another's gold, unless, of course, the man in question is the late **Tary Owens**. One of Texas' most important musicologists and one of 10 inaugural inductees to the **Austin Music Memorial**, Owens chronicled the history of the local Chitlin' Circuit (see "Juke Joint Blues," July 13, 2007) and the early Austin folk scene. University of Texas' **Center for American History** recently obtained Owens' collection for \$22,000, adding to an already stellar legacy that includes Owens' **Catfish Records** and recordings completed during his tenure at the school between 1963 and 1966 (**Powell St. John**, **Freddie King**, and **Mance Lipscomb**, among others). The holdings fill 44 storage boxes and contain everything from original artwork from **Roky Erickson** and **Jim Franklin** and early recordings and yearbooks of schoolmate **Janis Joplin** to a documentary of **Roosevelt "Grey Ghost" Williams** and field recordings from Texas prisons. "I'm still finding stuff lying around the attic, all of these bits of music history," recalls Owens' widow,



John Wheat and Maryann Price

**Maryann Price**. "It's a miracle that we have the technology to watch these people now, to study the way they moved and how they sounded. I'm happy it's all in a safe, climate-controlled environment." Resident music archivist **John Wheat** hopes to have the materials ready for public use in a matter of months. "The further you dig, the more you uncover," he says. "It's the small details that tie everything together that make this project so rewarding."



JOHN ANDERSON

Crate diggers: Wallenstein (l) and Douglass

### WAXPLOITATION

Tough time to own an independent record store. Album sales dropped another 17% in 2007, while **Sony** recently became the last of the four major labels to sell its music digital-rights-management-free at **Amazon.com**. There was plenty to celebrate, however, last Friday night as DJs **Starsign** and **NickNack** broke in the ones and twos at **Backspin Records'** new location on Airport Boulevard, in the space previously occupied by ABCD's. As its names suggests, Backspin specializes in vinyl hip-hop, separating records into categories like pre- and post-'85 and golden era. "The weakening of the dollar has made it prohibitively expensive to import some of the great dance music coming out of Europe," says co-owner **Eric Wallenstein**, who met his partner **Zach Douglass** at the **Austin Record Convention**, "but the vinyl is making a comeback. You can't beat the sound quality, feeling, and collectability of a record."



PHOTOS BY TODD V. WOLFSON



# Sister Bobbie

With "Audiobiography," Willie Nelson's pianist lets her fingers do the talking

BY DOUG FREEMAN

A curtain of white Christmas lights foregrounds the stage at Antone's, cascading against the black sheen of the grand piano set on the floor. Bobbie Nelson seats herself at the keyboard with tender elegance, a quiet "thank you" almost imperceptible without a vocal mic. Her debut CD, *Audiobiography*, takes the place of sheet music and doubles as tonight's set list. As the spiked heel of her shoe leverages against the instrument's pedals, her fingers glide in effortless recall of songs that have made music history.

On her left hand, a male-sized class ring refracts light as she works the low end keys. Impressive

and conspicuous on her slender fingers, its six diamonds surround another at the center. On one side, her name is engraved above the Texas state flag. On the other rises a portrait of her brother Willie. Embossed around the stones are the words "Willie Nelson and Family."

For nearly 35 years, "Sister Bobbie," as she's affectionately called by her younger brother, has accompanied Willie Nelson onstage and in the studio. Their playing together dates back to their earliest childhood, the siblings' lives as conjoined musically as by their bloodlines. The ring she wears, commissioned by Willie after the release of 1975's *Red Headed Stranger*, represents more than their success. It's a

symbol of the pillars of family and music that, along with her faith, have been the constant motivation, joy, and solace of her life. Likewise, *Audiobiography* presents a personal document of some of the songs closest to her, memories and moments of her past ingrained in 88 keys.

## Home Is Where You're Happy

Some 20 miles north of Waco and a half-mile east of I-35, Abbott seems a relic of bygone times. A sign on the edge of town declares the population 300, and just beyond the railroad tracks, crossroads mark its boundary. A rusty water tower surveys the horizon from the southwest corner, opposing the weary brick building that houses the post office and small general store. Anchoring either side of the intersection's east end are a Baptist and a Methodist church, both shining white within the fading husk of the town.

In 2006, Willie purchased the Methodist church to save it from being torn down, preserving a piece of his hometown history as well as his family's. It was in this quaint, wood-framed building that he and Bobbie first began playing music together, singing "I'll Fly Away," "Amazing Grace," and "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" for the small congregation, songs that are still part of their shows today.

"I was just so in love with the piano at church," recalls Bobbie, sitting in the lounge of Austin's Four Seasons Hotel. "My grandmother loved the gospel singing, and my grandfather was really active in the church and was a Sunday-school teacher there. This church I just grew up in."

Ira and Myrle Nelson moved to Abbott from Arkansas just as the Great Depression set in across the country, freshly married teenagers looking for their own start. The marriage lasted long enough to bring Bobbie into the world on New Year's Day, 1931, and Willie two years later. The children were raised by their paternal grandparents,

William and Nancy, who had also moved west and imparted their love for music to their grandchildren.

"My grandmother was a wonderful teacher," says Bobbie. "She had come from a background where her father was a singing instructor in Arkansas. She and my grandfather studied from a mail-order course, and we always remember them sitting at the table with a lamplight studying music they got in the mail. I was about 5 when I started learning to play, because my grandfather insisted that my grandmother start teaching me on the pump organ we had in the house."

Her grandfather also took Bobbie to singing conventions held 10 miles up the road in Hillsboro. On the first Sunday of every month, the courthouse opened for afternoon

gospel presentations, and Bobbie counts her first performance as a child standing before a crowd of nearly 1,000 people and directing the singing.

Recognizing both her talent and enthusiasm, Bobbie's grandfather bought a piano from the local grocer for \$35 when she was 6. When he passed away three years later, William still owed money on the instrument, and Bobbie remembers her grandmother selling calves to pay off the debt so they could keep the piano.

Willie joined her on the bench when he was old enough.

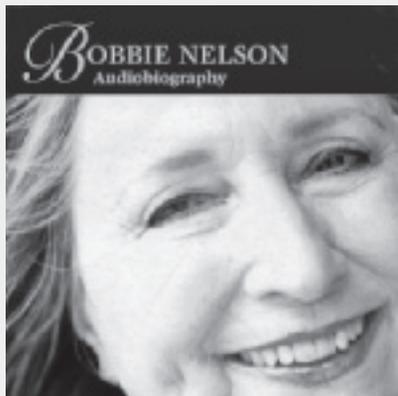
"I must have been about 8 or 9 whenever we first started playing together," says Bobbie. "My grandmother stood at the treble end of the piano and sat Willie at the bass end, and she showed him three different chords and how to do the other parts. She would sing while Willie and I played, so we really started learning to play together."

"We might have been some of the poorest people in town, but we didn't know it," she laughs. "We thought we were rich as could be. We knew we didn't have any money, but we had a real good time!"

**Bobbie and Willie have been at each other's side through their moments of greatest achievement and lowest despair, a journey that in its course has helped reshape American music.**

**BOBBIE NELSON**  
*Audiobiography* (Justice)

In reading between the notes of Bobbie Nelson's first solo album, three things become clear. 1) *Audiobiography* is a wonderful, gentle, unassuming recording that resonates with tenderness. 2) It's hard not to absolutely love Bobbie Nelson simply for who she is. 3) Bobbie and Willie have one of those remarkably symbiotic sibling relationships, and their lifelong devotion is evident in every one of the album's dozen tracks. For the record, Bobbie is accompanied by Willie, who sings on the opening track, "Back to Earth," and the closer, "Until Tomorrow," along with their bandmate guitarist, Jody Payne. Yet, this is Bobbie's recording, and for most of the tracks, it's just her and the 88s, lilting in and out of classics ("Stardust," "Laura," "Deep Purple"), rockers ("Boogie Woogie," "The House of Blue Lights"), and her brother's gorgeous "Crazy." At 77, Bobbie Nelson is a class act, and *Audiobiography* is her grand piano valentine.



★★★★ - Margaret Moser

**Phases, Stages, Circles, Cycles, and Scenes**

Abbott was hardly a musical epicenter, but neither Bobbie nor Willie were wanting for opportunities to perform. Bobbie played piano for all the functions at her school, and the siblings played regularly together in church. Summers were marked by revival meetings at which the Nelson children became fixtures.

Bobbie remembers her brother writing his first song at the age of 9, though neither can now recall the tune. At 14, she began traveling with evangelists working the revival circuit, which took her throughout Texas and to Austin for the first time. Willie, meanwhile, began playing rhythm guitar with a Czech band in town.

During one meeting when she was 16, Bobbie met Bud Fletcher. Returning from service in World War II, Fletcher was six years older than Bobbie. He came to church to meet her that April, and by August they were married.

"When I got married, Bud immediately organized our first band," says Bobbie. "He loved Willie, and Willie went with us on all of our dates. He also loved to dance and to drink beer, and he knew all the joints in West and Waco, which Willie and I had never been to. It was a big beginning for me."

Bud Fletcher & the Texans became fast favorites throughout the area. Bobbie ventured beyond gospel on honky-tonk numbers, while Willie picked up lead guitar and contributed a couple of original songs to the repertoire. Their father joined them on rhythm guitar, along with trombonist Glen Ellison, who taught at the Abbott school and was subsequently fired for playing bars with his students. Fletcher held down drums and fronted the outfit with Bob Wills-inspired yelps.

"Every night we'd do different things: Ernest Tubb, Roy Acuff," recounts Bobbie. "We did all of the old stuff. We listened to our radio after we got electricity and could hear all this music, the Grand Ole Opry, the Louisiana Hayride, Lefty Frizzell, and Hank Williams. And every time we'd hear a song on the radio, we'd learn to play it by ear."

The band lasted until 1955, when Bobbie and Bud were forced to separate. Bobbie moved back to her grandmother's house and then to Fort Worth.

"I never did want to divorce him," she says. "I really loved the man. We didn't either one want a divorce. But Bud was sick, and I think it was due to drinking. I might be wrong about that, but I was very young and didn't know exactly what the problem was."

Worst of all, Bobbie lost custody of their three sons, Randy, Michael, and Freddy, the courts considering the pianist unfit because of her playing honky-tonks despite the fact that she has never drunk in her life. Bud's parents took the children while Bobbie tried to recover and build a new life to get them back. Bud died in a car wreck in 1961.

"It broke me," she sighs, still hurt. "I was totally broken and actually ended up with a complete physical breakdown. It took me years to recover. I was not able to raise up without passing out - that was what it kind of amounted to - and I spent a lot of time in the hospital in Fort Worth. I remarried because the judge said I needed to remarry to get my children. And they told me that I couldn't play, that I couldn't enter inside any place that served alcohol. I didn't have any reason for them to take my babies away, but they did."

**Healing Hands of Time**

Inseparable in times of trouble, Willie moved with Bobbie to Fort Worth as she tried to establish a new life. She worked in a TV-repair shop while attending business classes at night. The owner, having heard her play, rented a piano for the store, offering Bobbie a modicum of consolation through her music. She eventually landed a job with the newly established Hammond Organ Co.

"I was the only piano player that was also a stenographer on record at the employment office in Fort Worth, and Hammond was looking for just that person to learn to play the Hammond organ, to demonstrate it, teach it, and to sell it," she says. "I learned to play the Hammond and was right there with the sheet-music department, so I had access to all the sheet music and could order anything. That's how I learned so much music."

Steady employment gave Bobbie the opportunity to make a living playing music but, more importantly, to regain custody of her children. After a year and a half of separation, Bobbie was reunited with her boys.

*continued on p.58*

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Visual biography: (clockwise from top) Bobbie and Willie with paternal grandmother Nancy; schoolyard pals; Atlantic Records studio chums; Bud Fletcher & the Texans, with the Nelsons at left; Fletcher and his new family



“Willie had nothing, no possessions or anything; he was just burned out, so he moved to Bandera,” says Bobbie. “I waited just a few weeks until I could make a move, and then I moved back to Austin, and Willie just fell in love with Austin. When he did the Armadillo World Headquarters, that was it. We were going to be Austinites.”

With Bobbie touring the Hammond organ at conventions and clubs across Texas, Willie left the state and by 1960 had landed in Nashville, supported by hits like “Hello Walls,” “Funny How Time Slips Away,” and “Crazy.” Bobbie proudly peppered her demonstrations with her brother’s songs.

She moved to Austin in 1965, but when her third and final marriage fell apart a few years later, she joined Willie in Nashville, leaving behind everything she owned to escape a desperate situation, including the piano her grandfather had bought her. Willie, too, lost everything when a fire destroyed his Tennessee home in 1970.

“Willie had nothing, no possessions or anything; he was just burned out, so he moved to Bandera,” says Bobbie. “I waited just a few weeks until I could make a move, and then I moved back to Austin, and Willie just fell in love with Austin. When he did the Armadillo World Headquarters, that was it. We were going to be Austinites.”

Bobbie continued to play hotels and dinner clubs around town, opening the most prestigious establishments like the Stephen F. Austin Hotel and Polonaise Restaurant. In 1973, Willie called her from New York and asked her to join him in the studio.

“Willie had signed to Atlantic Records, and he was going to do a gospel record and wanted me to help him,” she recalls. “I had never been on an airplane or even been any farther than Nashville, but I went to New York, and we recorded *The Troublemaker*, the first time I recorded with him. Then we did the *Shotgun Willie* album while we were there, and it all went so well, and we had such a good time that Willie said, ‘I sure have missed playing with you; let’s just don’t stop.’”

### Still Is Still Moving

Bobbie and Willie haven’t stopped playing together since. For the past three decades, the two have been at each other’s side through their moments of greatest achievement and

lowest despair, a journey that in its course has helped reshape American music.

*Shotgun Willie* announced a string of hit albums for Willie during the 1970s, works like *Red Headed Stranger* becoming cornerstones of outlaw country. Furthermore, Bobbie and Willie’s return to Austin established Central Texas as the hub of the progressive-country movement, a geographical relocation that mirrored creative efforts of like-minded artists like Waylon Jennings and Johnny Cash to work outside Nashville’s populist machine. By the release of 1976 compilation *Wanted! The Outlaws*, featuring Willie, Waylon, Jessi Colter, and Tompall Glaser, the industry had been transformed; *Wanted!* was country music’s first platinum album.

Yet even amidst success, the bond born in a small Texas town between brother and sister has remained the fulcrum of their lives when all else fails. In 1989, the family faced their most trying period: Bobbie’s son Michael succumbed to leukemia at the age of 36, and less than six months later, his older brother, Randy, was killed in a New Year’s Eve car crash.

“Any losses are horrible,” Bobbie says softly. “I lost my grandfather early, when I was 9, and that was hard. When I lost Michael, I realized there was just no comparison with any other loss than losing one of my babies. You think it can’t get any worse, and you find out it can.”

“I had to find a new desire for living, and it wasn’t easy, because I was so unhappy and sad for so long,” she continues. “It’s just a matter of time. But one thing I did was go on the road. I didn’t feel like being social, but I could go with Willie and play the piano and go to work. That was a solace for me. I wasn’t playing churches anymore, but I could play with Willie.”

Bobbie’s debut album follows on the heels of another testament to life’s precious fragility. Last February, she suffered a minor stroke while the band was on tour in San Francisco. Though she temporarily lost speech, she kept the stroke a secret and played the final three shows of the tour.

### SABOR A MI

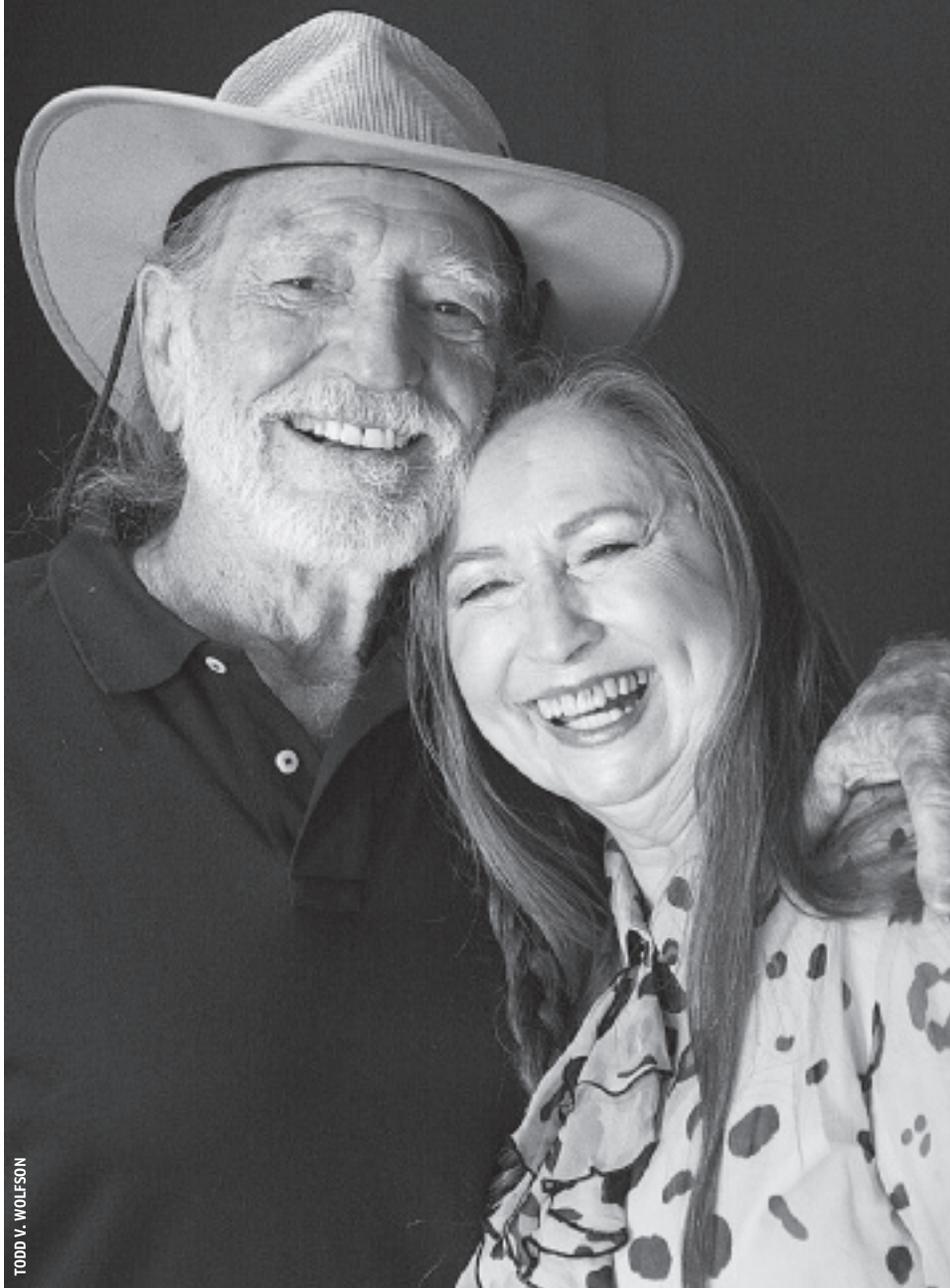
The impetus for Bobbie Nelson’s debut album, released as 2007 came to a close, was a conversation with Justice Records founder Jamail Randall. When asked if she had considered writing her autobiography, the pianist told Randall that her story would be better told in song. *Audiobiography* thus presents her history through the songs that have shaped it, so Bobbie related the significance of some of the songs in her life.

– D.F.

### “Boogie Woogie”

“Boogie Woogie” was just something that I had always heard. It was written by a fellow called Pinetop Smith and recorded by Tommy Dorsey, whose record was a real big deal while I was in high school, so I got the sheet music and learned it. Kids at school would come over to my house, and that’s the first thing they wanted me to play. I learned “Death Ray Boogie” after that, and I played some more boogies too, but those two have remained.

Bobbie and Willie, 2007



TODD V. WOLFSON

"I'm lucky," acknowledges Bobbie, who turned 77 with the new year. "I'm very, very lucky. The first night [onstage], I was really scared and didn't know what would happen. I really had to concentrate, but then it got easier, and I realized, 'I'm all right; I can play the piano.' I just had to find out if I could play."

When she returned to Austin, she eventually had a pacemaker installed. By April, she was on the road again with Willie, perhaps the best therapy of all.

"My experience at church taught me that talent given by God isn't your talent," explains Bobbie. "It's something you were given, and you have to give it back. That's the way I feel when I play the piano. That's the way I recovered from my nervous breakdown, too, playing the organ. It's my medication. My piano is always there. As long as I'm healthy enough and can play, the piano will be there, like my truest friend." ■

**"Crazy"**

Patsy Cline, of course, did that one. I had heard it, but Willie was living in Nashville at the time, so the real record I heard of it was Patsy Cline. He had "Night Life" and "Funny How Time Slips Away" and "Hello Walls," and those were huge hits right off for Willie. I was so proud and so excited. I'd say, "My brother wrote this song!"

**"Stardust"**

When they asked me to audition for the job at Hammond Organ, that's the song I played on the piano. So that was something I knew, and I learned "Laura" and "Deep Purple" while I was working for

Hammond. That was during the era that I played a lot of dinner music and supper clubs.

**"Sabor a Mi"**

That is my newest love song. I kept hearing this melody, and it was just so beautiful, so I started to find out what this song is. Then there was this man playing accordion in an Italian restaurant, and I asked him about this song, and he told me what it was. His English was real broken, but he gave me the music to it, gave me a fax copy. And I just fell in love with this song. That's the newest song I learned that's on the album.



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# 'Honeydrinker' Blues

From stage to screen with Gary Clark Jr.

BY MARGARET MOSER

When noted film director John Sayles and his longtime partner and producer Maggie Renzi presented Gary Clark Jr. with a plaque for Best Blues Band at the 2006-07 Austin Music Awards, the three had a little secret the audience didn't know: The local bluesician was the star of Sayles and Renzi's then-upcoming film *Honeydrinker*.

Distinguished in American independent cinema by his beautifully crafted stories and characters, Sayles' films such as *Eight Men Out*, *The Secret of Roan Inish*, *City of Hope*, and *Limbo* glow long after the theatre lights have come up. With seminal works such as *Matewan*, *Sunshine State*, *Lone Star*, and *Passion Fish*, the writer/director/editor has also demonstrated his affinity for portraying a complex Southern culture free of cliché. Sayles remains a total-immersion filmmaker, as well, lighting up the big screen in small roles and regularly doing his research in bars and nightclubs. That affinity served him well when *Honeydrinker* came to life.

## Electrified Blues

Set in 1950 and filmed in Greenville, Ala., which passes for the fictional town of Harmony, *Honeydrinker* takes place in the waning days of the Jim Crow South. Cotton farms and the local Army base keep the tiny town alive but just barely. On the outskirts, Tyrone "Pinetop" Purvis (Danny Glover) struggles to keep his juke joint, the Honeydrinker, open. Purvis is a piano-playing fan of old-school acoustic blues mama Bertha Mae (marvelously portrayed by Mable John), but the rowdy jukebox of rival club Ace of Spades is siphoning his clientele.

Deeply in debt and facing threats of a buy-out, Purvis decides to fight for his club's life, dispensing with Bertha Mae to try something new with the legendary Guitar Sam. But Sam doesn't show. He's sick in the hospital, according to a blind street musician named Possum, a kind of Greek chorus character played by Sony's longtime acoustic bluesman Keb' Mo'. Enter Sonny Blake (Gary Clark Jr.), a brown-eyed, handsome man fresh out of the service and looking to gig. Sonny could be the answer to Purvis' prayers except for one thing: He plays the newfangled electrified guitar.

That's where Sayles and Renzi's love for music pays off. Their search for the right person to portray Sonny, an allegory not only for change but of the future – the heralded birth of rock & roll – landed the filmmakers at the

Continental Club during South by Southwest 05. Gary Clark remembers the night well.

"John and Maggie approached me after the show and said: 'We enjoyed your performance and have this project. How would you like to do a reading?'" recalls Clark. "I knew what a reading was – I have friends who are actors – so I went to read in the morning with John and Maggie. I was a nervous wreck. I sat there and read some lines back to him. A little while later, Maggie called and said, 'We'd like to offer you the part of Sonny.'"

Shortly thereafter, the Austin-born singer/guitarist was flown to Alabama for a five-week shoot and the experience of a lifetime. "There's videotape of me playing Prince Charming in my eighth-grade musical play, dancing in tights and things like that," winces Clark. "Those lessons prepared me. I've been around movie sets, but it was still a huge production, even for a small independent film. What tripped me out was how many people watched. There are two characters but 30 people around you, moving lights, booms, stands. It was crazy, and it happened so fast.

"On the plane back, I thought, 'What just happened?'"

## Encore Performance

Sonny Blake wasn't necessarily a stretch for Clark, but it did require him to think outside himself for the character's personality and desires. "I thought, 'What would I be doing in 1950?' I'm fortunate to be in Austin with the support I have, outlets, and lots of opportunities, but I think this is what I'd have been doing 50 years ago, kicked out of the Army, hungry, looking for a gig. So I tried to draw on that struggle. There's more of a struggle for Sonny than me.

"Me, I went down to Babe's [originally] and was welcomed onstage, and it went from there. Yet in the movie, they don't want Sonny around. He's a joke because he wants to play this electric blues guitar, and Danny Glover's character doesn't want it.

"But to play a character who played that kind of music? That was easy."

Besides the crash course in acting, *Honeydrinker* was a college of higher musical education for Clark. He played alongside cast members such as the Mississippi-born harp player from the Bluesmasters, Arthur Lee Williams, plus former Raelette and soul shouter Mable John and tenor saxman Eddie Shaw, one of the last of Howlin' Wolf's band.

to Choose"), early country (Hank Williams' classic "Move It on Over"), Appalachian folk ("Tall Cotton"), and piano blues (Mable John's "No Matter How She Done It") underscore the film's pulling at the roots of rock & roll. Atlantic Records pioneer Ruth Brown waxes nostalgic on the weary "Things About Coming My Way," her final recording, while Lil Green's raspy, vaudevillian "Why Don't You Do Right" provides an unexpected highlight. Danny Glover fares about as

well on "Goin' Down Slow" as Samuel L. Jackson did for *Black Snake Moan*, paling in comparison to Keb' Mo's Delta-drenched "Stack O Lee." Only Austin's Gary Clark Jr. is capable of shooting the lights out, however, scoring a trifecta with the Chess Records swing of "Good Rockin' Tonight," the Sayles-penned "China Doll," and standard "Blue Light Boogie." It's the future filtered through a lens of the past.

★★★

– Austin Powell



Good Rockin' Tonight: (l-r) Gary Clark Jr., Arthur Lee Williams, Eddie Shaw

**"I've been through the shootings, the guys coming in with pistols and guns and knives. I could have wrote that movie. I've lived it."**  
– Howlin' Wolf saxman and *Honeydrinker* Eddie Shaw

"Working with Eddie Shaw was like jumping back in time," enthuses Clark. "To be in an Alabama juke joint with Dr. Mable John, Arthur Lee Williams, and Eddie Shaw – who played spots like that when they were my age – was so authentic. In an eerie way, I felt like we lived that transition all over again."

Shaw's voice bears the growl of countless nights honking sax in smoky bars as he compares the story of *Honeydrinker* to his own life. "I experienced all that," says Shaw from his home in St. Louis. "I've been through trying to get the right crowd, trying to draw people in from the street, trying to lure people over from the other club. I've been through the shootings, the guys coming in with pistols and guns and knives. I could have wrote that movie. I've lived it."

To Shaw, there was nothing different about performing in front of cameras than playing for a club audience, but recent performances by the *Honeydrinker* musicians are special. That the latest shows are here in Austin ices the cake. "Yeah, I'm the tail end of the Wolf gang," Shaw recalls with a sigh. "Haven't been to Austin since way back when Clifford [Antone] had that joint on Sixth Street. It's been a long time since I played there."

Making the band's pair of Austin performances even more special is the presence of Shaw's bandmate and longtime friend Hubert Sumlin at the Antone's show on Wednesday night. The two played behind Howlin' Wolf for

13 years, and Shaw looks forward to taking the stage with both Sumlin and Clark.

"Gary's a newcomer to everything," acknowledges Shaw, "but he's gonna be one of the guys in the future they'll look back to. He's a good kid with a good personality and his head screwed on right."

"That transition, that moment when the guitar was electrified from the Mississippi Delta sound, that's what it's about," proclaims Clark. "Piano guys were up front, and the guitar guys were in back; then guitar blues turned electric and eventually became rock & roll. Keb' Mo's character, Possum, is that Mississippi Delta-Alabama blues-pickin' guy. He's like the spirit of the music, lingering there while the music boils in the pot and resolves in the end."

The conversation stops for a moment, but Gary Clark Jr. doesn't hesitate.

"If I could do another film, I'd do *Honeydrinker* all over again." ■

On Tuesday, Jan. 22, Gary Clark Jr. and Eddie Shaw follow the Paramount Theatre premiere of *Honeydrinker* (See Screens, p.49) with a performance at the Continental Club; a limited number of tickets will be available to the public. Open to all, Clark and Shaw, along with Muddy Waters veteran Pinetop Perkins and Howlin' Wolf alum Hubert Sumlin, perform at Antone's the following night, Wednesday, Jan. 23.

## HONEYDRINKER ORIGINAL MOTION PICTURE SOUNDTRACK

(Rhino)

In a pivotal scene during John Sayles' *Honeydrinker*, an old-time jukebox blows a circuit in the club. What's appealing about this soundtrack is that nothing would sound out of place screeching at 45 rpm. Southern gospel (New Beginnings Ministry's "Standing by the Highway" and "You Got



# MUSIC POLL BALLOT

After 27 years, you know the drill: This is your chance to duct-tape the critics' mouths shut and speak up about Austin music. Not sure whom to vote for? Turn on the radio, drop by the local record store, or head to the clubs. Your favorite band is probably playing.

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**NOVELTY:** \_\_\_\_\_

**NONE OF THE ABOVE:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Best Austin Musicians (BAND IF APPLICABLE)

**FEMALE VOCALS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MALE VOCALS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ELECTRIC GUITAR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACOUSTIC GUITAR:** \_\_\_\_\_

**BASS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DRUMS/PERCUSSION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**KEYBOARDS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**HORNS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**STRINGS:** \_\_\_\_\_

**MISCELLANEOUS INSTRUMENT:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SONGWRITER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECORD PRODUCER (PRODUCER NAME, CD TITLE):** \_\_\_\_\_

## Related Categories

**NEW CLUB:** \_\_\_\_\_

**LIVE MUSIC VENUE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ACOUSTIC VENUE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ALL-AGES VENUE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RECORD STORE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**INSTRUMENT/EQUIPMENT STORE:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RADIO STATION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**RADIO PROGRAM (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):** \_\_\_\_\_

**RADIO MUSIC PROGRAM (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):** \_\_\_\_\_

**RADIO PERSONALITY (SHOW, DEEJAY, STATION):** \_\_\_\_\_

**CONCERT POSTER (BAND, CLUB, DATE, ARTIST):** \_\_\_\_\_

**LOCAL LABEL:** \_\_\_\_\_

## Texas Music Hall of Fame Nominations

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

The Skunks  
The Dicks  
The Motards  
American Analog Set  
Bad Livers  
Byron Scott  
Rosie Flores

Spot Barnett  
Barbara Lynn  
Major Burkes  
Roy Head  
Uncle John Turner  
Pinetop Perkins  
Gary Primich

### OTHER NOMINEE\*

*Who are these people and why should you vote for them? Visit the poll ballot online at [austinchronicle.com/musicpoll](http://austinchronicle.com/musicpoll) for more information!*

## Required Information

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_

**ZIP** \_\_\_\_\_

**AGE** \_\_\_\_\_ **PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_

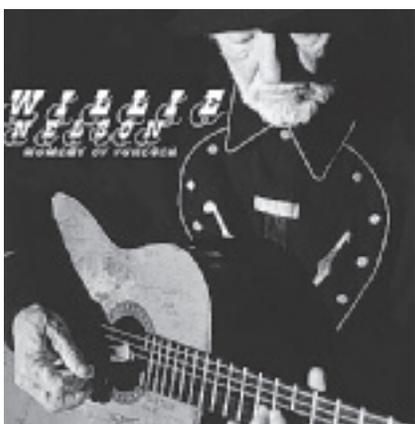
**ONLY BALLOTS WITH A FULL NAME AND MAILING ADDRESS WILL BE COUNTED!**

**Please mail to: Music Poll**

*The Austin Chronicle*

**PO Box 49066**

**Austin, TX 78765**



## WILLIE NELSON

### *Moment of Forever (Lost Highway)*

With Willie Nelson staring at three-quarters of a century on the earth, the question “What Would Willie Do?” is no longer a riddle: Keep making music. Lately, ATX’s country & western ambassador has made middling music with Ryan Adams and great music with Ray Price and Merle Haggard. Longtime fans can be forgiven their trepidation that the new *Moment of Forever*, primarily another covers LP, was produced by former Renée Zellweger boy toy Kenny Chesney. If the title invokes eternity, the album doesn’t get there, but the bestselling, Knoxville-born beach bum understands what gets Nelson going and has curated a heartening album. The pairing is formally exonerated around the time the two start trading verses on Guy Clark/Lee Roy Parnell number “Worry B Gone.” Randy Newman’s “Louisiana” and a searing version of Dylan’s “Gotta Serve Somebody,” backed by a crack band and a blast of brass, make it clear that Nelson’s already suffering a case of election-year blues. The problem with the backing is that Chesney’s Nashville rock overwhelms his elder statesman, yet, as has happened throughout Willie’s career, he sounds better and better with every spin. Just be sure to stick around for both versions of “You Don’t Think I’m Funny Anymore.”

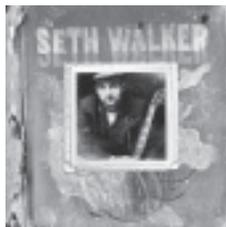
★★★ — Dan Oko

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

## SETH WALKER (Hyena)

Making his debut on Hyena Records, co-founded by late Atlantic Records producer Joel Dorn and also home to Dale Watson, Seth Walker’s reissued fifth album highlights the local bluesman’s versatility. Opener “Change My Way” drives a solid blues boogie, but slices of smooth R&B sway “Steady” and the aching take of Dave Bartholomew’s “By the Water,” Walker channeling Ray Charles in his supple, steady range. Devastating Katrina ode “2 Inches Left to the Ceiling” serves as the poignant centerpiece, floodwaters rising with Ephraim Owens’ trembling trumpet as Walker grits, “The GI Bill and Jesus both split for higher ground, and I can’t find my way to the door.” Kim Wilson lays harmonica on Jimmy Reed’s “I Know It’s a Sin,” and Walker covers Tom Waits effectively with “Picture in a Frame,” though it’s originals like “Sun Down” that shine with their own promise.

★★★ — Doug Freeman



chorus, while “Z.Z. Zephyr” invokes the Zilker Park train in a bid for rekindling transcendence. It’s the perfect post-punk soundtrack for obliterating your old hard drive.

★★★★ — Greg Beets

## PREY FOR SLEEP ... *A Bitter Beginning*

Metal alchemy produces mostly unstable results, but Prey for Sleep measures out uncompromising modern mayhem admirably classic within the genre’s table of elements. Hunter Townsend’s vocal evisceration manages an emotive afterimage, while guitarists Jason Powell and Matthew Carey unleash firestorm rhythms in sheets of penitentiary height. Only Dave Swanson’s kick drums punch up low in an otherwise unsinkable mix. Multiple movements of “Death to Reason,” epic at 3:28, shift into overdrive on the succeeding “Bridges Were Meant to Be Burned,” whose precision thrust climaxes on Townsend’s lashing, “You failed, you failed, you failed us all.” The title track kiss-off (“Promise me that you’ll never speak again”) heaves two minutes of scorched earth; “Empires of Blood and Lust” surges next with an unrelenting swarm of barely two minutes. “Reborn,” medieval fate through contemporary surrender, rams home the local quartet’s galloping pummel. Ten fusillades in 25 minutes, ... *A Bitter Beginning*, but a happy ending.

★★★★ — Raoul Hernandez



## GOOD TIMES CRISIS BAND

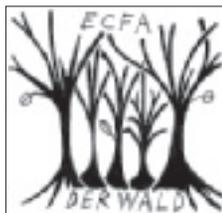
### *Select a Gather Point (Australian Cattle God)*

Good Times Crisis Band is a study in out-of-time contradictions. The tightfisted local guitar/bass/drums trio channels ZZ Top’s *Tres Hombres* by way of the Minutemen’s *Double Nickels on the Dime* against a lyrical backdrop espousing human resilience in the face of postmodern cynicism. *Select a Gather Point* then buzzes between the creases with a forward-facing energy all its own. GTCB’s attention to arrangement highlights all three pieces playing off one another as opposed to just following chord progressions. Maybe a laptop could approximate spatial dynamics with more scientific accuracy, but it wouldn’t get blood flowing like “Cyber Free” does. “This Will Pass” powers through the valley of despair on a stoic verse and triumphant



## ECFA *Der Wald*

Austin saxophonist/composer Carl Smith remains a tenacious champion of improvised music. Hosting countless live shows locally over a dozen years with ECFA, Smith’s third LP also marks his most substantive recording, a trio affair with the leader on tenor sax, Holland Hopson on soprano sax, and Jason Friedrich on drums. Like the rich



# TEXAS PLATTERS

NYC scene of the late-1990s that inspired the group, ECFA plays structured free jazz, music with a blueprint that quickly opens into vigorous improvisation. Smith’s five originals provide a semblance of order, but it’s the trio’s frenetic interplay that shines brightest on “Ergeben” and “Schygullplatz.” Steve Lacy’s sinuous piece “The Retreat” is revitalized with saxist Alex Coke replacing Hopson. Admittedly not music for everyone, adventurous listeners are sure to find favor in Smith’s complex, evolving sound.

★★★ — Jay Trachtenberg

## AM SYNDICATE *Liberation (Novastar)*

Plunging further than homage to Omar (Rhythm of Black Lines) Chavez’s favorite band, Blonde Redhead, *Liberation* regurgitates waves of echo with no hint of inspiration despite Erik Wofford’s able production. The second album from the local now-trio also finds Arcade Fire intonations (muddled “The Neighbor and His Wife”), touches of late-1980s Manchester, and even glimpses of Trail of Dead in opener “Hang Your Fears at the Door and Join Your Future.” With the breach of “All the People Under the Sun,” the first whisper of an actual AM Syndicate identity crowns, perhaps five years too late, as the Stone Roses beat merges with Laura Krause’s guest vocals. Like so many of their local contemporaries, AM Syndicate tries too damn hard to be cool when they should concentrate on making modern music now.

★★★ — Darcie Stevens



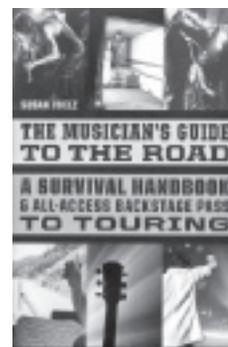
# SHEET MUSIC

## THE MUSICIAN’S GUIDE TO THE ROAD: A SURVIVAL HANDBOOK & ALL-ACCESS BACKSTAGE PASS TO TOURING

by Susan Voelz  
Billboard Books,  
272 pp., \$16.95

Musicians have written about life on the road since before paved highways, but none has gone into how it’s done. Susan Voelz, violinist for Poi Dog Pondering and Alejandro Escovedo, takes what started out as a 10-page “pocket handbook” and expands it into a primer for those starting out and a readable glimpse backstage for the rest of us. It’s incredibly basic in spots, Voelz taking three pages to list the contents of a first aid kit, but she spices things up with anecdotes and quotes from friends, bandmates, and experts like KGSR’s Jody Denberg, Jon Dee Graham, booking agent Brad Madison, and Abra Moore on everything from night driving to radio interviews, load-in to afterparty. Voelz includes examples of stage plots and a variety of contracts to use in keeping the business side of a tour in order, at the same time offering ideas on how to kill time between actual performances with a plucky “been there, done that” spirit. Advice on road relationships and how to ease back into life off it are also included. It’s not all sex, drugs, and rock & roll, but Voelz’s insight is valuable and entertaining.

— Jim Caligiuri

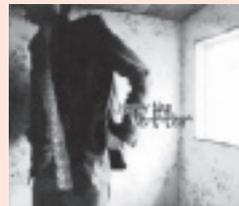
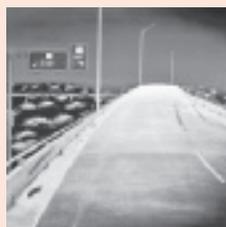


# FOR THE SAKE OF THE SONG

Revered blues mama **Leeann Atherton** and former **Red Elvises** guitarist/vocalist **Zhenya Rock** have joined forces in **Gypzee Soul**, a meeting of his fleet-fingered ability on all things stringed and her soulful sensibilities. Clunky, lyrical moments on their debut are almost offset by the amount of love poured into their worldly acoustic grooves... With a voice deep and smooth and the ability to pen country tunes with solid pop hooks, **Josh Grider** has already garnered some attention with the Texas Music crowd, winning Newcomer of the Year at the Gruene With Envy Awards. His Walt Wilkins-produced *Million Miles to Go* (Bootstrap) recalls a young Radney Foster with its combination of twang and sensitive, insightful lyrics... **The Hudsons**’ third release, *Before I Sleep*, covers lots of musical ground, from swing to introspective. The duo, Hudson Mueller and Brian Hudson, demonstrates why it was the winner of Best Folk Band at the 2007 Austin Music Awards with tunes like the sweet lullaby “Dreams” and strident “Money Goes to the Man”... Three years after causing a stir on the Americana charts, **Mark Jungers & the**

**Whistling Mules** return with *Silos and Smokestacks* (American Rural), their fourth effort. Jungers mixes things well, whether evoking the soft side of Neil Young or rowdy attitude of Jason & the Scorchers. It’s not new or original, but Jungers and company’s stick-to-your-ribs Americana is melodic and memorable... Veering from jangly to anthemic, **Jeremy Nail**’s debut, *Letter*, is a diverse, gripping listen, one that’s centered around his ability to capture waking moments with intensity. An all-star cast of accompanists, including producer/bassist Mark Addison and drummer Joey Shuffield, assures that Nail’s visions take shape with a self-confidence by a local singer-songwriter that hasn’t been displayed on a first effort since Jeff Klein.

— Jim Caligiuri



## LEAD STORY

Lee Myung-bak was elected president of South Korea in December, with experts in "poonsgoo" (similar to the Chinese feng shui) attributing the victory in part to the favorable location of his ancestors' graves, which is an important predictor of good fortune. Candidates not so lucky spent part of the campaign moving their ancestors' remains to better sites. Former President Kim Dae-jung is said to have learned the hard way, losing an earlier election with poor burial location, then winning after moving some dead relatives around, according to a November Reuters dispatch.

## CULTURAL DIVERSITY

• While European and American TV and film producers take care to have dialogue dubbed into foreign languages using voices that are appropriate for each actor, the dubbing in Poland continues to be done by "lektors" – males with smoking-seasoned voices who speak the dialogue of all the characters in a story in the same pitch. The trick, according to an October *Wall Street Journal* dispatch, is "speaking so smoothly that viewers forget that Paris Hilton sounds like a Polish Johnny Cash." One experiment using six different actors for the cast of an episode of *Friends* bombed with viewers, and the next week, the lektor returned.

• In November, an association of Ugandan activists of Rwandan descent complained to the Ugandan Parliament that the government was discriminating against its women, in that passport-application officials single them out to verify their Ugandan nationality based on whether their derrieres and legs are sufficiently large. According to a columnist for the newspaper *East African*, "Uganda is a society that's besotted with women's buttocks like few other places are." (Immigration officials denied that they "profile.")

• Jacob Zuma, a flamboyant Zulu activist since his teen years, was elected president of the African National Congress in December and is a presumed shoo-in to become president of South Africa in 2009, despite a 2005 rape trial (at which he was acquitted). Zuma had testified that the sex was consensual, that "[i]n Zulu culture, you cannot leave a woman if she is ready. To deny her sex, that would have been tantamount to rape." He also said that he had not bothered with a condom even though he knew she was HIV-positive, cheerfully explaining, "I had a shower afterward." (The rate of HIV infection in Zuma's KwaZulu-Natal province is about 40%.)

## LATEST RELIGIOUS MESSAGES

• More than 5,000 Christians have joined the Hollywood Prayer Network to pray anonymously for the spiritual transformation of certain troubled celebrities, according to a November *Chicago Sun-Times* report. Also, Incognito Prayer Network, whose members wear "90028" bracelets with Hollywood's ZIP code, will assign celebrities to members who are touched by a particular star. Even in the face of criticism, members stand firm. Said one, "I don't know if I could turn off this compassion that I feel [for a particular celebrity]. I'm called to do this, so I do."



BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



At least a half-dozen groups in five countries are seriously engaged in the quest to show that man can fly through the air and land without a parachute, according to a December *New York Times* report. "All of this is technically possible," said a physics professor, referring to the wing suits fliers are testing. "The thing I'm not sure of is ... safety." Some wing suits have slowed vertical descent, briefly, to about 30 mph, though the fliers were still moving horizontally at about 75 mph, which is why all testing is done with parachute backup. American Jeb Corliss believes he could land, even at 120 mph, provided that his neck were protected by a sturdy-enough frame on the wing suit.

• In Russia, at least two eccentric Christian sects are in the news: Thirty members of a cult devoted to the mesmerizing, diagnosed-schizophrenic Pyotr Kuznetsov have holed up in a cave in the Penza region since Nov. 7, awaiting the end of the world in May 2008 (though Kuznetsov has asked them publicly to come out). And a group in the city of Nizhny Novgorod worships outgoing President Vladimir Putin as the incarnation of the apostle Paul and King Solomon. "We didn't choose Putin," said one devotee. "God himself has chosen him!"

• Writer David Farley said he is investigating the 1983 disappearance of the "holy prepuce," which is a patch of the foreskin of Jesus and supposedly was the only body part he might have left on earth. Until it went missing, it was the centerpiece of each January's Feast of the Holy Circumcision at the Church of the Most Holy Name of Jesus in Calcutta, Italy. Several theories persist about its disappearance, the most enduring of which is that it was swiped on orders from the Vatican, which was troubled by the attention it had historically received, according to a December Religion News Service dispatch.

## QUESTIONABLE JUDGMENTS

• With the American West seemingly under perpetual threat of drought, developer Richard Mladick is nonetheless preparing to build Waveyard, a massive water theme park, near

Mesa, Ariz., which will require 50 million gallons of groundwater to open and as much as 100 million gallons annually. Explained Mladick: "I couldn't imagine raising my kids in an environment [without the opportunity] to grow up being passionate about the same sports that I grew up being passionate about" (that is, kayaking, scuba diving, and surfing). Voters approved Waveyard overwhelmingly, based on Mladick's promise of jobs and tax revenue.

• In November, Pittsburgh radio station KDKA reported that soldier Jordan Fox had recently been ordered to return \$3,000 of his \$10,000 enlistment bonus because his blindness and back injury from a roadside bomb in Iraq prevented him from fulfilling the final three months of his one-year Army "commitment." Fox was surprised to learn that the give-back is standard, but U.S. Rep. Jason Altmire of Pennsylvania has introduced legislation to change that.

## LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

Holdup-Note Blues: Arthur Cheney, 64, was arrested near Marysville, Calif., in December driving a car that had been spotted at a bank robbery. On the center console of the car, officers found a yellow "sticky" note with a handwritten "Robbery – 100s and 50s only." Said an officer, "We call that a clue." And Orlando Taylor, 26, was arrested walking in the door of a Bank of America in New York City in December. Police suspected he was up to no good because he had a holdup note in his pocket (and an employee identified him from a prior robbery).

Kids...  
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*Chronicle*  
CHRONICLE ON DESIGN  
ON BLUE IRIS BEING NAMED "COLOR OF THE YEAR":  
"I'm giving the finger to Pantone. Who died and made you 'the world's color authority'?"  
- Liz Osting

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## this week

### COMMUNITY LISTINGS

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

**The Austin Firefighters Calendars keep it hot for you all year long.** [SEE ONGOING, "AUSTIN FIREFIGHTERS 2008 CALENDARS"]

★ **WINTER & SPRING IN THE RIO GRANDE VALLEY** Learn about the history, wildlife, and politics of the Rio Grande Valley in this special Travis County Audubon Society presentation from veteran nature photographer **Steve Holt**. 7pm. LCRA Hancock Building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd., 300-BIRD. Free. [www.travisaudubon.org](http://www.travisaudubon.org).

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts.)  
**D Berman Gallery, Gallery Lombardi, New East Arts Gallery**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)  
**Every Mother's Son** @ Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, 6pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)  
**Six Organs of Admittance** Mohawk  
**South Filthy, the Golden Boys** Beerland  
**Moustache Party with the Black & White Years** Beauty Bar  
**Adrian Legg** Cactus Cafe

## Friday 1 8

**LEGAL AID CLINIC** features free legal advice from the attorneys of Texas RioGrande Legal Aid. Mon., Jan. 7 & 14; Fri., Jan. 18. Martin Middle School, 1601 Haskell, 374-2700. Free. [www.trla.org](http://www.trla.org).

**MANOR EDUCATION FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING GALA** Join Rep. Dawnna Dukes and Austin American-Statesman columnist John Kelso for this casino night featuring live music and silent and live auctions to benefit the Manor Education Foundation's grants, scholarships, and educational programs. Hilton Austin Airport, 9515 New Airport Dr., 385-6767. \$75. [www.manoreducation.org](http://www.manoreducation.org).

**RAW & LIVING FOODS POTLUCK** This monthly get-together features a Q&A session and a screening of a film featuring raw food guru David Wolfe. 6:30-10pm. 9508 Bell Mountain, 349-9677. Free. [events@livinghealth.com](http://events@livinghealth.com), [www.livinghealth.com](http://www.livinghealth.com).

**COMEDY** (See Arts Listings.)  
**David Huntsberger** Velveeta Room

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts.)  
**Art Palace**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)  
**Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors**  
@ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm, 12mid

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)  
**DJ Shadow & Cut Chemist** La Zona Rosa  
**Megon Fest** Beerland  
**Information Society** Elysium  
**Sunny Sweeney, Corb Lund, Betty Soo** Saxon Pub

## Saturday 1 9

**ANATOMY WITH DR. KOLENDA** Want to know what your body is really up to when you're strengthening your "core"? Find out in this in-depth Pilates-focused anatomy course. 1-5pm. Body Springs Studio, 3742 Far West #110, 452-0115. \$120. [www.bodysprings.com](http://www.bodysprings.com).

**ARTIST'S MARKET** Most Saturdays, 10am-6pm (check website for changes). Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 535-5761. Free. [www.downtownartistmarket.com](http://www.downtownartistmarket.com).

**AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET** Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free. [www.austinfarmersmarket.org](http://www.austinfarmersmarket.org).

**BEER SOCIAL** Join the folks from Black Star Beer Co-op for an evening of local brew and music with Rodeohead and Graham Wilkinson & the Underground Township. 7-9pm. The Compound, 1300 E. Fourth. [info@blackstar.coop](http://info@blackstar.coop), [www.blackstar.coop](http://www.blackstar.coop).

**BROWN SUGAR MC'S BACHELOR & BACHELORETTE SUGAR & SPICE AUCTION** Enjoy an evening of spoken word, hip-hop, and comedy

★ **GERMAN FREE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE** features weekly guided tours of the 150-year-old building and gardens. Thursdays, 1-4pm. German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. Free. [info@germantexans.org](mailto:info@germantexans.org), [www.germantexans.org](http://www.germantexans.org).

★ **GUIDED IMAGERY & MUSIC** Listen to music, discuss it, and join other participants today in creating a visual image inspired by what you've heard. Led by Association of Music and Imagery fellow Amy Blair. RSVP online or by phone. 7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$20.

★ **NANCY KEENAN** The former Montana legislator and current president of NARAL Pro-Choice America discusses *Roe v. Wade* and the future of the pro-choice movement today, on the occasion of the landmark case's 35th anniversary. 6:30pm. Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 471-5680. Free. [www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs](http://www.utexas.edu/cola/centers/cwgs).

★ **SPEED DATING FOR DEADHEADS** Enjoy one long, strange trip punctuated by seven-minute dates, \$1 grilled cheese sandwiches, a nature walk, and the music of the Grateful Dead. 7-10pm. Cafe Mundi, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634. \$20. [www.hubofthewheel.org](http://www.hubofthewheel.org).

## Thursday 1 7

★ **AUSTIN 360 MIX & MINGLE** Join the Jewish Community Association of Austin's Women's Division for an evening of art and music to benefit the **Austin United Jewish Community Campaign**. 7-9pm. Haven Gallery, 1122 W. Sixth, 795-9937 x13. Free to qualifying UJC Campaign contributors. [shira.weinstein@shalomaustin.org](mailto:shira.weinstein@shalomaustin.org), [www.shalomaustin.org/women](http://www.shalomaustin.org/women).

★ **AUSTIN CACTUS & SUCCULENT SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETING** Third Thursdays, 7:30pm. Austin Area Garden Center, 2220 Barton Springs Rd. (in Zilker Botanical Gardens). Free. [www.austincss.com](http://www.austincss.com).

★ **EAT BETTER, SAVE MONEY** This nutrition tour will cover how to spend less on healthy foods and how to make your groceries stretch further. Call ahead or sign up at the Concierge Desk. 11am-noon. Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 542-2243. \$5. [hannah.wong@wholefoods.com](mailto:hannah.wong@wholefoods.com), [www.wholefoods.com](http://www.wholefoods.com).

## the young ones

★ **MAGNET PROGRAM OPEN HOUSES** Find out what these middle schools have to offer, and sign your child up for shadowing a current student: **Kealing Middle School Magnet**, Thu., Jan. 17, 6-8pm; 1607 Pennsylvania, 414-3180. [www.austinisd.org/schools](http://www.austinisd.org/schools).

★ **LATINITAS NATIONAL WRITING CONTEST FOR GIRLS** *Latinitas*, Austin's own homegrown online magazine for girls, invites Latina youth ages 14-21 to submit 800- to 1,000-word essays explaining "What It Is to Be Latina." The winning submissions will be published both in print and online. E-mail for further details. Deadline: Feb. 10. [latinitasawards@yahoo.com](mailto:latinitasawards@yahoo.com), [www.latinitasmagazine.org](http://www.latinitasmagazine.org).

★ **SEEKING POETRY SUBMISSIONS** Kids in kindergarten through 12th grade are welcome to submit poetry to be considered for publication in the Austin International Poetry Festival's annual *Diverse Youth* anthology. See [www.aipf.org](http://www.aipf.org) for details. Deadline: Jan. 31. [aipfya@sbcglobal.net](mailto:aipfya@sbcglobal.net).

★ **FREE MARTIAL ARTS CLASSES** Westover Hills Club is offering a free

month of Life Ki-do martial arts classes designed to help students improve their focus, confidence, social skills, body awareness, and coordination. Call or e-mail to register. Through Feb. 29. Westover Hills Club, 8706 Westover Club Dr., 215-0064. Free month of classes. [info@lifekido.com](mailto:info@lifekido.com), [www.lifekido.com](http://www.lifekido.com).

★ **FROM BOOKS TO MOVIES** invites kids ages 8-17 to get an in-depth look at the differences between novels and their film adaptations. **Wednesdays:** Carver Library, 1161 Angelina (4:30pm); University Hills Library, 4721 Loyola (4pm). **Thursdays:** Capeda Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley (4pm); St. John Library, 7500 Blessing (4pm). See [www.cityofaustin.org/library](http://www.cityofaustin.org/library) for movie schedule. 974-7400.

★ **MITCHIE'S STORY TIME** This twice-weekly story time features African and African-American folktales, and each child receives a free gift, refreshments, and 30% off a book purchase. (Saturday story times also include sign-language instruction.) **Wednesdays & Saturdays, 1-2pm.** Mitchie's Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. Free. [www.mitchie.com](http://www.mitchie.com).

★ **PARENT EDUCATION WORKSHOPS** The Austin Discovery School hosts three workshops today addressing a variety of parenting issues: **Supporting the Anxious Child** teaches the differences between (and coping strategies for) healthy and problematic forms of anxiety (9-10am). **Naturopathic Medicine** covers natural elimination of allergies, sinusitis, ear infections, and upper respiratory viruses for kids (or parents) who always seem to be coming down with something (10-11am). **Nutrition for Your Family** shows you how to keep your family's meals healthy and happy (11am-noon). Sat., Jan. 19. Austin Discovery School, 8509 FM 969 #200, 576-2166.

★ **GOLLY GEE WHIZ!** hearkens back to the Judy Garland and Mickey Rooney films of the 1930s with a Depression-era musical about how the kids in Happyville beat the blues through the magic of puttin' on a good show. Jan. 19-Feb. 17. Sat., 1 & 3:30pm; Sun., Feb. 10 & 17, 2:30pm; Thu., Feb. 14, 7pm (arrive early for Valentine's Day crafts & refreshments). Zachary Scott Theatre, 1426 Toomey, 476-0541 x1. \$10 (\$7, ages 12 & under). [www.zachscott.com](http://www.zachscott.com).

★ **HAND TALK** Preceding the 2pm adult session, this sign language class for hearing and nonhearing kids also includes African and African-American folktales along with refreshments and discounts off book purchases. (Volunteer readers always welcome; call 323-6901.) **Saturdays, 1-2pm.** Mitchie's Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 923-9523. Free. [www.mitchie.com](http://www.mitchie.com).

★ **PLAY IT BY EAR** The latest Children's Museum exhibit takes an interactive approach to the creative and technological processes behind sound production. Sat., Jan. 19, 10am-5pm. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. \$3.50-5.50. [www.austinkids.org](http://www.austinkids.org).

★ **D&D CHARACTER CREATION PARTY** In this intro to the old-school paper-and-dice version of *Dungeons & Dragons*, kids will roll for their characters and discuss what kind of campaigns they'd like to play. For ages 10-17. Sat., Jan. 19, 1-4pm. Spicewood Springs Branch Library, 8637 Spicewood Springs Rd., 974-7341. Free. [www.wiredforyouth.com](http://www.wiredforyouth.com).

★ **MLK CHILDREN'S ART WORKSHOP** UT art professor Christopher Adejumo leads this special art workshop for the young

ones. All supplies will be provided; parents and volunteers are welcome. Sat., Jan. 19, 2-4pm. Mitchie's Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. Free. [www.mitchie.com](http://www.mitchie.com).

★ **LIBBA BRAY** continues her dark magic adventuring in the Space Academy in *The Sweet Far Thing*, the sequel to *A Great and Terrible Beauty* and *Rebel Angels*. Sat., Jan. 19, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

★ **FLYING THEATER MACHINE** This interactive performance featuring games and stories provides kids ages 4-10 with an early introduction to improv comedy. Through Feb. 24. Sundays, 2-3pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$5 (free, babies). [jessica@arjet.net](mailto:jessica@arjet.net).

★ **SUNDAY KID SHOW** brings you the canine antics of the amazing Chickendog Circus. Sun., Jan. 20, 10:30-11:30am. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free.

★ **MICHAEL BUCKLEY** adventures on his fifth chapter book with detectives Sabrina and Daphne Grimm in *The Sisters Grimm*. Wed., Jan. 23, 11am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

# the GAY place

BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

For more gay stuff, see *Calendar* online: [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com). Send gay bits to [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com).

**HAPPY B-DAY, OCH!** It's hard to know what those silly boys at the Can are up to: pretty sweet young things wearing nothing but shot glasses, new drinks, old bartenders. Did you know that place has been around for 18 years? That's older than most shot boys ... (what do you know about twinks?). Three days may not be enough, but drop by anyway, because this whole weekend is a celebration. Congrats OilCan's for keepin' our town lubed. Thu.-Sun., Jan 17-20. Oilcan Harry's, 211 W. Fourth, 320-8823. [www.oilcanharrys.com](http://www.oilcanharrys.com).

**BLOGGIN' THE GAY PLACE** Come visit us in cybersphere. Check for a slew of Mardi Gras listings on the **Gay Place Blog** and on our design blog, **Chronique**. Maybe win yourself a nice unicorn or T-shirt or something. Or go naked for all we care. 454-5766. [gayplace@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com), [austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog](http://austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog), [austinchronicle.com/chronique](http://austinchronicle.com/chronique).

**WHEN (MORE) PIGS FLY** They told us more than 120 full costume changes in 90 minutes. Is that even possible, Blake Yelavich? Do show. Do show. Here is one fabulously gay costume musical, ready for the taking. Through Jan. 26. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat. 7:30 & 10pm. Arts on Real Theatre, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. [www.artsonreal.com](http://www.artsonreal.com).

**GAYRIBBEAN HALLOWEEN CRUISE 2008** Yes, it's January. That gives you about nine months to get that perfect costume for all the perfect parties aboard (and ashore), for this spooky cruise. Sail from Galveston aboard Carnival's *Conquest* to Montego Bay, Grand Cayman, and Cozumel, 877/560-8318. From \$568. [info@gayribbean.com](mailto:info@gayribbean.com), [www.gayribbeancruises.com](http://www.gayribbeancruises.com).

**MLK MARCH, RALLY, AND COMMUNITY FESTIVAL** Step up. Get in line. Join **Rep. Dawanna Dukes** in the annual march from UT to H-T. The ideals and accomplishments of the good Rev. Martin Luther King salve the hurts of all struggles. It's all part of one large struggle, now, isn't it? Come together. (Check the website for march route and details.) Mon., Jan. 21, 9am. From the MLK statue on the UT campus to the Huston-Tillotson campus.

[www.mlkcelebration.com/marchandrally.php](http://www.mlkcelebration.com/marchandrally.php).

**HRC AUSTIN GALA DINNER** New year! New date! New location! New attitude! This is the **Human Rights Campaign's** big'un, the once-a-year gala (previously held in mid-March during spring break and South by Southwest) where local folks are recognized for their contributions to the cause. What cause? Justice for all. And a fabulous wardrobe. (We threw in that last part.) Watch this space for more info on who's appearing and what to expect. For now, check HRC's site. Sat., Jan. 26, 6pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 485-5999. [austindinner@hrc.org](mailto:austindinner@hrc.org), [www.hrcaustin.org](http://www.hrcaustin.org), [www.boxofficetickets.com/hrc](http://www.boxofficetickets.com/hrc).

**WINO LEZZIES** Nothing like a sweet wine drunk, a sipper's buzz, that makes you thankful for another year, another week, even, and another reason to join that adorable **Robin** from the **Wine Merchant**, who knows how to pick out a good time. And wine. Thu., Jan. 17, 7pm. Nueva Onda, 2218 College, 447-5063. \$30/person.

continued on p.67



DIARY ENTRY | JAMES D. | FRIDAY | 9:00 AM | PERFECT CHOICE

"We got here last night and got a chance to do a little walk around. This place is charming. The narrow streets and small boutiques feel like a village somewhere in Europe. It was the perfect choice for us to reconnect and just be together."

FOR A CHANCE TO WIN A PERFECT CHOICE VISIT [SANTAFE.ORG](http://SANTAFE.ORG) TODAY.

## Daniel Llanes

"Messengers from  
the Dreamtime"

**DANCE MUSIC POETRY**

January 18th & 19th at 8pm  
Dougherty Arts Center (1110 Barton Springs Rd.)  
[www.earthculturedancer.com](http://www.earthculturedancer.com)

Music by *For the Love of It*

Melanie Rose Maxwell, Saffron Parten,  
Carmen Llanes, Iku Nisaimura,  
Melvin Wilburn, & Alex Coke  
with guest harpist Terry Gansale

Dancers:  
Milissa Epstein  
& Sarah Chenault

a Dances for the World Production  
CO-SPONSORED BY MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM  
& THE CITY OF AUSTIN CULTURAL ARTS DIVISION

★ **STAR in**  
*Give the coolest  
gift this holiday!*  
(gift certificates are available)

# Disney's HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL

...and many other fun, new classes  
begin in January Ages 18mo-18yrs  
11 locations New toddler classes!

[kidsactingstudio.com](http://kidsactingstudio.com) 836-KIDS

**KidsActing**  
Voted Austin Chronicle  
Best of Austin  
2005, 2006, 2007

with a charming bachelor or bachelorette by your side thanks to the Sugar & Spice Auction, a portion of the proceeds from which will benefit the **Austin Resource Center for the Homeless**. BYOB. 7-11pm. *Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 947-3636. \$5. www.myspace.com/theladylegacy*

**BURNS NIGHT** Join the Scots of Austin for this annual tribute to the legendary Scottish poet Robert Burns. Enjoy an evening of haggis, poetry, and entertainment from Capitol City Pipes & Drums. 7pm. *First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 327-3377. \$25 (\$15, students). www.scotsofaustin.org.*

**BUS RIDERS UNION-ATX MEETING** Any two-digit bus route will take you within three blocks of this month's meeting, so there's no excuse for missing the chance to help organize public ownership of Austin's public transit system. 1pm. *Little City, 916 Congress, 220-8227. Free. www.busatx.org.*

**CAREER TESTING WORKSHOP** Find out how to mix your skills and creativity with making money in this workshop based on the Self-Directed Search standardized test. 10am-4:30pm. *Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$75. bob@humanpotentialcenter.org. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.*

**CLASS FOR HOME BUYERS** Learn how to buy an Austin home in today's economy without regretting it tomorrow. Call or visit [www.livinginaustin.com](http://www.livinginaustin.com) to RSVP. 1-3pm. *Austin Community College Highland Business Center, 5930 Middle Fiskville Rd., 997-7653. Free. web@livinginaustin.com.*

**HAND TALK** This weekly sign language class for hearing and nonhearing participants kicks off with a special story-time session for kids (1-2pm) before the adult session begins at 2pm. *Saturdays, 2-3pm. Mitchie's Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 923-9523. Free. www.mitchie.com.*

**HERB TALK** presented by Master Gardener Vicki Dempsey Blachman. 10:30am-noon. *Hampton Library, 5125 Convict Hill, 892-6680. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.*

**KEEPIN' AUSTIN WEIRD CHASE** promises an adrenaline-pumping afternoon of high adventure

featuring a handmade treasure map that you must use – along with clues, ciphers, puzzles, and even some old-fashioned gadgets of the invisible-ink caliber – to beat out the other teams aiming to find the treasure first. 1-6pm. *Downtown Austin, 888/702-9039 x4. \$30. northeast@ravenchase.com. www.ravenchase.com.*

★ **MLK DAY OF SERVICE** pays tribute to the achievements of Martin Luther King with a day of service projects in his honor. Today is your day to give back: Check out their website to find the volunteer project that best expresses how you'd like to better your community. 9am-3pm. 225-0360. *Free. rene.carlin@unitedwaycapitalarea.org. www.mlkday.gov.*

**MOUNT BONNELL CLIMBING CLEANUP** Keep Austin Beautiful and the Austin Parks & Recreation Department are seeking trained climbers to help clear trash and debris from the cliffs around Mount Bonnell this morning. Bring your own gear; water and snacks will be provided. E-mail to register. 9am-1pm. 3800 Mount Bonnell Dr. *stefino@yahoo.com.*

**RAINWATER COLLECTION TOUR** Take a tour of Westcave Preserve's rainwater collection system today and learn how you can collect rainwater at home, too. 10am-noon. *Westcave Preserve, 24814 Hamilton Pool Rd., 830/825-3442. \$5. info@westcave.org. www.westcave.org.*

**RESEARCH DISCUSSION GROUP** meets this month to discuss the recent *Remedial and Special Education Journal* article "Brain Gym: Building Stronger Brains or Wishful Thinking?" 9:30am. *Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 476-8382. Free (optional \$5 copying fee). www.rawson-saunders.org.*

**ROUND ROCK'S MARTIN LUTHER KING COMMEMORATIVE MARCH** celebrates the accomplishments of the civil rights movement with a procession beginning at Buck Egger Park (900 S. Mays) and ending at the Alan R. Baca Center (301 W. Bagdad), where the 2pm program begins with music from the Round Rock High School Show Choir, Stony Point High School Jazz Ensemble, two area gospel choirs, a talk from the Rev. Warren Madison of St. Mary's Missionary Baptist, and

more. 1-3pm. *Round Rock, 512/491-0221. Free. www.roundrocktexas.gov/calendar.*

**SEW EVERYTHING WORKSHOP** An afternoon of sewing demonstrations and discussion from Sew Everything Workshop author **Diana Rupp**. 3-5pm. *Craft-O-Rama, 3100 S. Congress Ste. 3-B, 707-2405. Free. info@austincraftorama.com. www.austincraftorama.com.*

**SHOAL CREEK WORKDAY** REI sponsors this monthly volunteer effort to remove construction debris and weeds along the Shoal Creek Greenbelt. Water, snacks, and poison ivy provided (dress accordingly). 8-10am. *Shoal Creek Greenbelt, Ninth Street to Town Lake Trail (meet at Henderson Street entrance), 482-3357. Free.*

**SPRING BULB FESTIVAL** features two days of seminars and demonstrations to get you ready for the planting season. Families can plant bulbs together in the park, and all bulbs discussed will be on sale in the Incredible Zilker Bulb Store. *Jan. 19-20. Sat., 10am-4pm; Sun., noon-4pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 619-0344. Free. texasflowerbulbsociety@yahoo.com. www.zilkerbulbgarden.org.*

**TASTE OF WHOLE FOODS MARKET** Call ahead or register at the concierge desk for this tasting tour designed to help you find the healthy diet that fits your lifestyle. 11am-noon. *Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 542-2243. Free. hannah.wong@wholefoods.com. www.wholefoods.com.*

**TEXAS BAMBOO SOCIETY** Learn all about the different types of bamboo that grow well in Austin, and groom some bamboo yourself in the Taniguchi Japanese Garden (bring hand clippers, loppers, a saw, and gloves). 10am-1pm. *Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 929-9565. Free. www.bamboocentral.net.*

**TRAIL WORK DAY** Join Hill Country Outdoors in spreading mulch, clearing brush, and making other improvements to this undeveloped trail area that will one day connect with the Walnut Creek greenbelt. 9am-1pm. *Copperfield Nature Trail, 1450 Yager, 431-8878. Free. www.hillcountryoutdoors.com.*

**VIDEO & DISCUSSION** features a screening of *Joshua*, followed by a guided group discussion on gracefully beginning new life phases. 7pm-12mid. *Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. Free. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.*

**ART OPENINGS** (See Visual Arts.) **South Austin Museum of Popular Culture, Creative Research Laboratory**

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.) **Blade Runner: The Final Cut** @ Paramount, 4:30, 7, 9:30pm  
**Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors** @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 9:45pm, 12mid  
**Journey to the Flames: 8 Years of Burning Man** @ Alamo Drafthouse South, noon  
**The Rocky Horror Picture Show** @ Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.) **Brothers & Sisters, Ripe** The Parish  
**Les Savy Fav** Emo's  
**Church of the Friendly Ghost Night** Salvage Vanguard Theater  
**Megon Fest** Emo's  
**Jason Isbell & the 400 Unit** Antone's  
**Big Sam's Funky Nation** Continental Club

## Sunday 20

**BILINGUAL POWER YOGA FLOW** A 90-minute session for all levels, taught in Spanish and English. *Sundays, 4:30pm; Wednesdays, 6pm. Esquina Tango, 209 Pedernales. \$8 recommended donation. namaste.austin@gmail.com.*

**MLK DAY EUCHARISTIC CELEBRATION** The Office of Black Catholics of the Diocese of Austin presents the Most Reverend John E. McCarthy exploring the theme "Keeping the Dream Alive – Honoring the Legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr." Reception to be held after Mass. 10am. *Holy Cross Catholic Church, 1610 E. 11th, 472-3741.*

# day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

**Forbidden Gardens Chinese Cultural Museum** in Katy roars like the marble lion statues that guard the front gate. In the visitor's imagination, the marching feet of 6,000 terra-cotta soldiers and the music of the miniature grand parade of the imperial court are almost audible on the breeze blowing across the Texas Coastal Plains about 25 miles west of downtown Houston.

Visiting the Forbidden Gardens is like riding a time machine back thousands of years and thousands of miles. Few of the visitors – and they come from around the world to see the display – will get a chance to see the actual Chinese sites. The magnificence of the original is not lost in miniaturization.

Opened in 1997, the Forbidden Gardens is the hobby of Ira P.H. Poon. A reclusive Hong Kong billionaire, Poon made his fortune in real estate and now lives in Seattle. The mission of the attraction is to give Americans a greater appreciation of Chinese culture and history. No one is entirely sure why he chose the outskirts of Houston for his \$20 million attraction other than the city has the third-largest Chinese community in the U.S., and land was relatively cheap.

An hourlong tour begins at the rows of terra-cotta soldiers lined up in perfect formation. The afternoon light bathes the army in a golden armor. Even at one-third the size of the 5- to 6-foot-tall originals, the 6,000 soldiers fill a shallow pit as big as a football field. At the far end of the pit, a statue of Emperor Qin Shi Huang Di watches over his troops with his burial mound behind him.

The terra-cotta army is a replica of a site unearthed in 1974 by farmers digging a well near Xi'an, China. In the third century, Qin (pronounced "chin") conquered the other six states of China to become the first ruler of a united China. His government developed a unified language, currency, and legal system that evolved into

modern China. The soldiers, their hands frozen in grips of weapons that have rotted away, were to protect the emperor in the afterlife.

Next the tour travels back 11 centuries to the Forbidden City of Beijing, the home of 24 successive Chinese emperors. From Tiananmen Gate at the south end of the city to the Hall of Imperial Peace at the north end, the 999 buildings cover 40,000 square feet at one-twentieth the size of the original. All of the buildings (and the terra-cotta soldiers) were created by Chinese workmen, using indigenous materials, and shipped to Texas. Covered by a protective roof, the dollhouse-size city gives a giant's view of the harmonious sense of architecture and open space that the planners had for the largest palatial compound in the world.

Also on the tour are exhibits on Chinese weapons and architecture. There was really no explanation by the guide why one room of the garden compound is dedicated to a model of Suzhou, China. Often called "the Venice of China," the diorama of the city famous for its silk has been praised for its accuracy. The miniature city is cute but not very enlightening.

All in all, a visit to the gardens is very interesting, and the terra-cotta army is as impressive as you might imagine. Several reviews have criticized the management for the ragged condition of some of the displays and the unprofessional staff, all of which seemed to be true. If you look at the gardens as an unusual art project by a Chinese businessman, it is quite an amazing accomplishment. Maybe the project isn't as grand as the originals, but it does bring a little of the splendor of the ancient emperors' ghosts to the Texas Plains.

The Forbidden Gardens Chinese Cultural Museum is at 23500 Franz Rd., about a mile north of I-10 at the Grand Parkway exit. The Forbidden Gardens are open Friday through Sunday from 10am to 3:30pm, with tours at 11am, noon, 1, 2, and 3pm. Most of the exhibits are outdoors, so tours can be canceled because of inclement weather. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors. For more information, call 281/347-8000 or go to [www.forbidden-gardens.com](http://www.forbidden-gardens.com).

863rd in a series. *Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.*



GERALD E. MCLEOD

Forbidden Gardens

## out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

**ARTIST OF THE YEAR SHOW** showcases works of the local artists distinguished as Artist of the Month throughout 2007. *Through Jan. 31. New Braunfels Art League Gallery, 239 W. San Antonio St., New Braunfels, 830/629-8022. Free. www.newbraunfelsartleague.com.*

**SOUTHWESTERN EXPOSITION LIVESTOCK SHOW & RODEO** The nation's oldest stock show offers something for everybody with carnival games and rides, barns full of blue-ribbon animals, and the world's original indoor rodeo. *Through Feb. 3. Will Rogers Memorial Center, Fort Worth, 817/877-2400. www.fwstockshowrodeo.com.*

**HILL COUNTRY GEM & MINERAL SHOW** brings you minerals, fossils, meteorites, gems, and jewelry on display and for sale, and features door prizes, demonstrations, food, and kid-friendly activities, too. *Jan. 20. Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 10am-5pm. Pioneer Pavilion at Lady Bird Johnson Municipal Park, Fredericksburg, 830/895-9630. Free. www.fredericksburgrockhounds.org.*

**ANSON JONES & THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS** celebrates the life and multifaceted career of Dr. Anson Jones – the last president of the Republic of Texas and the "Architect of Annexation" – with period farming demonstrations and tours. *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 19-20. Sat., 10am-4:30pm; Sun., 11am-4:30pm. Barrington Living History Farm, Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic Site, Washington County, 936/878-2213. \$4 (\$2, students). www.birthplaceoftexas.com.*

**BIRDS OF PREY** A great-horned owl, a crested caracara, and an American kestrel accompany Save Our American Raptors founder Doris Mager today as she talks about her 35 years of rescuing and loving American birds of prey. *Sat., Jan. 19, 1-2pm. Goliad State Park, Goliad, 361/645-3405. www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/findadest/parks/goliad\_and\_mission\_espiritu\_santo.*

**GULF COAST MUSIC HALL OF FAME SHOW** The Clique and Edgar Winter headline this concert honoring Janis Joplin and other Gulf Coast musicians as the newest inductees to the Music Hall of Fame. *Sat., Jan. 19, 7pm. Carl Parker Center at Lamar State College, Port Arthur, 409/722-3699. www.museumofthegulfcoast.org.*

**OPRY NIGHT** takes off in the tradition of the Grand Ole Opry of the Fifties with dozens of singers showing their talents, followed by a dance with the Wink Tyler Band. *Sat., Jan. 19, 7pm-12mid. American Legion Hall, Smithville, 512/237-2313. \$15. www.smithvilletexas.net.*

**BIG THREE BATTLE DANCE** Enjoy the music and shuffle your feet to the Central Texas Sounds, Dujka Brothers, and the Red Ravens. *Sun., Jan. 20, 1-7pm. Fireman's Hall, Industry, 979/357-2220.*

the **GAY place** CONTINUED FROM P65

**NEIGHBORLY WAY** Bless this band. And bless Amy's hand, which has been in recovery and has kept our favorite little band from the stage. A new year. A new album. And a new show. **Darling New Neighbors** with Puff Puff & the Receivers. Sounds good to us. *Thu., Jan 17, 10pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747.*

**UPRISE! FOR VALENTINE'S** They ask for what they want: divas, dominatrices, kings, queens, and coquettes. Already feels warm, down there. **UpRise! Productions** is looking for volunteers and performers for their sexy and sassy **Hot Thang!** (Haven't heard yet? It's a sex-positive Valentine's ball at the Monarch Event Center.) Wanna help usher, set up, strike, and perform in the interactive maze. Yes, we said "interactive maze." Interested? Give a call. 928-5864.

**THEIR SHIT IS HOT** The last day of the first month of the new year, and what else would you want to be doing? Feasting your musical senses on talented kids who know how to rock. Khattie and her gang the **Hot as Shits** play with **Nicky Click**, who Austin is very, very, very lucky to welcome to our third coast. Live music queer capitol. And yippee. *Thu., Jan. 31, 9pm. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017.*

**DANCE PARTY USA** A movement of movement, TGINBD. Shameless self-promotion, sweaty brows, pit stains that resemble Abraham Lincoln's profile, and unadulterated nasty-nast dance music. Ugh.

Come see Getty's band, **NBD** with other friendly friends **Perfect Pants** and **Babblefish** in a teeny little venue that has stalactites, stalagmites, (look, ma, it's a cave) and vintage bloomers. Put 'em on. Shake 'em off. Shake it all the way down. *Fri., Jan. 18, 8pm. The Opera House, 2209-K S. First, 440-1401. www.myspace.com/nbd4dayz.*

**CHO HO ALERT** The Glorious Notorious one, Ms. **Margaret Cho** herself, will be in the Lone Star State this weekend for four **Workshop Shows** in Houston. We can't say what we know about a possible upcoming Austin gig, but be sure to watch this space. (And check the **Gay Place Blog** for mo info.) *Fri.-Sat., Jan 18-19, 8pm & 10:30pm. Laff Stop Houston, 526 Waugh Dr., Houston, 713/524-2333. \$35. www.laffstop.com, austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog.*

**AUSTIN GAY MEN'S MEDITATION GROUP** Meet every Sunday at 7pm. H-ohm-o. **Shambhala Meditation Center**, 1702 S. Fifth, 699-3218. [info@gaymeditation.org](mailto:info@gaymeditation.org), [www.gaymeditation.org](http://www.gaymeditation.org).

**WHOA. WET MANTIES.** New year, new nights at the old bars. So you've started getting lunch at **Charlie's**. But Monday nights, you can get dessert. Second helpings, even. And get your undies in a wad. (In a good way.) Welcome to the **Lobo Andrew Christian Wet Underwear Contest** (oh, he of world-famous **Show-It Technology**), every first night of the week. Why not? Because boys, having a case of the Mondays ... well, it can get pretty hard. And when it does, you want it to look good. *Mondays, starting Jan. 14. Charlie's, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481.*

**La Angry Xicana**



WEENOBIE.COM

**LA ANGRY XICANA** "She's really not angry, she's just getting even." Queerlandia-Xicana style! Why not make some fun of what we're not supposed to using Spanglish humor that flirts with all kinds of cultural taboos from the purported lesbian gang epidemic (The Pink Mafia!) to queered religious icons to the semisacred courtship that happens only among queer womyn of color. **Adelina Anthony** is Amazing. Really. *Sat., Jan. 19, 7:30pm. Center for Mexican American Cultural Arts, 600 River, 472-2001. \$10. [lorenzo@allgo.org](mailto:lorenzo@allgo.org).*

**HEDDA REIGNS** Diva do what she want. And thankfully, **Hedda Layne** brings it back to Fourth Street with her eccentric sound, that ambient techno explosion of dance fever with a side of Texas love. She's made us dance before. And she will do it again. On the Lord's day. *Sun., Jan. 20, 6pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150. [scott@heddalayne.com](mailto:scott@heddalayne.com), [www.heddalayne.com](http://www.heddalayne.com).*

# ART & ARCHITECTURE EXHIBIT

**ROI JAMES  
ANDREW LONG  
STEVEN DUBOV**

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**We build strong kids, strong families, strong communities.**

# Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

## THE HOME TEAMS

★ **AUSTIN TOROS** For more on the Toros, see [austinchronicle.com/sports](http://austinchronicle.com/sports). Vs. Los Angeles: *Thu., Jan. 17, 10am*. Vs. Colorado: *Wed.-Thu., Jan. 23-24, 7pm*. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez. \$8-23. [www.nba.com/dleague/austin](http://www.nba.com/dleague/austin).

**TEXAS LONGHORNS HOCKEY** Saturday is Texas Ex's Night. Vs. University of Texas-San Antonio: *Thu., Jan. 18, 9pm*. Vs. Kansas: *Fri., Jan. 19, 9pm*. Chaparral Ice Center, 14200 I-35 N., 252-8500. [www.texasicehockey.com](http://www.texasicehockey.com).

**CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball** Vs. Sul Ross State University: *Thu., Jan. 24, 7:30pm*. **Women's Basketball** Vs. Sul Ross State University: *Thu., Jan. 24, 5:30pm*. [athletics.concordia.edu](http://athletics.concordia.edu).

**ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball** Vs. St. Mary's: *Thu., Jan. 17, 8pm*. Vs. Dallas Baptist: *Sat., Jan. 21, 7:30pm*. St. Edward's RCC. \$5 (\$3 seniors/students; \$1, under 12). **Women's Basketball** Vs. St. Mary's: *Thu., Jan. 17, 6pm*. St. Edward's RCC. \$5 (\$3 seniors/students; \$1, under 12). [www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm](http://www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm).

**UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Women's Basketball** Vs. Iowa State: *Wed., Jan. 16, 7pm*. Vs. Oklahoma State: *Wed., Jan. 23, 7pm*. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. **Men's Basketball** Vs. Colorado: *Sat., Jan. 19, 7pm*. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. **Women's Tennis** Vs. University of Texas-San Antonio: *Sat., Jan. 19, noon*. Penick-Allison Tennis Center, 1701 Trinity. [www.texasports.com](http://www.texasports.com).

**AUSTIN ICE BATS** Saturday's game vs. the Bucks is sold out. Vs. Laredo: *Sat., Jan. 19, 5:05pm*. Vs. Amarillo: *Sun., Jan. 20, 4:05pm*. Chaparral Ice Arena, 14200 N. I-35, 927-7825. \$9-35. [www.icebats.com](http://www.icebats.com).

**TEXAS ROLLERGIRLS TRYOUTS** More fun than being in a band and better exercise, too. E-mail for details. *Sun., Jan. 20, 9:45am*. Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann. [tryouts@trollergirls.com](mailto:tryouts@trollergirls.com).

**SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Women's Basketball** Vs. Birmingham-Southern: *Fri., Jan. 18, 6pm*. Vs. Rhodes College: *Sat., Jan. 19, 6pm*. **Men's Basketball** Vs. Birmingham-Southern: *Fri., Jan. 18, 8pm*. Vs. Rhodes College: *Sat., Jan. 19, 8pm*. **Swimming & Diving** Vs. McMurry: *Sat., Jan. 19, 1pm*. [southwesternpirates.cstv.com](http://southwesternpirates.cstv.com).

## RECREATION & FITNESS

**AUSTIN SKIERS HAPPY HOUR** A weekly get-together for ski and sports enthusiasts. *Thursdays, 5-7pm*. Bikinis Bar & Grill, 6901 N. I-35, 261-1306. Free. [www.austinskiers.org](http://www.austinskiers.org).

★ **BID WHIST TOURNAMENT** Bid whist is a card game that apparently was a precursor to the game of bridge. Bid whist is just like whist, but with a bidding component added. Got it? Thought so. *Sat., Jan. 19, noon (11am, registration)*. The Studio, 5804 N. I-35, 919-2999. \$30 (\$60 team). [www.tbidwhist.com](http://www.tbidwhist.com).

**TEXAS OUTDOORS WOMAN NETWORK** Open to women of all ages interested in outdoor activities. Fishing, kayaking, camping, hiking, and more! No experience required. *Tue., Jan. 22, 6:30pm*. The LCRA-Hancock Building board room, 3701 Lake Austin Blvd., across from the Hula Hut, 218-1965. [www.townaustin.org](http://www.townaustin.org).

## RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

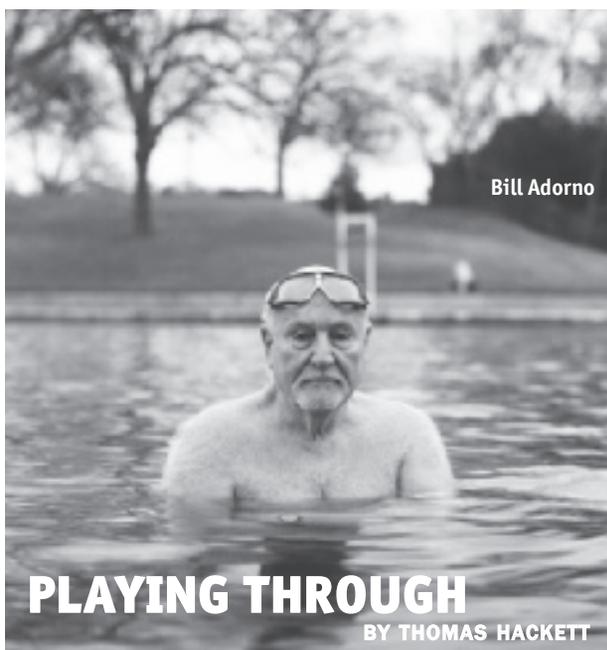
**RIVER ROAD 12 MILE RUN** is a six-mile out-and-back run along the rolling hills of North New Braunfels. *Sat., Jan. 19, 8am*. Hueco Springs Campground, New Braunfels, 830/627-8401. [www.seidelproductions.com](http://www.seidelproductions.com).

**FROSTYER FANNY DUATHLON & OPEN 5K RUN** is being held in conjunction with the SMW Region Conference (which appears to be some sort of triathlon planning event). *Sun., Jan. 20, 9am*. Williamson County Regional Park, Leander, 512/326-1600. [www.frostyeffanny.com](http://www.frostyeffanny.com).

The **U.S. Women** opened the **Pia Sundhage** era with a decisive 4-0 win over Canada Wednesday in the opening game of the Four Nations Tournament in China. **Amy Rodriguez** scored twice in her first start for the national team; **Lindsay Tarpley** got the other two – all goals coming in the second half. The young U.S. defense looked solid, as well, with two rookies in the back four and **Hope Solo** seeming to have cemented her role as starting goalie. China beat Finland, 2-0, in the other first-round game. The round-robin tournament continues in Guangzhou Jan. 18 and 20.

You've got to love cup competitions like the English **FA Cup** – open to every accredited football team in the country, on every level – where a semipro team can go on a run for a few games and find themselves on the pitch with some of the best players in the world. So it was this week, as the semipro **Havant & Waterlooville** Hawks, who play in a division called Blue Square South, stunned League One Swansea to advance to the FA Cup fourth round. Next up: a date with mighty Liverpool at their legendary Anfield. Go Hawks. – *Nick Barbaro*

# Soccer WATCH



Bill Adorno

## PLAYING THROUGH

BY THOMAS HACKETT

Hundreds of hardy souls marked the beginning of the new year with a plunge into Barton Springs. **Bill Adorno** was happy to see them, of course – he loves Barton Springs and loves seeing people enjoy it – but, frankly, he wasn't impressed. A once-a-winter plunge on a warm and sunny day doesn't exactly make you a polar bear. Try getting up at 5am every single day of the year. Try stripping down to almost nothing when the temperature drops into the 20s.

Well, maybe not at 5am sharp, but on a much colder Christmas morning, Adorno was still one of the first few swimmers in the water, just as he is most mornings an hour or so before sunrise. The water is a constant 68 degrees, winter and summer, but on more than one occasion, he's come out of the pool with hoarfrost on his head.

"You talk about a trendsetter – I am that man," says Adorno, 78, a retired engineer. "There's usually another codger there before me. I don't know his name. I get there before 5:30, though. I swim an hour and 10 minutes. I used to swim a mile in 55 minutes. Three or four years ago, I don't know why, but I started swimming on my back, and now others are doing it, too. It's a trend I started. It's the only way I swim. I can look at the stars. I can watch the meteorites and satellites pass by. One time the space station came right across the pool. You could see it plain as day. It's huge."

Swimming on his back, Adorno doesn't use his arms. He wears fins and just seems to glide serenely on the surface, like a sea otter, in no particular hurry. He also wears goggles, but not to see through. Since he's not watching where he's going, they're a kind of bumper for when someone crashes into him – something that happens once or twice a week.

"I'm like a derelict hull floating in the harbor. People get pissed off at me. You're going along in a reverie, and all of a sudden – bang! It's like running your fist into a wall. But what are you going to do?"

Despite the occasional head-on collision, Adorno wishes he'd discovered the serenity of his back-swimming routine decades ago. He grew up in New York, swimming in Long Island Sound, but spent his career abroad – in Afghanistan, in Somalia, in the Sudan, in Mongolia, in Nigeria, in Nepal, in Naples, in Zambia, and maybe in another country or two he can't remember – and didn't get into swimming until he retired to Austin a decade or so ago.

"Now I can't imagine life without it," he says. "Working in these asshole places that I was trying to civilize, I had one bad problem after another. There were times I wanted to kill someone. I think if I were swimming, I would have been a lot more sane. I don't like the word 'spiritual,' and I don't pray. But I imagine it's like that. You have this harmony. You watch the birds come out and the owls come home as the sun is rising. You ponder things. That's a civilized thing to do."

THOMAS HACKETT

**OCTAVITAS CELEBRATION** Sing along to traditional Puerto Rican songs and enjoy poetry, music, and dance in celebration of the final day of Las Navidades. 2-5pm. Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center, 701 Tillery, 251-8122. Free. [www.prdance.org](http://www.prdance.org).

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM** presents **The Emotionally Unavailable Man: Does It Take Two to Tango?**, a discussion led by psychotherapist Patti Henry, author of *The Emotionally Unavailable Man: A Blueprint for Healing*. 11:30am-12:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. [www.austinuu.org](http://www.austinuu.org).

**TEXAS OBSERVER RABBLE ROUSER ROUNDUP** Jim Hightower ecees tonight's annual Round-Up featuring a silent auction and music from the South Austin Jug Band and Jimmy LaFave. All proceeds benefit the award-winning journalistic efforts of *The Texas Observer*. (Wanna rub elbows with the Observer's first-rate writers and their fancy friends? Stop by early for the **Fat Cat Schmoozefest**, 6pm, \$49.95.) 7-10pm. La Zona Rosa, 612 W. Fourth, 477-0746. \$25 (\$20, advance). [www.texasobserver.org](http://www.texasobserver.org).

**YOUTH LEGACY AWARDS** Part of the Austin Area Heritage Council's series of MLK Day events, this annual awards ceremony honors Austin's youngest good citizens for their contributions to our community and their achievements in arts, education, and sports. 4pm. Ragsdale Center at St. Edward's, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8432. Free.

**SPRING BULB FESTIVAL** (See Saturday.)

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)

**All in This Tea Feast** @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 1:30pm  
**Blade Runner: The Final Cut** @ Paramount, 2, 4:30, 7pm  
**Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors** @ Alamo Village, 9:45pm, 12mid

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

**Grimy Styles, Zeale 32 Flamingo Cantina**

# Monday 2 1

**A NIGHT WITH HOLLYWOOD LEGENDS** Join Marilyn Monroe, Humphrey Bogart, James Dean, and Elvis tonight to raise funds for the **STAR Scholarship Program**, which helps send Austin area students to college. Don't forget to buy a raffle ticket for a cruise to Cozumel. 5-9pm. Paramount Theatre, 713 Congress, 472-5470. \$35. [www.austintnta.org](http://www.austintnta.org).

**AUSTIN TRAVEL CIRCLE MEETING** First and third Mondays, 7pm. Austin International Youth Hostel, 2200 Lakeshore, 444-2294. Free. [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austintravelcircle).

★ **CITYWIDE MLK MARCH & RALLY** begins on the UT campus this



morning with a short program at the Martin Luther King Jr. statue (23rd & San Jacinto, 9am), after which Rep. Dawna Dukes leads the procession to the Capitol (estimated arrival time: 10am). Afterward, the parades heads to Huston-Tillotson University (Eighth & Chalmers), where the Cultural Festival kicks off at 3pm, featuring food, games, and music from Malford Milligan, Les & the Funk Mob, and Ghandaia. Free shuttle

service is available to all three locations along the parade route. 9am. Free. [www.mlkcelebration.com](http://www.mlkcelebration.com).

**DROPPING POUNDS THE HEALTHY WAY** Dietitian Hannah Wong leads this in-store tour designed to help you find a reasonable diet and exercise regimen suited to your particular needs. Call ahead or sign up at the concierge desk. 2-3pm. Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 542-2243. \$5. [hannah.wong@wholefoods.com](http://hannah.wong@wholefoods.com), [www.wholefoods.com](http://www.wholefoods.com).

**INTRODUCING ADOPTION TO YOUR CHILD** Adoption expert Janie Cravens leads this discussion for adoptive parents (or the soon-to-be). 7-9pm. Westover Hills Church, 8332 Mesa Dr., 442-8252. Free. [aka@adoptionknowledge.org](http://aka@adoptionknowledge.org), [www.adoptionknowledge.org](http://www.adoptionknowledge.org).

**LIFE AFTER DIAGNOSIS** Hospice Austin offers two Monday night support groups this spring; one is for anyone who's been diagnosed with a terminal illness, and the other is for caretakers. Jan. 21-Feb. 25. Mondays, 6:30-8pm. Hospice Austin, 4107 Spicewood Springs Rd., 342-4700. Free. [echurch@agofoaustin.org](http://echurch@agofoaustin.org).

**MLK BLOOD DRIVE** It's the sixth annual Blood of the Martyrs Blood Drive in honor of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Donors must be at least 17 years of age, have a picture ID and a Social Security number. Call or e-mail for appointment. 10am-2pm. Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 388-1320. [johnnie-dorsey@austindiocese.org](mailto:johnnie-dorsey@austindiocese.org).

**SMITH CREEK CLEAN-UP** Help the 4H Capital Americorps Project prepare this seasonal creek for the springtime weather: You'll be helping to reduce mosquito populations as well as clearing trash and potential sources of pollution that would eventually flow into Boggy Creek. 9am-3pm. 1406 through 1600-B Smith Rd., 854-9600. Free. [ee frank@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:ee frank@ag.tamu.edu).

**WINEBAT BLIND WINE TASTING** features a half-dozen South American wines, each paired with a tasty appetizer. 7-8:30pm. Green Pastures, 811 W. Live Oak, 961-6151 or 877/WINE-709. \$25 (plus tax & gratuity). [www.winebat.com](http://www.winebat.com).

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)

**A Night With Hollywood Legends** @ Paramount, 5pm  
**James Brown Live at the Boston Garden 1968** @ Alamo Ritz, 10:20pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

**Eugene Robinson** *Emo's*  
**The Hunnies, Cavedweller, Basic Hole** *in the Wall*

# Ongoing Events

**REVEALING CAPITOL TREASURES** The Capitol Visitors Center's newest exhibit features artifacts found during archaeological digs on the Capitol grounds, historic artwork and photos of the building, the original tools used to place the Goddess of Liberty atop the dome, and other Capitol curiosities. *Through Jan. 27. Capitol Visitors Center, 112 E. 11th, 305-8400. www.texascapitolvisitorscenter.com.*

**SHERIFF'S CITIZENS' ACADEMY** is recruiting the next batch of students for the 13-week class kicking off Feb. 12. Students will get a behind-the-scenes look at what it's like to work for the Travis County Sheriff's Office. Call or e-mail for details. *Tuesdays, 6:45-10pm. 854-4989. vincente.galloway@co.travis.tx.us.*

**REGISTER FOR THE CROP HUNGER WALK** This spring marks the 30th anniversary of Austin's participation in this annual fundraising effort, which originally began in 1947 as an initiative to share the abundant grains of Midwestern farms with the hungry families of post-World War II Europe and Asia. Today, proceeds from the two-day event benefit both local and international hunger-relief efforts, including food pantries, community gardens, and grassroots agencies around the world. *March 1-2. Sat., 9:30am; Sun., 1:45pm. Roy G. Guerrero Colorado River Park, 8200 Grove Dr., 451-2062. tx@churchworldservice.org. www.main.org/cropwalk.*

**WINE & FOOD FOUNDATION GRANT** Any Texas business, resident, or organization involved with an educational project or program dealing with

the culinary and viticulture arts is eligible to apply for \$25,000 in grant money through the Wine & Food Foundation. Past winners have included the Sustainable Food Center and KLRU-TV. See [www.winefoodfoundation.org](http://www.winefoodfoundation.org) for application and details. *Deadline: Feb. 15.*

**SIGN UP FOR AUSTIN WALK WITH US TO CURE LUPUS** Join the Alliance for Lupus Research in the effort to help 1.5 million lupus sufferers find relief. All funds you raise by participating in this April's 5K walk will support the alliance's outreach initiatives and research into effective treatments for this debilitating disease. *Sat., April 19, 10am (check-in begins at 9am). Old Settler's Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley, Round Rock, 512/218-5540. walk.lupusresearch.org.*

**OUTDOOR HATHA YOGA** Bring your mat for this scenic class, taught daily on the docks overlooking the pond behind the Dougherty Arts Center. *Daily, noon-1pm. Meet in the park behind Dougherty Arts Center. Donations accepted (10% goes to KIVA.org to help entrepreneurial projects in developing countries). onetooneyoga@gmail.com.*

**CANCER CONNECTION** seeks cancer survivors and loved ones of survivors who are interested in providing emotional support to patients currently battling the disease. The next orientation session will be *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 25-26. See www.thecancerconnection.org* for details. *342-0233.*

**AUSTIN FIREFIGHTERS 2008 CALENDARS** It's here. It's hot. And it's for a good cause. Let Austin's firefighters keep you on schedule this year as they grace the pages of two 2008 calendars (one with Austin's female firefighters in it, the other with the men) benefiting the **Austin Firefighters' Fund.**

441-7572. \$15. [austinfirefightersfund@yahoo.com](mailto:austinfirefightersfund@yahoo.com), [www.austinfirefighterscalendar.com](http://www.austinfirefighterscalendar.com).

**SIMS VOLUNTEERS ROCK!** This new program needs dedicated volunteers to help get the word out about the SIMS Foundation's work providing mental-health services to Austin musicians. You'll be going to music events or working in the office. Call or e-mail if you're interested. *791-4929. volunteerinfo@simsfoundation.org. www.simsfoundation.org.*

**HISPANIC SCHOLARSHIP CONSORTIUM** Since its inception four years ago, the HSC has raised more than \$282,100 in scholarship funding, contributing to the college education of 80 students. Help the HSC continue its good work, and give them a donation at [www.hispanicscholar.org](http://www.hispanicscholar.org).

**CUSTOM CAR & HOT ROD SHOW** brings you nationally touring competitive hot rods, antiques, restored classics, and minitrucks, plus remote-control car racing, appearances from the Texas Bikini Team, and the annual American Dream Calendar Girl Challenge. *Jan. 18-20. Fri., 4-10pm; Sat., 10am-10pm; Sun., 10am-7pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 830/899-7018. \$12 (\$10, students/seniors; \$6, ages 6-11). www.austincarshow.com.*

## THIS WEEK ONLY

**AUSTIN BOAT SHOW** has all your boat-shopping needs, whether you're looking for a little fishing boat, a luxurious yacht, or something in between, and includes educational lectures on boater safety, fishing, wakeboarding, and more. Bring the kids for fishing in the catfish tank, and last but not least: Don't miss the performance from Twiggie the

Waterskiing Squirrel. *Jan. 17-20. Thu.-Fri., noon-9pm; Sat., 10am-9pm; Sun., 10am-6pm. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 476-5461. \$8 (\$4, seniors/kids ages 7-12; free, kids under 7).*

**CHARTER REVISION SURVEY** The city of Austin Charter Revision Committee seeks your input regarding possible revisions of how City Council elections are conducted. Right now, council members are elected at-large, which means that all residents vote for all council seats. The committee is considering a single-member-district scenario in which residents will vote only for the seat that represents their area of the city. Go to [www.cityofaustin.org/charter](http://www.cityofaustin.org/charter) to let the committee know which system you'd prefer. *Deadline: Jan. 23.*

**AUSTIN UNDER 40 CALLS FOR NOMINATIONS** of young businessmen and -women in Austin who excel both in their professional fields and in making a positive impact on the community. Got someone in mind? Submit your nomination at [www.austinunder40.org](http://www.austinunder40.org). *Deadline: Wed., Jan. 23, 11pm.*

**FANGORIA CONVENTION** brings you three days of horror-movie magic with film screenings, special-effects experts, and, most importantly, famous people: *Sin City* director **Robert Rodriguez** will be there, along with *Swamp Thing* star **Dick Durock**, *Friday the 13th* and *Dawn of the Dead*'s legendary make-up artist **Tom Savini**, and many others. (See "Here's Blood in Your Eye," p.49, for more.) *Jan. 18-20. Fri., 2-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 11am-7pm. Renaissance Hotel, 9721 Arboretum, 818/409-0960. \$25/day (\$20, Friday; \$10, kids ages 6-12). www.fangoria.com.*

# Tuesday 2 2

**AUSTIN IONS MONTHLY MEETING** 6:30-8:30pm. *Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 847-0371. Free. creatas@aol.com, www.ionsaustin.org.*

**BASICS OF ESTATE PLANNING** This free seminar (offered twice this evening) covers community property issues, guardianship, powers of attorney, wills, trusts, estate taxes, probate, and medical directives. To RSVP call 931-0888 or see [www.greeninglawfirm.com](http://www.greeninglawfirm.com). *Tue., Jan. 22, 2-3pm, 6-7pm. Greening Law Firm, 506 W. 15th. Free.*

**CARDIAC HEALTH SCREENINGS** feature a low-priced combination of services for your convenience. Call for appointment. *Fourth Tuesdays, 7:15-11am. Seton Medical Park Towers, 1301 W. 38th #510, 324-1037. \$32.*

**DIVERSITY CAREER FAIR** 10am-2pm. *Crowne Plaza, 6121 N. I-35, 323-5466. www.grsjobfairs.com.*

**FITNESS & NUTRITION SEMINAR FOR MOMS** Learn about pre- and post-natal nutrition and exercise. Call or e-mail to RSVP 7-8pm. *Babies "R" Us, 9333 Research, 422-3604. Free. info@totalmommyfitness.com, www.totalmommyfitness.com.*

**ITALIAN LESSONS** Learn Italian and eat gelato every week with A Taste of Italy's Elsa Gramola. Call for location details. *Tuesdays, 6pm. Far West Austin. \$25.*

**MEDICAID PLANNING SEMINAR** Find out how to preserve your assets, provide for your spouse, and more. To RSVP, call 476-0888 or see [www.greeninglawfirm.com](http://www.greeninglawfirm.com). *Tue., Jan. 22, 3:15-4pm, 7:15-8pm. Greening Law Firm, 506 W. 15th. Free.*

**PAST LIVES, DREAMS, & SOUL TRAVEL** This four-week workshop aims to help you remember your past lives, interpret your dreams, and more. *Through Jan. 29. Tuesdays, 7-8:30pm. Austin Eckankar Center, 223 W. Anderson Ste. B-206, 453-0331. Free. www.eckankar-texas.org.*

**TEXAS OUTDOORS WOMEN NETWORK** meets monthly for ladies who love fishing, kayaking, camping, and other fresh-air activities. *Fourth Tuesdays, 6-8pm. LCRA Hancock Building, 3700 Lake Austin Blvd., 218-1965. www.townaustin.org.*

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)

**Honeydripper Premiere** @ Paramount, 7pm  
**The Gaucho** @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

**Winter Full Moon Party** Emo's  
**MGMT, Yeasayer/Lupe Fiasco** Emo'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 Feb. 1 issue is Monday, Jan. 21.** 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](mailto:gayplace@austinchronicle.com).

Mark Fagan (Sports): [gameplans@austinchronicle.com](mailto:gameplans@austinchronicle.com).

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

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor, 454-5766 or [brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

# Wednesday 2 3

**BASICS OF ESTATE PLANNING SEMINAR** addresses your questions about community property issues, guardianship, powers of attorney, wills, trusts, estate taxes, probate, and medical directives. To RSVP call 931-0888 or see [www.greeninglawfirm.com](http://www.greeninglawfirm.com). *Wed., Jan. 23, 2-3pm, 6-7pm. Greening Law Firm, 1601 Williams Dr., Georgetown. Free.*

**DEBT MANAGEMENT** This course for small-business owners covers the concepts behind debt management and teaches techniques for analyzing and managing debt. Advance registration required at [www.ci.austin.tx.us/sbdp](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/sbdp). *9-11am. International Center of Austin, 201 E. Second. \$25. stacey.mason@ci.austin.tx.us.*

**IMPROVISATIONAL ART** aims to clear you of your painter's block, whether you're a beginner or an old hand. *7-9:30pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. \$25. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.*

**INTIMACIES DISCUSSION GROUP: TOUCHING SOMEONE** Intimacy consultant Winona Carr leads tonight's group discussion about being comfortable touching others and being touched yourself. *7-8:30pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. Free.*

**LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS DINNER: STATE OF THE CITY WITH POLICE CHIEF ART ACEVEDO** 6:30-9pm. *UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman. \$55 (\$45, League members). www.lwvaustin.org.*

**LEGAL AID CLINIC** Texas RioGrande Legal Aid provides free legal advice to anyone who needs it at this weekly clinic. *Wednesdays, 7pm. Webb Middle School, 601 E. St. Johns, 374-2700. Free. www.trla.org.*

**MEDICAID PLANNING SEMINAR** Find out how to preserve your assets, provide for your spouse, and more. To RSVP, call 931-0888 or see [www.greeninglawfirm.com](http://www.greeninglawfirm.com). *Wed., Jan. 23, 3:15-4pm, 7:15-8pm. Greening Law Firm, 1601 Williams Dr., Georgetown. Free.*

**THIRD COAST FILM NIGHT** features *The Real Dirt on Farmer John*, about Wisconsin farmer John Peterson and his creation of an agricultural- and arts-centered community. (See Special Screenings, p.86.) *7pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. \$8.25 (\$6, students/seniors). www.thirdcoastactivist.org.*

**UNIVERSITY AREA KIWANIS MEETING** Kiwanis International is a volunteer organization focusing on service projects primarily for youth. Prospective members are welcome to join in on today's meeting featuring lunch and a special speaker. *Noon-1pm. Holiday Inn Northwest Aboretum, 8901 Business Park Dr., 699-7089. Free. universityareakiwanis@gmail.com, www.universityareakiwanis.org.*

**UNWINED WEDNESDAY RELAUNCH PARTY** Join in for complimentary music, food, and wine today as UnWined Wednesdays launches a new year of weekly educational wine-tastings. Membership gets you 15% discounts on Wednesdays (5-9pm) and your own personalized wine glass at the Belmont. *6pm. The Belmont, 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300. Free. info@thebelmontaustin.com, www.thebelmontaustin.com.*

**BILINGUAL POWER YOGA FLOW** (See Sunday.)

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)

**The Real Dirt on Farmer John** @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

**Jeff Daniels** Cactus Cafe  
**The Distant Seconds, Benko, the Dark Water Hymnal** Room 710  
**Van Halen Hoot Night** Beerland  
**Honeydripper Premiere Party** Antone's

# Thursday 2 4

**ANIMAL CRUELTY IDENTIFICATION & REPORTING CLASS** Animal cruelty is easier to find than you'd think – you just have to know what to look for in your community and how to report what you find. The Austin SPCA has developed this class to teach you just that. *9:30-10:30am. Town Lake Animal Center, 1156 W. Cesar Chavez. www.austinhumanesociety.org.*

**ANNUAL ECONOMIC & TECHNOLOGY FORECAST** What does 2008 have in store for your bottom line? Join AngelouEconomics' Angelos Angelou and *The Economist's* Zanny Beddeos for this year's look into the crystal ball. See [www.angeloueconomics.com](http://www.angeloueconomics.com) to register. *7:30-9:30am. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 225-9322. \$165. info@angeloueconomics.com.*

**LIVING IN A PORN CULTURE: HOW PORNOGRAPHY SHAPES OUR POLITICAL & PERSONAL LIVES** A presentation from feminist scholars Gail Dines and Rebecca Whisnant. *7pm. Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 471-1990. Free. www.thirdcoastactivist.org.*

**MODERN TIMES: 1860-1865** This monthly history series brings you **Whistling "Dixie" All Over the Map**, a presentation on the turf war over the song that became the anthem of the South. *6pm. Neill-Cochran House Museum, 2310 San Gabriel, 478-2335. \$10. www.neill-cochranmuseum.org.*

**THE 90'S ONE-HIT WONDERS SING-ALONG: VOL. 2** Billy Ray Cyrus. The Spin Doctors. Deee-lite. Prepare to be hoarse by the end of the show. *9:45 & 11:55pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. \$12.*

**UNDERSTANDING HOW GOVERNMENTS BUY SERVICES** The city of Austin Small Business Development Program hosts this workshop for helping small businesses procure government contracts. *8:30am-12:30pm. Clarion Inn & Suites, 2200 S. I-35, 974-7800. \$50. stacey.mason@ci.austin.tx.us, www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp.*

**GERMAN FREE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE** (See Thursday 1/17.)

**GERMAN STAMMTISCH** (See Thursday 1/17.)

**SPECIAL SCREENINGS** (See Film Listings.)

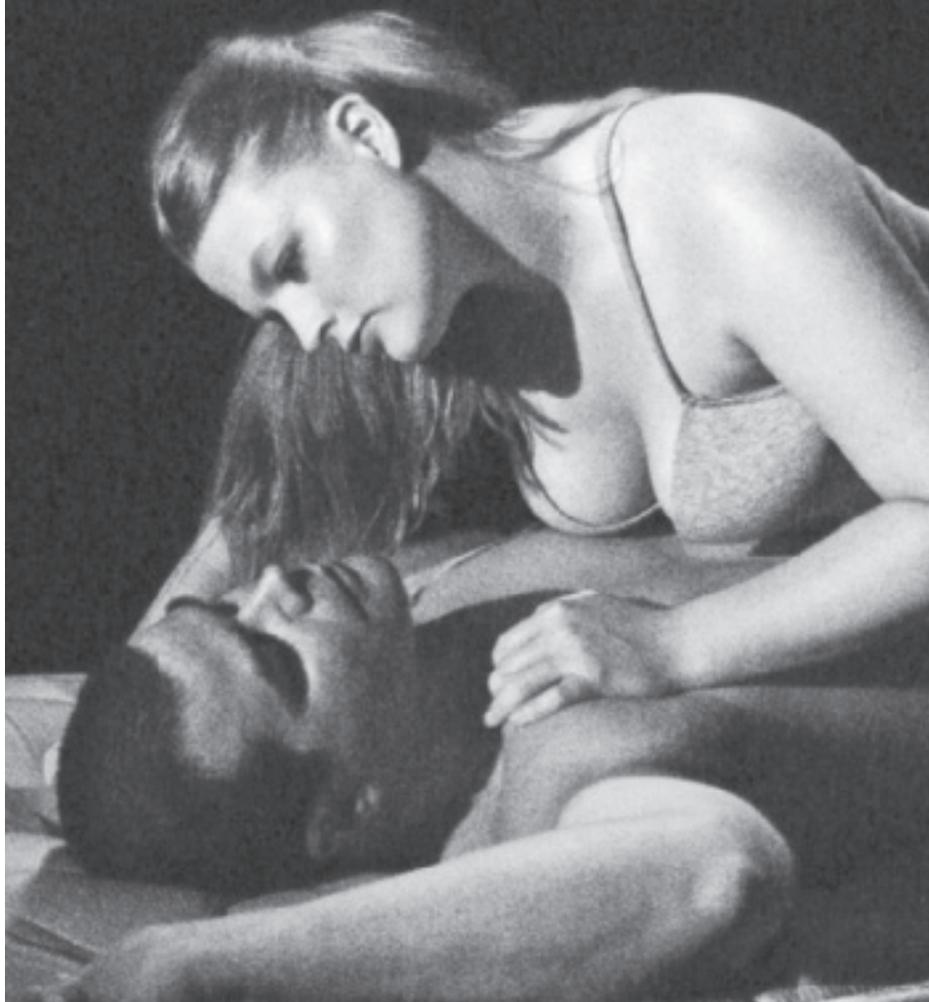
**Spirit of the Marathon** @ CM Round Rock, Gateway, Metropolitan, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, 7:30pm

**MUSIC** (See Music Listings.)

**U.S. Bombs** Red 7  
**Little Richard** Paramount Theatre

## Beirut

The Vortex, through Jan. 26  
Running time: 50 min.



What if? What if kissing your lover condemned him or her to death? What if just rubbing against them, let alone groping or making love, would lead to their abject pain, lesions leaking across their skin, life sucked from their body? In the hysterical times that Alan Bowne wrote *Beirut*, when the AIDS crisis was at its zenith, his play gave frightening answers to these terrifying questions: Contracting this disease can take away more than just your health and life. You can be stripped of your basic human rights, your place in society, and the freedom to do simple things like order a slice of pizza (or kiss or fuck your lover).

This is the world of Vortex Repertory Company's production of *Beirut*, set in a near-future, apocalyptic New York, where the big What If has occurred: What if a virus like AIDS has broken out in our society? Bowne's predictions are decidedly grim. Hollywood is closed, doctors are run out on rails, and the rich folk have gone gallivanting to the French Riviera in search of safety. Martial law has been instituted, citizens are required to be tested every few months, and those infected with the virus live in squalor.

The protagonist is an infected carrier, Torch, who survives on pitiful rations of electricity, water, and Vienna sausages. A white "P" is tattooed on his ass, so he can always be quarantined and identified as testing positive. The allusion to the Nazi regime and Stars of David is clear as those infected are treated like cattle, abused, forced into ghettos, and ultimately left to die. When Torch's uninfected girlfriend, Blue, sneaks into the quarantine zone for a visit, those "what if" questions become much more pointed: Blue would rather die with her lover than live without him.

Now, it is difficult to watch *Beirut* without thinking about the social context that it sprang from. The AIDS crisis, while still prominent in Africa and South Asia, is not something that Americans fret about every day or even every sexual encounter. But the play's conflict and meaning are still relevant today. Love, sex, and living form a strange triangle around the reasons for existence to Blue and Torch. Is sex really an expression of love? If you love something, should you set it free? Is life worth living without love?

Torch and Blue battle, bitch, and struggle with these questions and their own desires. The couple, played by married couple Matthew Patterson and Melissa Vogt-Patterson, aren't part of the intelligentsia but everyday New Yorkers, people who react with their organs more than their minds. *Beirut* confronts issues of the body in several ways, showing us the body as an object, as a weapon, and as a prison. Subsequently, we do see the body as these things: Both Torch and Blue are nude during the production and spend most of the show in no more than gray cotton underwear.

The nudity, along with the violence, is pointed and excessive without being gratuitous. *Beirut* wants to confront you with the dangerous potential in our bodies and our relationships, as well – Torch physically confronts and verbally threatens Blue on several occasions. Patterson and Vogt-Patterson interact so naturally together that nothing they do, from strangling to Brooklyn accents, seems out of place. If you need to be nude onstage with someone, your spouse seems like a pretty safe choice for comfort's sake.

Toward the climax of *Beirut*, Blue philosophizes that life and death "are joined at the hip." Just like a couple of lovers. Or just two people screwing. What if we had to choose between love and sex? A frightening proposition, but one that the Vortex's revival of *Beirut* tackles head on.

– Avimaan Syam

## Theatre

### OPENING

**LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES** Austin Playhouse presents Christopher Hampton's stage adaptation of the sexy French novel by Choderlos De Laclos. Co-directed by Don Toner and Lara Toner, featuring Babs George as La Marquise de Merteuil, Gray G. Haddock as Valmont, and Janet Hurley Kimlicko as Tourvel. Jan. 18-Feb.24. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$24-28 (half price for students). [www.austinplayhouse.com](http://www.austinplayhouse.com).

**THE NIGHT OF JANUARY 16TH** Ayn Rand's gripping courtroom drama gets a staged reading by some of the best actors in town (Jamie Goodwin! Harvey Guion! Kara Bliss McGregor! Others!), as directed by Ann Ciccolella for Austin Shakespeare. Jan. 19-20. Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 3pm. Ballet Austin's Ventures Studio, 501 W. Third. 474-8497. \$12. [www.texasperforms.com](http://www.texasperforms.com).

### SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. The deadline for the Feb. 1 issue is Monday, Jan. 21. 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:

### ONGOING

**MARATHON** Greek myth and local legend merge in this reading (with live music) of a new play by Jesse Sublett and Darden Smith. Directed by Richard M. Isackes. Sun., Jan. 20, Feb. 10 & 17, 7pm. Continental Club gallery, 1315 S. Congress. Free.

**TENNESSEE WILLIAMS: GARDEN DISTRICT** This is a double bill of Williams' classic one-acts – *Suddenly Last Summer* and *Something Unspoken* – directed by Norman Blumensaadt for Different Stages, featuring Sharon Elmore, Jenni Underwood, and other fine actresses. (See review, p.72.) Through Feb. 2. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. 474-8497. \$15-30. [www.main.org/diffstages](http://www.main.org/diffstages).

**FRONTERAFEST 15** The five-week juggernaut of short theatre returns to brighten the dark of what passes for winter here in the capital city. Austin Script Works and Hyde Park Theatre team up to present this sprawling anthology of original works – no longer than 25 minutes each – from locals and intrepid out-of-towners. That's the renowned Short Fringe, but there are full-length works, too,

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy.  
[brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical.  
[dance-classical@austinchronicle.com](mailto:dance-classical@austinchronicle.com).

Ric Williams, litera. [litera@austinchronicle.com](mailto:litera@austinchronicle.com).

Benné Rockett, visual arts. [art@austinchronicle.com](mailto:art@austinchronicle.com).

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor.  
[brenner@austinchronicle.com](mailto:brenner@austinchronicle.com).

in the Long Fringe that starts next week. Brilliant monologues? Plays in progress? Comedy improv? Cabaret singers? Avant-garde dance? Short films? Multimedia? Yes: any of those, any given night. Call for reservations, check the HPT website for details.

**Short Fringe at Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY**

Thu., Jan. 17: **Improv for Evil**, comedy improv. "This Dream Is Short, But This Dream Is Happy" by Sean Tribe. "Trigger Happy Jack" by Timothy Braun. "Wayne's Big Body Part" by Kelly Estes. "Moving Parts Due to Lubrication" by Sue Billich and Abby November.

Fri., Jan. 18: "Kawaisoo (The Pity of Things)" by Jason Grote. "Relativity and Mr. Underfoot" by Hal Fulton. "Brain Big" by Priscilla Sample. "A Meta-Murder Mystery" by Patton Quinn, Kerri Lendo, and Seth Johnson. "Princess Press-On" by Allison Landa.

Sat., Jan. 20: **Best of the Week**

Tue., Jan. 22: "Joe Normal" by Mark Farias. **Look Cookie** Comedy improv. **one a.m.** Coldtowne Improv's Chris Trew and Tami Nelson. "Something for Odile" by Theatre Silica. "Video Vixen" by Uprise! Productions.

Wed., Jan. 23: "Larius Likler" by Aimée Gonzalez. "Suspicious Package" by Jason Vines and Matt Pollock. "Amusing Karl" by Francisco Rodriguez. "Diary of a Mad Cat Wrangler" by Alex Garza and Gwendolyn Kelson. "The Nymph" by Tim Thomas and Loaded Gun Theory.

Thu., Jan. 24: "Austin 3275" by Stuart Hersh. **Get Up** Master improvisers Shannon McCormick and Shana Merlin. "The Ballad of the Three Actorteers" by Alan Metoskie, Jason Newman, and Chuck Watkins. "Sublet" by Deborah Goldstein and Andrea Middleton. "Dale Duncan" by Chris Sykes.

**Long Fringe at the Blue Theatre, 916 Springdale, 927-1118**

**You Are Happier Than You Think: Recalibrating Your Emotional Scale** by Max Langert (60 min.) An esteemed lecturer is invited to give a happiness seminar aboard an ocean liner. But his daughter has a compulsion to throw people overboard, and his wife has run out of anti-depressants. Tue., Jan. 22, 9pm; Thu., Jan. 31, 9:15pm; Sat., Feb. 2, 6:15pm; Sun., Feb. 3, noon.

**Luna Tart Died (of a broken heart)** by Laura Freeman. (75 min.) One woman. One ukulele. One long-suffering pianist. This musical spiral into loneliness and despair is a full-length version of the 2007 Best of the Fest musical. Wed., Jan. 23, 9:15pm; Fri., Jan. 25, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 26, 10:30pm; Sat., Feb. 2, 4:15pm.

**Dance Carousel** curated by Spank Dance Company. (75 min.) Forty dances in 40 minutes by 10 local choreographers, each of whom creates four one-minute dances. Tue., Jan. 22, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 26, 8:30pm; Mon., Jan. 28, 8:45pm; Sat., Feb. 2, 2:15pm.

**Lost/Found** by Surface Tension Dance Group. (90 min.) This new company of dancers, musicians, and visual artists explores the theme of lost and found literally, abstractly, personally, and spiritually. Wed., Jan. 23, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 26, noon; Sun., Jan. 27, 8:15pm; Sun., Feb. 3, 5:30pm.

**Devil in the Details: An Office Musical** by Rain Nox. (75 min.) A kindhearted geek becomes embroiled in a crazy love triangle including him, a co-worker, and his computer. Thu., Jan. 24, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 27, noon; Tue., Jan. 29, 8:45pm; Sun., Feb. 3, 3:30pm.



AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART  
Roy Lichtenstein Prints 1956-97



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THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 7 PM

Watch artists create comics based on audience suggestions in this one-hour drawing competition. Come decide who will win the title of Iron Artist Champion!

*laguna gloria*  
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SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1 PM

Join exhibition artist Beverly Penn for a tour of her work in Laguna Gloria Grounded to learn how the site inspired her works. Tour starts in the Villa.

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Laguna Gloria • 3809 W. 35th St. DRISCOLL VILLA GROUNDS  
Austin, TX 78703 Tuesday-Sunday 10-4 Monday-Saturday 9-5  
512.458.8191 • www.amoa.org Sunday 11-5

Downtown • 823 Congress Ave. Tuesday-Saturday 10-6  
Suite 100 • Austin, TX 78701 Thursday 10-8  
512.495.9224 • www.amoa.org Sunday Noon-5

Roy Lichtenstein, *Brushstrokes*, 1967, Screenprint, edition 222/300, 23 X 31 inches, Collection of Jordan D. Schnitzer, 1996.12, © Estate of Roy Lichtenstein

Organized by the Museum of Art, Washington State University and the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation. ▼ Additional support is provided by Bullock Community Partners. ▼ The Austin Museum of Art 2007 Exhibition Sponsors are Berman Family Foundation, Michael A. Chesser, Luanne and Charlie Cullen, Green Family Foundation, Mattsson-McHale Foundation, Bettye and Bill Nowlin, Still Water Foundation, Vinson & Elkins LLP, and Joan Hohlt and J. Roger Wich Foundation. ▼ 2007 Education Outreach is generously supported by 3M, James Armstrong, Bank of America, Katelena Hernandez Cowles and Jay Cowles, Kathy and David Escobedo, Tomas Estebe and Riley Estebe de Silva, A Look...for Love Foundation, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Kate Ludeman and Eddie Erlanson, Mattsson-McHale Foundation, The Moody Foundation, Nordstrom, Bettye and Bill Nowlin, donors to the Education Fund and the Laura W. Bush Endowment for Education and Outreach. ▼ The Austin Museum of Art is funded in part by Art Alliance Austin, Museum Trustees, Members, and Patrons. Additional support is provided by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division and by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and support from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.



January 18 - February 9, 2008  
AUSTIN-AREA PREMIERE!  
**Shakespeare**  
in  
**HOLLYWOOD**  
written by Ken Ludwig  
directed by Lynn Beaver  
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-Hyde Park Theatre in collaboration with Austin Script Works presents-

**FRONTIERAFEST**  
JAN 15 - FEB 16  
2008

the short fringe  
JAN 15 - FEB 16  
HYDE PARK THEATRE  
511 W. 43RD ST.

the long fringe  
JAN 21 - FEB 3  
AT THE BLUE THEATER  
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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. This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

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For information on how to participate in the summer of 2008, visit [www.shalomaustin.org/birtright](http://www.shalomaustin.org/birtright) or call (512)795-9937 ext. 17.

Special thanks to The Garber Family Foundation for their generous support of this program.

JCAA  
Jewish Community Association of Austin

# Garden District

Larry L. King Stage at Austin Playhouse, through Feb. 2

Running time: 2 hr., 15 min.

To my knowledge, no play titled *Garden District* actually exists. Rather, *Garden District* is the title of this evening of two Tennessee Williams plays, produced by Different Stages and directed by Artistic Director Norman Blumensaadt. In the first and considerably shorter of the two, *Something Unspoken*, Miss Cornelia Scott, a member of the

New Orleans elite, waits to find out if she has been elected, by acclamation, regent of the Confederate Daughters while celebrating her secretary's 15-year employment anniversary. Sharon Elmore plays Scott with an appropriate touch of nose-in-the-air superiority, and she and Sarah Seaton, who plays her secretary, Miss Grace Lancaster, manage to generate more than enough humor, as well as tension concerning the "something unspoken" that exists between them, to hold our interest.

In retrospect, though, *Something Unspoken* seems merely a pleasant prelude to *Suddenly Last Summer*, the long one-act that completes our visit to the Garden District. Possibly one of Williams' best if not best-known plays it embodies a healthy dose of the playwright's trademark Southern lyricism and cruelty. In it, yet another of Williams' dominating Southern belles, Mrs. Venable, plans to have her niece Catherine lobotomized in order to keep her from revealing the story of the terrifying demise of Venable's son, Sebastian. Director Blumensaadt gets uniformly excellent performances from his actors, with Jennifer Underwood reveling in both Venable's charm and her vitriol and Kathleen Fletcher playing Catherine as both resigned to and defiant of her fate. The acting excellence extends to the supporting performances, as well, with Elmore (again) as the seemingly hardened yet eminently pliable Sister Felicity and Paula Ruth Gilbert as the obsequious Mrs. Holly, mother to Catherine and George, played by Paul Solieau in a standout performance as slick, scummy, and slimy yet strangely charming.

**Sad, Sad, Sad: Parts 1 & 2** by You're Wicked! Repertory Theatre Company. (90 min.) Two thrilling and surreal one-acts by Duncan Coe and Nigel O'Hearn. *Mon., Jan. 21, 9:15pm; Sat., Jan. 26, 2:15pm; Thu., Jan. 31, 7pm; Sat., Feb. 2, 10:15pm.*

**The Mommy Confessions** by Rhonda F. Kulhanek. (90 min.) A one-woman show of 12 characters struggling to survive their maternal lives, including a memaw raising her grandkids, a former beauty queen who comes clean at Mommies Anonymous, and an unwed mother-to-be. *Mon., Jan. 21, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 27, 2pm; Fri., Feb. 1, 9:15pm; Sat., Feb. 2, 8pm.* [www.hydeparktheatre.org](http://www.hydeparktheatre.org).

**A FUNNY THING HAPPENED ON THE WAY TO THE FORUM** Stephen Sondheim's classic and fast-paced comedy is given a go by the Palace Theatre out in Georgetown, with Ron Watson directing the funniest Roman farce since *Calligula* made his horse a senator. *Through Feb. 10. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. \$20 (\$18, seniors; \$8, students, children).* [www.thegeorgetownpalace.org](http://www.thegeorgetownpalace.org).

**BEIRUT** Alan Bowne's stark and compelling drama, set in a near future where people are imprisoned for contracting a sexually transmitted (and potentially fatal) disease, returns to the Vortex stage after many years, starring the (newlywed) husband-and-wife team of Matthew Patterson and Melissa Vogt-Patterson. Directed by Bonnie Cullum and rife with nudity and explicit material; for adults only. (See review, p.70.) *Through Jan. 26. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$10-30 (two-for-one with two nonperishable food items for SafePlace, Thursdays).* [www.vortexrep.org](http://www.vortexrep.org).

## DINNER THEATRE

**A CRUISE SHIP CRIME** Gary Payne and his madcap Capital City Mystery Players present this



So outstanding is the overall production that its flaws stand out in sharp relief. Frank Benge's sound design for both plays is intrusive. For the most part, the sounds fade in too quickly, distracting from the spoken words of the play; play too loudly, covering the dialogue; and fade out too quickly, drawing still more attention to themselves. Why Blumensaadt allowed so many ineffective cues to populate the evening is a mystery. In addition, while the first three-quarters of *Summer* is about as fine a piece of theatre as you'll see in Austin, the last 15 or so minutes, when Catherine reveals Sebastian's horrifying fate, fall flat. Articulating exactly why the end of the play didn't work would perhaps be helpful, but doing so on a single viewing is difficult. Suffice it to say that the opening-night audience was still and attentive throughout but began shifting in their seats, looking around, and fanning themselves with programs during Catherine's extended monologue. Given the nature of what she reveals, this most certainly should not have been the case.

None of these flaws, though, should prevent you from attending, as it's rare to find a production of any play, much less one of Tennessee Williams' difficult if artful renderings of 20th century Southern realism, performed in such a riveting and entertaining fashion.

— Barry Pineo

humor-laced, interactive sleuthing caper where you help to solve the mystery of thefts and murder aboard "the luxury cruise ship *Titanium*." With full-course Italian fare sating your appetite as you go. *Through Feb. 2. Saturdays, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95.* [www.meatballs.com](http://www.meatballs.com).

## THEATRE CALL BOARD

**ACTORS, WRITERS, DIRECTORS: YOU CAN NEVER GET IT NEAT** Paula Russell will lead you "from deep physical and relaxation work to unique text and character study to planned accidents and welcoming surprises" in this professional workshop. Introductory session: *Thu., Jan. 24, 6-10pm.* Two-day intensive: *Sat.-Sun., Jan. 26-27, 10am-6pm. 1426 Toomey. \$50-195.* [www.paula-russell.com](http://www.paula-russell.com).

**FUNNY LADIES WANTED!** Wanted, specifically, for the second annual **Ladies Are Funny Festival**, April 24-26, at the Hideout Downtown, sponsored by Girls Girls Girls and the Austin Improv Collective. It's a big deal and a great event to be involved with. They're looking for all-female improv and sketch troupes, one-woman shows, dance troupes, stand-up – anything, really, as long as it's funny and a live performance by females. Submit via snail mail: 1) a good-quality DVD or VHS tape of a recent (no more than 1-year-old) performance (or a link to your video on the Web); 2) the name of your contact person, phone number(s), and e-mail address; 3) a list of names of performers/tech/musicians/roadies you'll be bringing 4) your website URL if you have one; 5) a disc containing a 300-dpi photo of your troupe/self and a logo; 6) a paragraph describing your troupe/act, for inclusion on the LAFF website and marketing materials; 7) any press, etc., on your act. Note: *There is no submission fee.* Mail to: *Girls Girls Girls: LAFF, PO Box 301026, Austin, TX 78703.* Deadline: *Feb. 15.*

# Comedy

## IN THE CLUBS

**CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB** 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. [www.capcitycomedy.com](http://www.capcitycomedy.com).

**Greg Warren** What causes a man, especially one who grew up in Missouri with a father who was the high school wrestling coach, to go into comedy? To kick funnybone ass on the BET network and Comedy Central? To do a show at Cap City this month? Come and see. Also: **Jason Kanter** opens. *Jan. 17-19. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$5.50-44.95.*

**Al Madrigal** "Fresh and funny" is what they say about this feller who's one of the stars of Fox's *The Ortegas* and has had his own Comedy Central special and was a jury selection for Best Stand-Up at the big comedy fest in Aspen. So we reckon he's got the goods. And **Joy Gohring** opens. *Jan. 22-26. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$5.50-44.95.*

**COLDTOWNE THEATER** 4803 Airport. [www.coldtownte.com](http://www.coldtownte.com).

**Now This Is Improv!** Features some of Austin's best stand-up and (especially) improv: **Parallelogramphonograph**, the cutest improvisers in town, add to their own varied delights with the likes of **Rubin** and **Scram** for a night of impromptu concept-stretching and random brilliance. *Thursday, 8pm. Thursday Night Awesome* Austin's only true-to-form variety show returns, as hosted by Chris Trew and directed by Dave Buckman. *Thursday, 10pm. UpTowne* is ColdTowne's foray into the scripted world of sketch comedy, searing like old-school SNL when

they're really cookin'. *Friday, 8pm. That Other Paper presents Punchline.* The popular stand-up showcase continues, fracturing funny bones every weekend. *Friday, 10pm. Stool Pigeon* features a mystery guest in a sort of modified Armand, thus jump-starting the shenanigans that ensue. *Saturday, 8pm. ColdTowne* The mighty house troupe rocks your night with fierce improv as only they can create it, with **Look Cookie** to follow in their heady wake this week. *Saturday, 10pm.*

**ESTHER'S POOL** 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. [www.estersfollies.com](http://www.estersfollies.com).

**Esther's Follies: World Gone Wild** The most popular troupe in town returns with their riotous musical send-ups of local and national politics and cultural phenomena, making already hot topics burn with a bright comic intensity, with the incredible and – *ai! ai! ai!* – spicy illusions of master magician **Ray Anderson**. Thrills! Chills! Ripped-from-the-headlines events turned into comedy gold! *Reservations highly recommended. Thu.-Fri, 8pm; Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

**Banana Puddin' Time** Tom Booker, comedy impresario from L.A., has moved to Austin and is running this new show at Esther's Pool: A mixture of comedic sketches, improv, stand-up comedy, and silly songs. Austin's most entertaining talents are promised, and you'll get free banana pudding with each paid admission. *Thursdays, 9:30pm. \$9.95.*

**THE HIDEOUT THEATRE** 617 Congress, 443-3688.

**You want some laughs with that?** Yes, Austin happily boasts two epicenters of great improv, and this – the *original*, y' might say – is one of them. It's totally Downtown, too, for your sense of humor and awe's convenience:

**Friday:** It's **Threefer Madness** time, in which a trio of troupes battle for supremacy. *8pm. \$10.* Then you've got a **Double Barrel** waiting for you, featuring two – count 'em: two – improv teams on creative fire. *10pm. \$10.*

**Saturday:** Andy Crouch doesn't work for Avon, no, but he's making up for it by presenting a riotous group of comedians in a show of **Improv Shakespeare** – likely to be one hell of a Bardic hoot. *8pm. \$10. Maestro* is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers, scored by you, the audience. *Highly recommended. 10pm. \$10.*

**VELVEETA ROOM** 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116. [www.thevelveetaroom.com](http://www.thevelveetaroom.com).

**David Huntsberger** Homeboy hates it when he diss on the cartoons he sometimes attempts to draw, but we, all evil as Satan, don't let up. Because, as unrelentingly pathetic as his cartoons are, Huntsberger's *stand-up work is some of the best we've ever experienced.* Sharp, intelligent, so perfectly timed that you can barely breathe between paroxysms of laughter, this man's humor is the real comedy deal. And so this show, with openers **Todd Merriman** and **Albert Im**, is highly recommended. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 18-19, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

**Open Mic Night, God Help Us All** These are your would-be comedic neighbors, three minutes at a time: Love them; fear them. This week's host: **Lucas Molandes. *Thursdays, 10pm.***

## BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

**JUDY GOLD** The Emmy Award-winning actress and comedian shares scenes from her long-running off-Broadway show, *25 Questions for a Jewish Mother*, and other comical works. *Sun., Jan. 20, 7pm. Dell Jewish Community Center, 7300 Hart, 735-8000. \$18-25.* [www.shalomaustrin.org/boxoffice](http://www.shalomaustrin.org/boxoffice).

**EGO'STRIP** All hail the new improv venue in town, featuring a supergroup handpicked by the Frank Mills' own **Dave Buckman**. They'll amaze you with longform work, then lead the audience in improv games, right there in one of the city's favorite watering holes. Huzzah! *Wednesdays, 9-10:30pm. Ego's, 510 S. Congress, 474-7091. \$5.*

**THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK** is a venue with a menu for when you want some live comedy, hon, and beers to wash it down with. *Fridays, 9pm. Homer's Bar & Grill, 1779 Wells Branch Pkwy. #114, 251-5444.* [www.myspace.com/homersbarandgrill](http://www.myspace.com/homersbarandgrill)

# Dance

**PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE: DANCE AUDITIONS** Entry-level dance apprentices are invited to audition for this exciting troupe. The company is especially interested in men who like to dance (any level – dancers will receive training), as well as entry-level females possessing outstanding dance talent and vibrant stage presence. Previous knowledge of a Latin-folkloric dance style and acting skills a plus. Call for appointment. *Through Jan. 31.* 251-8122. [www.prdance.org/auditions.htm](http://www.prdance.org/auditions.htm).

**BIG RANGE AUSTIN DANCE FESTIVAL: CALL FOR ENTRIES** A contemporary dance festival facilitated by Spank Dance is seeking choreographers to present new dance works at AustinVentures StudioTheater, Salvage Vanguard 2nd Stage, and the Off Center in June. Application and event details available online; applications also available at the venues. Deadline: Feb. 15. [www.spankdance.com](http://www.spankdance.com).

**DANCE CAROUSEL** Once again, as part of this year's FronteraFest Long Fringe, audiences can marvel at 40 dances in 40 minutes as area choreographers cram an insane amount of movement into one of the most fabulous samplers around. The balletic brain trust for this fifth annual show includes Nancy Bain, Ellen Bartel, Annie Hudson, Rhianon Renae Kjar, Myia Little, Laura Noose, Amanda Oakely, Caroline Sutton Clark, Leah Tubbs, and Randi Turkin. Warning: adult language. (Yes, yes, some dances are "talkies.") Call for reservations. *Tue., Jan. 22, 7pm; Sat., Jan. 26, 8:30pm; Mon., Jan. 28, 8:45pm; Sat., Feb. 2, 2:15pm.* The Blue Theater, 916 Springdale, 479-7529. \$10. [www.spankdance.com](http://www.spankdance.com).

**DANIEL LLANES: MESSENGERS FROM THE DREAMTIME** Dances of the World presents this latest multidisciplinary outing by Llanes, featuring original dance, music by For the Love of It, and poetry. Guest performers include harpist Terry Ganzle and dancers Milissa Epstein and Sarah Chanault. *Fri.-Sat., Jan. 18-19, 8pm.* Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 431-9665. \$15. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/dougherty).

**AMERICAN REPERTORY ENSEMBLE: WINTER'S TRYST** This is the third January that ARE has performed in Austin, featuring its internationally renowned roster of dancers and musicians. Among the selections, works choreographed by David Justin, Christopher Wheeldon, and James Kudelka. *Jan. 18-19, Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm.* McCullough Theatre, UT campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 762-4125. \$22 (\$15, UT faculty, staff; \$12, seniors, students); cash or check only at the door. [www.americanrepensemble.org](http://www.americanrepensemble.org).

## 1,001 NIGHTS

**MELISSA AMIRA'S CARAVAN** Hosted by Jeanette, this night of hot dance and cold beverages features some of the area's most exciting and talented belly dancers. Plus, purchase CDs and costumes! *Every third Saturday, 8pm.* Carousel Lounge, 1110 E. 52nd, 452-6790. [www.carouselounge.net](http://www.carouselounge.net).

## TWO LEFT FEET

**PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CULTURAL CENTER: SPRING CLASSES** PRFD offers classes in music and dance for all ages. Among the favorites: the Brinca y Canta class for preschoolers and their favorite adults (that's you!). Add to this the usual traditional dance and music classes, all steeped in the rich cultural heritage of Puerto Rico. See the company's website for details. 251-8122. [www.prdance.org](http://www.prdance.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](http://www.dancein.org).

**LUCILA DANCE PRODUCTIONS: CLASSES FORMING** Classes are forming now in belly dancing (all levels), flamenco, salsa/merengue, hip-hop, creative movement for ages 5-10, and tai chi. *Lucila Dance Studio, 1700 S. Lamar. 416-8800.* [www.luciladance.com](http://www.luciladance.com).

**PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE: OCTAVITAS CELEBRATION** Octavitas is the last holiday of Las Navidades, celebrated, with gusto, in Puerto Rico. Families, yours included, are encouraged to bring musical instruments and sing along to traditional songs. Plus, you can test your poetic wit with traditional Bombas. *Sun., Jan. 20, 3pm.* PRFD Cultural Center, 701 Tillery. 251-8122. Free. [www.prdance.org](http://www.prdance.org).

**BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH TWYLA GRACE** Call or write for more information. *Mon. & Wed., 8:30-9:30pm, 12687 Research @ Oak Knoll. 971-0188.* [www.twylabellydance.com](http://www.twylabellydance.com).

**BELLY-DANCE CLASSES** 512/750-7037. \$13 per class; \$66 for six classes. [www.desertpassion.com](http://www.desertpassion.com).

**TAPESTRY DANCE COMPANY: WINTER, SPRING CLASSES** Registration for Tapestry Dance Company's Winter and Spring Academy classes is ongoing. Sign up for ballet, rhythm tap, jazz, modern, hip-hop, ballroom, dance theatre, and yoga, as well as new classes in Bharatanatyam (traditional Indian), character/folk dance, and more. Classes for children age 3 and older, teens, and adults of all ages and experience. Check the website for even more offerings in 2008. *Tapestry Dance Company, 2302 Western Trails. 474-9864.* [www.tapestry.org](http://www.tapestry.org).

**AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS** ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ-ed music weekly, year-round. *Saturdays, 8-11pm; minilesson, 7:30pm.* Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research. 989-3939. [www.austinballroomdancers.org](http://www.austinballroomdancers.org).

**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.

**SCOTTISH BALLROOM DANCING** Learn the ballroom dances of Scotland, lads and lassies: lively jigs and reels and elegant strathspeys; no partner needed but couples welcome. *Thursdays, 7-8:30pm.* Quicksilver Dance Center, 8711 Burnet Rd. Ste. H-100. 327-2869. First class free.

**CHERYL CHADDICK CONTEMPORARY DANCE CLASSES** Intermediate and advanced dancers are invited to participate in Craddick's ongoing classes. Two locations. *Sundays, 10:30am-noon: Cafe Dance, 3307-B Hancock. Tuesdays, 6:45-8:15pm: Ballet Austin, 501 W. Third. 476-9051 x126.* \$10. [www.balletaustin.org](http://www.balletaustin.org).

**ESTUDIO FLAMENCO** Flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Handy central location to boot. Call for times; private lessons available. 2801 W. 45th. 382-1366. \$10 per class. [www.estudioflamenco.com](http://www.estudioflamenco.com).

**MODERN DANCE CLASSES** Ellen Bartel of Spank Dance Company leads a series of classes in modern dance (all levels). *Times and prices vary, see the Tapestry website for details.* *Tapestry Dance Company studios, 2302 Western Trails.* [www.tapestry.org](http://www.tapestry.org).

**SOLID CHROME DANCERS** Dance in a real honky-tonk! Learn the Texas two-step and Western swing. Singles and couples welcome to these ongoing classes. *Thursdays, 8pm.* Broken Spoke, 3201 S. Lamar, 417-7383. \$8. [www.myspace.com/solidchromedancers](http://www.myspace.com/solidchromedancers).

**SCANDINAVIAN DANCING** Turning and improvised couple dancing for beginning to advanced dancers. No partners needed; wear slick-soled shoes. *Thursdays, 7:30-9:45pm.* First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 454-0598. \$3. [www.austinscandi.org](http://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](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm).

**NIA CLASSES** The Nia Technique is a high-powered energizing workout inspired by dance, martial arts, and healing arts. The first class is free. *Mon. & Fri., 9:30-10:30am; Mon. & Thu., 6-7pm; Sat., 10:30am.* Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 922-1581. \$10 each class. [www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm](http://www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/hancock.htm).

**AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS** Start out a fun evening learning a variety of couples and line dances from around the world before giving it a whirl during the open dance session. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner required. *Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons); open dance 8:15-11pm.* Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. [www.aifd.cc](http://www.aifd.cc).

**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. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. Free.* [www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austingaysalsa](http://www.groups.yahoo.com/group/austingaysalsa).

**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. *Tuesdays, 7pm (women), 9:30pm (open dance).* Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary. [www.fouronthefloor.com](http://www.fouronthefloor.com).

**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](http://www.austinswingsyndicate.org).



**Bengt Washburn**  
Jan. 29 - Feb. 2

A ditzy, neurotic, and logistically impaired Mormon



**Al Madrigal**  
January 22-26

A Comedy Central favorite!



**Maria Bamford**  
Two Nights Only  
February 20th & 21st

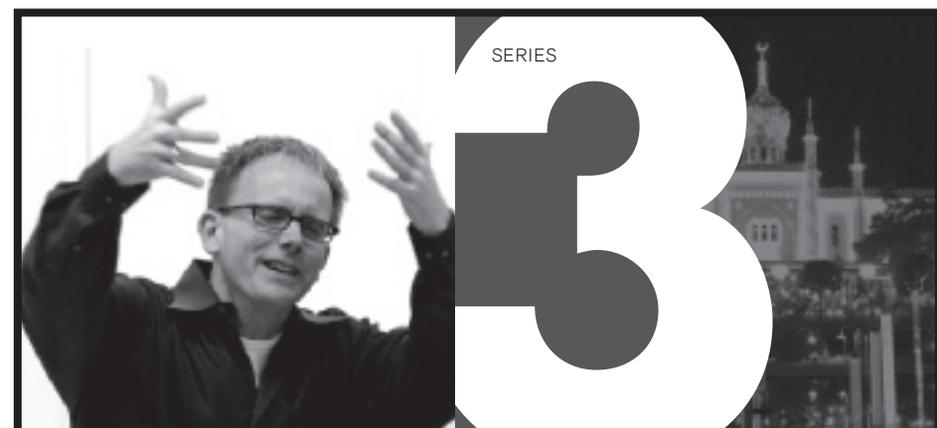


**Special Event!**



HAPPY NEW YEAR! Laughter is good for the soul & now comes in bulk! Discount Ticket Packages are now available! Contact a comedy counselor at 467-2333 for more information. [capcitycomedy.com](http://capcitycomedy.com)

**467-2333 WWW.CAPCITYCOMEDY.COM 8120 RESEARCH BLVD.**



### Concert Series 3 Schedule

**Monday, January 28 6:00pm**

Choral Conversation at The Crossings  
13500 FM 2769, Austin  
Dinner and open rehearsal  
Tickets: \$25

**Thursday, January 31 8:00pm**

University Presbyterian Church  
2203 San Antonio Street, Austin  
Tickets: \$30 General Admission /\$15 Youth

**Friday, February 1 8:00pm**

St. Martin's Lutheran Church  
606 W. 15th Street, Austin  
Tickets: \$30 General Admission /\$15 Youth

**Sunday, February 3 2:30pm**

St. Martin's Lutheran Church  
606 W. 15th Street, Austin  
Tickets: \$30 General Admission /\$15 Youth

Student Rush tickets at \$10 each will be available for any student showing a current school identification at each performance (excluding 1/28/08) beginning at one half-hour before the concert begins.

## I Dream A World

A glittering showcase of American music from colonial times to the present day. Program to include Moses Hogan arrangements of African-American spirituals; Samuel Barber's *Agnus Dei* (a choral rendering of his *Adagio for Strings*); the *Nocturnes of Morten Lauridsen*, with texts by Agee, Rilke and Neruda; Eric Whitacre's *A Boy and a Girl*; and *Requiem* by Austin's own Eliza Gilkyson.

A preview of the program *Conspirare* will perform on its Scandinavian tour this summer.

## Conspirare

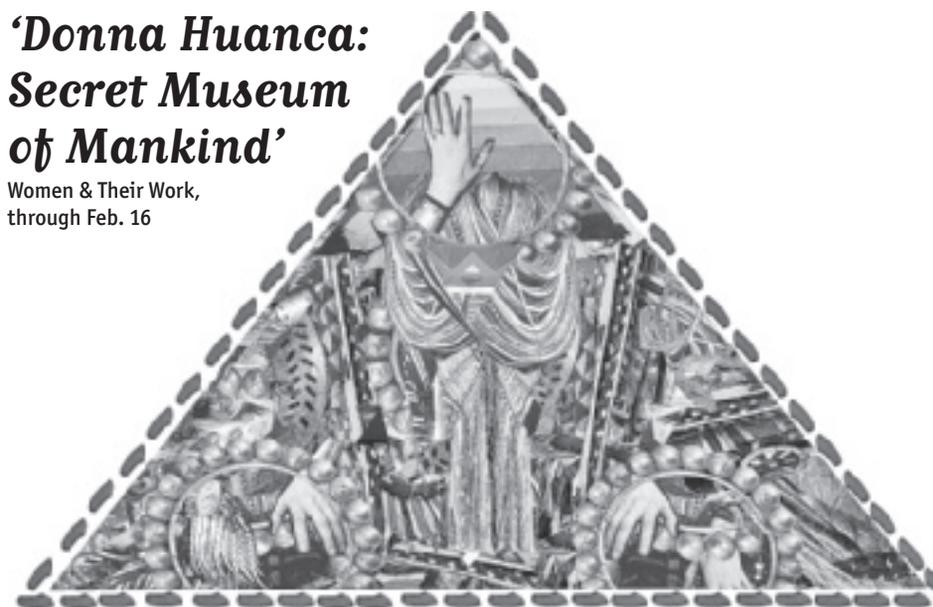
Craig Hella Johnson & Company of Voices

**FOR TICKETS, PLEASE CALL 512-476-5775**

View the complete 2007-2008 season online at [www.conspirare.org](http://www.conspirare.org)

# 'Donna Huanca: Secret Museum of Mankind'

Women & Their Work, through Feb. 16



Even before Lizzie Wetzel's performance, a smoke machine, incense, and drumbeats made the opening night of Donna Huanca's "Secret Museum of Mankind" at Women & Their Work feel more like an esoteric ritual than a reception for an art exhibition. The University of Houston alumna jam-packed the gallery with a series of installations that loosely reference pre-Columbian civilizations, 20th century Cuban rebels, psychedelic rock bands, and New Age spirituality. Each vignette fluctuates between a diorama and a stage, where viewers and performers alike activate the space.

The gallery is roughly divided into three parts that overlay past, present, and future. The video *I'm Leaving* and the felt diptych *Cuban Rebels and Papaulu* represent events from the lives of Huanca's parents. The former echoes her mother's flight from Bolivia to the United States through satellite footage familiar from TV weather reports, while the latter focuses on the time the artist's father spent in the Bolivian army. In two mural-sized wall hangings, Huanca treats scraps of felt like paint, layering boldly colored swatches to depict two groups of figures based on photographs in her father's collection. On one side, men dressed in uniforms hover over a fallen soldier. On the other, the rebels pose in front of a campfire. It's the right balance of artificiality and realism – combined with the dense hue of textiles – that makes these figures almost pop off the wall and also makes *Cuban Rebels and Papaulu* one of the best pieces in the show.

*Memories/Past* includes two sets of near-life-size puppets situated on either side of a painted stepped pyramid. In this vignette, Huanca ruminates on events from her own life, with characters that include a plush version of her dog. The puppets prompt activation via imagination, turning this portion of "Secret Museum of Mankind" into something like a children's museum.

The gallery's central space has been given over to stage sets for ritual acts. A mound of dirt speared with sticks of incense and covered in spices sits in front of a large black circle painted on the wall. Nearby, white blocks form a pit that spews artificial smoke. A large installation on the back wall combines bones, crystals, colored powders, and found objects to evoke a glowing grotto where Wetzel, one of Huanca's collaborators, cavorted on opening night. This part of the show – which Huanca created with Wetzel and the artist Owl Eyes – functions well as a performance space, but compared with the high craft of the exhibition's other vignettes, it does not make for great visual art.

Much of what is here has been shown elsewhere, including the puppets and felt diptych. There is nothing wrong with resituating past projects to create something new; however, the combination of fully resolved art objects with temporary performance props is a little jarring and leaves viewers with a lot to process. "Secret Museum of Mankind" is not a tight show but certainly an ambitious one.

– Amanda Douberley

**AND PIANO** The Southwestern Music Department presents James T. Miller, trombone, accompanied by pianist Kiyoshi Tamagawa. *Thu., Jan. 17, 7pm. Alma Thomas Theater, Southwestern University, 1001 E. University, Georgetown. 512/863-1379. Free. www.ssfawest.edu.*

**TEXAS EARLY MUSIC PROJECT: LAURIE YOUNG STEVENS AND FRIENDS** Stevens has plenty of friends, and this annual concert features the following: Phoebe Carrai, cello; Paul Leenhouts, recorder; and (one of our faves) Jenifer Thyssen, soprano. Works range from the familiar to the rarely heard, by Pachelbel, Rameau, Merula, Biber, and more. *Thu., Jan. 17, 7:30pm. Bethell Hall, St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh. Fri., Jan. 18, 7:30pm. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 1500 N. Capital of TX Hwy. 371-0099. \$15 (\$10, seniors, students). www.early-music.org.*

**AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC CENTER: WHEN WE SAY SOUL MUSIC, WE MEAN IT** This intimate concert features Austin Symphony principal musi-

Kuhlau, Turina, and Schumann. Reception follows. *Fri., Jan. 18, 8pm. First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 380-0065. \$20 (\$10, students). www.chambersoloists.com.*

**UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC** Among the highlights of UT's School of Music's Great classical program this week: **Rick Rowley, piano.** In his first local recital in years, pianist Rowley performs works by Brahms, Beethoven, Ravel, and Liszt. *Fri., Jan. 18, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall. \$10 (\$5, students). 471-5401. www.music.utexas.edu.*

**AUSTIN CIVIC ORCHESTRA: FIFTH AVENUE** Internationally renowned pianist Anton Nel performs Beethoven's *Piano Concerto No. 5, "Emperor"* on a program that also includes works by Shostakovich and Johannes Brahms. *Sat., Jan. 19, 7:30pm. Alma Thomas Theater, Southwestern University, 1001 E. University, Georgetown. 301-7370. \$10 (\$8, students; \$3 ages 11 and younger). www.austincivorchestra.org.*

**SHIREINU: SACRED MUSIC FROM THE MIDDLE EAST** For its annual Shabbat Shirah concert celebrating diverse Jewish musical traditions, Congregation Agudas Achim and AgudasARTS present the Yuval Ron Ensemble (with guest vocalist Rabbi Haim Ovadia) performing an evening of Sephardic music. The ensemble includes Jewish and Arabic musicians, as well as Christian Armenian artists who've created musical bridges between various faiths and ethnic groups worldwide. *Sat., Jan. 19, 8pm. Congregation Agudas Achim, 7300 Hart, 735-8480. \$25 (\$18, seniors, students). www.caa-austin.org.*

**AUSTIN YOUNG CONCERT ARTISTS** Here's the fifth biennial gala concert showcasing the exceptional talent of the finest young musicians in Austin, who perform a diverse classical repertoire. This year's gala honors AYCA founder and past artistic director, Sophia Gilmon, and introduces its new director, Kristin Wolfe Jensen. *Sun., Jan. 20, 4pm. Jessen Auditorium, UT campus. 345-3399. \$10 (\$5, students). www.austinyoungartists.com.*

## CLOSING

**OKLAHOMA CITY UNIVERSITY AUSTIN MUSIC AUDITIONS** The Oklahoma City University Summer Music Programs will be coming to Austin to hold admission auditions for its renowned summer training programs. Ninth grade through graduating seniors are invited to audition for high school musical theatre, opera, technical theatre, or drama pre-college training intensives. Audition registration is required and can be found at the school's website. Scholarships and financial aid consideration are available. *Fri., Jan. 18. McCallum Fine Arts Academy, 5600 Sunshine. 405/208-5410. www.okcu.edu/music/academy/summerprg.aspx.*

## NOTES & ENCORES

**PUERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE: MUSICIAN AUDITIONS** Professional musicians are invited to audition for PRFD's lively orchestra. The company is especially interested in singers and percussionists. Also: acoustic guitar players, performers of other stringed, wind, or brass instruments. As segments of Puerto Rico's traditional music are not in written form, musicians should have a proficiency for playing written music and playing by ear. Call for appointment. *Through Jan. 31. 251-8122. www.prfdance.org.*

# Visual Arts

## EVENTS

**AMODA: PERFORMANCE 10** The Austin Museum of Digital Art presents Nathaniel Bartlett performing with a rig that seamlessly melds marimba with electronics, computers, and an eight-channel loud-speaker array to produce high-definition 3-D sound. *Fri., Jan. 18, 8-10pm. 3002 Guadalupe, 476-9051. \$10 (\$8, AMODA members). www.balletaustin.org.*

**BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART Curator's Tour** explores the current WorkSpace installation by Paul Ramirez Jonas with curator Ursula Davila-Villa. *Thu., Jan. 17, 12:30pm. Bad Penny* This Mac Wellman play is directed by Luke Leonard. *Sun., Jan. 20, 2pm. Artistic License*, Paul Ramirez Jonas discusses his WorkSpace installation. *Thu., Jan. 24, 6pm. Bach Cantata Project* Performances include a connection with artwork in the museum's galleries. *Tue., Jan. 29, noon. Curator's Tour* by Gabriel Perez-Barreiro considers Jorge Macchi's *The Anatomy of Melancholy*. *Thu., Jan. 31, 12:30pm. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

**ARTHUR SIMONE AT CREEKSIDE LOUNGE** Hunting Art Prize finalist Simone showcases his large and colorful abstract-expressionist canvases. Reception with live music and treats. *Sun., Jan. 20, 7-9pm. 606 E. Seventh, 480-5988. www.arthursimone.com.*

## OPENING

**BIG MEDIUM: THE WORLD IS MAKING US LOOK BAD** is a collaborative project by William Hundley, Paul Moncus, Stacey Farrar, and Peter VonDiestel, based on "the concept that we human beings are completely blameless for the situations we find ourselves and our world in." Intrigued? *Big Medium* used to be called *Bolm Studios*; that may intrigue you further. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 19, 7-11pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 23. 5305 Bolm. www.bolmstudios.com*

**GALLERY LOMBARDI: IT'S A BEAUTIFUL WORLD** This Scion-sponsored show features art by Andrew

Pommier, Andy Mueller, Angela Boatwright, Blaine Fontana, Blek le Rat, and more. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 17, 6-10pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 23. 602 W. Seventh Ste. A, 481-1088. www.gallerylombardi.com.*

**D BERMAN GALLERY: EXCHANGE** This exhibition features longtime friends Catherine Lee and Bodo Korsig showing work together for the first time. Reception: *Thu., Jan. 17, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 23. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.*

**NEW EAST GALLERY: CHICANO CLASSIC** Caroline Martines' bold and striking color combinations characterize her impassioned depictions of barrio characters with Latin American religious iconography. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 19, 7-10pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 14. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.*

**ARTSPOKEN: START** Six resident artists showcase their work. *Through Feb. 2. 1507 W. Koenig, 589-2905. www.artsspoken.com.*

**ART PALACE: OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS** Brad Tucker's solo exhibition incorporates an installation of sculpture, painting, video, and lino-prints to provide a framework for two text-based works. Reception: *Fri., Jan. 18, 8-11pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 16. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.*

**CR! IT'S GONNA BE EVERYTHING** The nine artists and founders of Okay Mountain tell all in this group collaborative show originating from games, challenges, or rules imposed on and by the group. Reception: *Sat., Jan. 19, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 9. 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.*

## ONGOING

**EYE CONTACT ART** showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eyecontactart.com.*

**AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS** Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. *1219 W. Sixth.*

**CORONADO STUDIOS** The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.*

**YOUNG LATINO ARTISTS: EMBRACING CHAOS** *Through Feb. 23. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 478-6222. www.ci.austin.tx.us.*

**GALLERY POLLOCK: BILL D. FRANCIS** The UT professor emeritus presents his finest prisma-color works. *2620-C S. Lamar, 804-2667. www.gallerypollock.com.*

**AMOA: ROY LICHTENSTEIN PRINTS** Why, it's as if one has died and gone to Ben-Day-dot heaven, as the Austin Museum of Art presents this retrospective of work by the master of comic-book appropriation. Whither now, O Fin Fang Foom? *Through Feb. 3. 823 Congress, 495-9224. www.amoa.org.*

**ART ALLIANCE AUSTIN + PUMP PROJECT** In its second show, Art Alliance Austin has teamed up with Pump Project Art Complex to display the works of local artists at this new location. *315 Congress #100, 610-4211. www.artallianceaustin.org.*

**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.pablotaboadastudio.com.*

**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.*

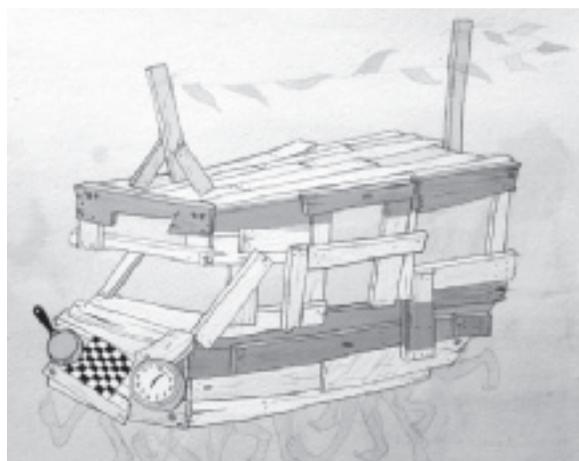
**AVENUE GALLERY: THE MANY FACES OF DUNCAN** features photographs of the popular Scottish Fold cat belonging to photographer Kip Holm. *1510 1/2 S. Congress, 442-3600. www.avenuegallerysoco.com.*

**BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART WorkSpace: Paul Ramirez Jonas** *Through Feb. 3. Jorge Macchi: The Anatomy of Melancholy* *Through March 16. Jacques Callot* *Through April 27. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

**BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS** Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. *5241 N. Lamar, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.*

**THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK** is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a, we guess you might say, average South Austin home. Hours: *Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keepaustinweird.com.*

**DAVIS GALLERY: SANDRA LANGSTON** Half a



The staff of Austin's Okay Mountain unleashes a collaborative exhibition at Creative Research Laboratory this weekend.

lifetime in Texas and half in southern Italy make for intriguing contrasts. Works are in oil, pastel, and mixed-media. *Through Feb. 16. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929.*

**DIBONA STUDIO** Oil paintings and “sculptural tattoos” by Joyce DiBona. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

**ELSE MADSEN GALLERY: MAXIMALIST** A multimedia show of drawings, paintings, and collage, featuring work by Meg Stone, Michael Abelman, and Shawna Mouser. *Through Feb. 16. 411 Brazos #99. www.elsemadsen.com.*

**FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY** 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

**BROCCA GALLERY** New works by sculptor and painter Augusto Brocca. 1103 E. Sixth. [www.broccagallery.com](http://www.broccagallery.com).

**MITCHIE'S FINE BLACK ART** presents an eclectic selection of African and African-American artwork. 6406 N. I-35 #2800, 323-6901. [www.mitchie.com](http://www.mitchie.com).

**THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA: GHOSTS** Take a curator-led tour of “The Orbs of Ghost Road,” Pepper’s Ghost diorama, ectoplasm from the M. Ravi archives, ghost photos, and other objects on loan from the Austin community. *Call for appt. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org/collection/ghosts.php.*

**NEW EAST ARTS** 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. [www.diversearts.org](http://www.diversearts.org).

**OKAY MOUNTAIN: GOLD RUSH** This fresh-as-baby-flesh show is curated by John Trippe of FecalFace.com, the popular visual arts website, and features work by Michelle Blade, Kelsey Brooks, Alika Cooper, Jeremy Fish, Tara Foley, Matt Furie, Jay Howell, Josh Keyes, Anthony Lister, and more. *Through Feb. 9. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez Ste. B. www.okaymountain.com.*

**SHORELINES GALLERY: SUE KEMP** Watercolors from nature. 221 W. Second, 322-9961. [www.shorelinesgalleryaustin.com](http://www.shorelinesgalleryaustin.com).

**WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: A GRAND AFFAIR** This is a highly recommended way to start (or add to) your collection. Extraordinary works from the gallery’s 45 represented artists, each piece for less than a grand. *Through Jan. 29. 1202-B W. Sixth, 472-7428. www.wallyworkmangallery.com.*

**WOMEN & THEIR WORK: SECRET MUSEUM OF MANKIND** Houston artist Donna Huanca excavates layers of memory to create an installation containing life-sized dioramas, sound tunnels, and primitive shelters to render a narrative from past to future. (See review, p.74.) *Through Feb. 16. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

## SPACES

**DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY** Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. [www.decola-eusebi.com](http://www.decola-eusebi.com).

**FLIPNOTICS: THE VISUAL WOLFY** Photography by Todd V. Wolfson. *Flipnotics @ the Triangle, 4600 Guadalupe, 380-0097. www.flipnotics.com.*

**GUTTERKITTY STUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT** 102 Krebs. [ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com](mailto:ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com).

**ARTWORKS GALLERY** Tropical butterflies displayed in plexiboxes designed by G.W. Clark. 1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.

**CYPRESS GRILL: CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY** 4404 W. William Cannon Ste. L, 358-7474. [www.creativeartsociety.org](http://www.creativeartsociety.org).

**THE GREEN MUSE: J. LOWRY DOILE** 519 W. Oltorf, 912-7789.

**LAMBERTS: JOAN MCGUIRE** New abstract works on paper. 401 W. Second, 494-1500. [www.lamberts-austin.com](http://www.lamberts-austin.com).

**LOVEJOYS: BART FARAR** New work and highly recommended. 604 Neches, 477-1268.

**ROADHOUSE RELICS** Vintage neon, carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture, by Todd Sanders. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. [www.roadhouserelics.com](http://www.roadhouserelics.com).

**ABSTRACTS TO ACORNS** Photography by Deana Newcomb. *Through Nov. 3. 101 W. Sixth, 477-7884.*

**VIN BISTRO: KEVA RICHARDSON** *Through Feb. 11. 1601 W. 38th.*

## CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

**AVAA AND MULTICULTURAL ARTISTS PARTNERSHIP** seek artist vendors for the Chinese Lunar New Year Holiday Bazaar. All proceeds go directly to the artist, but participants are asked to donate one item to the silent auction fundraiser. See their website for details. *Deadline: Feb. 6. www.multiculturalartfestivals.org/CallArtists-FCCBazaar.html.*

**THE CREATIVE SIDE ACADEMY** offers workshops and art classes for students ages 12 and older. Come discover your creative side with instruction from accomplished artists. All levels welcomed. 628 Allen, 799-0589. [www.creativeside.org](http://www.creativeside.org).

**ATELIER 3-D: SEEKING PRESENTERS** The studio needs working sculptors who are willing to present their art to a small, highly interested group of local sculptors and artists. Presentations: *Thursdays, 2-4pm. 701 Tillery, 385-1115. www.atelier3-d.com.*

**AUSTIN FIGURATIVE GALLERY: SELF PORTRAIT** Get your work onto a 20-inch-by-16-inch vertical unframed canvas, and you’re in the exhibition. *Deadline: Feb. 29. 301 Chicon, Unit F, 296-6624. www.austinfigurativegallery.com.*

**HEARTS FOR TOMA MI CORAZON XVI ARE AVAILABLE NOW!** Every year La Peña gives out wooden hearts to school children, artists, dignitaries, celebrities, and anybody who would like one. The hearts, decorated and returned, are then sold in a silent auction to benefit La Peña’s artistic and educational programming. *Deadline: Jan. 20. 227 Congress, 477-6007.*

## Litera

### READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

**EUGENE ROBINSON** bloodies it up with his *Fight: Everything You Ever Wanted to Know About Ass-Kicking but Were Afraid You'd Get Your Ass Kicked for Asking*. Robinson is an award-winning journalist, competitive fighter, and vocalist for Oxbow. *Mon., Jan. 21, 6pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.*

**VIKRAM CHANDRA** explores Mumbai’s organized crime scene in his 900-page epic, *Sacred Games*. *Sun., Jan. 20, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

**DR. GARY KEITH** discusses his book *Eckhardt: There Once Was a Senator From Texas*, in which he details the life of Sen. Bob Eckhardt and his German roots in Texas. *Sun., Jan. 20, 3pm. The German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. www.germantexans.org.*

**DOUGLAS PRESTON** thrills with a Crichtonesque take on what the supercollider might unleash, in his *Blasphemy*. *Sat., Jan. 19, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

**AUSTIN CITY WIDE UNDER 21 POETRY SLAM #3** presented by the Texas Youth Word Collective features some of the finest young slammers in the nation, y’all. Come help select the next group to represent Austin in the nationals in D.C. Always recommended. *Sat., Jan. 19, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 632-5033. \$5 (free, slammers and ages 5 and younger). www.tywc.org.*

**GAIL FOLKINS** hoe-downs in her beautifully illustrated and well-written *Texas Dance Halls*. *Fri., Jan. 18, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

**ROBERT LELEUX** weirds it up in his East Texas comic paean to mamas and their boys, *The Memoirs of a Beautiful Boy*. *Thu., Jan. 17, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

**TEXAS NAFAS** presents *Angels Knocking at the Tavern Door* (part two) with Robert Bly and Coleman Barks. Highly recommended, even if you saw the live performance. *Saturdays on Channel 16, ACTV.*

## WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

**PLAN B POETRY** Austin formalist-leaning poet seeks to organize a workshop with a stable and small membership, to begin meeting in January. Dana Gioia’s term “postmodern classicism” captures the spirit for which she aims. Serious poets with a nonexclusive commitment to form, especially those on the non- or recovering-MFA track, are invited to send inquiries to Rebecca via e-mail. [obliquus@aol.com](mailto:obliquus@aol.com).

**SHAKES ALOUD!** is a fun exploration of the Bard. People of all ages are welcome to this ongoing weekly reading group offered by Austin Shakespeare and moderated by Melinda Hall. *Sundays, 5-7pm. ACoT Headquarters, 701 Tillery. \$5 each night. www.austinsakespeare.org.*

**PACO AHLGREN** The sci-fi/fantasy author of *Discipline* speaks to the Writers’ League of Texas. Yes, it’s open to the public. *Thu., Jan. 17, 7pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652. Free.*

**LAW OF ATTRACTION GROUP** discusses the principals in *The Law of Attraction* by Esther and Jerry Hicks, and other such books. *Saturdays, 9am. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

**AUSTIN WRITERS WORKSHOP FOR SCREENWRITERS** This group is open to new members to come read, discuss, and critique one another’s work. The group meets every other Monday. *Mon., Jan. 21, 6:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

**DISCOVERY SPEAKER SERIES** Ted Van Dyk pun-dits on about *Heroes, Hacks, and Fools: Memoirs From the Political Inside*. *Tue., Jan. 22, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

**LITERARY MOVIE NIGHT** goes *High Fidelity*, Nick Hornby’s hit novel done up by Stephen Fears and the wonderful John Cusack with Jack Black. *Tue., Jan. 22, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

**THE INTIMACIES GROUP** discusses love, sex, and relationships, with columnist Karen Kreps. *Wed., Jan. 23, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

**LUDICROUS SPEED CLUB** groks on with *Stranger in a Strange Land* by Robert Heinlein. *Mon., Jan. 21, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.*

**DOWNTOWN BOOK CLUB** embraces their deepest otaku with *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Junot Diaz. *Mon., Jan. 21, noon-1pm. Faulk Central Branch Library, 810 Guadalupe, 471-2654.*

**HOWSON SF CLUB** straps on the big one with Neal Stephenson’s classic *Snow Crash*. *Mon., Jan. 21, 7-8:30pm. Howson Library, 2500 Exposition, 472-3584.*

**AUSTIN WRITER’S BLOCK** is a mutually supportive writing group. Also: writing exercises. *Tuesdays, 4:30-6:30pm. La Madeleine, 3418 N. Lamar, 653-7872. www.austinwritersblock.com.*

## SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

**CHARLES PATRICK** speaks about the life and literary works of Clara Matthaer, Texas-German writer. *Fri., Jan. 18, 1pm. Elgin Public Library, 404 N. Main, Elgin, 281-5678. Free.*

**POETRY WORKSHOP** led by Barbara Youngblood Carr. Bring 10 copies to share for a friendly critique. Prepare to write a poem or two if time permits. *Thu., Jan. 17, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

## OPEN MICS

**WEIRD WORD** is a round robin for poets and musicians. No sign-up sheet, no censors, no features. All poetry styles welcome. Currently BYOB for those so inclined. Hosted by the WarriorPoet. Note new day. *Mondays, 7-10pm. Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473. www.southaustinstudios.com.*

**GENUINE JOE** Make some noise, or just sit and enjoy the enchanting air of North Austin. All acts welcome, but no cover songs. *Thursdays, 7:30-10pm. Genuine Joe Coffeehouse, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. www.genuinejoe.com.*

**HIDEOUT IN WINTER** with your host, Thom the World Poet, and special guests. *Mondays, 7-10pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry).*

**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 Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamaya.net.*

**RUTA MAYA POETRY** is one of the longest-running open mics in Austin. Hosted by David Bates and Mark Maslow. Donations accepted for Poets Pantry. *Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.freespeechart.com.*

**THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM** Mike Henry and a rotating crew of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, po-mo theatre, rock & roll, and phone sex rolled into one cosmic-heat blast of an evening. Open sign-up, 12 poems per week. \$100 cash prizes. Featured poets kick it on, and then the tangles get electric. Note new venue! *Wednesdays, 8pm. Scoot Inn and Bier Garten, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200. www.nps2007.com.*

**UNCENSORED OPEN MIC** is hosted by Ed of Poetry Karaoke. All ages welcomed. Musicians, artists, dancers, all open living and free! *Wednesdays, 8pm. Sticky Fingers Boutique, 2201 S. First, 693-9570. www.myspace.com.*

**VENTANA DEL SOL** with Element 615. Reincarnate a word. *Sundays, 7-9pm. Ventana del Soul, 1834 E. Oltorf, 707-7447. www.ventanadelsoul.org.*

**WORD JAZZ** Spoken word and musical improvisations from the low stars. *First and Third Thursdays, 8-10pm. Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.*

## CALL FOR ENTRIES

**THE REFINED SAVAGE POETRY REVIEW** is looking for well-crafted poems. 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](http://www.therefinedsavages.us/call_for_poets.htm).

**AIPF DIVERSE YOUTH** Austin International Poetry Festival’s Diverse Youth is accepting poetry submissions from students in grades K-12. *Deadline: Jan. 31. www.aipf.org.*

**AIPF DI-VERSE-CITY** Austin International Poetry Festival is accepting poetry submissions for its 2008 anthology. Adults only, please. *Deadline: Fri., Feb. 1. www.aipf.org.*

## MISCELLANEOUS

**MORE POETRY!** *If we weave we net a hardness of roads, an X between speaking of parting — the foot of a god, a fire to sharp pain. she leaps out carrying a memory of being seen, of seeing, of being caught in between the act & collapsing — ash soft as warm as lips to stone — her breasts or distance closing — the knife for the bread, the black kettle on & somewhere she slips the moon. Namaste. Vaya con dios.*

## POEM OF THE ISSUE

a tale as big as a star

a star shining

in the blue

below above or the no

do you low what

I low way up

in the high in I am

way up in the

night wind

I am

— Stephanie Pope, “no holds”

## There Will Be Blood

D: Paul Thomas Anderson; with Daniel Day-Lewis, Paul Dano, Kevin J. O'Connor, Ciarán Hinds, Dillon Freasier. (R, 158 min.)

"No movie this year was more rooted in the American soil than this powerful character study and origin story." That's what I wrote a couple of weeks ago when I had space for just a few words to explain why *There Will Be Blood* earned the top slot on my list of the Top 10 films of 2007 ("There Will Be Film," Jan. 4). Opening at the dawn of the 20th century, this film epic is a compelling portrait of capitalism gone mad and

the collective shams we hold on to as truths. Anderson's saga is one that rivals films like *Giant* and *Citizen Kane* in our popular lore as stories about how we came to be the people we are. Ambition and greed drive the ascent of Daniel Plainview (Day-Lewis), a gold-prospector-turned-wildcatter-turned-oil tycoon. As in another American classic, *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*, it's not the gold that destroys men's souls but greed; in *There Will Be Blood*, the commodity that drives the greed is oil. Anderson, the director of such culture-rattling films as *Boogie Nights* and *Magnolia*, here tones down his signature visual and narrative flamboyance in favor of a more classically composed story, while leaving intact the trenchant omniscience of his storytelling. Loosely based on the early pages of Upton Sinclair's *Oil!*, *There Will Be Blood* is steeped in the origins of America's love affair with fossil fuels. (Is it a stretch to say that Anderson is evoking the Bush dynasty in the initialized name of Plainview's son, H.W., wonderfully played by Freasier?) The film also tackles America's reliance on faith and the gnarled intersection between pragmatism and belief. At its most forthright, however, *There Will Be Blood* is a rich character study of a fascinating individual who is by turns likable, loathsome, admirable, monstrous, and driven. (Again, perhaps an American archetype and exemplar of our eternal conundrum as a nation.) Of course, what Day-Lewis brings to the characterization is more exquisite and complex than anything even Anderson might have imagined at the



outset. His Plainview is, hands down, the most gripping film performance of the year, and as his religious foil, Dano also reveals unsuspected depths. Essential to the movie is the original score by Jonny Greenwood, the Radiohead guitarist and BBC composer in residence. Before we even see a single image onscreen, the film opens with Greenwood's recurring musical motif that's not unlike the sound of an insect trapped inside one's cranium, buzzing insistently, unquelled, and ever louder. Although *There Will Be Blood* follows a fairly standard structure for a decades-long personal saga, Anderson's stylistic flair can be witnessed in his opening and closing sequences. The 20-minute opening sequence is a near-wordless introduction to Plainview's personality (no small feat there) and a précis on the physical challenges and techniques of mining the earth. It is here that the movie stakes itself incontrovertibly in the American soil. The closing sequence delivers on the promise of the movie's title in a manner that keeps viewers discussing it long after the picture ends. *There Will Be Blood* is not a movie that disappears quietly.

— Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★★ Alamo Ritz, Arbor, Barton Creek Square

## New Reviews

### CASSANDRA'S DREAM

D: Woody Allen; with Ewan McGregor, Colin Farrell, Tom Wilkinson, Hayley Atwell, John Benfield, Clare Higgins, Sally Hawkins. (PG-13, 108 min.)

At this point, I guess we should just applaud Allen for his work ethic. Even at the ripe old age of 72, he's still making movies at the rate of one a year, come rain or come shine. The problem, of course, is that he doesn't make good movies at the rate of one a year. In fact, by my count, he hasn't made a good movie for almost a decade (1999's *Sweet and Lowdown*), which is fine if you're Terrence Malick, but it makes lifelong fans of Allen (myself included) wish he'd just give up being prolific, put away his camera, and take up watching the New York Knicks full time. With any luck, his quickly fading legacy can still be salvaged. *Cassandra's Dream* is the former master's latest plunge into irrelevance. Like 1989's brilliant *Crimes and Misdemeanors* and 2005's considerably less brilliant *Match Point*, *Dream* is a meditation on the consequences of immorality, this time the murder of a London man by two affable but down-

on-their-luck British brothers, Ian and Terry (McGregor and Farrell). Goaded by a rich uncle (Wilkinson) to do the deed in return for enough money to set both their lives straight, the brothers respond by indulging in lengthy discussions about the nature of evil and weighing the benefits of financial security against the risks (both legal and spiritual) of cold-blooded murder before finally getting down to the bloody business. McGregor and Farrell do their level best to communicate some of the philosophical ambivalence and moral murkiness that accompany acts of brutality, but they're up against inertia working with Allen. It's old news to say the director likes to take a hands-off approach with his actors and avoid rehearsal in the name of a speedy shoot (both of the film's stars have commented on this to the press, with McGregor praising his boss for allowing him to be home by 4:30 every afternoon and "have a life"), but there's a fine line between "hands-off" and total disengagement, and Allen has tumbled (Buddha-like) right over it. In *Cassandra*, his actors look like they're all seeing the script for the first time and so have no clue what their characters' personalities or motivations are. And the result

is like some guest-celebrity scene-reading in a college acting class, with McGregor spouting lines like, "I'm taken aback," and, "I'm stunned," with all the conviction of a cuckoo clock and Farrell changing personalities every time he opens his lips to speak. I don't know if I've ever seen actors look so lost. Strange to say, but after 40 years in the business, it seems Allen has forgotten everything he's learned about making movies.

— Josh Rosenblatt

★ Alamo Drafthouse South

### ★ CLOVERFIELD

D: Matt Reeves; with Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel, Odette Yustman, Lizzy Caplan, Jessica Lucas, T.J. Miller. (PG-13, 85 min.)

Although the online community has been positively abuzz regarding *Cloverfield* since a mysterious teaser trailer ran before screenings of *Transformers* this past summer, no one, not even the intrepid folks at [www.cloverfieldclues.blogspot.com](http://www.cloverfieldclues.blogspot.com), really knew much at all about the plot of this ultrasecret project from *Lost* creator J.J. Abrams and writer/director Reeves. I'm not going to spoil that mystery either, but I will say this: *Cloverfield* is the most intense and original creature feature I've seen in

my adult moviegoing life, and that's coming from a guy who knows his *Gojira* from his *Gamera* and his *Harryhausen* from his *Honda*. *Cloverfield* isn't a horror film — it's a pure-blood, grade A, exultantly exhilarating monster movie in the grand tradition of *The Beast From 20,000 Fathoms*, *It Came From Beneath the Sea*, and, to a lesser extent, Merian C. Cooper's *King Kong*. What makes *Cloverfield* so memorable and such a genuinely riveting filmgoing experience has less to do with the creature itself, whatever it is, and everything to do with Reeves' direction and a whip-smart, stylistically invisible screenplay that dispenses entirely with any and all genre rules and, brilliantly, views the catastrophic, literally earthshaking events through the lens of one character's digital video camera, complete with rough, nerve-jangling, in-camera edits and an "official" Department of Defense Eyes Only time stamp. It's *Blair Witch* meets *Godzilla*, with the audience allowed only as much information about what, exactly, is happening as the characters have themselves, and it works fantastically well. And that's key to the film's second stroke of genius: its nearly subconscious evocation of our current paranoid, terror-phobic times. The pall of post-9/11 dread hangs over *Cloverfield* in a very emotionally tangible way, although it should be noted that Reeves and Abrams never directly refer to it (although they do, in a nice nod to genre enthusiasts, reference the one-sheet poster for *John Carpenter's Escape From New York*). Sitting in the theatre, watching all hell break spectacularly loose in Lower Manhattan, again, you can't help but wish that giant behemoths and warring Gargantuas were all that our postatomic citizenry had to worry about. No such luck, and no giant flying turtle to save us, either.

— Marc Savlov

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

### FIRST SUNDAY

D: David E. Talbert; with Ice Cube, Tracy Morgan, Katt Williams, Loretta Devine, Chi McBride, Michael Beach, Keith David, Regina Hall, Malinda Williams. (PG-13, 98 min.)

It's become increasingly difficult to recall that Ice Cube was once upon a time one of the most incendiary and trenchant voices in hip-hop. Indeed, if you'd told me in 1992 that this particular voice in the hood would end up crossing over into mainstream pop culture via a series of increasingly bland, intermittently funny, but ultimately annoyingly pointless "message comedies" while also defanging his detractors and, to a large degree, his street cred in the process, I'd have laughed in your face and beat you on the head with a vinyl copy of the Compton-based rapper's classic *The Predator* LP until you regained some measure of sanity. Obviously, in hindsight, the joke was on me. Since 1995, when the first volley in Cube's comedy career was fired (via F. Gary Gray's dopey but fun *Friday*), the onetime leader of Da

Lench Mob has been steadily amassing a résumé of roles and producer credits for some less-than-stellar family comedies (*I Got the Hook Up*, *Barbershop*, *Are We There Yet?*). It's nearly as ludicrous and unforeseeable a career trajectory as if "Cop Killer"-era Ice T had caught a second wind as an actor playing a rough-justice copper in a television show called, I don't know, *Law & Order*. Nevertheless, Ice Cube is now Public Enemy Number Fun, although *First Sunday* (not to be confused with the first of the *Friday* franchise, or maybe it is) is only fun if you're in dire need of a modernist urban take on the strain of comedy Bud Abbott and Lou Costello used to practice, which, let's be honest, wasn't that funny to begin with. Cube plays Durell, an air-conditioning-repair whiz whose best pal, the criminally stupid LeeJohn (*30 Rock*'s Morgan) convinces him to take part in a scheme to rob the local church in order to score the cash necessary to a) save LeeJohn from a bloodthirsty posse of Jamaican drug thugs and b) pay the lease on a salon so that Durell's ex (Hall) doesn't move from Baltimore (where *First Sunday* is set) to Atlanta with their son in tow. The robbery, needless to say, goes awry with robbers, preachers, and parishioners getting plenty of "values" dialogue but almost no laughs. Even Morgan, a reliably gagworthy actor with a genuine talent for finding the surreal in the mundane, comes up short. Tyler Perry has already been here and done that to such a degree that this particular cinematic field should now be plowed under and salted so that nothing might grow thereupon forevermore. Amen.

- Marc Savlov

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

### IN THE NAME OF THE KING: A DUNGEON SIEGE TALE

*D: Uwe Boll; with Jason Statham, Leelee Sobieski, John Rhys-Davies, Ray Liotta, Matthew Lillard, Burt Reynolds, Will Sanderson, Ron Perlman, Claire Forlani, Brian J. White, Kristanna Loken, Gabrielle Rose.* (PG-13, 124 min.)

Who among us can explain the enigma wrapped in a riddle surrounded by fierce, ravaging, razor-toothed conundrums that is German director Uwe Boll? And who would want to, given that Boll's steady output of terrifically awful cinematic adaptations of video games (*House of the Dead*, *Alone in the Dark*, *BloodRayne*) has earned him a place in the rarefied strata of So Bad It's Good filmmaking? In a way, Boll is Chuck Norris' through-the-looking-glass Teutonic doppelgänger, armed as he is with a crushing battery of B- and C-grade genre films that sustain a rabid fan- and anti-fanbase and the physical ability to knock your block off with a single blow. (In 2006, "Raging"

## Openings

*Cassandra's Dream* (PG-13)

*Cloverfield* (PG-13)

*Mad Money* (PG-13)

*There Will Be Blood* (R)

*27 Dresses* (PG-13)

## 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

Boll challenged his media critics to get in the ring with him and go 10 rounds; several did, and Boll, a former amateur boxer, cleaned their clocks so well they'll never need winding up again.) He funds his own productions, including the as-yet-unreleased *Postal*, which debuted, with Boll on hand, at last year's Fantastic Fest, and he has what appears to be a tireless work ethic. That said, his films (excluding the atypical *Postal*) continue to be notable for their sheer badness – it's as if someone had thrown a whole lot of money at Ed Wood and let him go wild, minus the angora. The sword-and-sorcery suckiness of *In the Name of the King* is primeval Boll material, rife with casting choices so inscrutable (Burt Reynolds?! you'll be wondering who slipped the LSD in your Coke, cheesily bad CGI effects, and enough frenetic, semiepic battle sequences – expertly staged by Tony Ching but inexpertly shot by Boll's longtime director of photography Mathias Neumann, who apparently welded his camera to the end of a broadsword in a fit of cinema vérité – to give Spartacus a run for his money. One look at the eclectic cast Boll has assembled should pique any genre fan's interest and, to be honest, it's worth a look if only to revel in the unholy glory of Liotta's Snidely Whiplashing eyelashes. Unfortunately and predictably, the vaguely medieval story, which has Statham's craggy Farmer (who is, literally, a farmer) turning from plowshare to sword after his son is



Cloverfield

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## JUNO

Fri: (4:30) 7:20, 10:10; Sat-Mon: (1:30, 4:30) 7:20, 10:10;  
Tue-Thur: 7:20, 10:10

## THE ORPHANS

Fri: (4:20) 7:10, 10:00; Sat-Mon: (1:20, 4:20) 7:10, 10:00;  
Tue-Thur: 7:10, 10:00

## INTO THE WILD

Fri: (4:00) 6:50, 9:50; Sat-Mon: (1:00, 4:00) 6:50, 9:50;  
Tue-Thur: 6:50, 9:50

## BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD

Fri-Mon: (4:10) 9:40; Tue-Thur: 9:40

## NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN

Fri, Tue-Thur: 7:00; Sat-Mon: (1:10) 7:00

SHOWTIMES FOR FRI, JAN. 18 – THUR, JAN. 24  
Bargain Showtimes in ( )

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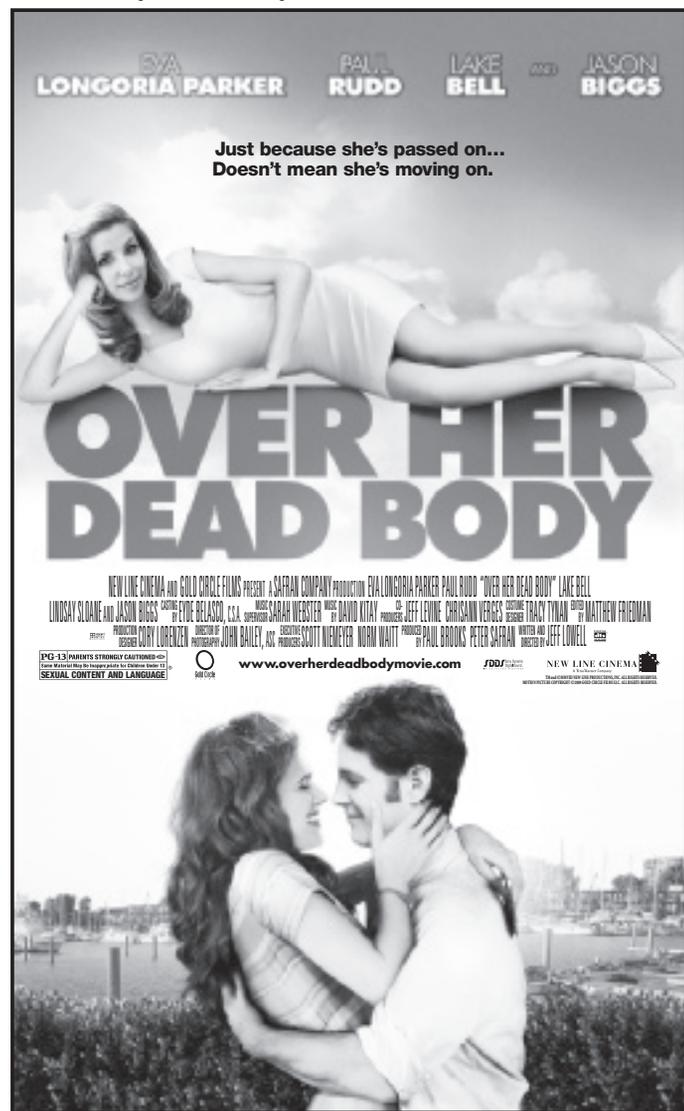
## POOR PRETTY EDDIE

# Special ADVANCE Screening

Monday, Jan. 28, 7:30pm

To sign up for a chance to win a pass to this screening, go to [austinchronicle.com/contests](http://austinchronicle.com/contests) by 4pm, Tuesday, Jan. 22.

No purchase necessary. Passes are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating is limited. Passes do not guarantee admission. Rated PG-13.



In Theatres Friday, Feb. 1

[austinchronicle.com/contests](http://austinchronicle.com/contests)

**ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ** 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320.  
*The 90s One-Hit Wonders Sing-Along: Vol. 2:* Thu (1/24), 9:45pm  
**AFS: The Gaucha:** Tue, 7:00pm  
**Music Monday: James Brown Live at the Boston Garden 1968:** Mon, 10:20pm  
**Weird Wednesday: The Pink Garter Gang:** Wed, 12mid  
**3rd Coast Activists: The Real Dirt on Farmer John:** Thu, 7:00pm  
*Real Genius Quote-Along:* Thu (1/24), 7:00pm  
**Terror Thursday: Tales From the Quadead Zone:** Thu (1/24), 12mid  
**\*There Will Be Blood:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 12:00, 2:30, 5:45, 7:00, 9:00, 10:20, 11:55pm; Mon, 3:30, 5:00, 7:00, 8:30; Tue-Wed, 3:30, 5:00, 8:30, 9:20; Thu (1/24), 3:30, 5:00, 8:30

**ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK** 13729 Research, 219-8135.  
*\*The Bucket List:* Fri-Sat, 12:15, 3:10, 7:40, 10:15; Wed, 3:10, 7:40, 10:15, 10:35; Thu (1/24), 12:15, 3:10, 7:40, 10:15  
**\*Cloverfield:** Fri-Sun, 12:30, 3:00, 7:30, 7:35, 10:25, 10:30; Mon-Thu (1/24), 12:30, 3:00, 7:35, 10:25  
**\*First Sunday:** Fri-Wed, 12:25, 3:30, 7:25, 10:10; Thu (1/24), 12:25, 3:30, 7:25  
*The Great Debaters:* 12:05, 3:05  
**I Am Legend:** 12:10, 3:35, 7:15, 10:35  
**No Country for Old Men:** 12:00, 3:15, 7:00, 10:05  
**\*27 Dresses:** 12:35, 3:25, 7:05, 10:00  
**Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story:** Mon-Thu (1/24), 7:30, 10:30

**ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH** 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.  
**Feast: All In This Tea Feast:** Sun, 1:30pm  
**Master Pancake: The Breakfast Club:** Fri-Sat, 10:00, 12mid  
**\*Cassandra's Dream:** Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:30, 10:00pm; Mon, 4:35, 7:30, 10:00; Tue, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:30, 10:00pm; Wed-Thu (1/24), 4:35, 7:30, 10:00  
**Journey to the Flames: 8 Years of Burning Man:** Sat, 12:00pm  
**\*Juno:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:20, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00, 11:25pm; Mon, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00, 11:25; Tue, 11:00am, 1:20, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00, 11:25pm; Wed, 3:50, 6:30, 9:00, 11:25; Thu (1/24), 3:50, 6:30, 9:00, 11:20  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets:** Fri, 12:35, 3:45, 7:00; Sat, 3:45, 7:00; Sun-Mon, 3:45, 7:00, 10:05; Tue, 12:35, 3:45, 7:00, 10:05; Wed-Thu (1/24), 3:45, 7:00, 10:05  
**No Country for Old Men:** Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:10, 4:45, 7:45, 10:35pm; Mon, 4:45, 7:45, 10:35; Tue, 11:00am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:35pm; Wed, 4:45, 7:45, 10:35; Thu (1/24), 4:45pm  
**The Orphanage:** Fri-Sun, 11:35am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:35, 10:10pm; Mon, 4:50, 7:35, 10:10; Tue, 11:35am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:35, 10:10pm; Wed-Thu (1/24), 4:50, 7:35, 10:10  
**Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street:** Fri, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50pm; Sat, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; Sun, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50pm; Mon, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50; Tue, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50pm; Wed-Thu (1/24), 4:20, 7:10, 9:50

**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.  
**\*The Bucket List:** Fri-Sun, 1:15, 4:05, 7:10, 9:45; Mon, 4:05, 7:10, 9:45; Tue, 1:15, 4:05, 7:10, 9:45; Wed-Thu (1/24), 4:05, 7:10, 9:45  
**Charlie Wilson's War:** Fri-Sun, 1:00, 3:55, 7:05, 9:50; Mon, 3:55, 7:05, 9:50; Tue, 1:00, 3:55, 7:05, 9:50; Wed-Thu (1/24), 3:55, 7:05, 9:50  
**\*Cloverfield:** Fri, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 7:15, 9:40, 11:55; Sat, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40, 11:55; Sun, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40; Mon, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40; Tue, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:40; Wed-Thu (1/24), 4:45, 7:15, 9:40  
**Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors:** Fri-Sun, 9:45, 12mid  
**I Am Legend:** Fri-Wed, 4:15pm; Thu (1/24), 4:15, 10:15  
**The Rocky Horror Picture Show:** Sat, 12mid  
**Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story:** Fri-Sun, 1:30, 7:20; Mon, 7:20pm; Tue, 1:30, 7:20; Wed, 7:20pm

**ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS** 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays.  
**Atonement:** 11:45am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10pm  
**The Diving Bell and the Butterfly:** 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15  
**Juno:** 12:10, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40  
**The Kite Runner:** Fri, 12:30, 3:30, 6:40, 9:30; Sat, 12:30, 3:30, 6:40; Sun-Thu (1/24), 12:30, 3:30, 6:40, 9:30  
**No Country for Old Men:** 12:50, 3:45, 6:50, 9:45  
**The Savages:** 12:20, 3:15, 7:00, 9:50  
**There Will Be Blood:** 11:40am, 12:40, 3:00, 4:40, 6:30, 7:50, 10:00pm

**BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC)** Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360), 306-9190. Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays.  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks:** Fri-Sun, 10:05am, 12:20, 2:35, 5:00, 7:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 1:05, 3:20, 5:40, 7:55  
**\*The Bucket List (open captioned):** Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55pm; Sun, 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55; Mon-Thu (1/24), 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55  
**Charlie Wilson's War:** Fri-Sat, 11:50am, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15pm; Sun, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15; Mon-Thu (1/24), 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:45  
**\*Cloverfield:** Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:00, 2:05, 4:10, 6:15, 8:30, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 2:05, 4:10, 6:15, 8:30, 10:40  
**Enchanted:** Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 1:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 1:00pm  
**\*First Sunday:** Fri-Sat, 10:40am, 1:05, 3:25, 5:55, 8:15, 10:50pm; Sun-Thu (1/24), 1:05, 3:25, 5:55, 8:15, 10:50  
**I Am Legend:** 3:30, 5:50, 8:10, 10:45  
**Juno:** Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:30, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 1:30, 3:45, 6:05, 8:20, 10:40  
**\*Mad Money:** Fri-Sun, 10:20am, 12:45, 3:10, 5:35, 8:00, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 1:00, 3:10, 5:35, 8:00, 10:35  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets:** Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25  
**No Country for Old Men:** Fri-Sun, 8:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 8:15pm  
**One Missed Call:** Fri-Sun, 10:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 10:15pm  
**\*The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie:** Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 1:45, 3:50, 6:10; Mon-Thu (1/24), 1:45, 3:50, 6:10  
**P.S. I Love You:** Fri-Sun, 2:40, 5:20, 9:40; Mon, 6:30, 9:15; Tue, 4:15, 10:05; Wed-Thu (1/24), 6:30, 9:15  
**Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street:** Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:40, 5:25, 8:05, 10:50; Sun-Thu (1/24), 2:40, 5:25, 8:05, 10:50  
**\*There Will Be Blood:** Fri-Sat, 12:10, 3:40, 7:10, 10:30; Sun, 12:10, 3:40, 7:10, 10:30; Mon-Thu (1/24), 3:40, 7:10, 10:30  
**\*27 Dresses:** Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20

**The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep:** Fri-Sun, 10:05am, 12:25pm; Mon, 2:00, 4:15; Tue, 2:00pm; Wed-Thu (1/24), 2:00, 4:15

**CINEMARK CEDAR PARK** 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO.  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks:** Fri, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 12:05, 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:35, 4:55, 7:20, 9:50  
**\*The Bucket List:** Fri, 2:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 11:50am, 2:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00  
**Charlie Wilson's War:** Fri, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Mon, 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40  
**\*Cloverfield:** Fri, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; Sat-Mon, 12:00, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45  
**\*First Sunday:** Fri, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30; Sat-Mon, 12:15, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30  
**I Am Legend:** Fri, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25; Sat-Mon, 12:25, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25  
**Juno:** Fri, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10; Sat-Mon, 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10  
**\*Mad Money:** Fri, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45; Sat-Mon, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45; Tue-Thu (1/24), 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets:** Fri, 3:45, 6:45, 10:20; Sat-Mon, 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 10:20; Tue-Thu (1/24), 3:45, 6:45, 10:20  
**\*The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie:** Fri, 2:05, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00; Sat-Mon, 11:55am, 2:05, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:05, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00  
**\*Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street:** Fri, 3:30, 7:00, 9:55; Sat-Mon, 12:40, 3:30, 7:00, 9:55; Tue-Thu (1/24), 3:30, 7:00, 9:55  
**\*27 Dresses:** Fri, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:40; Sat-Mon, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:40

► An asterisk (\*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.  
 ► Changes may sometimes occur; viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.  
 FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE [austinchronicle.com/film](http://austinchronicle.com/film).

**CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA** 12800 Hwy. 71, 800/FANDANGO.  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks:** Fri-Mon, 11:50am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40  
**\*The Bucket List:** Fri-Mon, 11:45am, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25  
**Charlie Wilson's War:** Fri-Mon, 11:25am, 2:20, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:20, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35  
**\*Cloverfield:** Fri-Mon, 11:35am, 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:30  
**Enchanted:** Fri-Mon, 12:20, 3:25; Tue-Thu (1/24), 3:25pm  
**\*First Sunday:** Fri-Mon, 11:55am, 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55  
**The Great Debaters:** 6:55, 10:10  
**I Am Legend:** Fri-Mon, 11:30am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:15, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00  
**\*In the Name of the King: A Dungeon Siege Tale:** 9:15pm  
**Juno:** Fri-Mon, 11:20am, 2:05, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:05, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50  
**\*Mad Money:** Fri-Mon, 12:05, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets:** Fri-Mon, 12:00, 3:15, 6:25, 9:35; Tue-Thu (1/24), 3:15, 6:25, 9:35  
**One Missed Call:** Fri-Mon, 11:55am, 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:55, 4:20, 6:45, 9:20  
**\*Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street:** Fri-Mon, 12:25, 3:40, 6:35, 9:45; Tue-Thu (1/24), 3:40, 6:35, 9:45  
**\*27 Dresses:** Fri-Mon, 11:10am, 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:50, 4:35, 7:35, 10:15  
**The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep:** Fri-Mon, 12:30, 3:30, 6:15; Tue-Thu (1/24), 3:30, 6:15

**CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK** 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.  
**\*American Gangster:** Fri-Mon, 11:00am, 2:25, 7:00, 10:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:25, 7:00, 10:20  
**\*August Rush:** Fri-Mon, 11:20am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:35, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:05, 4:40, 7:35, 10:25  
**Bee Movie:** Fri-Mon, 11:35am, 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10  
**\*Beowulf:** Fri-Mon, 11:10am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00  
**The Game Plan:** Fri-Mon, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45  
**\*Lions for Lambs:** Fri-Mon, 11:25am, 1:50, 4:15, 7:10, 9:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:50, 4:15, 7:10, 9:30  
**Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium:** Fri-Mon, 11:30am, 1:30, 4:10, 7:20, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:30, 4:10, 7:20, 9:40  
**\*This Christmas:** Fri-Mon, 11:15am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15

**CINEMARK ROUND ROCK** 4401 N. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks:** Fri, 1:15, 3:45, 6:50, 9:10; Sat-Mon, 10:50am, 1:15, 3:45, 6:50, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:15, 3:45, 6:50, 9:10  
**\*The Bucket List:** Fri, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30; Sat-Mon, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30  
**Charlie Wilson's War:** 6:40, 9:14, 7:30pm  
**\*Cloverfield:** Fri, 2:45, 5:10, 7:50, 10:05; Sat-Mon, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:50, 10:05pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:45, 5:10, 7:50, 10:05  
**\*First Sunday:** Fri, 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55; Sat-Mon, 11:05am, 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 9:55  
**I Am Legend:** Fri, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20; Sat-Mon, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:20  
**\*In the Name of the King: A Dungeon Siege Tale:** Fri, 1:00, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15; Sat-Mon, 10:05am, 1:00, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:00, 4:05, 7:10, 10:15  
**Juno:** Fri, 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 11:20am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00  
**\*Mad Money:** Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets:** Fri, 1:20, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30; Sat-Mon, 10:15am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:20, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30  
**One Missed Call:** Fri, 2:25, 5:00, 8:00, 10:25; Sat-Mon, 11:40am, 2:25, 5:00, 8:00, 10:25pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 2:25, 5:00, 8:00, 10:25  
**P.S. I Love You:** Fri, 1:35, 4:40, 7:40, 10:35; Sat-Mon, 10:30am, 1:35, 4:40, 7:40, 10:35pm; Tue-Wed, 1:35, 4:40, 7:40, 10:35; Thu (1/24), 1:35, 4:40, 10:35  
**Spirit of the Marathon:** Thu (1/24), 7:30pm  
**Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street:** Fri, 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 9:20; Sat-Mon, 9:50am, 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 9:20pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 12:45, 3:30, 6:30, 9:20  
**\*27 Dresses:** Fri, 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Mon, 10:20am, 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40  
**The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep:** Fri, 12:50, 3:50; Sat-Mon, 10:10am, 12:50, 3:50pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 12:50, 3:50

**CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS** 9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks:** 1:00, 4:00, 6:30, 9:30  
**\*The Bucket List:** 1:10, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05  
**Charlie Wilson's War:** 6:55, 9:40  
**\*Cloverfield:** 12:50, 4:25, 7:40, 10:15  
**\*First Sunday:** 12:45, 4:10, 7:00, 10:10  
**I Am Legend:** 12:40, 3:50, 6:45, 9:35  
**\*In the Name of the King: A Dungeon Siege Tale:** 12:50, 3:45, 6:40, 10:10  
**Juno:** 1:15, 3:55, 7:05, 9:50  
**\*Mad Money:** 12:35, 3:40, 7:10, 9:55  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets:** 12:55, 4:15, 7:20, 10:25  
**One Missed Call:** 1:30, 4:05, 7:35, 10:10  
**P.S. I Love You:** Fri-Wed, 1:25, 4:30, 7:25, 10:20; Thu (1/24), 1:25pm  
**Spirit of the Marathon:** Thu (1/24), 7:30pm  
**\*Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street:** 1:20, 4:15, 7:30, 10:25  
**\*27 Dresses:** 1:05, 4:05, 6:50, 9:45  
**The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep:** 12:40, 3:35

**DOBBIE THEATRE** 2025 Guadalupe (Dobbie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.  
*Before the Devil Knows You're Dead:* Fri-Mon, 4:10, 9:40; Tue-Thu (1/24), 9:40pm  
*Into the Wild:* Fri, 4:00, 6:50, 9:50; Sat-Mon, 1:00, 4:40, 6:50, 9:50; Tue-Thu (1/24), 6:50, 9:50  
**Juno:** Fri, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10; Sat-Mon, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10; Tue-Thu (1/24), 7:20, 10:10  
**No Country for Old Men:** Fri, 7:00pm; Sat-Mon, 1:10, 7:00; Tue-Thu (1/24), 7:00pm  
**The Orphanage:** Fri, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; Sat-Mon, 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; Tue-Thu (1/24), 7:10, 10:00

**GALAXY HIGHLAND 10** North I-35 & Middle Fishville, 467-7305. No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.  
**Alvin and the Chipmunks:** Fri, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30; Sat, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30pm; Sun, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20  
**The Bucket List:** Fri, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45; Sat, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25, 11:45; Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25  
**Cloverfield:** Fri, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:20; Sat, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:20pm; Sun, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10pm; Tue-Thu (1/24), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10  
**First Sunday:** Fri, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:40, 9:55, 12mid; Sat, 10:30am, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:40, 9:55, 12mid; Sun, 10:30am, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:40, 9:55pm  
**Mad Money (1/24):** 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45  
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets:** Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00  
**One Missed Call:** Fri, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:50; Sat, 11:50am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:50pm; Sun, 11:50am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/24), 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15  
**27 Dresses:** Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Thu (1/24), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

**GATEWAY THEATRE** 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808.  
**The Bucket List:** 12:10, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55  
**Charlie Wilson's War:** 11:55am, 2:20, 4:45, 7:35, 10:25pm  
**\*Cloverfield:** 12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:50, 10:35  
**\*Cloverfield (in DLP digital):** 11:50am, 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:30pm  
**Enchanted:** 11:45am, 2:10, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25pm  
**First Sunday:** 11:50am, 2:25, 4:50, 7:30, 10:20pm  
**The Great Debaters:** 3:35, 6:35, 9:20  
**I Am Legend:** 11:45am, 2:10,

**27 DRESSES**

D: Anne Fletcher; with Katherine Heigl, James Marsden, Edward Burns, Judy Greer, Malin Akerman, Melora Hardin. (PG-13, 107 min.)  
 I have seen the future, and it looks like TBS. Maybe TNT. I predict a happy union between *27 Dresses* and cable TV, forever rerunning with commercial breaks tailor-made for laundry-loading and sandwich-making. It's a better fit for this run-of-the-mill romantic comedy about Jane (*Knocked Up's* Heigl), always a bridesmaid, never a ... well, you know the drill. Those 27 dresses mark the time Jane has spent, as one character puts it, in the taffeta ghetto of bridesmaidery. Lucky for her, she eats it up – saves every dress, clips her favorite wedding announcements from the paper, even knows where and how and to whom she intends to inflict her imaginary nuptials. The lucky man – or not – is her boss, George (Burns, forever toady); unluckily for her, he falls in record time for her glamorous younger sister (Akerman). Jane is stuck planning their wedding while simultaneously dodging the dogged attentions of Kevin (Marsden), a cynical journalist covering the wedding beat but angling for more ambitious work. Heigl anchors the film with all the spazz-tastic charm she brings to (the increasingly ludicrous) *Grey's Anatomy*, although one hopes her feature film career holds a role less priggish in the future. But the real star-making turn here belongs to Marsden, an unsung actor who's played the Bellamy before (you know, the nice guy the girl has to go through to get to the real

deal), gallantly stepping aside in favor of X-Men's Wolverine and Ryan Gosling's sexy beast in *The Notebook*. Here, as a mixed-drink of frat boy and existential downer (or is it tall drink of water?), he reminded me of what Anthony Lane once said about *Before Sunrise*-era Julie Delpy, that she served as "a stern reminder that the first duty of a film critic – the sole qualification, to be honest – is to fall regularly, and pointlessly, in love with the people onscreen." Marsden, with his easy smile and architecturally sound cheekbones, might be a wee obvious choice, but whatever it takes to pass the time ... and *27 Dresses* certainly has time to kill. The jokes hit about half the time – the best bits have an off-the-cuff feel – and it's pocked with the kind of rom-com clichés that are practically written in stone (screenwriter Aline Brosh McKenna's script for *The Devil Wears Prada* was far sharper). There's the well-worn, improbable group sing-along, albeit this one, hinging on Elton John-inspired malapropisms, is pretty cute – and what validation to know others have mistaken Bennie's electric boots for electric boobs. Less winning is a last-act, uncomfortably public declaration of love, which has me wondering: How come whenever I have something really important to say, there's never a mic and an adoring crowd around to twitter, then applaud? – Kimberley Jones  
 ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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|--------------|---|
| THU, JAN 17  | <b>SWEENEY TODD</b> 415 700 930<br><b>The REAL GENIUS QUOTE-ALONG</b> 700<br><b>90s 1-HIT WONDER SINGALONG VOL II</b> 940<br><b>JASON BATEMAN'S BOY PARTY: TEEN WOLF TOO</b> MIDNIGHT<br><b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> MIDNIGHT |
| FRI, JAN 18  | <b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 1100 1200 220 330 545<br><b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 700 900 1020 MIDNIGHT  |
| SAT, JAN 19  | <b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 1100 1200 220 330 545<br><b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 700 900 1020 MIDNIGHT  |
| SUN, JAN 20  | <b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 1100 1200 220 330 545<br><b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 700 900 1020 MIDNIGHT  |
| MON, JAN 21  | <b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 330 500 700 830<br><b>\$2 MUSIC MONDAY: JAMES BROWN LIVE 1968</b> 1000  |
| TUES, JAN 22 | <b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 330 500 830 920<br><b>AFS ESSENTIAL: THE GAUCHO</b> 700   |
| WEDS, JAN 23 | <b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 330 500 830 920<br><b>3RD COAST NIGHT REAL DIRT ON FARMER JOHN</b> 700<br><b>FREE WEIRD WEDS: PINK GARTER GANG</b> MIDNIGHT   |
| THU, JAN 24  | <b>THERE WILL BE BLOOD*</b> 330 500 830<br><b>The REAL GENIUS QUOTE-ALONG</b> 700<br><b>90s 1-HIT WONDER SINGALONG VOL II</b> 940<br><b>FREE TERROR THURS: TALES/QUADEAD ZONE</b> MIDNIGHT                                    |

**SOUTH LAMAR - 1120 SOUTH LAMAR BLVD**

|   |      |     |      |      |           |
|---|------|-----|------|------|-----------|
| <b>JUNO</b> 1100*                         | 120* | 350 | 630  | 900  | 1125      |
| <b>SWEENEY TODD</b> 1105*                 | 140* | 420 | 710  | 950  |           |
| <b>NO COUNTRY OLD MEN</b> 1110*           | 200* | 445 | 745  | 1035 |           |
| <b>CASSANDRA'S DREAM*</b> 1115*           | 155* | 435 | 730  | 1000 |           |
| <b>ORPHANAGE</b> 1135*                    | 215* | 450 | 735  | 1010 |           |
| <b>NATIONAL TREASURE</b> 1235*            | 345  | 700 | 1040 |      |           |
| <b>MASTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST CLUB</b> 1000 |      |     |      |      | (Fri/Sat) |
| <b>ALL IN THIS TEA FEAST</b> 130          |      |     |      |      | (Sun)     |
| <b>TEETH</b>                              |      |     |      |      | (Thurs)   |

**VILLAGE - ANDERSON LANE WEST OF BURNET**

|   |
|---|
| <b>CLOVERFIELD*</b> 1215* 230* 445 700* 715 940 MIDNIGHT* |
| <b>CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR</b> 100* 355 705 950              |
| <b>THE BUCKET LIST</b> 115* 405 710 945                   |
| <b>WALK HARD</b> 130* 720                                 |
| <b>I AM LEGEND</b> 415 1015*                              |
| <b>SEED w/ UWE BOLL LIVE!</b> 945 (Fri)                   |
| <b>FRIDAY THE 13th VII</b> Cast Reunion! MIDNIGHT (Fri)   |
| <b>STORM WARNING</b> MIDNIGHT (Fri)                       |
| <b>MANIAC COP 2 w/ BILL LUSTIG LIVE!</b> 945 (Sat)        |
| <b>TX CHAINSAW MASS 2</b> Cast Reunion! MIDNIGHT (Sat)    |
| <b>INSIDE</b> Fantastic Fest '07 FAVE 945 (Sun)           |
| <b>Dario Argento's MOTHER OF TEARS</b> MIDNIGHT (Sun)     |
| <b>TV at the Alamo: SARAH CONNOR CHRONS</b> 1000 (Mon)    |

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**ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE CINEMA**  
 DINNER - DRINKS - MOVIES - EVENTS

**LAKECREEK SHOWTIMES**  
 (143 & LAKECREEK HIGHWAY)

**CLOVERFIELD** (12:30 3:00\* 7:30\* 7:35 10:25 / 10:30/)

**THE BUCKET LIST** (12:15\* 3:15 7:40 10:15)

**NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN** (12:00 3:15) 7:00 10:05

**I AM LEGEND** (12:10 3:15) 7:55 10:25

**FIRST SUNDAY** (12:25 3:30) 7:25 (10:15)

**WALK HARD** (12:30 10:30)

**TROMATIC THURSDAYS**  
**TOXIC AVENGER** THUR JAN 17th 10PM  
**PART 2** THUR JAN 24th 10PM  
**CYBERNATOR** THUR JAN 24th 10PM  
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**CLOVERFIELD (PG-13)** Fri. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10 11:20  
 Sat. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10 11:20  
 Sun. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10  
 Mon. - Thu. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:05 9:10

**27 DRESSES (PG-13)** Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45 11:59  
 Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45

**MAD MONEY (PG-13)** Fri. 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45 11:50  
 Sat. 10:15 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45 11:50  
 Mon. - Thu. 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:45

**FIRST SUNDAY (PG-13)** Fri. 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 9:55 11:59  
 Sat. 10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 9:55 11:59  
 Sun. 10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 9:55  
 Mon. - Thu. 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 9:55

**THE BUCKET LIST (PG-13)** Fri. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45  
 Sat. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45  
 Sun. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25  
 Mon. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25

**IN THE NAME OF THE KING: A DUNGEON SIEGE TALE (PG-13)**  
 Fri. & Sun. 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

**ONE MISSED CALL (PG-13)** Fri. 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15 11:50  
 Sat. 11:15 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15 11:50  
 Sun. 11:15 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15  
 Mon. - Thu. 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15

**ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS (PG)** Fri. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20 11:30  
 Sat. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20 11:30  
 Sun. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20  
 Mon. - Thu. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20

**I AM LEGEND (PG-13)** Fri. 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:59  
 Sat. 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:59  
 Sun. 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30  
 Mon. - Thu. 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30

**NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS (PG)** Fri. & Mon. - Thu. 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00  
 Sat. & Sun. 11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00

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# First Runs

\*Full-length reviews available online at [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com). Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

## ALIENS VS. PREDATOR: REQUIEM

*D: Greg Strause, Colin Strause; with Steven Pasquale, Reiko Aylesworth, John Ortiz, Johnny Lewis, Ariel Gade.* (R, 86 min.)

This sequel to the much-maligned (though, to be fair, probably just misunderstood) *Aliens vs. Predator* is an orgy of mindless violence, a random collection of bloody bodies, alien misanthropy, and slobbering carnage designed to bore straight into the pleasure centers of 13-year-old boys and leave the rest of us wondering when the movies got so damn loud. I won't go too deeply into the film's plot because I don't want to ruin it for you, but I can tell you that a UFO carrying a pack of salivating aliens like those that tormented Sigourney Weaver back in the Eighties crash-lands in the woods outside a small town in Colorado, followed by the arrival of a predator (of the deadlocked variety that tormented Jesse "the Body" Ventura back in the Eighties), who's hunting down the aliens one by one. Needless to say, it isn't long before the first human being gets caught in the cross fire. (12/28/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt ★

Millennium, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

## ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS

*D: Tim Hill; with Jason Lee, David Cross, Cameron Richardson, Jane Lynch; with the voices of Justin Long, Matthew Gray Gubler, Jesse McCartney.* (PG, 92 min.)

What's it all about, Alvin? Apparently it's about rebranding a musty old comic conceit for a whole new generation of proto-Willards. The adenoidal animated vermin of Ross Bagdasarian Sr. and Jr. have arrived via CGI in this live-action updating/companion to the Bagdasarian family's lengthy *rodentia comicus*-related history, the pinnacle of which remains 1958's holiday novelty tune "The Chipmunk Song (Christmas Don't Be Late)." Hill's Chipmunk tale is a strictly by-the-numbers affair, aimed in the most generic direction conceivable. Lee plays Dave, a well-intentioned but bumbling songwriter aided and abetted in life and love (and icky-sweet pop music) by My Three Chipmunks. *Mr. Show's* Cross is a duplicitous record mogul, who plays nice with Dave while conniving behind his back (boo!), and Richardson is the mutant-model-photographer-chick-thing Dave's all goeey on. Will true love prevail? Will Dave grow a backbone (and some real songwriting talent)? They shoot rodents, don't they? (12/14/2007) – Marc Savlov ★

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

## AMERICAN GANGSTER

*D: Ridley Scott; with Denzel Washington, Russell Crowe, Show Brolin, Ruby Dee, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Cuba Gooding Jr., Ted Levine, Armand Assante, John Hawkes, Roger Guenveur Smith, Clarence Williams III, RZA, Carla Gugino, Joe Morton, Common.* (R, 157 min.)

Based on Mark Jacobson's *New York* magazine article, *American Gangster* does a crackerjack job at nailing the look and feel of New York City's bad old days, when mayors Lindsay and Beame (mis-)ruled over the Manhattan canyons and Bronx tenements aided and abetted by a police department riddled with more internal corruption and outer rot than a smack-head's corpse. At the height of the Vietnam War, it was Frank Lucas (a sizzling, ferocious Washington) who figured out a whole new angle on the heroin trade and built an empire. Only when a sudden fit of pimpy ostentation hit did he come to the attention of Jersey cop Richie Roberts (Crowe). Roberts is uniformly loathed and scorned by the NYPD's dirty cops (led by a great Brolin), who view him as a dupe for not going with the bribery flow. Crowe has rarely been better, and the same goes for director Scott. (11/02/2007) – Marc Savlov ★★

Movies 8

## ATONEMENT

*D: Joe Wright; with Keira Knightley, James McAvoy, Saoirse Ronan, Romola Garai, Vanessa Redgrave, Benedict Cumberbatch, Brenda Blethyn, Juno Temple, Daniel Mays.* (R, 130 min.)

Imagination typically should be encouraged in children, but an excess of it leads to tragedy in this more than worthy adaptation of Ian McEwan's

# Honeydripper Premiere

**Honeydripper Premiere (2007)** *D: John Sayles; with Danny Glover, Lisa Gay Hamilton, Charles S. Dutton, Vondie Curtis-Hall, Gary Clark Jr., Mable John, Stacy Keach.* (PG-13, 123 min.) **Austin Film Society.** Sayles will be present for the Austin premiere of his newest film, which is set in a 1950s Alabama juke joint named the Honeydripper Lounge. Joining him will be producer Maggie Renzi and co-star and Austin musician Gary Clark Jr. Various ticket options are available that include additional admittance to an afterparty at the Continental Club featuring Clark Jr. and special guests and/or a Wednesday night party at Antone's with performances by Pinetop Perkins, Hubert Sumlin, and special guests. See [www.gettix.net](http://www.gettix.net) or call 866/443-8849 for tickets. @Paramount. Tuesday, 7pm.

novel. Thirteen-year-old Briony (the wonderfully unnerving novice Ronan) is indulged, but also largely ignored, by her family, which includes her headstrong 19-year-old sister, Cecilia (Knightley, seductively husky, wincingly angular). One day in 1935, Briony witnesses a bewildering act that involves Cecilia and the housekeeper's son, Robbie (McAvoy). Only later does she realize how one person's vantage, one person's *truth*, doesn't always square with another's. But that epiphany doesn't arrive until the film's second of three sections, when a now-18-year-old Briony (Garai) attempts to write a novelization of that day in 1935. (The film's epilogue takes place in modern times.) *Atonement* is a work consumed with the nature of storytelling and the moral responsibility of the storyteller. The film is not quite as brutalizing as McEwan's brilliant source novel, but it ravishes nonetheless in its grand exploration of the sins of the daughter and a lifetime spent making reparations. (12/14/2007) – Kimberley Jones ★★

Arbor, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## AUGUST RUSH

*D: Kirsten Sheridan; with Freddie Highmore, Keri Russell, Jonathan Rhys Meyers, Terrence Howard, Robin Williams, William Sadler, Leon G. Thomas III, Jamie Simone Nash.* (PG, 104 min.)

*August Rush* is a rather prosaic, oddly anxious, contemporary take on Dickens' *Oliver Twist*, with Williams – in nasty-man twee mode, a new-ish one for him – thrown in for bad measure. Highmore's parents are ably essayed by Russell and Rhys Meyers, one a classical cellist destined for greatness with the New York Philharmonic, the other a scruffy Irish ne'er-do-well who fronts a vaguely Poguesy band of rockers. After spending a magical night coupling on a rooftop overlooking Manhattan's Washington Square Arch, they promptly go their separate ways. Neither one realizes that, via a quick (if narratively convenient) switcheroo on the part of Russell's overprotective dad, they've sown the seed of August Rush. Will his parents, through a magical, utterly unlikely yet strangely compelling turn of fate, come running once they hear the longing in their little maestro's edgily hip, borderline Ani DiFrancoid slap-strumming? Oh ho! Far be it from me to state the obvious. (11/23/2007) – Marc Savlov ★★

Movies 8

## BEE MOVIE

*D: Steve Hickner, Simon J. Smith; with the voices of Jerry Seinfeld, Renée Zellweger, Matthew Broderick, Patrick Warburton, John Goodman, Chris Rock, Kathy Bates, Barry Levinson, Oprah Winfrey, Rip Torn, Larry King.* (PG, 90 min.)

*Bee Movie* is an agreeable though tame animated picture. Seinfeld plays Barry B. Benson, a bee who, having just graduated from college (with "perfect grades – all Bs"), must choose a career. Visually, *Bee Movie* never fully capitalizes on the reality-bending possibilities of the animated form. The story zips along at a fast clip so that the film's nifty and not-so-nifty moments are swept along in its current, including some pertinent though gentle messages about the ecological balance of the universe. *Bee Movie* works best when it sticks to the insect world; when Barry leaves the hive with the Pollen Jocks and breaks the cardinal rule of beedom by speaking to humans, the film becomes more earthbound and prosaic. No nectar of the gods this, but we can still be thankful that *Bee Movie* is a sweet morsel that's devoid of any jokes about bee farts and poop. (11/02/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★

Movies 8



## BEFORE THE DEVIL KNOWS YOU'RE DEAD

*D: Sidney Lumet; with Philip Seymour Hoffman, Ethan Hawke, Albert Finney, Marisa Tomei, Rosemary Harris, Michael Shannon, Amy Ryan.* (R, 116 min.)

Lumet is 83 years old now, but the storyline in *Before the Devil Knows You're Dead* carries both the rhythms of youthful vanity – and its attendant fearlessness – and the dead-on, relentless morality of an Old Testament Hollywood hand. This is one of those films where the less you know going in, the better time you'll likely have, but the bare bones go like this: Two brothers, Hank (Hawke) and Andy (Hoffman) Hanson, plot the robbery of a jewelry store to alleviate their individual financial woes. This misguided robbery goes horrifically wrong and sets off a chain reaction of cascading disasters for not only the brothers Hanson but, ultimately, for the entire Hanson family. The situation doesn't just bomb; it goes all-out nuclear. Meanwhile the performances of the two leads, as well as Finney, Tomei, and the others, are downright thrilling. (11/09/2007) – Marc Savlov ★★

Dobie

## BEOWULF

*D: Robert Zemeckis; with Ray Winstone, Anthony Hopkins, Robin Wright Penn, Brendan Gleeson, Crispin Glover, Angelina Jolie, John Malkovich.* (PG-13, 115 min.)

The irony inherent in using 21st century motion-control technology to tell a tale approximately 1,400 years old is just one of many bizarrely entertaining aspects of *Beowulf*. High school English teachers may breathe a collective sigh of relief: Although this version of *Beowulf* (the script, ricocheting between thrilling, heroic, and hilarious, is by Neil Gaiman and Roger Avary) does take some liberties, it's as faithful to the extant version as it needs to be. There's no doubt *Beowulf* is cracker-jack popcorn entertainment. The 3-D effects are jaw-droppingly immersive and realistic, but thanks to the witty, zippy script, they never detract from the story. The sticking point, for many people, will be Zemeckis' reliance on the imperfect technique of motion-control animation, which still exhibits a certain *Shrekness* when it comes to such complex, expressive textures as the human face. Then again, the technique allows one hell of a kickass dragon. (11/16/2007) – Marc Savlov ★★

Movies 8

## THE BUCKET LIST

*D: Rob Reiner; with Jack Nicholson, Morgan Freeman, Sean Hayes, Beverly Todd, Rob Morrow, Alfonso Freeman, Rowena King, Annton Berry Jr.* (PG-13, 97 min.)

Apart from their advanced years, their shared hospital room, and terminal cancer, Edward Cole (Nicholson) and Carter Chambers (Freeman) have nothing in common – which means, of course, they're destined to become best friends. In Reiner's latest exercise in syrupy nonsense, Cole and Chambers leave behind their depressing hospital beds and chemotherapy sessions and jump into Cole's private jet to check items off their bucket list (that being the list of things they want to do before they kick the bucket). For an hour, they drive sports cars at high speeds, travel to exotic countries, and check out the Himalayas, whooping and hollering as they go. They also aim for slightly vaguer, more "mystical" goals, such as laughing until they cry, witnessing something majestic, and finding the joy in their lives, making *The Bucket List* the 400th movie to come out of Hollywood in the last 10 years to mistake bumper-sticker self-help platitudes for spirituality. (01/11/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt ★

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## CHARLIE WILSON'S WAR

*D: Mike Nichols; with Tom Hanks, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Julia Roberts, Amy Adams, Ned Beatty, Denis O'Hare.* (R, 97 min.)

Accounts by way of *Hee Haw* aside, not once in this would-be political romp do we forget that the man and woman before us, embodying such outré real-life characters as a hard-partying congressman and a born-again Houston socialite, are anyone other than the beloved institutions of Tom and Julia. Based on George Crile's book, *Charlie Wilson's War* tells the true-life story of how Texan Rep. Wilson (Hanks), best known for boozing and keeping company with *Playboy* Playmates, managed to raise \$1 billion with the help of socialite Joanne Herring (Roberts) to secretly fund Afghanistan's mujahideen in their fight against the invading Soviet Union in the early Eighties. Sounds a little wonky, I know, but, as adapted by *The West Wing's* Aaron Sorkin, the historical context and current affairs are laid out clearly and engagingly. That said, there's a hokeyness afoot. Same goes with Nichols' flat direction. This is a visually and emotionally soft affair, and the material calls for something with far sharper edges. (12/21/2007) – Kimberley Jones ★★

Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

## THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY

*D: Julian Schnabel; with Mathieu Amalric, Emmanuelle Seigner, Marie-Josée Croze, Anne Consigny, Patrick Chesnois, Niels Arestrup, Olatz López Garmendia.* (PG-13, 112 min., subtitled)

In his brilliant new film, painter/sculptor/director Schnabel defies dozens of moviemaking conventions to tell the true story of Jean-Dominique Bauby, the French writer and editor who suffered a massive stroke that left him with a rare condition called locked-in syndrome. This may sound like the makings of the dullest protagonist in motion-picture history, but Bauby was able to write a 150-page bestselling memoir by using a dictation system developed by his speech therapist that involved an adjusted alphabet and repetitive blinking. Schnabel uses his stunning visual sense to blur the line between experience and memory, desire and reality, to create an original world that exists almost entirely inside Bauby's head. It's equal parts reverie, despair, and social experiment. His Bauby (Amalric) is no pity case; he's a sophisticated ironist aware of the confusion and fear he engenders in those around him, and his memoir is a testament to human ingenuity and the beauty that can be found in resignation. (01/11/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt ★★

Arbor

## ENCHANTED

*D: Kevin Lima; with Amy Adams, Patrick Dempsey, James Marsden, Susan Sarandon, Timothy Spall, Rachel Covey, Idina Menzel.* (PG, 107 min.)

It's difficult to describe the mixture of romance, dry satire, and musical comedy that is the new Disney film *Enchanted*. But one thing's for certain: Adams (*Junebug*) is its heart and soul. Her ability to play wild-eyed innocence with a biting comic edge never disappoints. And as Giselle, she's perfectly cast as an amalgam of every fairy-tale maiden. The film begins in an all-too-familiar animated wonderland. Giselle is an innocent forest-dwelling babe who sings with animals and dreams of finding her true love before she is cast out by a jealous queen (Sarandon) and lands in the center of Times Square. What's more, she's no longer animated. Though writer Bill Kelly's script takes extreme liberties with plot development and never really leaves you guessing about who will get the girl, the jokes rarely miss, and the result is a refreshingly sardonic fairy tale. (11/23/2007) – Toddy Burton ★★

Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

## THE GAME PLAN

*D: Andy Fickman; with Dwayne "the Rock" Johnson, Madison Pettis, Kyra Sedgwick, Roselyn Sanchez, Morris Chestnut, Brian J. White, Hayes MacArthur, Jamal Duff.* (PG, 110 min.)

How's this for a movie slogan: "The Rock Cries!" Maybe it doesn't have the same ring to it that "Garbo Laughs!" did when *Ninotchka* was first released in 1939, but dammit if it isn't something remarkable seeing a professional wrestler put away his muscles and turn on the waterworks. It's like watching middle-American machismo itself wilt in

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your hand. The reason the Rock is crying is because he's playing a self-centered superstar football quarterback whose perfectly empty, materialistic little life is being turned upside down by an 8-year-old daughter (the absurdly doe-eyed Pettis) he didn't know he had. *The Game Plan* was written by two women, Nichole Millard and Kathryn Price, and their female take on the world of professional football – though ridiculous – gives their movie a comic flavor that is refreshingly free of the masculine chest-bumping that defines other football films (and football in general). (09/28/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt  
★★★ Movies 8

### THE GOLDEN COMPASS

D: Chris Weitz; with Nicole Kidman, Daniel Craig, Dakota Blue Richards, Ben Walker, Eva Green, Jim Carter, Tom Courtenay, Sam Elliott, Christopher Lee, Simon McBurney; with the voices of Freddie Highmore, Ian McKellen, Ian McShane, Kristin Scott Thomas, Kathy Bates. (PG-13, 113 min.)

Although *The Golden Compass* rejects the anti-organized-religion bent of the source material, British children's author Philip Pullman's *His Dark Materials* trilogy, the film interprets the novels' evil Magisterium – a society-controlling organization meant to stand in for the church (any church, really) – as something just as evil but more Nazi-inspired. The film charts the coming of age of Lyra Belacqua (Richards, a dirtied delight), a 12-year-old orphan living in a steampunk universe parallel to Oxford, England, whose fate – which has something to do with a holy, multiverse war yet to come – was long ago predicted by witches. Yup, it's that kind of world: witches, gypsies (seafaring gypsies), and, most delightfully, daemons, which are the animal manifestations of human souls. This is a terrifying world in which trouble is visited regularly on small children. Writer/director Weitz far exceeds here, in vision and ambition, the perfectly passable entertainments of *American Pie* and *About a Boy*. The special effects are mostly spectacular. (12/07/2007) – Kimberley Jones  
★★★ Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

## All in This Tea Feast

**All in This Tea Feast (2007)** D: Les Blank and Gina Leibrecht. (NR, 70 min.) **Feast.** Handmade Chinese tea and a menu of traditional Chinese dim sum will accompany this documentary, which follows a tea importer in China who attempts to work directly with organic farmers rather than the sanctioned factory producers. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Sunday, 1:30pm.



### THE GREAT DEBATERS

D: Denzel Washington; with Washington, Forest Whitaker, Nate Parker, Jurnee Smollett, Denzel Whitaker, Kimberly Elise, John Heard. (PG-13, 123 min.)

In his second outing as a director, Washington chooses an inspirational story; yet even though *The Great Debaters* is a historical story worth telling, the film is hobbled by the narrative predictability that inevitably governs this type of drama. Like his first directorial effort, *Antwone Fisher*, *The Great Debaters* is based on a true story in which Washington casts himself in the role of the elder leading man, the guiding figure who helps characters from the younger generation overcome the damage of their past and grab hold of the opportunities for their future. Although Washington is perfectly fine in his performance here as the professor and coach of Wiley College's national-championship-winning debate team in 1935, the role calls for no special showmanship on the part of the dependably brilliant actor. So, too, as the director, Washington brings no special stylistic flourish to the film, instead placing himself at the straightforward service of the Oprah Winfrey-produced story. (12/21/2007) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Hill Country Galleria, Gateway, Metropolitan

### I AM LEGEND

D: Francis Lawrence; with Will Smith, Alice Braga, Charlie Tahan, Salli Richardson, Willow Smith, Dash Mihok, Darrell Foster, April Grace. (PG-13, 100 min.)

Smith plays Robert Neville, a military immunologist who is the only real human left in New York. By day he wanders the city's empty avenues with his German shepherd, scavenging for food and gasoline; by night he barricades himself in his apartment with his rifle to wait for the living dead to break down the door. All this happens during the film's first 10 minutes, so initially I was optimistic. First of all, Lawrence's desolate Manhattan is a wonder to behold. And secondly, Smith's Neville is no unblinking model of action-film courage; he is terrified, lonely, and racked with guilt over his inability to save the lives of ... well, anyone – a guilt he tries to assuage by working on a vaccine to save humanity, not to mention his own soul. Unfortunately, after the first 10 minutes, it's all downhill for *I Am Legend*, as the film descends into a monster-movie malaise starring a horde of balding CGI monsters. (12/14/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt  
★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

### INTO THE WILD

D: Sean Penn; with Emile Hirsch, Marcia Gay Harden, William Hurt, Jena Malone, Brian Dierker, Catherine Keener, Vince Vaughn, Kristen Stewart, Hal Holbrook. (R, 140 min.)

On April 28, 1992, a scraggly 24-year-old tramp and adventurer named Christopher McCandless walked into the Alaskan wilderness and was never heard from again. These events were brilliantly chronicled in 1996 by Jon Krakauer in his bestselling book *Into the Wild*, which was permeated by a sense of sadness and distance that left readers with the unsettling feeling that McCandless' haunted life and solitary death would remain forever unknowable. Unfortunately, an unknowable character makes for a stubborn film protagonist. And though Penn has conjured up a beautifully acted, visually bracing film that captures all the romantic energy and freedom of a life spent outside the bounds of society, somewhere along the way he misplaced that melancholy that made McCandless' story so devastating. Penn's McCandless (a wiry Hirsch) is a 21st century Hollywood hero, armed with a mouthful of self-help platitudes about following your heart and living life to the fullest but possessing precious little mystery. (10/19/2007) – Josh Rosenblatt  
★★★ Dobie, Metropolitan

### JUNO

D: Jason Reitman; with Ellen Page, Michael Cera, Jennifer Garner, Jason Bateman, Allison Janney, J.K. Simmons. (PG-13, 92 min.)

When 16-year-old Juno (Page) pays for her pregnancy test with the stick still in hand, the cashier wisecracks, "This is one diddle that can't be undid, home skillet." That quip, care of screenwriter and freshly minted Hot New Thing Diablo Cody, almost had me audibly groaning: So it's gonna be like that, is it? Well, yes and no. The quips keep coming, but they slow, and *Juno* settles into a sharp, winning relationship comedy. But, like everything else in the winsome *Juno*, what plays for laughs has an undeniable ring of real emotion. Spend enough time with Juno's dead-

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### Film Schedule

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|   |  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Sat, Jan. 26</b><br/>7:00 pm STEEL TOES<br/>9:30 pm JELLYFISH</p> <p><b>Sun, Jan. 27</b><br/>12:00 pm SWEET MUD<br/>2:30 pm SIXTY-SIX<br/>5:00 pm MAKING TROUBLE<br/>9:30 pm STEEL TOES</p> <p><b>Mon, Jan. 28</b><br/>12:00 pm OUT OF SIGHT<br/>4:00 pm A MOTHER'S JOURNEY<br/>7:00 pm WEST BANK STORY with MY FATHER MY LORD<br/>9:00 pm VOICE WITHOUT A FACE with ALMOGET</p> <p><b>Tues, Jan. 29</b><br/>12:00 pm THE GIRLS FROM BRAZIL<br/>4:00 pm MY FATHER MY LORD<br/>7:00 pm Screen 1: WEST BANK STORY<br/>Screen 2: DISPOSITION with THREE WIDERS<br/>9:00 pm LOCAL CALL</p> <p><b>Wed, Jan. 30</b><br/>7:00 pm WEST BANK STORY with MAKING TROUBLE</p> <p><b>Wed, Jan. 30</b><br/>7:00 pm WEST BANK STORY with THE GIRLS FROM BRAZIL</p> | <p><b>Wed, Jan. 30</b><br/>12:00 pm HER STORIES MY HANDS with STEAL A PENCIL FOR ME<br/>4:00 pm SILVER JEW<br/>7:00 pm ARRANGED<br/>9:00 pm A DIFFERENT DISH with WRESTLING WITH ANGELS: PLAYRIGHT TONYKUSHNER</p> <p><b>Thurs, Jan. 31</b><br/>12:00 pm JELLYFISH<br/>4:00 pm VOICE WITHOUT A FACE with ALMOGET<br/>7:00 pm BLUES BY THE BEACH<br/>9:00 pm THE BUBBLE</p> <p><b>Fri, Feb. 1</b><br/>12:00 pm "QUADRUPLE FEATURE" HER STORIES MY HANDS SILVER JEW CHEFTON AIR WEST BANK STORY TRUE TO LIFE: STORIES BY RAHILA YOUSUF</p> |
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pan and her irony, and you learn how to read between the lines, to the scared, confused, and royally pissed teenager underneath the brazen, Buddha-bellied exterior (a "cautionary whale," she calls herself). Page (*Hard Candy*) is marvelous, especially considering what a balancing act the role is between bitchy and twee, and she's backed by a terrific ensemble cast. (12/21/2007) — Kimberley Jones

★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

**THE KITE RUNNER**

D: Marc Forster; with Khalid Abdalla, Homayoun Ershadi, Shaun Toub, Atossa Leoni, Said Tashimaoui, Ahmad Khan Mahmudzada. (PG-13, 122 min.)

The screen version of Khaled Hosseini's phenomenally successful novel about friendship, betrayal, and redemption, set against the turmoil in Afghanistan during the last 30 years, is a disappointment. Screenwriter David Benioff and director Forster are faithful to the novel to a fault, retaining a level of narrative detail that bogs down the principal storyline about a haunted Afghan-American man who is blessed with the chance "to be good again" and rectify a wrong he committed years ago. The film's early scenes set up the tragic turn of events that forever separates the two childhood friends. But as the film progresses, the narrative focus gets diluted and never really recovers. Some of the improbabilities in the third act of Hosseini's

book seem even more unlikely on the screen — the villain is a sadistic pedophile high in the ranks of the Taliban — and the thematic essence of the film is equally marred by the heightened melodramatics. Still, the kite-fighting sequences here are magnificent. (12/21/2007) — Steve Davis

★★★ Arbor, Tinseltown South

★ **LIONS FOR LAMBS**

D: Robert Redford; with Redford, Meryl Streep, Tom Cruise, Derek Luke, Andrew Garfield, Michael Peña, Peter Berg. (R, 92 min.)

"Wake up, America!" That's the fervent call to action in *Lions for Lambs*, a well-intentioned and often nery critique of America's current complacency during a time of war. It's also a bold film, structurally speaking, in that it's little more than three interwoven stories in which two characters are simply engaged in a conversation. Even though there's little action in the visceral sense, *Lions for Lambs* can be captivating, especially in the vigorous give-and-take exchange in the senator's office about the failings of our country's leadership and the popular press with respect to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Cruise's controlled acting style works well in the role of a powerful man doing his best to sell a tough bill of goods, while Streep (as usual) is nothing short of miraculous as the reporter who must acknowledge her own complicity for today's political state of affairs. The other two segments are less captivating (though never boring). (11/09/2007) — Steve Davis

★★★★ Movies 8

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**MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM**

*D: Zach Helm; with Dustin Hoffman, Natalie Portman, Jason Bateman, Zach Mills, Ted Ludzik, Rebecca Northan, Matt Baram, Kiele Sanchez. (G, 109 min.)*  
*Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium* has whimsy coming out of its ears. Writer/director Helm is the writer of *Stranger Than Fiction*, which was also whimsical but had the common decency to be cynical, as well. Now the brakes are off, and Helm can feel free to give voice to all his passion for childlike eccentricity without all the baggage that comes with making a movie for adults. What he's come up with is a toy store run by a gleeful 200-year-old man-child (Hoffman). At his side are Molly Mahoney (Portman), a former child-prodigy; 10-year-old Eric Applebaum (Mills); and Henry Weston (Bateman), an accountant who wears a tie to work, meaning he's lost touch with his inner child (God bless him). With his incessant cackling and jiggling and adorable lisp, Hoffman is an unbearable force of nature, while Portman is disappointing as a young adult stuck in neutral. The film's one saving grace is Bateman. (11/16/2007) - Josh Rosenblatt  
 ★★ Movies 8

**NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS**

*D: Jon Turteltaub; with Nicolas Cage, Jon Voight, Ed Harris, Helen Mirren, Justin Bartha, Diane Kruger, Harvey Keitel, Bruce Greenwood. (PG, 124 min.)*  
 Less twisty than its 2004 predecessor and yet somehow more incoherent, *National Treasure: Book of Secrets* plays like a duplicate schematic of the first. Treasure hunter Benjamin Franklin Gates (Cage) lights on a noble cause; enlists a plucky cast of fellow hunters, code crackers, and danger enthusiasts (including the unsung Bartha, as Gates' geekboy Friday); then goes on a globe-hopping quest that amounts to a cinematic series of Russian nesting dolls - crack one clue, and you're awarded with another, equally inscrutable one. I don't mean to sound like a sourpuss: There's certainly a place for this kind of entertainment, and the first outing - same director, same screenwriters (husband-and-wife team Cormac and Marianne Wibberley), same cast - was pleasantly rompy and even sweetly patriotic in its history-buff bent. *Book of Secrets*, however, isn't so much a romp as a long trudge through American history factoids and

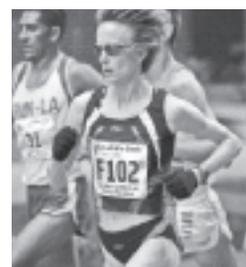
**Spirit of the Marathon**

**Spirit of the Marathon (2008)** *D: Jon Dunham. (NR, 120 min.)* This feature documentary captures the drama, unique spectacle, and individual journeys of six runners as they prepare for and ultimately face the challenge of Chicago's famed 26.2-mile race. Filmed on four continents, the movie brings together a diverse cast of amateur athletes and marathon veterans including Deena Kastor and others. @Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, CM Round Rock, Thursday (1/24), 7:30pm; \$8.50, \$6.25 children/seniors.

conspiracy-theory gobbledygook. Cool car chase, though. (12/28/2007) - Kimberley Jones  
 ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

**NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN**

*D: Joel Coen, Ethan Coen; with Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, Josh Brodin, Kelly Macdonald, Woody Harrelson, Garret Dillahunt, Barry Corbin, Tess Harper. (R, 122 min.)*  
 It seems at first like an odd pairing: the Coen brothers, they of the dark-humored film genre con-fusions, and Cormac McCarthy, the modern laureate of the Southern Gothic novel. Yet the Coens' adaptation of McCarthy's as-if-written-for-the-screen *No Country for Old Men* becomes a marvelous meld of sensibilities. The film is essentially a crime drama, although also something of a chase film. It holds up against the Coens' earlier genre masterpieces like *Miller's Crossing* and *Fargo* and makes recent genre misfires like *Intolerable Cruelty* and *The Ladykillers* more forgivable. The *No Country for Old Men* storyline is as old as the template for the brothers' first film, *Blood Simple*: Follow the money. At least three characters are chasing a satchel filled with \$2 million. One of them is Anton Chigurh (Bardem), a character who immediately leaps to the forefront of indelible American monsters. As it unfolds, the cat-and-mouse chase is a sheer delight to watch. The performances are captivating, too. (11/16/2007) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
 ★★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Dobie, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South



**ONE MISSED CALL**

*D: Eric Valette; with Ed Burns, Shannyn Sossamon, Ana Claudia Talancón, Ray Wise, Azura Sky. (PG-13, 87 min.)*  
 The J-horror trend initiated by Hideo Nakata's 1998 viral freakout *Ringu*, which along with nearly every other film in the genre has been remade multiple times throughout Asia and the U.S., is way past its expired-by date, asphyxiated on soggy tendrils of lank, black hair and kabuki-doomy, fright-faced shock cuts. Takashi Miike's 2003 foray into technophobic Japanese horror (the source for this ill-advised American remake) was a creative dud for the Japanese director. Valette's film, whose premise involves cell-phone calls from the soon-to-be-deceased to their predeceased selves, is even less engaging than the original. Since Burns is on board as a stodgy, tired-looking detective who has lost his sister to the ring tones o' woe, female lead Sossamon has someone to furrow brows with and mull over the unmulable. Apart from some borderline-clever cinematography courtesy of Glen MacPherson, there's precious little to make anyone want to answer this doleful call. (01/11/2008) - Marc Savlov  
 ▶ Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

**THE ORPHANAGE**

*D: Juan Antonio Bayona; with Belén Rueda, Fernando Cayo, Roger Princep, Mabel Rivera, Edgar Vivar, Geraldine Chaplin, Monserrat Carulla. (R, 100 min., subtitled)*  
 At the risk of ticking off producer Guillermo Del Toro, the Spanish shocker *The Orphanage* is no *Devil's Backbone*. It's hardly spineless, but neither is it on par with several of the other scary movies from which it borrows heavily, either in tone or tale, chief among them *The Omen*, Alejandro Amenábar's *The Others*, Mario Bava's *Kill, Baby ... Kill!*, and at least a deuce of Dario Argento *gialli*. It has neo-Gothic style to spare and a dense, suffocating atmosphere. It strives mightily to have a heart in the midst of all the miasmatic, ghostly goings-on. Bayona and his cast pull out all the stops, and for a while, you're immersed in the increasingly creepy story of married couple Laura (Rueda) and Carlos (Cayo) and their adopted son, Simón (Princep). Sergio Sánchez's lyrical, occasionally poetic script is played out in a tragic key that feels far too minor, and ultimately the composition comes off as both overplayed and underdone. (12/28/2007) - Marc Savlov  
 ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Dobie, Metropolitan

**P.S. I LOVE YOU**

*D: Richard LaGravenese; with Hilary Swank, Gerard Butler, Gina Gershon, Lisa Kudrow, Kathy Bates, Harry Connick Jr., Jeffrey Dean Morgan, James Marsters. (PG-13, 126 min.)*  
 LaGravenese is usually a terrific screenwriter, but this adaptation (with Steve Rogers) of Cecelia Ahern's novel is almost insufferably sufferable. It's a chick flick of the tallest order, with schmaltz galore and the sort of ongoing romantic hubris that practically screams, "This is codswallop, right?" Swank, as grieving widow Holly, is all knees and elbows and cheekbones and denial. Until, that is, her 30th birthday, when she receives a letter from her dead spouse, who has thoughtfully seen fit to keep the love - and by extension, the healing - flowing from beyond the grave. Together with mother Bates (doing a canny impression of Shirley MacLaine), possible new love Connick Jr. (doing an uncanny impression of Michael Cera in *Juno*), and BFFs Gershon and Kudrow, Swank embarks on a teary journey of Lifetime proportions. Hope floats all over the place in *P.S. I Love You*, but it's Connick Jr.'s goofy, lovesick bartender who makes it all tolerable. (12/21/2007) - Marc Savlov  
 ★▶ Barton Creek Square, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

**THE SAVAGES**

*D: Tamara Jenkins; with Laura Linney, Philip Seymour Hoffman, Philip Bosco, Peter Friedman, Gbenga Akinnagbe. (R, 113 min.)*  
 Don't pay any attention to the synopsis of this film. It'll make it sound like something for non-masochists to sidestep, and nothing could be further from the truth of this smart, funny, thoughtful, and exquisitely realized film. Jenkins' movie is a deft blend of realism and playful touches of structural whimsy and Brechtian distancing. Jon (Hoffman) and Wendy (Linney) are the grown and distant children of Lenny Savage (Bosco), who is showing the first signs of senile dementia. The subtlety of the interplay between siblings is one of the joys of *The Savages*. The film is likely to play differently to people of different age groups, maybe even sexes. To what extent one identifies with, recognizes, and fears each of the characters may govern the viewer's disposition toward the subject matter. Younger viewers may have to wait awhile before they're able to locate their inner Savage. (12/28/2007) - Marjorie Baumgarten  
 ★★★★★ Arbor

**SWEENEY TODD: THE DEMON BARBER OF FLEET STREET**

*D: Tim Burton; with Johnny Depp, Helena Bonham Carter, Alan Rickman, Timothy Spall, Sacha Baron Cohen, Jamie Campbell Bower, Laura Michelle Kelly, Jayne Wisener. (R, 117 min.)*  
 Like some religious fanatic, Sweeney Todd (Depp) plays the same note over and over again: "Revenge, revenge, revenge," he crows. Watching Burton's adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's 1979 stage musical, I was struck by just how dull violent retribution can be when it's all someone ever talks (or, in this case, sings) about. Burton's gorgeously grim film (his sixth with Depp) is loyal to Sondheim's original, both in spirit and structure; it's dark and Gothic and drenched in blood, and it forgoes excessive dialogue in the name of getting quickly to the next murky, malevolent, yet strangely forgettable tune. Poor Depp, though, isn't up to the challenge of a musical. So by the time he gets that long-wished-for shot at restitution, I didn't care anymore if he succeeded or not so long as he stopped singing about it. By that point I'd already decided life would be better inside a quiet meat pie. (12/21/2007) - Josh Rosenblatt  
 ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

**THIS CHRISTMAS**

*D: Preston A. Whitmore II; with Delroy Lindo, Loretta Devine, Idris Elba, Chris Brown, Columbus Short, Keith Robinson, Laz Alonso, Regina King, Mekhi Phifer, Sharon Leal, Lauren London. (PG-13, 117 min.)*  
 I have to ask: What could possibly explain the presence of two first-rate actors like Lindo and Elba in a movie as bland as *This Christmas*? They star in this glorified TV movie about an estranged family reuniting after four years to discover the true meaning of Christmas. Elba plays the Whitfield family's prodigal son, who decides it would be best to go home for Christmas after a run-in with two impatient bookies forces him to leave town with little more than the leather cap on his head. He arrives home to find most of his family members living lives of not-so-quiet desperation. Add to the mix a couple of extended all-family dance sequences in the living room and a soundtrack composed of jazzed-up Christmas carols that will make you feel like you're trapped in a shopping mall, and you've got the perfect formula for holiday cheer: It's redemption through sentimentality, salvation through schmaltz. (11/23/2007) - Josh Rosenblatt  
 ★★ Movies 8

**WALK HARD: THE DEWEY COX STORY**

*D: Jake Kasdan; with John C. Reilly, Jenna Fischer, Kristen Wiig, Tim Meadows, Chris Parnell, Matt Besser, David Krumholtz, Jack Black, Paul Rudd, Jason Schwartzman, Harold Ramis, Martin Starr, John Michael Higgins. (R, 96 min.)*  
 The creative forces behind *Walk Hard* adhere to one simple rule: If it's funny once, it'll be funny 10 times over. And throughout this absurdist spin on musical biopics, the good news is that sometimes they're right. Taking cues very specifically from *Ray* and *Walk the Line*, this film spans 70 years in the life of its hero, the fictional music legend Dewey Cox (Reilly). The story follows a rise-fall-

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**NOW SHOWING - CHECK DIRECTORIES FOR LISTINGS.**



## The Real Dirt on Farmer John

**The Real Dirt on Farmer John (2006)**

D: Taggart Siegel. (NR, 82 min.) **Third Coast Activists.** A hit on the festival circuit, this documentary looks at 25 years in the life of Wisconsin farmer John Peterson, who has waged a decades-long struggle to keep his family's farm in business. The result is the creation of a rural community dedicated to agriculture and the arts. @Alamo Ritz, Wednesday, 7pm.

and-rise-again structure as Dewey meets the love of his life (Fischer), develops multiple drug addictions, loses his love, finds her again, and along the way falls prey to every generational music trend in the book. Whether traveling to India with the Beatles, writing protest songs, or hosting a variety show, Dewey manages to enact all the rock & roll clichés. Simultaneously dumb and enjoyable, the silliness manages at times to be both wonderful and cringe-worthy. In the end, Reilly's oblivious swagger successfully carries much of the film. (12/21/2007) — *Toddy Burton*  
**★★★** Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Metropolitan

## THE WATER HORSE: LEGEND OF THE DEEP

D: Jay Russell; with Alex Etel, Emily Watson, Ben Chaplin, David Morrissey, Priyanka Xi, Marshall Napier, Brian Cox. (PG, 111 min.)

A family film in the best sense, *Water Horse* plays like a cross between a World War II-era *Boy's Own* adventure and *Baby: Secret of the Lost Legend*, minus the soppy treacle of the latter but with just the right amount of RAF fighter flybys to qualify it as a rather ripping yarn, indeed. Set on the coast of Scotland, the ingratiatingly plucky Etel plays Angus, a young dreamer whose mother and sister tend to Lord Something or Other's sprawling country estate, while he skitters around the tide pools digging up neat stuff. The discovery of a barnacle-encrusted egg reveals the titular "water horse," aka the Loch Ness beastie, and coincides with the arrival of a pair of dueling surrogate father figures for Angus. With its *Shrek*y ears and newborn, puggy snufflings, the water horse is extremely — and unthreateningly, to younger members — well designed, via CGI and more tactile effects work. Despite the title, however, this is Etel's film all the way. (12/21/2007) — *Marc Savlov*  
**★★★** Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

Marginalia

Look for Marjorie Baumgarten's blog, **Marginalia**, at [austinchronicle.com/marginalia](http://austinchronicle.com/marginalia) as she checks out the peaks and peeks of the **2008 Sundance Film Festival**.

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# Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (\*) indicates full-length reviews available online: [austinchronicle.com/film](http://austinchronicle.com/film).

## FESTIVALS

**Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors** The venerable horror magazine three-day convention takes place at the Renaissance Austin Hotel. See [www.creationent.com/cal/fangotox.htm](http://www.creationent.com/cal/fangotox.htm) for details and walk-up ticket info. The lineup of evening screenings are scheduled for the Alamo Village, and there will be a very limited number of tickets available for the public. Screenings include *Seed* with director Uwe Boll in attendance (Friday, 9:45pm); *Friday the 13th: Part VII* cast reunion (Friday, 12mid); *Maniac Cop 2* with director Bill Lustig in attendance (Saturday, 9:45pm); *The Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2* cast reunion with introductions by Tom Savini, Bill "Leatherface" Johnson, and star Lou Peryman (Saturday, 12mid); Fantastic Fest fave *Inside* (Sunday, 9:45pm); and Dario Argento's latest, *Mother of Tears* (Sunday, 12mid). See "Here's Blood in Your Eye," p.49, for more info. (\*) Fri.-Sun., 9:45, 12mid @ Alamo Draffhouse Village

## THURSDAY 17

**Real Genius Quote-Along (1985)** *D: Martha Coolidge; with Val Kilmer, Gabriel Jarret, Michelle Meyrink, William Atherton, Jon Gries, Patti D'Arbanville, Stacy Peralta. (PG, 108 min.)* Jon Gries will be in attendance at the Wednesday event. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

**Teen Wolf Too (1987)** *D: Christopher Leitch; with Jason Bateman, Kim Darby, John Astin, Paul Sand. (PG, 95 min.)* Jason Bateman's Birthday Party. Bateman replaces Michael J. Fox as the hirsute teen werewolf. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid.

**Troll (1986)** *D: John Carl Buechler; with Noah Hathaway, Michael Moriarty, Shelley Hack, Jenny Beck. (PG-13, 82 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** An evil troll inhabits the body of a little girl in order to take over the San Francisco apartment building into which she has just moved. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

## SPACES

**Every Mother's Son (2004)** *D: Tami Gold and Kelly Anderson. Echoes of Color Film Series.* In this documentary, the mothers of three victims of New York City police violence (Amadou Diallo, Anthony Baez, and Gary Busch) come together to demand justice and accountability. @Boyd Vance Theatre at Carver, 6pm.

**Superbad (2007)** *D: Greg Mottola; with Michael Cera, Jonah Hill, Christopher Mintz-Plasse, Emma Stone, Martha MacIsaac, Seth Rogen, Bill Hader. (R, 114 min.)* Free. (\*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

## SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the Feb. 1 issue is Monday, Jan. 21.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

## Offscreen

**501 Studios: Soundstage + HD Theatre** 501 Studios' historic soundstage in Downtown Austin now doubles as one of Texas' largest public theatres – with a Sony Qualia HD projector, a 28-foot screen, 180 (removable) seats, a vintage popcorn machine, and affordable rates. Need a venue for premieres, wrap parties, and concerts/plays/performances featuring projection? This could be the place. Also still available as a soundstage/green screen. [thomasallen@501studios.com](mailto:thomasallen@501studios.com).

**Fangoria's Weekend of Horrors** This splatter-punk-friendly convention features a monstrous lineup of top horror talent from film and television. Actors, directors, sfx techs, so many experts of the gruesome and grisly, gathered under one big fancy roof to provide you a weekend of thrills. *Jan. 18-20. Fri., 2-8pm; Sat.-Sun., 11am-7pm. Renaissance Hotel, 9721 Arboretum, 343-2626. \$20-25. [www.fangocon.com](http://www.fangocon.com).*

**Rewind Kindly: A Filmmaking Competition** Inspired by the upcoming Michel Gondry feature, *Be Kind Rewind*, this competition challenges you to remake (in a five-minute version of low-budget glory) any popular Hollywood film. Entries will be screened at the Alamo Draffhouse, and the winning films will get cash and AMD/Dell hardware. See website for details. Deadline: *Jan. 18. [www.filmmakingfrenzy.com](http://www.filmmakingfrenzy.com).*



## FRIDAY 18

**The Breakfast Club (1985)** *D: John Hughes; with Emilio Estevez, Judd Nelson, Molly Ringwald, Anthony Michael Hall, Ally Sheedy, Paul Gleason. (R, 97 min.)* **Master Pancake Theater.** Watch as the Master Pancake cutups fire more spitballs at this John Hughes teen classic than juvenile delinquents in study hall. (\*) @Alamo Draffhouse South, 10, 12mid.

## SATURDAY 19

**Blade Runner: The Final Cut (2007)** *D: Ridley Scott; with Harrison Ford, Sean Young, Rutger Hauer, Daryl Hannah, Edward James Olmos, M. Emmet Walsh, William Sanderson, Joanna Cassidy, Brion James. (R, 117 min.)* Recut more times than a plastic-surgery junkie, *Blade Runner: The Final Cut* promises to be exactly what its title promises: director Scott's last word on the subject. Cops and androids fight it out in 21st century L.A. in this Philip K. Dick film adaptation with fabulous art direction. This remastered and subtly rejiggered

Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin, 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): [specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com](mailto:specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com); Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): [calendar@austinchronicle.com](mailto:calendar@austinchronicle.com).

print is most notable for its inclusion of the "scene with the unicorn," which makes abundantly clear that Ford's blade runner is indeed an android and not a human. The film remains a landmark spectacle. @Paramount, 4:30, 7, 9:30; \$8, \$6 children/students/seniors.

**The Breakfast Club (1985)** @Alamo Draffhouse South, 10, 12mid. (See Fri., 1/18.)

**Journey to the Flames: 8 Years of Burning Man (2007)** *D: Doug Jacobson. (NR)* The documentary follows a group of friends to the event and chronicles eight years of the festival's art, music, and culture. The director will be in attendance. For more info, see [www.journeytotheflames.com](http://www.journeytotheflames.com). @Alamo Draffhouse South, noon.

**The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975)** *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry. (R, 95 min.)* Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for 31 years straight. For more info, see [www.austinrocky.org](http://www.austinrocky.org). @Alamo Draffhouse Village, 12mid.

## SUNDAY 20

**All in This Tea Feast (2007)** See p.82.

**Blade Runner: The Final Cut (2007)** @Paramount, 2, 4:30, 7; \$8, \$6 children/students/seniors. (See Sat., 1/19.)

**Krishna (2006)** *D: Aman Khan. (NR, 162 min.)* Animated musical feature tells the life story of Lord Krishna. @Tinseltown South, 3pm.

## SPACES

**Anchorman: The Legend of Ron Burgundy (2004)** *D: Adam McKay; with Will Ferrell, Christina Applegate, Paul Rudd, Steven Carell, David Koechner, Fred Willard, Chris Parnell. (PG-13, 91 min.)* **Moonlight Cinema – Waterloo Video.** Dinner specials. Jerm Pollet hosts. (\*) @Belmont, 8pm; free.

## MONDAY 21

**James Brown Live at the Boston Garden 1968 (2004)** (NR, 80 min.) **Music Monday.** This is the famous James Brown concert that was broadcast on WGBH in Boston, on April 5, less than 24 hours after the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. As violence was breaking out across America, Boston Mayor Kevin White was considering canceling all public events, including the James Brown concert. But the "hardest working man in show business" kept the date, dedicated the show to King, and electrified the audience. WGBH broadcast the show live at the mayor's urging, to encourage people to stay home and watch TV instead of roam the streets and riot. @Alamo Ritz, 10:20pm; \$2.

**A Night With Hollywood Legends Austin Business Travel Association.** The evening is a fundraiser for the group's STAR scholarship program. Four celebrity impersonators – Elvis Presley, Marilyn Monroe, Humphrey Bogart, and James Dean – will appear, and female Elvis impersonator Brooklyn Lane will perform. Following that, the audience will select the feature movie to be shown by applause, choosing from films starring the real actors. For more info see [www.austinbta.org](http://www.austinbta.org). @Paramount, 5pm; \$25.

## TUESDAY 22

**The Gaucho (1927)** *D: F. Richard Jones; with Douglas Fairbanks, Lupe Velez, Joan Barclay, Eve Southern. (NR, 115 min.)* **Austin Film Society: 3 Mexicanas en Hollywood.** Fairbanks' action stunts are put in the service of a character who leads a band of Argentinean outlaws who come to the defense of a village's religious shrine that has been captured by a tyrant's army. Velez plays a "Mountain Girl" seductress, and Mary Pickford has a cameo as the Virgin Mary. See [austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?old=old:575556](http://austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/Issue/story?old=old:575556) for more on series. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm; \$4, AFS members free.

**Honeydripper Premiere (2007)** See p.80.

## SPACES

**The Professional (1994)** *D: Luc Besson; with Jean Reno, Gary Oldman, Natalie Portman, Danny Aiello. (R, 110 min.)* **Waterloo Video.** Free. (\*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

## WEDNESDAY 23

**The Pink Panther Gang (1969)** *D: Jimmy Murphy; with Saxon Carter, Deborah Darnell, Anne Martell, Mick Mehas, Tanya Morgan. (PG, 90 min.)* **Weird Wednesday.** Biker drama. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

**The Real Dirt on Farmer John (2006)** See p.85.

## SPACES

**The Incredibles (2004)** *D: Brad Bird; with the voices of Craig T. Nelson, Holly Hunter, Samuel L. Jackson, Jason Lee, Spencer Fox, Sarah Vowell, Elizabeth Peña. (PG, 115 min.)* Free. (\*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 6:30pm.

## THURSDAY 24

**The 90s One-Hit Wonders Sing-Along: Vol. 2** @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm.

**Real Genius Quote-Along (1985)** @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Thu., 1/17.)

**Spirit of the Marathon (2008)** See p.84.

**Tales From the Quadead Zone (1987)** *D: Chester Novell Turner; with Shirley Latanya Jones. (NR, 62 min.)* **Terror Thursday.** Reanimated adult-izing clowns, transparent children, and hungry white people are just some of the antagonists in this home-made horror anthology. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

## SPACES

**Shoot 'Em Up (2007)** *D: Michael Davis; with Clive Owen, Paul Giamatti, Monica Bellucci, Stephen McHattie, Daniel Pilon. (R, 87 min.)* Free. (\*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

## IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see [www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com). See Showtimes for dates and times.

**African Adventure 3D: Safari in the Okavango (2007)** *D: Ben Stassen. (NR, 40 min.)* Come face-to-face with hippos, crocodiles, elephants, lions, and many types of antelopes and bird species. *Closes Friday. (\*)*

**Sea Monsters 3D: A Prehistoric Adventure (2007)** *D: Sean MacLeod Phillips; narrated by Liev Schreiber. (NR, 40 min.)* National Geographic uses photo-realistic, computer-generated, 3-D animation to transport audiences back to the late Cretaceous period more than 65 million years ago, when a great inland sea divided North America in two. (\*)

**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.

**Wildfire: Feel the Heat (1999)** *D: Mike Slee; narrated by Andre Braugher. (NR, 40 min.)* Crews put out really big fires around the world.

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## DJ Shadow & Cut Chemist LA ZONA ROSA, FRIDAY 18



Extraordinary things happen when these two turntablists join forces. Their 1999 collaboration, *Brainfreeze*, whips up a masterful hourlong mix of the rarest funk 45s and now stands at legendary status among hip-hop heads and record nerds. The dynamic duo kicks off its Hard Sell tour in Austin with eight turntables, four mixers, two effects pedals, and a mess of the funkiest 45s you've never heard. Montreal turntablist Kid Koala opens. — Thomas Fawcett

## Sunny Sweeney, Corb Lund, Betty Soo SAXON PUB, FRIDAY 18



Local country chanteuse Sunny Sweeney unpacks more twang than Tanya Tucker and Dolly Parton, and, after standing in the Opry spotlight last year, she may put more cow-boys in her *Heartbreaker's Hall of Fame* than either. Corb Lund rides his band of Hurtin' Albertans down from Canada on the banjo-and-steel-saddled balladry from latest *Horse Soldier! Horse Soldier!* Betty Soo opens with her delicate pop. — Doug Freeman

## Brothers & Sisters, Ripe PARISH, SATURDAY 19

If new song "You're Gone" is any indication, Brothers & Sisters' upcoming release adds a shot of electricity to the swaying Austin eightpiece, fleshing out the Byrdian group's sound. New 1960s-pop supertrio Ripe, equal parts Ugly Beats, Nervous Exits, and White Heat peels slowly. Local reverb lovers the Strange Attractors come out after dark with last summer's psychedelic self-titled debut, and the raucous Golden Boys pass around the bottle. — Darcie Stevens



## Les Savy Fav EMO'S, SATURDAY 19

Summer 2001, Coney Island. I'm standing front and center, sweating profusely under the oppressive July sun as Les Savy Fav commands the stage. Singer Tim Harrington is wearing flimsy, red jogging shorts, then he's wearing only a small white towel. He runs off stage in the towel, through the crowd, right toward the Cyclone, and gets in line. The other band members look at one another and end the song.

Over the years, I've seen Harrington do the glow worm through the crowd and don a pair of unnecessarily fitted sweatpants, but his energetic stage presence is only one part of the NYC quartet's assault of art rock blast through punk anthems. Six albums in, LSF hits its stride with latest *Let's Stay Friends* (Frenchkiss). God only knows what Harrington will do to and on Emo's outside stage. — Audra Schroeder

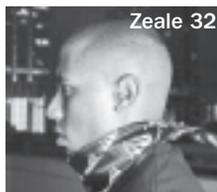
H-Town's Fatal Flying Guilloteens and locals Attack Formation tear it down and build it up.

## Big Sam's Funky Nation CONTINENTAL CLUB, SATURDAY 19

The dance floor could well be a swimming pool when this one's all over. The driving horns and signature second line NOLA funk of Big Sam's Funky Nation is the main event, but good luck sitting still for the opening act. Local R&B shouter Black Joe Lewis gets the frenzy started, showing off the old-school sounds of his new Honey Bears lineup. The group's latest single, "Gunpowder," is a blast. — Thomas Fawcett

## Grimy Styles, Zeale 32 FLAMINGO CANTINA, SUNDAY 20

The Austin hip-hop scene scored when HoustonSoReal's Matt Sonzala accepted a full-time gig booking acts for South by Southwest. The first of hopefully many AustinSurreal events pairs the dubtastic sounds of Grimy Styles with local hip-hop heavyweights Bavu Blakes, Zeale 32, Gerald G, and Dallas trio PPT. — Thomas Fawcett



## The Hunnies, Cavedweller, Basic HOLE IN THE WALL, MONDAY 21

Though Basic's 2007 debut, *Favorite Movie*, rolls out rock so catchy its straightforward garage chords seem inspired, the local trio's latest songs lace the formula with lighter 1960s pop. Cavedweller's latest demos, meanwhile, turn Dirk Michener's psych down darker, droning roads, but headlining femme-fronted foursome the Hunnies adds a deceptive sweetness to the lo-fi punch. — Doug Freeman

## Winter Full Moon Party EMO'S LOUNGE, TUESDAY 22

Revel by the light of the year's first full moon with Black Angels side project the Viet Minh, a lo-fi psych-out with strong tribal allusions to early Red Krayola. The Strange Boys dish out a warm slur of garage punk and blues custom-made for broken-hearted inebriates, while Ringo Deathstarr takes us back to the halcyon daze of 4AD with its ethereal buzz. Nervous Exits avocation the Dazzling King Solomon Band opens with soul power. — Greg Beets

## The Distant Seconds ROOM 710, WEDNESDAY 23

The Distant Seconds may not yet have an album to their name, but the local quartet has been perfecting blissful post-punk ballads since 2005 and is finally recording a proper debut this year. Benko's vibraphone-based indie pop has been known to cause seizures, while the Dark Water Hymnal culls an undertow of amorphous imagery. The Bus Stop Stallions headline. — Austin Powell

## Little Richard PARAMOUNT THEATRE, THURSDAY 24

Following his pained performance in front of the UT Tower last spring, it's impossible to give the Little Richard show an unqualified yes vote. Nevertheless, you can't love rock & roll without loving the groundbreaking Mr. Penniman. At 75, he and his piano still have the power to break a room apart with amped-up, free-flowing personality. — Greg Beets



## Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

live music VENUES p.90 CLUB LISTINGS+roadshows p.92

### MEGON FEST Beerland, Friday 18/ Emo's Saturday 19

Chicago's M.O.T.O. plus the one-two punch of Manikin and the Young Friday; Criminal Damage, the Marked Men, and more raw power Saturday.

### JASON ISBELL & THE 400 UNIT

Antone's, Saturday 19  
Once a Trucker, now a Ditch digger. Will Hoge and Jeremy Fisher step out on the porch first.

### CHURCH OF THE FRIENDLY GHOST NIGHT Salvage Vanguard Theater, Saturday 19

ST 37 waits 'til the midnight hour, with Book of Shadows, X=X, 7 Inch Stitch, and Venison Whirled. Starts at sunset.

### EUGENE ROBINSON Emo's, Monday 21

Oxbow's singer/choke hold enthusiast speaks his piece from new book *Fight*.

### MGMT, YEASAYER/ LUPE FIASCO Emo's, Tuesday 22

Glam dance from Brooklyn duo MGMT and rapturous verberb from Yeasayer. Outside, Lupe Fiasco is hip-hop's Mr. Cool.

### 'HONEYDRIPPER' PREMIERE PARTY

Antone's, Wednesday 23  
With Gary Clark Jr., Hubert Sumlin, Pinetop Perkins, and Eddie Shaw. See Screens, p.49, and Music, p.60, for more.

### VAN HALEN HOOT NIGHT Beerland, Wednesday 23

My Education, Mandible, DFI, and more jump for Crack Pipes guitarist Billy Steve Korpi.

### JEFF DANIELS Cactus Cafe, Wednesday 23

Inside the actor's studio.

### U.S. BOMBS

Red 7, Thursday 24  
Blitzkrieg rock from Duane Peters & Co. The Johns, Orange, and Career Criminal open.

### INFORMATION SOCIETY Elysium, Friday 18

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| fri. jan 18          | <b>CHRIS SMITHER</b> 8:30pm<br>guest star GRAHAM WEBER   |
| sat. jan 19          | live @ the cactus<br><b>ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO</b> 8:30pm<br>special guest LEATHERBAG  |
| tue. jan 22          | 3rd annual 7:30pm<br><b>GEORGE HARRISON TRIBUTE</b><br>hosted by KY HOTE   |
| wed. jan 23          | musician/actor 8:30pm<br><b>JEFF DANIELS</b>   |
| thur. jan 24         | songwriter demon 8:30pm<br><b>MALCOMB HOLCOMBE</b><br>early show @ 6pm<br>BRITNEY ELIZABETH  |
| fri. jan 25          | legendary bluesman 8:30pm<br><b>JOHN HAMMOND</b>   |
| sat. jan 26          | "year of the cat" & "time passages"<br><b>AL STEWART</b><br>tix@HEBs and Erwin Center Box Office<br>477-6060 or <a href="http://texasboxoffice.com">texasboxoffice.com</a> |
| sun. jan 27          | texas legends<br><b>WHEATFIELD</b> 7pm   |
| feb 1 & 2            | <b>JIMMY LAFAVE</b> 8:30pm   |
| tue. feb 4           | <b>DOUGIE MACLEAN</b> 8:30pm<br>tix@HEBs and Erwin Center Box Office<br>477-6060 or <a href="http://texasboxoffice.com">texasboxoffice.com</a>                             |
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**NUONO'S ON SIXTH**, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133  
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**THE OAKS**, 10206 FM 973 N., 278-8788  
**THE OASIS**, 6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442  
**ONE 2 ONE BAR**, 121 E. Fifth, 473-0121  
**ONE WORLD THEATRE**, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500  
**OPAL DIVINE'S**, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308  
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**PARAMOUNT THEATRE**, 713 Congress, 472-5470  
**THE PARISH**, 214 E. Sixth, 479-0474  
**THE PARLOR**, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965  
**PARMER LANE TAVERN**, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663  
**PLUSH**, 617 Red River, 478-0099  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL**, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318  
**RABBIT'S LOUNGE**, 1816 E. Sixth, 473-3771  
**RACK DADDY'S**, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577  
**RAIN ON 4TH**, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150  
**REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE**, 13450 Research, 335-5115  
**RED 7**, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100  
**RED EYED FLY**, 715 Red River, 474-1084  
**RED FEZ**, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120  
**RENAISSANCE HOTEL**, 9721 Arboretum, 343-2626  
**RILEY'S TAVERN**, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132  
**ROADHOUSE**, 1103 Wonder, Round Rock, 512/218-0813  
**ROADHOUSE RAGS**, 1600 Fortview, 762-8797  
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**ROOM 710**, 710 Red River, 476-0997  
**ROUND ROCK ISD PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**, 5800-A McNeil Dr., 464-6580  
**RUTA MAYA**, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637  
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Daniel Cioper

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WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23  
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"MARATHON" FEATURING  
**JESSE SUBLETT & DARDEN SMITH**  
MONDAY • 10PM  
**CRY BEAR**  
TUESDAY • 10:30PM  
**EPHRAIM OWENS**  
WEDNESDAY • 10PM  
**TRUBE, FARRELL & SNIZ**

MON JAN 21  
HAPPY HOUR PARIS '49

TUESDAY JAN 22  
**DALE WATSON AND HIS LONESTARS**  
10PM

THURS JAN 17  
HAPPY HOUR  
**MOTHER TRUCKERS ZAPATA**  
12AM

WEDNESDAY JAN 23  
H.H. SHOTGUN PARTY  
**DUSTIN WELCH AND THE HOUSE BAND**  
12AM

THURSDAY JAN 24  
**JON DEE GRAHAM**  
10PM

FRIDAY JAN 18  
H.H. THE LEGENDARY  
**BLUES SPECIALISTS**  
12AM

THURSDAY JAN 24  
**IZZY COX**  
11:30PM

FRIDAY JAN 25  
**DASH RIP ROCK**  
10PM

SATURDAY JAN 19  
MATINEE 3-7PM  
**JAMES HAND**  
11:30PM

FRIDAY JAN 25  
H.H. THE LEGENDARY  
**BLUES SPECIALISTS**  
10PM

SUNDAY JAN 20  
**BIG SAM'S FUNKY NATION**  
10PM

FRIDAY JAN 25  
**ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO**  
11PM

SUNDAY JAN 20  
**BLACK JOE LEWIS AND THE HONEYBEARS**  
10PM

SUNDAY JAN 20  
WITH **REDD VOLKERT AND EARL POOLE BALL**  
10PM

SATURDAY JAN 26  
MATINEE 3-7PM  
**JAMES HAND**  
12AM

SUNDAY JAN 20  
**CHARANGA CAKEWALK**  
10PM

SUNDAY JAN 20  
**PATRICIA YONNE**  
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FRI JAN 25 TIX ON SALE

**KELLER WILLIAMS WMD'S**

SAT JAN 26 TIX ON SALE

**ROBIN TROWER**  
W/ VAN WILKS

SUN JAN 27 TIX ON SALE

**The Bangles**  
In Concert  
W/TAMMAY HALL MACHINE

THU JAN 31 TIX ON SALE

**HAL KETCHUM**  
W/ 10 MILE CROSSING

SAT FEB 23 TIX ON SALE

UPCOMING SHOWS

**MOLOTOV** FEB 13

**THE MOTHER TRUCKERS** MAR 07  
W/ NAKIA AND HIS SOUTHERN COUSINS

**MINISTRY** APR 15  
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# club listings

## Thu 17

- 219 WEST** Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
- 311 CLUB** Joe Valentine (8:30)
- ANTONE'S** Back to School Ball w/ the Daze, the Soldier Thread, Mother's Anthem, Vast (9:00)
- ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Steve Carter
- AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735** Homer Henderson (9:00)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Stephanie Bradley
- BEAUTY BAR** Moustache Party w/ DJ Orion, Black & White Years
- BEERLAND** The Jungle Rockers, Golden Boys, South Filthy
- THE BELMONT** Dysfunkshun Junkshun (8:00)
- BLINNIGAN'S** Andy Fiegal (7:00)
- BLIND PIG PUB** Ben Burgess
- BROKEN SPOKE** Jesse Dayton
- THE BROWN BAR** DJ gmau
- CACTUS CAFE** Adrian Legg (8:30)
- CAROUSEL LOUNGE** MonkeyWrench Benefit w/ Steve Arceri, Wax Museum Pandemonium, Canopy, the Carnies (8:00)
- CEDAR STREET** Kent Mayhew, Radiostar (6:00)
- CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Super Alright String Band (6:30)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Paris 49; In the Club; Mother Truckers, Zapata, Barfield (6:30)
- COOL RIVER CAFE TUB** (9:00)
- COPA BAR & GRILL** Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
- COTTON CLUB** Texas All-Stars (8:30)
- DONN'S DEPOT** Murphy's Inlaws
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
- EGO'S** Robert Banta, 2 Hoots & a Holler
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites, Torch (6:00)
- ELYSIUM** Mental Asylum
- EMO'S** Lounge: Frank Smith, Mice & Rifles, Leatherbag; Inside: Chris McFarland, Abby Birds, Frontier Brothers
- EVANGELINE CAFE** George Enslé
- FLAMINGO CANTINA** Meridian Prime, Sleep & Jellyrock, Dimitri's Ascent

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.

## roadshows

### JANUARY

#### THU 17

- The Soldier Thread**, Antone's
- Steve Carter**, Artz Rib House
- Adrian Legg**, Cactus Cafe
- Dimitri's Ascent**, Sleep & Jellyrock, Flamingo Cantina
- Whiskey Throttle**, Lamberts
- Matt Wilson**, Meow
- Six Organs of Admittance**, Mohawk
- The 71's**, Momo's
- Corinne Rose**, the Parlor
- David Olney**, Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill
- Under the Gun**, Murder Majesty, Red 7
- Corey Smith**, Stubb's

#### FRI 18

- Nathaniel Bartlett**, Ballet Austin Studio
- M.O.T.O.**, Beerland
- Chris Smither**, Cactus Cafe
- Information Society**, Elysium
- Two Ton BOA**, Emo's
- Felipe Galvan y Sus Skarnales**, Flamingo Cantina
- Dirty Penny**, Eden Burning
- Louie's Homemade Jam**, Jovita's
- Cut Chemist**, DJ Shadow, Kid Koala, La Zona Rosa
- Matt Wilson**, Meow
- Michael Ian Black**, Michael Showalter, Mohawk
- Skyblue 72**, Momo's
- Michael Franks**, One World Theatre
- Babelfish**, the Opera House
- Victory at Last**, Red 7
- Corb Lund**, Saxon Pub
- Back Door Slam**, Stubb's
- The Cheatin' Hearts**, Sullivan's Steakhouse
- Flamin' Hellcats**, Trophy's

#### SAT 19

- Jason Isbell & the 400 Unit**, Will Hoge, Jeremy Fisher, Antone's
  - Dead Confederate**, Beauty Bar
  - Whiskey Throttle**, Beerland
  - The Chickpeas**, Clementine Coffee Bar
  - Big Sam's Funky Nation**, Continental Club
  - Les Savy Fav**, Red Light Love, Emo's
  - Criminal Damage**, the Marked Men, Deskonocidos, Emo's
  - Flamin' Hellcats**, Pickled Punks, the Dementers, Headhunters
  - Possessed by Paul James**, Hole in the Wall
  - Goat**, the Opera House
  - Honey Thief**, Espera, the Parlor
  - Pack of Wolves**, the Dead See, Red 7
  - A Thousand Knives of Fire**, Confused Little Girl, Room 710
  - Fondue Monks**, Speakeasy
  - Red Monroe**, Calhoun, Stubb's
  - Bob Cheevers**, Waterloo Ice House
- SUN 20**
- Eagle Claw**, Beauty Bar
  - Zest of Yore**, Beerland
  - Nashville Pussy**, Emo's
  - PPT**, Flamingo Cantina
  - Call the Paramedics**, Headhunters
  - Frenetica**, Jovita's
  - Dead Confederate**, Mohawk
  - The Public**, the Parlor
  - Krayons**, Room 710
  - The Shields of Faith**, Stubb's
- MON 21**
- The Soldier Thread**, Beauty Bar
  - Howl, St. Jude**, Emo's
  - Ari Hoening Trio**, Snarky Puppy, Flamingo Cantina

**Vanessa Lively**, Flipnotics Coffeespace

**Foamy**, the Parlor

#### TUE 22

- Eddie Shaw**, Continental Club
- Lupe Fiasco**, Optimus & Sessions, Yeasayer, MGMT, Emo's
- Carry the Torch**, the Funeral March, Red 7
- Zenith Fuzzbomb**, Red Eyed Fly
- Five Times August**, Stubb's
- Lupe Fiasco**, Waterloo Records

#### WED 23

- Hubert Sumlin**, Antone's
- Jeff Daniels**, Cactus Cafe
- Drop Trio**, Elephant Room
- Joe Buckyourself**, Headhunters
- Jennifer Nicely**, Momo's
- Howl, St. Jude**, the Parlor
- Headhunter**, Plush
- Planes Mistaken for Stars**, Kingdom of Magic, Red 7
- Deserts of Mars**, Red Eyed Fly
- Blue Light Special**, Sam's Town Point
- Grace Potter & the Nocturnals**, Stubb's
- Atomic**, Victory Grill

#### THU 24

- Styrofoam Duck**, Beerland
- Malcolm Holcomb**, Cactus Cafe
- Dash Rip Rock**, Izzy Cox, Continental Club
- Hannah Montana**, Miley Cyrus, Frank Erwin Center
- The Wayhigh Men**, Goodman Country, Headhunters
- Trampled by Turtles**, Mohawk
- Little Richard**, Paramount Theatre
- U.S. Bombs**, Orange, Red 7
- Exeter**, Red Eyed Fly
- Flamin' Hellcats**, Riley's Tavern

## for your benefit

#### THU 17

**MonkeyWrench Benefit** w/ Steve Arceri, Wax Museum Pandemonium, Canopy, the Carnies, Carousel Lounge

#### SAT 19

**Bachelor & Bachelorette Sugar & Spice Auction**, Austin Resource Center for the Homeless Benefit w/ MC Brown Sugar, Victory Grill

#### SUN 20

**Texas Observer Benefit** w/ South Austin Jug Band, Jimmy LaFave, La Zona Rosa

#### MON 21

**Free the Jena 6 CD Release**, Dunbar Village Victims Benefit, Red Eyed Fly

#### TUE 22

**Shotgun Party Caritas Benefit**, Continental Club

#### WED 23

**Billy Steve Korpi Benefit**, Van Halen Hoot w/ My Education, Mandible, Shirt, DFI, Beerland

See [austinchronicle.com](http://austinchronicle.com) for complete listings.

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**PUFF PUFF & THE RECEIVERS** 10P

FRIDAY JAN 18  
**THUNDER CHIEFS** 11P  
**BLUEPRINT REBELLION** 10P

SATURDAY JAN 19  
**SCOTT H BIRAM** 11:30 P  
**POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES** 10P

SUNDAY JAN 20TH  
**THE CCANOOPY** 12A  
**THE PILLOW QUEENS** 11P  
**THE SPIRIT OF SPACE** 10P  
**JACOB BORSHARD** 9P

MONDAY JAN 21ST  
**THE HUNNIES** 12A  
**CAVEDWELLER** 11P  
**BASIC** 10P

TUESDAY JANUARY 22  
**THE BREAD** 10P

WED JANUARY 23RD  
**LONESOME HEROES**  
**FAMILY REUNION BAND** 12:30A  
**JUDE ROSS** 11:30P  
**THE WINTER DANCE PARTY** 10:30 P  
**JUDAS BROOKS** 9:30P

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## Mohawk

AUSTIN, TEXAS

SMOKE SIGNAL

Front Gate TICKETS

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|------------|---|
| THU 17 JAN | SIX ORGANS OF ADMITTANCE<br>MY EDUCATION, HEADDRESS   |
| FRI 18 JAN | THE ONION & 101X PRESENTS<br><b>MICHAEL IAN BLACK/MICHAEL SHOWALTER</b><br>(THE STATE/STELLA) 9PM |
| SAT 19 JAN | PARTYENDS PRESENTS (INSIDE)<br><b>TERP 2IT, BUILT BY SNOW</b>                                     |
| SUN 20 JAN | <b>CHRISTIAN BLAND (BLACK ANGELS)</b><br>DEAD CONFEDERATES<br>THE TUNNELS                         |
| TUE 22 JAN | GRIZZLY BAR SALOON<br>HAPPY HOUR ALL NIGHT LONG!!!<br>(5PM TIL CLOSE)                             |
| WED 23 JAN | WHISKEY WEDNESDAY<br>\$1 WHISKEY SHOTS ALL NIGHT<br>MERMAID BLONDE                                |
| THU 24 JAN | GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS<br>TRAMPLED BY TURTLES (MN)<br>ADELINE, TBA                                  |
| FRI 25 JAN | SEE. HEAR. SPEAK.<br>TERP 2IT, PROMISE BREAKERS<br>ALEXANDER'S DARK BAND, MR. SUSAN               |
| SAT 26 JAN | KANKO, THE PUNKAROOS<br>DJ ORION  |

912 FANCY NEW WEBSITE  
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912 MOHAWK

club listings << FROM THURSDAY

**FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE**  
 Matt the Electrician & Southpaw Jones (8:00)

**GALLERY LOMBARDI** Scion Art Tour w/ DJ Mel (6:00)

**GIDDY UPS** Open Mic w/ Roy & Ted (8:30)

**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Dale Watson (9:00)

**GRUENE HALL** Gurf Morlix & Sam Baker (6:00)

**HANOVER'S** Karaoke w/ Dan the Man

**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Brian Kremer (9:15)

**HILL'S CAFE** Ryan James

**HOLE IN THE WALL** Puff Puff & the Receivers, Darling New Neighbors (10:00)

**HOMER'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Brian

**JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN**  
 JAVA Third Coast Songwriters Showcase w/ Jim Patton & Sherry Brokus, Cleve & Sweet Mary, Kim Deschamps, Melissa Greener (7:00)

**JOVITA'S** Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

**LAMBERTS** Glover Tango (6:30), Whiskey Throttle, Trashrocks (10:30)

**THE LOADING DOCK** Open Mic (7:00)

**LOUIE'S 106** Mac Bynum (6:30)

**LOVEJOYS** The Nortons (10:00)

**LUCKY LOUNGE** Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, JJ Usher

**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Subrosa Union

**MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)

**MEOW** Matt Wilson (9:00)

**MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL** Trés, Pride & Joy (6:00)

**MOHAWK** My Education, Headdress, Six Organs of Admittance

**MOMO'S** Jeff Plankenhorn, Bukka Allen, the 71's

**NORTH BY NORTHWEST** James Thomas

**NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Texas Renegade

**THE OAKS** Singer-Songwriter Series w/ Sharon & Lew Andre Mathews, Chase Sanford, 10 Beers From Now

**ONE 2 ONE BAR** AJ Vallejo & Zach Baker Jam Session (10:00)

**THE PARLOR** Corinne Rose, Shand Walton

**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL**  
 Sergio Webb, David Olney

**RED 7** Expiration Unknown, Given a Chance, Murder Majesty, Buzzkillers, Heymaker 3, Under the Gun

**RED FEZ** Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30)

**RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)

**RILEY'S TAVERN** Skeletons

**THE ROCK ROOM** Karaoke w/ DJ Trip

**ROOM 710** Doug Morrison, Snakeskin Prison, Sweet Skull, Sabbath Crow

**RUTA MAYA** Meagan Tubb & Shady People, Spank

**SAXON PUB** Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore, Gordy Quist

**SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Billy D.

**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** Karol Moore Band

**SPEAKEASY** Lucascokus (9:30)

**STUBB'S** Corey Smith

**T.C.'S LOUNGE** Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00)

**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Tin Pan Phone

**TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL** Lucky Strikes (7:30)

**TRIPLE CROWN** Joel Hofmann, Clay Nightingale, Silver Pines

**TROPHY'S** Las Damas, the Shrieks, Code Named Code

**VICTORY GRILL** Word/Jazz Low Stars (8:00)

**WATERLOO RECORDS** Band of Heathens (5:00)

**Z'TEJAS** George Carver Trio (9:30)

**BEERLAND** The Young, Manikin, M.O.T.O.

**THE BELMONT** Jack Roe Combo (9:00)

**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega

**BOOMERZ** Brent Allen

**BROK TIME** DJ Element

**BROKEN SPOKE** Bruce Robison

**CACTUS CAFE** Graham Weber, Chris Smither (8:30)

**CAFE MUNDI** Faulkner, Klier (8:00)

**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke w/ Nicole

**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Chapparral Dixielanders

**CENTRAL MARKET NORTH** Cadaques (6:30)

**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Cameron Road

**CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR** Dwayne Williamson & Wilson Getchell (9:00)

**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Mike Flanigan's B-3 Trio; In the Club: The Blues Specialists (6:30), Two Tons of Steel, Jesse Dayton (10:00)

**COOL RIVER CAFE** Sprung

**COTTON CLUB** Johnny Lyon (8:30)

**DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters

**DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER** Daniel Llanes (8:00)

**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kris Kimura Quartet (8:00)

**EGO'S** Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Bourland, Rockland Eagles

**ELEPHANT ROOM** Django's Mustache, the Brew

**ELYSIUM CTRL**, Information Society

**EMO'S** Lounge: Paul Green School of Rock Black Sabbath Tribute, Shotgun Party, Dustin Welch, White Ghost Shivers; Inside: Red X Red M, Red Leaves, Two Ton BOA

**EVANGELINE CAFE** Nick Curran & the Attitudes

**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Subrosa Union, Boca Abajo, Felipe Galvan y Sus Skarnales

**FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE** Johnny Goudie & Taylor Davis (9:00)

**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Hilary York (9:00), Johann Wagner (10:30)

**FRIENDS** Andy Macintyre & the Primal Groove

Fri 1 8

**311 CLUB** Joe Valentine

**AGAVE** Randy Pavlock (7:30)

**ANTONE'S** Anagen, Bob Schneider (9:00)

**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Byrd & Street

**B.B. ROVERS** Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench (7:00)

**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Venson & Lee

**BALLET AUSTIN STUDIO** AMODA w/ Nathaniel Bartlett (8:00)

**BEAUTY BAR** Maneja Beto

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Friday 01.18.07 Doors 8:00, Show 10:00  
**FELIPE GALVAN Y SUS SKARNALES**  
**BOCA ABAJO & SUBROSA UNION**

Saturday 01.19.08 Doors 8:00, Show 8:30  
**MR. BROWN & DUBKIDS**  
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 w/ Thrash Funk Band; LITTLE BRIAN

Sunday 01.20.08 Doors 8:30, Show 8:30  
**WHAT TO SAY BOUT MLK**  
**GRIMY STYLES**  
 PPT (DALLAS) & ZEALE 32  
 with GERALD G, HOSTED BY MR. BLAKES

Monday 01.21.08 Doors 8:30, Show 8:30  
**ARI HOENIG & PUNK BOP**  
 (JAZZ DRUMMER - BROOKLYN)  
**SNARKY PUPPY**

**UPCOMING SHOWS:**  
 01.24: Damp Heat, Mousso! out!, Driest Like You Skoloff, Squidley  
 01.25/28: The Slicebars Join us For TWO Soulful Nights!  
 01.31: HMS Footherdy, Conary/W, The Scores, Rooster & The Kid  
 02.01: Sierra Leone's Refugees All Stars  
 02.02: Brakebreak's Going Away Show with Johnny Danger  
 02.06 - All Star Bee Morley Birthday Host Night

[WWW.FLAMINGOCANTINA.COM](http://WWW.FLAMINGOCANTINA.COM)  
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Fri Jan. 18th Coast Dracula's Weed Smuggling Jam Engine / Pataphysics 8:00pm - 2:00am

Sat. Jan 19th Karaoke Apocalypse 9:00pm  
 Austin Poetry Slam Wed. Jan. 23rd 8:00pm - 9:00pm

Mon. Jan. 21st Jen Leonhardt, Tba 8:00am - 9:00am

Tues. Jan. 22 The Prospectors 11:00pm - 12:00am

FULL BAR [WWW.EASTINNS.COM](http://WWW.EASTINNS.COM)

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THE FANCY, FORT WORTH COUNTRY

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**THU, JAN 17** **JESSE DAYTON** 9PM  
DANCE LESSONS 8-9PM

**FRI, JAN 18** **BRUCE ROBISON**

**SAT, JAN 19** **THE DERAILERS**

**TUE, JAN 22** **HARDCORE COUNTRY** WITH **ALVIN GROW** NO COVER

**WED, JAN 23** **LUCAS HUDGINS & 1<sup>ST</sup> COUSINS**

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# Dirty Dog Bar

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**MC Overlord**  
**Tray God**  
DJ Rapid Ric (solo)

Thursday 01/17  
**Robbie & The Robots**  
Wonderful Organization

Sunday 01/20  
**SHUT UP AND SING!**  
Acoustic Showcase

Tuesday 01/22  
**Manteca Beat**  
Tuesday Night Jazz Jam

Wednesday 01/23  
**Zak Perry, Craig Marshall**

Saturday 01/19  
**Diasporic**  
**Mojo**

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COME DISPLAY YOUR BIKES IN OUR BACKYARD & ENJOY DRINK SPECIALS ALL DAY & ALL NIGHT

**FRI 1/18** **AMERICAN GRAVEYARD** 8PM  
**PORTER DAVIS** 9:30PM  
**CAROLYN WONDERLAND** 11PM

**SAT 1/19** **DAVID JIMINEZ** 9PM  
**DERTY BIRDS** 11PM

**SUN 1/20** **FREE POKER** 5 & 8PM

**TUES 1/22** **KARNIVAL KADZU** WITH **MONTE MONTGOMERY, BRIAN LEE, JAMES SPEERS & PHIL BASS** 8PM

**WED 1/23** **OPEN MIC** WITH **ARMADILLO ACTION FIGURES** 8PM

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**FRIDAY JAN 18**  
**BOB SCHNEIDER** WITH ANAGEN  
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**SATURDAY JAN 19**  
**JASON ISBELL & THE 400 UNIT** WILL HOGE. W/ JEREMY FISHER  
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**SUNDAY JAN 20**  
**BRUCE SMITH & FRIENDS** DOORS 9 • SHOW 10

**MONDAY JAN 21**  
**T-BIRD & THE BREAKS** DOORS 6 • SHOW 7

**JAN 22: Blue Tuesday**  
WITH **DEREK • MALFORD** & SPECIAL GUEST

**WEDNESDAY JAN 23**  
**HONEYDRIPPER** SPECIAL TRIBUTE FEATURING  
WITH **GARY CLARK JR, PINETOP PERKINS, HUBERT SUMLIN, EDDIE SHAW**  
DOORS 7 • SHOW 8  
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**THURSDAY JAN 24**  
**CARLA CAMERON** CD RELEASE PARTY

**FRIDAY JAN 25**  
**THE GOURDS** OPENING: THE DEDRINGERS  
VIP TABLES AVAILABLE  
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**SATURDAY JAN 26**  
**SHARON JONES & THE DAP-KINGS** with the **IVAN MILEV BAND**  
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**COMING SOON**  
**THURSDAY FEB 14**  
"SHOT THROUGH THE HEART" BALL  
**SKYROCKET** (FORMERLY K-TEL HIT MACHINE) & MYSTERIOUS WAYS  
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**THURSDAY FEB 21**  
**NORTH MISSISSIPPI ALL STARS** WITH SPECIAL GUEST **ALVIN YOUNGBLOOD HART** KEEP THE DEVIL DOWN TOUR  
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**FRIDAY FEB 1ST**  
**DIRTY WORMZ** DOORS 9 • SHOW 10

**SATURDAY FEB 02**  
**GRUPO FANTASMA** MANEJA BETO  
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**MONDAY FEB 04**  
**GO GO'S** WITH FASTBALL  
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**THIRD THURSDAY REVOLUTION!**

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with

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mood technician for the evening will be

**DJ MINDSET**

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## IN THE CLUB

THU JAN 17  
AN EVENING WITH  
**COREY SMITH**

FRI JAN 18  
**BACKDOOR SLAM**  
WITH **ELECTRIC TOUCH**

SAT JAN 19  
**EXPERIMENTAL AIRCRAFT**  
WITH **RED MONROE**  
**A.U.X.** AND **CALHOUN**  
SUN JAN 20

GOSPEL BRUNCH WITH  
**THE SHIELDS OF FAITH**

TUE JAN 22  
**FIVE TIMES AUGUST**  
WITH **STEPHENS SPEAKS**

WED JAN 23  
**GRACE POTTER**  
AND **THE NOCTURNALS**  
WITH **BRANDIS HEARER**

THU JAN 24  
**SLEEPER STAR**  
WITH **THE MUSEUM**  
AND **ELIOT FITZGERALD**

FRI JAN 25  
**THE CENTURY**  
FORMERLY BLACK WATER GOSPEL  
WITH **THE LONELY H**  
AND **THE ALICE ROSE**

SAT JAN 26  
**COURSE OF RUIN**  
CD RELEASE PARTY  
WITH **WITHIN CHAOS**  
**ANGER KILL**  
AND **DEAD EARTH POLITICS**

WED JAN 30  
**JEFF KLEIN**  
WITH **ESKIMO JOE**

THU JAN 31  
**ADAM RAVEN**  
WITH **GRAHAM WILKINSON**  
AND **THE UNDERGROUND TOWNSHIP**  
AND **THE SNAFU KITTIES**  
INDOORS AFTER VELVET REVOLVER

SAT FEB 2  
**THE BOXING LESSON**  
WITH **THE MERCER**  
INDOORS AFTER ANGELS & AIRWAVES  
FREE WITH ANGELS & AIRWAVES TIX

FRI FEB 8  
**KEVIN DEVINE**  
WITH **THE NEW FRONTIERS**  
AND **JEALOUS GIRLFRIENDS**

SUN FEB 10  
**BAD FISH**  
A TRIBUTE TO SUBLIME  
WITH **SCOTTY DON'T**  
AND **FULL SERVICE**

THU JAN 31

EXILED FROM JAPAN, RCA RECORDING ARTISTS...  
**VELVET REVOLVER**

TIX ON SALE NOW THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

FRI FEB 1

**FLOGGING MOLLY**  
4TH ANNUAL COUNTDOWN TO ST. PATRICK'S DAY  
**GREEN 17 TOUR**

WITH SPECIAL GUESTS  
KID ROCK  
FLOAT  
RETIRED ANGEL

TIX ON SALE NOW THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

SAT FEB 2

**AAA**  
ANGELS & AIRWAVES

SPECIAL GUESTS  
**MEG & DIA**  
**COLOR FRED**

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SAT FEB 23

**LOVE**  
& SPECIAL SAUCE  
WITH **TRISTAN PRETTYMAN**

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FRI FEB 29

FAT TOUR 2008  
**NOFX**  
NO USE FOR A NAME  
OF AT INERS

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SAT MAR 1

**CITIZEN COPE**

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SUN MAR 2

**BUILT TO SPILL**

WITH **MEAT PUPPETS**  
AND **HELVETIA**

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MON MAR 3

myspace music tour  
**Justice**  
with **MEHDI**

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WED MAR 5

**THEY MIGHT BE GIANTS**

with **Oppenheimer**

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THU MAR 6

**Dropkick Murphys**

THE MEANEST OF TIMES

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F MAR 29

**Ler Claypool**

TIX ON SALE SAT 1/19 @ 10AM THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

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603 RED RIVER

THURSDAY, JANUARY 17

LOUNGE: **MICE AND RIFLES**  
LEATHERBAG • FRANK SMITH  
INSIDE: **FRONTIER BROTHERS** • **ABBY BIRDS**  
CHRIS MCFARLAND • TED HADJI AND THE WHOLLY GHOSTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 18

INSIDE: **RED LEAVES** • **RED X RED M**  
**MONSTER SLEEPS QUIET** • **PELIT**

EARLY IN THE LOUNGE: 7PM:  
**PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK**

LOUNGE: **WHITE GHOST SHIVERS**  
DUSTIN WELCH • SHOTGUN PARTY

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19

INSIDE: **CRIMINAL DAMAGE**  
(MEMBERS OF TRAGEDY)  
THE MARKED MEN • THE HEX DISPENSERS  
DESKONOCIDOS

OUTSIDE: **LES SAVY FAV**

FATAL FLYING GUILLOTEENS • ATTACK FORMATION

EARLY IN THE LOUNGE: 7PM:  
**PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK**

LOUNGE: **SHARON TATE'S BABY** • **RED LIGHT LOVE**  
SAY HELLO TO THE ANGELS • TBA

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20

INSIDE: **NASHVILLE PUSSY**  
GRADY • BLACK EARTH

MONDAY, JANUARY 21

LOUNGE: **EUGENE ROBINSON**  
(SINGER OF OXBOW) **SPOKEN WORD**  
ANTHONY ROMERO • LOREN DENT

INSIDE: **HOWL** • **ST. JUDE**  
THE ROLLER • CANYON OF THE SKULL

TUESDAY, JANUARY 22

INSIDE: **YEASAYER** • **MGMT** • **THE LAUGHING**  
OUTSIDE:  
HOT 93.3 PRESENTS  
**LUPE FIASCO**  
LOUNGE: 9PM: **WINTER FULL MOON PARTY**  
**VIET MINH** (MEMBERS OF THE BLACK ANGELS)  
**STRANGE BOYS** • **RINGO DEATHSTARR**  
**DAZZLING KING SOLOMON**

**COMING SOON:** 2/1 **BEDOUIN SOUNDCLASH**, **WESTBOUND TRAIN**, **BEAT UNION** (IN, ON SALE NOW) • 2/5 **ZOROASTER** / **SOURVEIN** / **THE ROLLER** • 2/8 **ZYKOS** / **ZOOKEEPER** / **ALEX DUPREE** & **THE TRAPDOOR BAND** / **FRANK SMITH** • 2/10 **BLACK MOUNTAIN**, **DEAD MEADOW**, **BLOOD ON THE WALL** (OUT, ON SALE NOW) • 2/14 **SHERWOOD**, **THE MATCHES**, **THE HIGHER**, **WE SHOT THE MOON** (IN, ON SALE NOW) • 2/16 **METEORS** • 2/22 **COBRA STARSHIP**, **METRO STATION**, **WE THE KINGS**, **THE CAB** (MOVED OUTSIDE, ON SALE NOW) • 2/23 **AIDEN** • 2/23 **BLACK LIPS**, **WHITE DENIM** AND **THE STRANGE BOYS** (OUT, ON SALE NOW) • 3/4 **THE BLACK SWANS** • 3/7 **BEACH HOUSE**, **PAPERCUTS** (LOUNGE, ON SALE NOW) • 3/8 **SILVERSTEIN**, **THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA** • 3/17 **ACID MOTHERS TEMPLE** (IN, ON SALE NOW) • 3/27 **THE DIRTBOMBS**, **KELLEY STOLTZ** (IN, ON SALE NOW) • 3/29 **YELLOWCARD** / **SECONDHAND SERENADE**, **PLAYRADIOPLAY!** AND **TREAT OF PARIS** (OUT, ON SALE 2/2) • 4/4 **RJD2** (OUT, ON SALE NOW) • 4/27 **CARIBOU**, **FUCK BUTTONS** (OUT, ON SALE NOW) • 5/17 **NEW BOMB TURKS**, **QUADRAJETS** • 5/23 **CLINIC** (OUT, ON SALE NOW)

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 24

LOUNGE: **SWISS** (90'S COVER BAND)  
DJ **HONEYCOMB** & DJ **FUCKIN' A**  
INSIDE: **THE STONES WE THROW**  
PROM NITE • SECULAR END  
WALKINGWITHAGHOST

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

INSIDE: **SOLE**  
**TELEPHONE JIM JESUS**  
CAPILLARY ACTION • DANIEL FRANCIS DOYLE

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26

INSIDE: **PEEL** • **DRUG RUG**  
**FRANK SMITH** • **DANS LA LUNE**

TUESDAY, JANUARY 29

INSIDE: **SILENT LAND TIME MACHINE**  
**TINY TIN HEARTS** • **HEY LA LA**

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 30

LOUNGE: **FIREKILLS**  
**SAY HELLO TO THE ANGELS**  
**WHITMAN** (HOMEGROWN 101X)

THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

OUTSIDE: **WHITE WILLIAMS**  
**RINGS** • **CRY BLOOD APACHE**

COMING SOON:

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 2

OUTSIDE:  
**SUPER FURRY ANIMALS**  
**HOLY FUCK**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

OUTSIDE,  
DOORS @ 9PM:  
101X PRESENTS  
**THE BRAVITY**  
**SWITCHES**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

INSIDE: **BONDE DO ROLE**  
**DEATH SET**

THURSDAY, MAY 15 - SUNDAY, MAY 18

**Chaos**  
in Tejas

club listings ◀◀ FROM SATURDAY

**COPA BAR & GRILL** Salsa Lesson w/ Cesar & Rhonda, DJ Alvaro (9:00)  
**COTTON CLUB** People's Choice (9:00)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Austin Homegrown **DOUGHERTY ARTS CENTER** Daniel Llanes (8:00)  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kat Edmonson (8:00)  
**EGO'S** R.G. Stark, Pete McPherson, James Rider & the 4:20 Turnaround  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Ephraim Owens Quintet (9:30)  
**ELYSIUM** Haven w/ DJ Void, the Gothfather (10:30)  
**EMO'S** Lounge: Paul Green School of Rock Music, Say Hello to the Angels, Red Light Love, Sharon Tate's Baby; Outside: Attack Formation, Fatal Flying Guilloteens, Les Savy Fav; Inside: Deskonocidos, Hex Dispensers, Marked Men, Criminal Damage  
**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH** Burns Night w/ Capitol City Pipes & Drums (7:00)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Little Brian, Full Service, Mr. Brown & DubKids  
**FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE** Chris Masterson & Andrew DuPlantis (9:00)  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Daniel Cioper (9:00)  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Amber Digby (9:00)  
**GRUENE HALL** Cary Swinney (1:00), Austin Collins, Two Tons of Steel (9:00)  
**HANOVER'S** David Jimenez, Dertybird (9:00)  
**HEADHUNTERS** The Dementers, Pickled Punks, Flamin' Hellcats  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Simone Wensink & the Austin Undutchables (6:30)  
**HILL'S CAFE** Weldon Henson (7:30)  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Possessed by Paul James, Scott H. Biram (10:00)  
**JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA** Colin Swietek (8:00)  
**JOVITA'S** Ouch!, the Eggmen (6:00)  
**LA PALAPA** Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)

**LAMBERTS** Marshall Ford Swing Band (6:30), DJ Starsign (10:30)  
**LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR** Unnamed Band  
**LOUIE'S 106** Mac Bynum (6:30)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Wesley Lunsford (9:00)  
**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Flametrick Subs  
**MAGGIE MAE'S** Rick Harvey's Blues Happy Hour (6:00)  
**MAMA FU'S TRIANGLE** Grand Opening w/ Kelly Willis  
**MEOU** Kenny Luna (9:00)  
**MOHAWK** Radar Radar, Mandible, Moonlight Towers  
**MOMO'S** The Steps, La Tampiqueña, Band of Heathens DVD Release (8:00)  
**MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB** Playin' With Syxx  
**NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Quincy Harper  
**THE OAKS** Eastside Hayride Open Mic  
**ONE 2 ONE BAR** Derrick Davis (10:00)  
**THE OPERA HOUSE** Noise Show w/ Financial Solutions, Dromez, Aunt's Analog, Goat (7:30)  
**THE PARISH** Brothers & Sisters, Strange Attractors, Golden Boys, Ripe  
**THE PARLOR** The Islands & the Sea, Espera, Honey Thief  
**PLUSH** Table Manners Crew (10:00)  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Imbibe, Mary Cutrufello  
**RED 7** Faith healer, High Cost of Living, Baron Grod, the Dead See, Pack of Wolves  
**RED EYED FLY** Bankrupt & the Borrowers, Matches for Memories, Naked Empire, Oak Is Keeping, Bright Light Social Hour  
**RED FEZ** I Need More Cowbell, DJ Kury (8:00)  
**RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Jason Arnold & the Stepdipers  
**ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN** Kirk Hale (6:30)  
**ROOM 710** Confused Little Girl, Splithoof, A Thousand Knives of Fire, Super Heavy Goat Ass  
**SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER** Church of the Friendly Ghost Night w/ Venison Whirled, 7-Inch Stitch, X=X, Book of Shadows, ST 37

**SAXON PUB** Carolyn Wonderland, Driver, George Devore (8:00)  
**SCHOLZ GARTEN** Uncle Lucius, El Sancho (9:00)  
**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** The Max  
**SPEAKEASY** Fondue Monks (9:30)  
**STARDUST CLUB** K'Cee Edwards (10:00)  
**STUBB'S** Calhoun, AUX, Red Monroe, Experimental Aircraft  
**SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE** The Brew (8:00)  
**TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL** Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Hor, Ruins of Honor, Ethereal Architect, Enemy of Mankind  
**TROPHY'S** Mr. & Mrs. Mays, Dirty Hearts, Passed Out Flyers  
**VICTORY GRILL** Three Sounds (7:00), Bachelor & Bachelorette Sugar & Spice Auction, Austin Resource Center for the Homeless w/ MC Brown Sugar (7:00)  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Bob Cheevers (7:00)  
**WHITE SWAN LOUNGE** Movin' Melvin Brown, Foot Patrol

Sun 20

**ANTONE'S** Bruce Smith (10:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Bert Rivera  
**AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735** Joe Gee (9:00)  
**B.B. ROVERS** Open Mic w/ Bourland, Josef (7:00)  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Irish Tune Session (8:00)  
**BEAUTY BAR** Eagle Claw, Scorpion Child, Toko-Ri Get High  
**BEERLAND** Little Bicycles, the Fall Collection, Good Times Crisis Band, Ume, the Snake Trap, Jest of Yore  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega  
**'BOUT TIME** Karaoke w/ Clayton Adams  
**THE CANARY ROOST** Karaoke w/ Brian  
**CENTRAL MARKET NORTH** Djembabes (12:30)  
**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Marc Devine Trio w/ Denia Ridley (12:30)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (10:00); In the Club: Heyba! (8:00)



Volunteers earn perks to attend SXSW

Sign up now at [www.sxsw.com/volunteer](http://www.sxsw.com/volunteer) and attend the 2008 Volunteer Call.

Email [vol@sxsw.com](mailto:vol@sxsw.com) for more info.

SXSW Volunteer Call

Sunday, January 20th

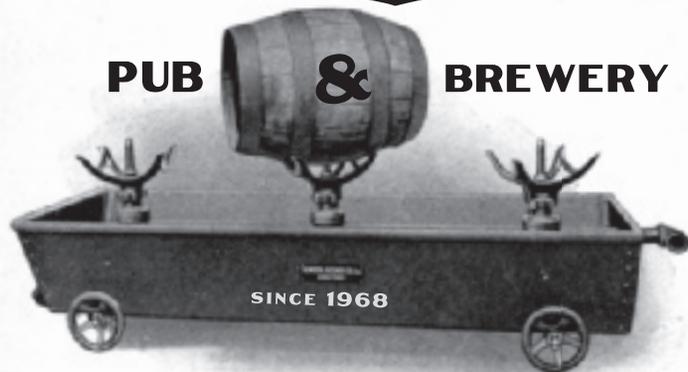
Hilton Hotel, 500 E 4th St

Austin Grand Ballroom, 6th Floor

3:30-5:30pm

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SAT 1/19 **THE STEPSIDERS**  
SUN 1/20 **OPEN MIC w/ GLENN ALLAN**  
MON 1/21 **FREE POOL AND JUKE BOX**  
TUE 1/22 **SHAWN LINE**  
WED 1/23 **ERIC HISAW**

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THURSDAY, JAN 17 **LUCASCOOKUS**  
9:30PM

FRIDAY, JAN 18 **DYSFUNKSHUN**  
**JUNKSHUN** 9:30PM

SATURDAY, JAN 19 **FONDUE MONKS**  
9:30PM

MONDAY, JAN 21 **S.I.N.**  
**JONATHAN TERRELL**  
ON TERRACE 59

TUESDAY, JAN 22 **BLACKTOOTH**

WEDNESDAY, JAN 23 **LATIN WEDNESDAY**  
**O'POSITIVO** 9:30PM  
**SALSA LESSONS** 9PM

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**THURSDAY**  
Twilight Broadcast 8:00-10:00  
The Weekend Warm-Up featuring DJ Manny 10:00-2:00

**FRIDAY**  
DJ In/Verse 10:00-2:00

**SATURDAY**  
DJ Kurv 10:00-2:00

**SUNDAY**  
DJ Kurupt 10:00-2:00

**MONDAY**  
DJ Jeff Jupiter 10:00-2:00

**TUESDAY**  
Bruce James Quartet 8:00-10:00  
Twist Up w/DJ Manny 10:00-2:00

**WEDNESDAY**  
Atash 9:00-12:00

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Visit us at MySpace.com/redfezaustin and become a friend.  
Check out DJ updates, event listings and photos.





**8106 BRODIE LANE • 282-2586**  
**THURSDAY JANUARY 17 • 7PM**  
**GEORGE ENSLE**  
**FRIDAY JANUARY 18 • 10PM**  
**NICK CURRAN**  
**& THE ATTITUDES**  
**MONDAY JANUARY 21 • 6:30PM**  
**CHARLES THIBODEAUX**  
**TUESDAY JANUARY 22**  
**BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM**  
**KEVIN GALLAUGHER & GREG ANDERSON 8PM**  
**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23 • 7PM**  
**PAUL GLASS & MITCH WATKINS**

**AUSTIN DAZE**  
**PRESENTS**  
**Ruta Maya**  
**WEEKENDS**

**THURS 1/17**  
**CLEAN WATER ACTION & CLEAN**  
**PRESENT THE FILM 6-9PM**  
**THE CHINA SYNDROME**  
ON PROPOSED EXPANSION OF NUCLEAR POWER IN TEXAS. NO COVER. DONATIONS ACCEPTED  
**9:30 TOAST JAM SANDWICH W/SPANK**

**FRI 1/18**  
**6PM IDGY VAUGHN**  
**MCPULLISH AND**  
**9:30 JUDGE TRIBAL**  
**NATION**

**SAT 1/19**  
**6PM YOUTH POETRY SLAM**  
**NICK D PRESENTS**  
**9:30PM-2:00AM**  
**THE 512 PART IV**  
**IN THE 78704**

[www.myspace.com/rutamayaweekends](http://www.myspace.com/rutamayaweekends)  
 3601 S. Congress, Suite D 200, Penn Field, South Austin,  
 (Behind Expose), 512-707-9637, [Rutamaya.net](http://Rutamaya.net) for details

**Ruta Maya**

**FREE KIDS SHOW 10:30 AM EVERY SUNDAY**  
**Spanish Music & Poetry**  
**Cafe Con Letras**  
**7 PM No Cover!**

**SUN 1/20**  
**7 PM MLK B-Day Bash**  
**Music & Poetry**  
**Special Guests**

**TUESDAYS ARE OPEN MIKE - NO COVER!**  
**6 PM Poetry Open Mic**  
**9 PM Music Open Mic**  
**8 PM Poetry Karaoke on Porch**

**TUE 1/22**  
**WED 1/23**  
**CUBAN DANCE NIGHT**  
**FREE Salsa Lesson 7:30 PM**  
**Live Salsa 9 PM with CIENFUEGOS**

**Fresh Organic Coffee!**  
**FREE YOGA - Check Online Calendar**

**No Bad Days**



**Thursday, January 17**  
**DAVID OLNEY**  
**SERGIO WEBB OPENER**

**Friday, January 18**  
**SHELLEY KING**  
**AARON NAVARRO OPENER**

**Saturday, January 19**  
**MARY CUTRUFELLO**  
**IMBIBE OPENER**

**Thursday, January 24**  
**STOP THE TRUCK**

**Friday, January 25**  
**GUY FORSYTH**  
**RARE DOG OPENER**

**Mondays**  
**RU COLEMAN**  
**& TEXAS BOOGIE**  
**BLUES**

**Tuesdays**  
**THE TROUBADILLOS**

**Wednesdays**  
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**club listings ◀◀ FROM SUNDAY**

**COTTON CLUB** Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)  
**EGO'S** Horse Operas, Robert Banta  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Chicken Strut (9:30)  
**ELYSIUM** Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice  
**EMO'S** Black Earth, Grady, Nashville Pussy  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Gerald G, Zeale 32, Grimy Styles, PPT  
**FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE** Andrea Campise (8:00)  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** The Djaltones (8:00)  
**FRIENDS** Open Mic Blues Jam (8:00)  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Dale Watson (4:00)  
**GREEN PASTURES** Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)  
**GRUENE HALL** Nathan Hamilton (noon), Larry Lange & His Lonely Knights (4:00)  
**HEADHUNTERS** Call the Paramedics  
**HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE** Danny Fast Fingers (noon)  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Austin Sketch Group (1:30)  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Jacob Borchard, Spirit of Space, Pillow Queens, Ccanopy  
**HOMER'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Brian  
**JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA** Kinkt4 (11:00am)  
**JOVITA'S** Kalua, Frenetica (6:00)  
**LA ZONA ROSA** Texas Observer Benefit w/ South Austin Jug Band, Jimmy LaFave (7:00)  
**LAMBERTS** Ephraim Owens, Brannen Temple, Red Young (6:30)  
**LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR** Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:30)  
**LOUIE'S 106** Angelo Lambesis (6:30)  
**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Mic Jonez, Quickwidit  
**MANUEL'S** Boomer Norman (11:30am)  
**MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL** S.I.N.S. w/ DJ Tetsuo (9:00)

**MOHAWK** The Tunnels, Cristian Bland, Dead Confederate  
**MOMO'S** Michael Dart, Belleville Outfit, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums, Marshall Ford Swing Band  
**MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB** Strong Medicine (noon)  
**NUOVO LEON** Mariachi Relampago (1:00)  
**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:30)  
**NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Java Jazz (11:00am)  
**THE OASIS** The Brew  
**THE PARLOR** The Public, Klier  
**RACK DADDY'S** Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)  
**RAIN ON 4TH** Hedda Layne (6:00)  
**RED FEZ** DJ Kurupt (10:00)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen  
**ROADHOUSE RAGS** 3 Balls of Fire (4:00)  
**ROMEO'S** Rob Greenfield  
**ROOM 710** The Bread, Condemned Unit, More Fire, Sweet Daddy, Krayons  
**RUTA MAYA** One-Eyed Doll (10:00)  
**SAXON PUB** The Resentments, Mike Milligan, Leeann Atherton  
**SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Billy D  
**STUBB'S** Brunch w/ the Shields of Faith (noon)  
**TEXAS BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Michelle  
**THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Rockin' Gospel Project (11:00am)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds  
**TROPHY'S** Azoustin  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra

**Mon 21**

**ANTONE'S** T-Bird & the Breaks (7:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)  
**AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735** Rhino Room (9:00)  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Walter Higgs & the Shuffle Pigs  
**BEAUTY BAR** The Soldier Thread, Ghost of the Russian Empire

**THE BELMONT** Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings (6:30)  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Upstairs: Aaron Navarro, Ben Burgess  
**'BOUT TIME** Karaoke w/ Clayton Adams  
**CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO** Rich Demarco (6:30)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Crybear (10:00); In the Club: Paris 49, Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (6:30)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Chris Gage  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)  
**EGO'S** Open Stage w/ Robert Banta  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Jazz Jam w/ Freddie Mendoza (9:30)  
**EMO'S** Lounge: Loren Dent, Eugene Robinson, Anthony Romero; Inside: Canyon of the Skull, St. Jude, Howl, the Roller  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** Charles Thibodeaux (6:30)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Snarky Puppy, Ari Hoenig Trio  
**FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T.** Jarrod Bonta (8:00)  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Johnny Apparatus, Vanessa Lively (8:00)  
**GUERO'S TACO BAR** Trio Indiano (6:30)  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Open Mic Poetry & Reading  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Basic, Cavedweller, the Hunnies  
**HOMER'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Brian  
**HUSTON-TILLOTSON UNIVERSITY** Martin Luther King Day Cultural Festival w/ Malford Milligan, Les & the Funk Mob, Ghandiaia (3:00)  
**LA PALAPA** Baby Dallas  
**LOUIE'S 106** Mac Bynum (6:30)  
**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Robbie's Open Mic  
**MOMO'S** Jon Napier, Bukka Allen, Dustin Welch (7:00)  
**NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:30)  
**THE OPERA HOUSE** Aunt's Analog, Daniel Francis Doyle (8:00)  
**THE PARLOR** Foamy, the Djaltones  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Ru Coleman & Texas Boogie  
**RABBIT'S LOUNGE** Blue Monday w/ Willie Sampson (8:00)  
**RED EYED FLY** Free the Jena 6 CD Release, Dunbar Village Victims Benefit



**OPEN CALL FOR SXSW 2008 CASHIERS**

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 20**  
 Hilton Hotel Downtown, Room 404 (5-6pm)

*We need paid cashiers to work at venues during the SXSW Music Festival (March 12-15). Please bring a resume and a photo ID with you to the open call. Get paid, hear music and have fun at SXSW this year!*

For more information, visit  
<http://2008.sxsw.com/cashiers/>  
 or email [tami@sxsw.com](mailto:tami@sxsw.com)

# T.U.B.

TEXAS UNLIMITED BAND



FRIDAY 9:30

# LC ROCKS

SATURDAY 9:30

|        | HAPPY HOUR 6-8              | HEADLINERS 9:30                       |
|--------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| THU 17 | KENT MAYHEW                 | <b>RADIOSTAR</b>                      |
| FRI 18 | SHAWN & PHIL                | <b>T.U.B.</b><br>texas unlimited band |
| SAT 19 |                             | <b>LC ROCKS</b>                       |
| SUN 20 |                             | <b>TBA</b>                            |
| MON 21 | HIGHLY LIKELY               | <b>THE ACTIVATES</b>                  |
| TUE 22 | <b>closed TO THE PUBLIC</b> |                                       |
| WED 23 | TRENT DAVE                  | <b>SPAZMATICS</b>                     |



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- Sat 1/19 Bob Cheeves
- Tue 1/22 Ruby Jane
- Wed 1/23 Ptarmigan

All shows are 7-9pm

# WATERLOO Ice House

# Saxon Pub

1320 S Lamar www.thesaxonpub.com 448-2552

**CAROLYN WONDERLAND**  
8:00  
GEORGE DEVORE 10:15  
GORDY QUIST 11:30  
12:15  
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with **BO PORTER**  
THURSDAY JAN. 17

**SUNNY SWEENEY**  
11:30 \$10  
CORB LUND 9:30 \$10  
BETTYSOO 8:00 \$10  
No Cover Happy Hour 6:00 every Friday with **The REGULARS**  
FRIDAY JAN. 18

**GEORGE DEVORE**  
12:00 \$10  
**CAROLYN WONDERLAND**  
8:00  
**DRIVER**  
10:30 \$10  
SATURDAY JAN. 19

**THE RESENTMENTS**  
7:00 \$7 cover  
THE SALINGERS 12:00  
MIKE MILLIGAN & THE ALTAR BOYZ 10:15  
SUNDAY JAN. 20

**BOB SCHNEIDER'S LONELYLAND**  
8:30 \$10  
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN 7:00 \$10  
ANAGEN 10:30 \$5  
NATHAN BRYCE & LOADED DICE 12:30 \$5  
MONDAY JAN. 21

**BRUCE HUGHES** \$5 10:00  
8:00 SUNNY SWEENEY  
12:00 DEADLY VIPERASSASSINS  
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with **Julieann Banks**  
TUESDAY JAN. 22

**monte montgomery**  
10:00 \$10+  
**PAULA NELSON**  
8:00 \$5  
**MEGAN TUBB**  
12:00 \$5  
No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with **BO PORTER**  
WEDNESDAY JAN. 23

Coming soon to the Saxon Pub:  
JAN 25 - GUY FORSYTH & LISA HAYES  
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NO COVER • FREE SHOWS

THU, JAN 17, 8PM



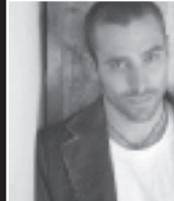
THE RETURN OF HAPPY HOUR FEATURING THE 'LEGENDARY' **IAN MCLAGAN** & THE BUMP BAND

10PM



LATER: **JJ USHER**

FRI, JAN 18, 9PM



**NANO** AND THE AFTERNOON

SAT, JAN 19, 9PM



**WESLEY LUNSFORD**

TUE, JAN 22, 10PM



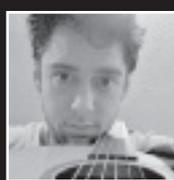
DJ RAPID RIC OPENS FOR \*\*\*\*\*The Incomparable\*\*\*\*\* **BOOMBOX**

WED, JAN 23, 10PM



**WILL EVANS PROJECT**

THU, JAN 24, 10PM



**DERRICK DAVIS**

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**THURSDAY JANUARY 17 / \$5**

**JEFF PLANKENHORN** 8  
**BUKKA ALLEN** 9:45  
**THE 71'S** 11:15  
BLUEPRINT REBELLION 12:45  
GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS 6:30

**FRIDAY JANUARY 18**

**GINGER LEIGH** 10:30  
**SKYBLUE 72** 12:15  
**FREDDIE STEADY 5** 8  
**TARA GRAHAM** FREE HAPPY HR 6-7:30PM

**SATURDAY JANUARY 19 / \$10**

**THE Band of Heathens** DVD RELEASE  
10  
**LA TAMPIQUENA** 11:45  
**THE STEPS** 8

**SUNDAY JANUARY 20**

**WARREN HOOD** & THE HOODLUMS 9:30-12  
**MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND** 12:15  
**BELLEVILLE OUTFIT** 8  
**MICHAEL DART** 6:30

**MONDAY JANUARY 21**

**DUSTIN WELCH** & THE HOUSE BAND 10:15  
**JEFF PLANKENHORN** 11:45  
**BUKKA ALLEN** 9  
**CANDILAND** 8  
**JON NAPIER** & **MICHAEL HILL** HAPPY HR 5:30

**TUESDAY JANUARY 22**

**BRANDON JENKINS** 12  
**CHARLIE FAYE** 10:45  
**DANA FALCONBERRY** 9:30  
**LA TAMPIQUENA** 8  
**JOSH HALVERSON** & **ONE WOLF** HAPPY HR 5:45

**WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23 / \$5**

**DAN DYER** 9:30  
**JEREMY NAIL** 10:45  
**OWEN TEMPLE** 8  
**TARA GRAHAM** 7

**UPCOMING SHOWS**

**JAMES McMURTRY** FEB 2  
TICKETS ON SALE AT [WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM](http://WWW.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM)

club listings << FROM MONDAY

**RED FEZ** DJ Jeff Jupiter (10:00)  
**ROOM 710** Heart & Soul Sound System (8:00)  
**SAM'S TOWN POINT** Breck's Stormy Open Blues Jam (8:30)  
**SAXON PUB** Matt the Electrician, Bob Schneider, Shelley King, Ted Hadji (7:00)  
**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** Brent Wood  
**SPEAKEASY** Jonathan Terrell  
**THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Lee Duffy, Joe Manuel, Warren Hood, Floyd Domino, Marvin Dykhuis (8:00)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Molly Hayes (6:00)

**ELEPHANT ROOM** Stanley Smith, Tony Campise's Birthday Show (6:00)  
**ELYSIUM** 90's Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus  
**EMO'S** Inside: MGMT, Yeasayer, the Laughing; Outside: Optimus & Sessions, Lupe Fiasco; Lounge: Full Moon Party w/ Dazzling King Solomon, Ringo Deathstarr, Strange Boys, Viet Minh  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** Brennen Leigh, Kevin Gallagher, Greg Anderson (6:00)  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)  
**FRIENDS** Erin Jaimes & Her Bad Habits (7:30)  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Roots Day w/ Barfield, the Tyrant (9:00)  
**GUERO'S TACO BAR** Trio Indiano (6:30)  
**HANOVER'S** Kudzu Carnival, Soul Kitchen, Station, Diasporic  
**HEADHUNTERS** Daemnon Fly, Vermicious Canids  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE** Singer/Songwriter Open Mic Night w/ Chase Holbrook (8:00)  
**HILL'S CAFE** Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bill Rice  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** The Bread (10:00)  
**HOMER'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke w/ Brian  
**JOVITA'S** Jodi Adair, Doug Warriner (6:00)  
**LAMBERTS** Jitterbug Vipers (6:30)  
**LOUIE'S 106** Mac Bynum (6:30)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** DJ Rapid Ric, Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa (10:00)  
**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Longfall  
**MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL** Piano Bar w/ Mikey & Joe  
**MOMO'S** One Wolf, Josh Halverson, La Tampiquena, Charlie Faye, Dana Falconberry, Brandon Jenkins  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Troubadillos  
**RED 7** The Funeral March, Fire From the Gods, Cobretti, Carry the Torch  
**RED EYED FLY** Don Turnley, Zenith Fuzzbomb, Next of Sin  
**RED FEZ** Bruce James Quartet, Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)

**RILEY'S TAVERN** Shawn Line, Dance Lessons w/ L'I Bit & the Customatics  
**ROOM 710** Montoya, Rage Against the Doo  
**RUTA MAYA** Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00)  
**SAM'S TOWN POINT** Open Mic w/ Dewey Lyon & the Heathers (9:00)  
**SAXON PUB** Julieann Banks, Sunny Sweeney, Bruce Hughes, Deadly Viper Assassins  
**SCOOT INN AND BIER GARTEN** Hilary York, Aimee Bobruk (8:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Rae Rae  
**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB & GRILL** Chris Cruz  
**STUBB'S** Stephen Speaks, Five Times August  
**THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Stephen Doster, Will Sexton, Bill Carter (8:00)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Bill Jerram, Leo Rondeau, Shotgun Party, Lonesome Heroes  
**TROPHY'S** Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Ruby Jane Smith (7:00)  
**WATERLOO RECORDS** Lupe Fiasco Autograph Signing (5:00)  
**Z'TEJAS** Kris Kimura Quartet (6:00)

## Tue 2 2

**ANTONE'S** Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan (11:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)  
**B.B. ROVERS** Buster Gutbucket (7:00)  
**BASTROP SENIOR CENTER** The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)  
**BEAUTY BAR** Black Market Revival  
**BEERLAND** Comanche Abortion  
**THE BELMONT** Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (7:00)  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Hardcore Country w/ Alvin Crow, James M. White, Chaparral w/ Jeff Hughes (8:00)  
**CACTUS CAFE** George Harrison Tribute w/ Sick's Pack, Michael Shay, Libby Kirkpatrick, Danny Dolinger, Molly Venter, Slim Richey (7:30)  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Rhino Room  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Ephraim Owens Experience (10:00); In the Club: Casper Rawls' Planet Casper w/ David Grissom, Warren Hood (6:30); Honeydripper Premiere Afterparty w/ Gary Clark Jr., Eddie Shaw (12mid)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Donn & the Station Masters  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)  
**EGO'S** Kevin Sekhani, James Bullard, Billy Dee

## Wed 2 3

**219 WEST** Breezy (7:00)  
**311 CLUB** Stephanie Bradley  
**ANTONE'S** Honeydripper Premiere Party w/ Eddie Shaw, Pinetop Perkins, Hubert Sumlin, Gary Clark Jr. (8:00)  
**APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL** Marty Linville  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland (7:30)  
**AUSTIN'S PIZZA** Natalie Zoe Jazz Trio (8:00)  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Hosea Hargrove & the Roadrunners  
**BABY ACAPULCO'S NO. 5** Singer-Songwriter Open Mic w/ Jimi Lee  
**BEERLAND** Billy Steve Korpi Benefit, Van Halen Hoot w/ My Education, Mandible, Shirt, DFI  
**THE BELMONT** Mr. Fabulous & Casino Royale (7:00)

[www.CopaBarAndGrill.com](http://www.CopaBarAndGrill.com)

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <b>SALSA DANCE LESSONS</b><br>WED & THUR - 8PM<br>FRI & SAT - 9PM               |
|  | <b>LIVE SALSA MUSIC</b><br><b>THE BREW</b><br>THURSDAYS 9PM                     |
|  | <b>AUSTIN SALSA EXTRAVAGANZA 2008</b><br>SALSADALLAS.COM<br>01/18 & 01/19 - 9PM |
|  | <b>LIVE AFRICAN MUSIC</b><br><b>RATTLETREE MARIMBA</b><br>01/26 - 10:30PM       |

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606 east 7th st.  fri-sat 5pm  
sun-thur 7pm

## CREEKSIDE LOUNGE

monday movies 8pm ★ tues guitar hero 10pm  
free live music wed & thur ★ wii & pinball machines  
happy hour daily till 9pm & all night thursday

schedule & event listings at [thecreeksidelounge.com](http://thecreeksidelounge.com)

ROOM 710 Red River St.  
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Your \$5 Rock House  
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Thu 1.17

**SABBATH CROW**  
**SWEET SKULL**  
**SNAKESKIN PRISON**  
**DOUG MORRISON**

Fri 1.18

**PONG HORSES**  
**HIGHER THAN WHY**  
7pm: Jo Nell & the Red Roosters

Sat 1.19

**SUPERHEAVY GOATASS**  
**A THOUSAND KNIVES OF FIRE**  
**SPLIT HOOF**  
**CONFUSED LITTLE GIRL**

Sun 1.20

**KRAYONS**  
**SWEET DADDY**  
**MORE FIRE**  
**CONDENMED UNIT**  
**THE BREAD**

Mon 1.21

**HEART & SOUL**  
**SOUND SYSTEM**  
**RAGE AGAINST THE DOO**  
**MONTROYA**

Wed 1.23

**BUS STOP STALLIONS**  
**THE DISTANT SECONDS**  
**BENKO**  
**DARK WATER HYMNAL**

**UPCOMING SHOWS**  
1.24 One Eye Dill, Adren & the Skivvies, N.S.R., Full Strike, 1.25 Oldforno, Whorehound, Death Hill Bitch Tank, Split Hoof, 1.26 The Link, Fishy Bay

# RED 7

611 E. 7TH STREET

**Thu 1/17** Buzzkillers, Under the Gun  
Murder Majesty, Expiration Unknown  
Heymaker 3, Given A Chance

**Fri 1/18** The Artillery, Cobretti, Warm Winter  
walkwithaghost, Death Got Killed

**Sat 1/19** Pack of Wolves, The Dead See  
Baron Grod, Faith healer  
The High Cost of Living

**Mon 1/21** Riot Like Words, School Boy Humor  
One Star Story, The News Can Wait, FMS

**Tue 1/22** Fire From The Gods, Cobretti  
Carry The Torch (Sacto HxC)  
The Funeral March, Destroying Infinity

**Thu 1/24** w/ **U.S. BOMBS**  
Orange, The Johns, Career Criminal  
Outside: Warwolf, The Network, The Cabaret

 **Beauty BAR**

**JAN**

17th Black&White Year w/ Dj Orion

18th Maneja Beto w/ Prince Klassen

19th Dj Mel w/ Dead Confederate  
show starts @ 9:30

20th Pasquale's B-Day w/ Toko-ri-get High / Scorpion Child / Eagle Claw

22nd Brown Out w/ (tour kick off party)  
Dj Chicken George

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[www.beautybar.com](http://www.beautybar.com) 512.391.1943



**BEER LAND TEXAS**

th 17 Jungle Rockers, South Filthy, Golden Boys

fr 18 M.O.T.O., Manikin, The Young

sa 19 Hotrod Hillbillies, Johnny Hootrock, Whiskey Throttle, Homer Henderson @9

su Australian Cattle Gods present- Zest of Yore, Snake Trap, Ume, Good Times Crisis Band, Fall Collection, Little Bicycles & \$5 bike repair by guerilla cyclewerx

mo 21 Karaoke @9pm- no cover

tu 22 No! Wire! Hangers!- comedy by Brendon Walsh, Lucas Molandes, Natalie Cox, Norman Wilkerson, Avi Hartman, & Comache Abortion

we 23 Van Halen Hoot Nite- DFI, Mandible, SHIRT, Go Screws, more!

th 24 Megazilla, Styrofoam Duck

fr 25 Chill Cold Blood, Possessed By Paul James, Bigfoot Chester, John Schooley, Ghostwriter @8pm

sa 26 The Black, Hacienda, and more

711 1/2 Red River 512-479-ROCK  
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# HEADHUNTERS

720 Red River [www.headhuntersclub.com](http://www.headhuntersclub.com) (512) 934-0188

THU 1/17 > THE LITTLE GENTLEMEN, YOURSELF AND THE AIR, ESE, KILLIN OUR OWN  
FRI 1/18 > DEVOLA, DIRTY PENNY, BUTCHTERWHITE, EDEH BURNING  
SAT 1/19 > THE FLAMING HELLCATS, SUBCULTURE SMASH PART 1, PICKLED PUNKS, THE DEMENTERS  
SUN 1/20 > CALL THE PARAMEDICS (Jersey)  
TUE 1/22 > YERMIOUS CANIDS, DAEMOON FLY, DAEMOON FLY  
WED 1/23 > JOE BUCKYOURSELF (HANK III Guitar Player), CHEIF FUZZER, CONVO!!!

THU 1/24 - GRINDING WHEELS, THE WAYHIGH MEN, SABBATH CROW, GOODMAN COUNTRY  
FRI 1/25 - BELIGERENT 86, THE 13TH VICTIM, BLOODMOON HOWLERS, EXILE, EXPIRATION UNKNOWN  
SAT 1/26 - BLACK NOYAS REUNION SHOW, POOR DUMB BASTARDS, SHIT CITY HIGH

PARTY CATERING : LIQUOUR & FOOD EVENTS (825-5600)



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THURSDAY JANUARY 17 **THE SKINNY**  
THE DARBY DRIVERS  
QUIET COMPANY  
HOMER NICCOLM & THE ROCKET BOYS

FRIDAY JANUARY 18 **8 SYSTEMS**  
SCRAPS OF LIFE  
LUCAS GRAVE EDEN  
TESTIMONY OF THE FALLEN

SATURDAY JANUARY 19 **THE BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR**  
DAK IS KEEPING NAKED EMPIRE  
MATCHES FOR MEMORIES  
BANKRUPT AND THE BORROWERS

SUNDAY JANUARY 20 **SHAWN PIKE**  
ALL GET OUT  
**PENNI KUATO**

MONDAY JANUARY 21 **ANY RANDOM SIX**  
THE BURNING CAMPION CRUISE  
DIASPORA  
KASH & KU KU  
AS LONG AS ONE-EYED DILL IN PORT

TUESDAY JANUARY 22 **NEXT OF SIN**  
ZENITH FUZZBOMB  
DON TURNLEY

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 23 **MERCY**  
DESERTS OF MARS  
SHADOW MINISTRY  
**TAUNTO**

THURSDAY JANUARY 24 **LABEL SIGNING PARTY**  
GOODNIGHT GODDESS  
**DRIVER F EXETER**

FRIDAY JANUARY 25 **ADRENALINE FACTOR**  
GENTLEMENS SOCIAL CLUB  
IN WATY CHICKENS  
RUBBERMONSTER  
**AXLE-WOLF**

SATURDAY JANUARY 26 **WAR AGAINST SLEEP**  
**SEAFLEA**  
BUILT BY SNOW  
WARM WINTER  
**THE EL GUAPOS**

**UPCOMING SHOWS**  
02-01 SIDES AND EGGS, THE ARS SUPERNOVA, BLUE HEAD  
02-02 NEW DISASTER, DINK, FOR SAKE OF THE REMAINS  
02-03 INSIDE MAGAZINE PRESENTS SEAN CLAYS BIRTHDAY BASH  
FEATURING LANGUAGE BOMB, ONE-EYED DILL  
02-04 LA GUNS PLAYING PHIL LEMMA & STEPPED BULLET  
02-05 THE AUSTIN MUSIC FOUNDATION PRESENTS

for private parties and info call: 512-474-1084

# ELYSIUM

705 RED RIVER ST.

Thursday • Jan. 17 **SPECIAL EVENT!**  
**METAL ASYLUM**  
80's Metal Night  
WITH DJs JIMMY & DONNA THE DEAD

Friday • Jan. 18 **LIVE MUSIC!**  
**INFORMATION SOCIETY**  
WITH CTRL

Saturday • Jan. 19 **HAVEN**  
goth, INDUSTRIAL, synthpop, & EURO DANCE  
HAVEN WITH DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER  
with special guest NAVICAT

Sunday • Jan. 20 **REGRESSION**  
RETRO 80's **RETRO 80's** RETRO 80's  
REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Monday • Jan. 21 **CLOSED**  
closed...rest for the wicked...

Tuesday • Jan. 22 **90'S NIGHT**  
So LAST CENTURY... 90's Night  
WITH DJs BOBA FETT & MINIMUS

Wednesday • Jan. 23 **MID-WAVE**  
UNDERGROUND retro & old school goth  
WITH DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & EDMINISTER

**UPCOMING EVENTS**  
Thurs. Jan. 24 • **PDA** - Indie, Electro, Britpop, New Wave, & Postpunk  
Friday Jan. 25 • **CYANIGHT** - Production Unit Xero/Dubnautica, Happy Panjoma, in-fin\_it, & DJ Klak  
Fri. Feb. 8 • **HANDSOME JOEL BENEFIT** - live music from Suplecs, Dixie Witch, Brewtality, Inc. & more

21+ only • doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified  
more detailed information available at:  
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# TRIPLE CROWN

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|       |  |
|-------|--|
| Th 17 | Joel Hofmann Band 6pm<br>Silver Pines, Clay Nightingale 9pm              |
| Fr 18 | Highly Likely 6pm<br>Kallisti Gold, Spank 9pm                            |
| Sa 19 | Enemy of Mankind, Ethereal Architect,<br>Ruins of Honor, Hor 9pm         |
| Su 20 | Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 8pm  |
| Mo 21 | Molly Hayes 6pm Smarty Pants - Trivia 8pm                                |
| Tu 22 | Bill Jerram 6pm<br>Lonesome Heroes, Shotgun Party,<br>Leo Rondeau 9pm    |
| We 23 | Erickson 6pm<br>King Slim Blues 9pm                                      |
| Th 24 | Phil Stevens 6pm<br>The Murdocks, Elephant Nightmare,<br>Melba Toast 9pm |
| Fr 25 | Zydeco Blanco 6pm<br>Green Mountain Grass 9pm                            |
| Sa 26 | Pocket Fishermen, Crown Dregs,<br>Moist Boys 10pm                        |

# THE PARISH ROOM

214 E. 6TH

Navdo Presents:  
**Future Clouds and Radar**  
w/The Boxing Lesson,  
The Breathers, & Hollywood Gossip

**BROTHERS & SISTERS**  
w/The Strange Attractors,  
Ripe, & The Golden Boys

**WAX ON WEDNESDAYS!**  
1/23: ADAN/EXCEED/DAVEED  
1/30: URSULA 1000  
w/DJ MEL & PRINCE KLASSEN  
2/6: SIR JACKSON/JOE/BASSJUNKIE

**ROGUE WAVE**  
w/ MIDNIGHT MOVIES

**Pharoahe Monch**  
w/ Orgone and DJ Eleven

**CAMERON RD BREWER NATION** 9PM

**JETS UNDER FIRE** 10PM

**DAVID LEE** 6PM  
**LC ROCKS** 10PM

**TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER**  
4:30 & 7:30PM NO ENTRY FEE  
\$200 CASH PRIZE  
LITANY FOR THE DEPARTED 9pm  
EMBER 10pm  
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27: JABARVY GRIMYSTYLES MOVING  
MATTER: ODOS 29: REIVERS  
REUNION (SOLD OUT) - SECOND SHOW  
ADDED 2:10 2:14: BURLESQUE OVER  
BROADWAY 2:15: GOVINDA CARMEN RIZZO  
2:20: DJ MELIAN ORTH PRINCE KLASSEN  
2:21: KANKO GOLEM 2:23: BRAND  
NUBIAN W/CONNIE PRICE & THE KEY-  
STONES 2:29: STATE RADIO  
3:1: OUTFORMATION  
Send all booking inquiries for ROLLA and the PARISH to:  
booking@theparishroom.com

## club listings ◀◀ FROM WEDNESDAY

**BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega, Upstairs:  
Curtis Grimes  
**BOOMERZ** Los Chevys  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Lucas Hudgins &  
the First Cousins  
**CACTUS CAFE** Jeff Daniels  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Nick Britt  
**CEDAR STREET** John Pointer, the  
Spazmatics (6:00)  
**CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Ruby  
Jane (6:30)  
**CHAIN DRIVE** Destroyed for  
Comfort, Primal Rape, Aliens  
**CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE**  
Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle  
(9:00)  
**CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO**  
Jacinta (7:00)  
**CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR**  
McMercy Family Gospel Band  
(8:00)  
**CLUB 115** Dertbybird (9:00)  
**CLUB 973** Karaoke w/ the Bigg Sho  
(8:30)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery:  
Trube Farrell & Sniz (10:00); In  
the Club: Shotgun Party Caritas  
Benefit (6:30), Jon Dee Graham,  
Dustin Welch (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)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Frank & the Station  
Masters  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE**  
Kat Edmonson (7:00)  
**EGO'S** The Dirty Sound  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Jazz Pharoahs  
(6:00), Drop Trio (9:30)  
**ELYSIUM** Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin  
Spice, DJ Administer  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** Paul Glasse,  
Mitch Watkins (7:00)  
**FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE**  
Michael Fracasso Piano Hour,  
Nathan Hamilton, Kevin Carroll  
(6:00)  
**FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE** The  
Shake 'em Ups (8:00)  
**FRIENDS** Andy Macintyre & the  
Primal Groove  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN**  
**SALOON** Roger Wallace (9:00)  
**GRUENE HALL** Zach Walther & the  
Cronkites (6:00)  
**HANOVER'S** Open Mic w/ Armadillo  
Action Figures  
**HEADHUNTERS** Convoil, Chief  
Fuzzer, Joe Buckyourself  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE**  
Chase Holbrook's Stylists'  
Showcase (8:00)  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Judas Brooks,  
Winter Dance Party, Jude Ross,  
Lonesome Heroes (9:30)  
**HOMER'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke  
w/ Brian  
**JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA**  
Nathan Hubble (7:00)  
**JOVITA'S** MJ Torrance, Topaz (6:00)  
**LAMBERTS** Trey Lopez (10:30)  
**LAS PALOMAS** Javier Chaparro,  
Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd  
(6:30)  
**LOUIE'S 106** Red Young (6:30)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Will Evans Project  
(10:00)  
**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Electric  
Mayhem (9:00)  
**MAGGIE MAE'S** Patrick Fleming  
(10:00)  
**MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL**  
Cameron Road  
**MOMO'S** Travis Damron, Owen  
Temple, Dan Dyer, Jeremy Nail,  
Jennifer Nicely (6:00)  
**MULLIGAN'S** Karaoke w/ Stormy  
(9:00)

**ONE 2 ONE BAR** James Speer  
(10:00)  
**THE PARLOR** St. Jude, Howl  
**PARMER LANE TAVERN** Pete Benz  
(9:00)  
**PLUSH** Headhunter  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL**  
Open Mic w/ Fond Kiser  
**REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE** "Frankly"  
Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)  
**RED 7** Kingdom of Magic, the Roller,  
Bitter Tongues, Planes Mistaken  
for Stars  
**RED EYED FLY** Taunta, Shadow  
Ministry, Deserts of Mars, Mercy  
**RED FEZ** Atash (9:00)  
**RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby  
Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Eric Hisaw  
**ROADHOUSE** Karaoke w/ Billy D.  
**ROOM 710** Dark Water Hymnal,  
Benko, Distant Seconds, Bus  
Stop Stallions  
**RUTA MAYA** Salsa Lessons,  
Cienfuegos (7:30)  
**SAM'S TOWN POINT** Blue Light  
Special (8:30)  
**SAXON PUB** Freddy Powers, Paula  
Nelson, Monte Montgomery,  
Meagan Tubb (6:00)  
**SCOOT INN AND BIER GARTEN**  
Austin Poetry Slam (7:00)  
**SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &  
GRILL** LC Rocks  
**SHOAL CREEK SALOON** Eve & the  
Exiles (7:30)  
**SPEAKEASY** Salsa Lessons, O  
Positivo (8:00)  
**STUBB'S** Brandi Shearer, Grace  
Potter & the Nocturnals  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Erickson, King Slim  
Blues  
**VICTORY GRILL** Atomic (8:00)  
**WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Ptmargian  
(7:00)  
**Y BAR & GRILL** Singer-Songwriter  
Night (6:30)  
**Z'TEJAS** Stephen Doster, Will  
Sexton & Bill Carter

**EMO'S** Lounge: Swiss; Inside:  
Walkingwithghost, Secular End,  
Prom Nite, the Stones We Throw  
**EVANGELINE CAFE** Craig Toungeate  
(7:00)  
**FLAMINGO CANTINA** Squidley,  
Drive It Like You Stole It, Damp  
Heat, Supersonic Uke  
**FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE**  
Matt the Electrician & Southpaw  
Jones (8:00)  
**FRANK ERWIN CENTER** Miley  
Cyrus, Hannah Montana (8:00)  
**GIDDY UPS** Open Mic w/ Roy &  
Ted (8:30)  
**GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN**  
**SALOON** Dale Watson (9:00)  
**HANOVER'S** Karaoke w/ Dan the  
Man  
**HEADHUNTERS** Goodman County,  
Sabbath Crow, the Wayhigh Men,  
Grinding Wheel  
**THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE**  
Enrique Rumiche & the  
Peruvassaurus Rexes (9:30)  
**HILL'S CAFE** High Speed Hay Ride  
(7:00)  
**HOLE IN THE WALL** Erin Ivey,  
Tenlons Fort, Nick Krauss & His  
Austin Torpedoes (9:00)  
**HOMER'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke  
w/ Brian  
**JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA**  
Crystal Jukebox (7:00)  
**JOVITA'S** Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)  
**THE LOADING DOCK** Open Mic  
(7:00)  
**LOUIE'S 106** Mac Bynum (6:30)  
**LUCKY LOUNGE** Derrick Davis  
(10:00)  
**LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Grant  
Ewing, River Hymn  
**MARIA'S TACO XPRESS** Nathan  
Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)  
**MEOW** Kenny Luna (9:00)  
**MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL** Trés,  
Jets Under Fire  
**MOHAWK** Adeline, Trampled by  
Turtles  
**MOMO'S** Wendy Colonna, 11-  
Fingered Charlie, Rodney Pyeatt  
(8:00)  
**THE OAKS** Singer-Songwriter Series  
w/ Sharon & Lew Andre Mathews,  
Regan Brown & David Leibson  
**ONE 2 ONE BAR** AJ Vallejo & Zach  
Baker Jam Session (10:00)  
**OPAL DIVINE'S** Attic: Green  
Mountain Grass (9:00)  
**PARAMOUNT THEATRE** Mingo  
Fishtrap, Little Richard (8:00)  
**THE PARLOR** Sean McCarrey,  
Marcus Rubio  
**POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL**  
Stop the Truck  
**RED 7** Inside: Career Criminal,  
Orange, the Johns, U.S. Bombs;  
Outside: The Cabaret, Swine  
Horde, the Network, Warwolf  
**RED EYED FLY** Exeter, Driver F,  
Goodnight Goddess  
**RED FEZ** Twilight Broadcast,  
Weekend Warm-up (8:30)  
**RENAISSANCE HOTEL** Lobby  
Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)  
**RILEY'S TAVERN** Flamin' Hellcats  
**THE ROCK ROOM** Karaoke w/ DJ  
Trip  
**ROOM 710** Amanda Lepre, Full  
Stride, Nancy Silva Project, Adrian  
& the Sickness, One-Eyed Doll  
**SAXON PUB** Tara Graham, Carolyn  
Wonderland, George Devore,  
Uncle Lucius (6:00)  
**SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Billy D.  
**T.C.'S LOUNGE** Michael Holt & the  
Trophy 500's (10:00)  
**TRIPLE CROWN** Phil Stevens,  
Melba Toast, Elephant Nightmare,  
the Murdocks  
**Z'TEJAS** Brewer Nation (6:00)

## Thu 24

**219 WEST** Acoustic Jungle (8:00)  
**311 CLUB** Joe Valentine (8:30)  
**ANTONE'S** Carla Cameron CD  
Release (9:00)  
**ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Boomer Norman  
**AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735**  
Homer Henderson (9:00)  
**B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Wynn  
Taylor, Hosea Hargrove  
**BEAUTY BAR** Pataphysics, La  
Snacks  
**BEERLAND** Styrofoam Duck,  
Junkshun (8:00)  
**THE BELMONT** Dysfunkshun  
Junkshun (8:00)  
**BENNIGAN'S** Andy Fiegall (7:00)  
**BLIND PIG PUB** Ben Burgess  
**BROKEN SPOKE** Jesse Dayton  
**THE BROWN BAR** DJ gmau  
**CACTUS CAFE** Malcolm Holcomb  
(8:30)  
**CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Jackson  
Edwards  
**CEDAR STREET** Kent Mayhew,  
Radiostar (6:00)  
**CONTINENTAL CLUB** Gallery: Paris  
49 (10:00); In the Club: Izzy Cox,  
Dash Rip Rock, Barfield (6:30)  
**COPA BAR & GRILL** Salsa Lessons  
w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)  
**COTTON CLUB** Texas All-Stars  
(8:30)  
**DONN'S DEPOT** Murphy's Inlaws  
**EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE**  
Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)  
**EGO'S** Robert Banta, 2 Hoots & a  
Holler  
**ELEPHANT ROOM** Joe Cordi &  
Giant City, Ron Westray (6:00)

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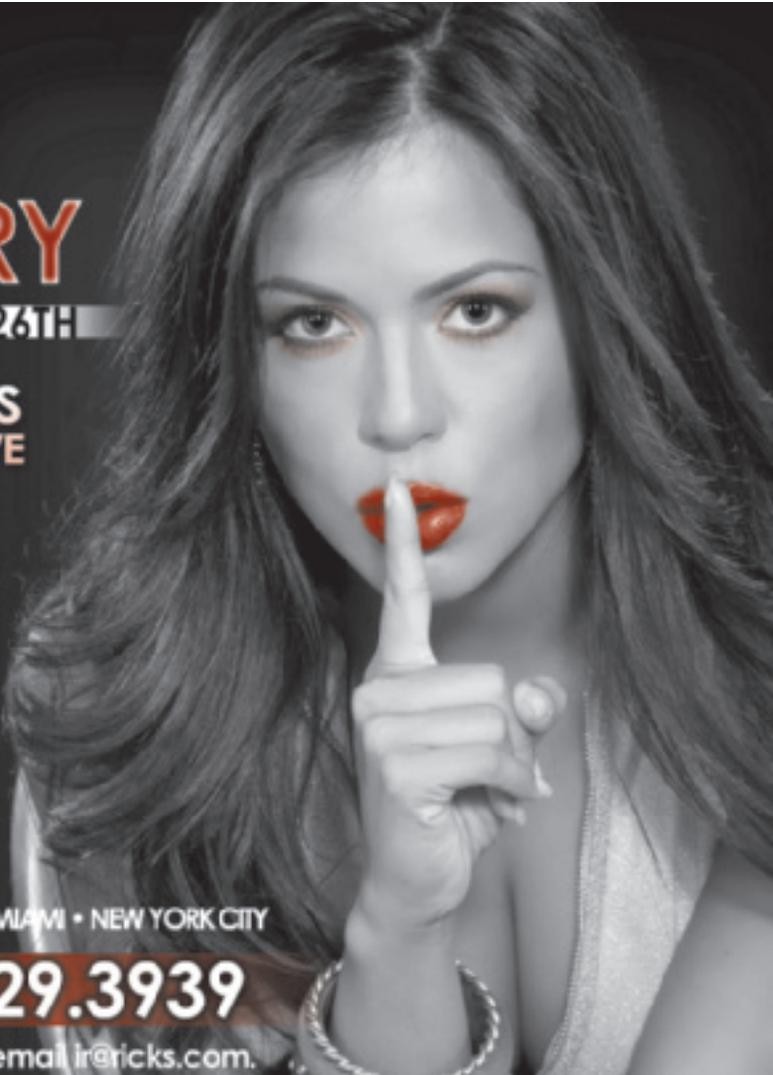
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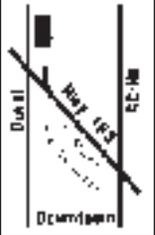
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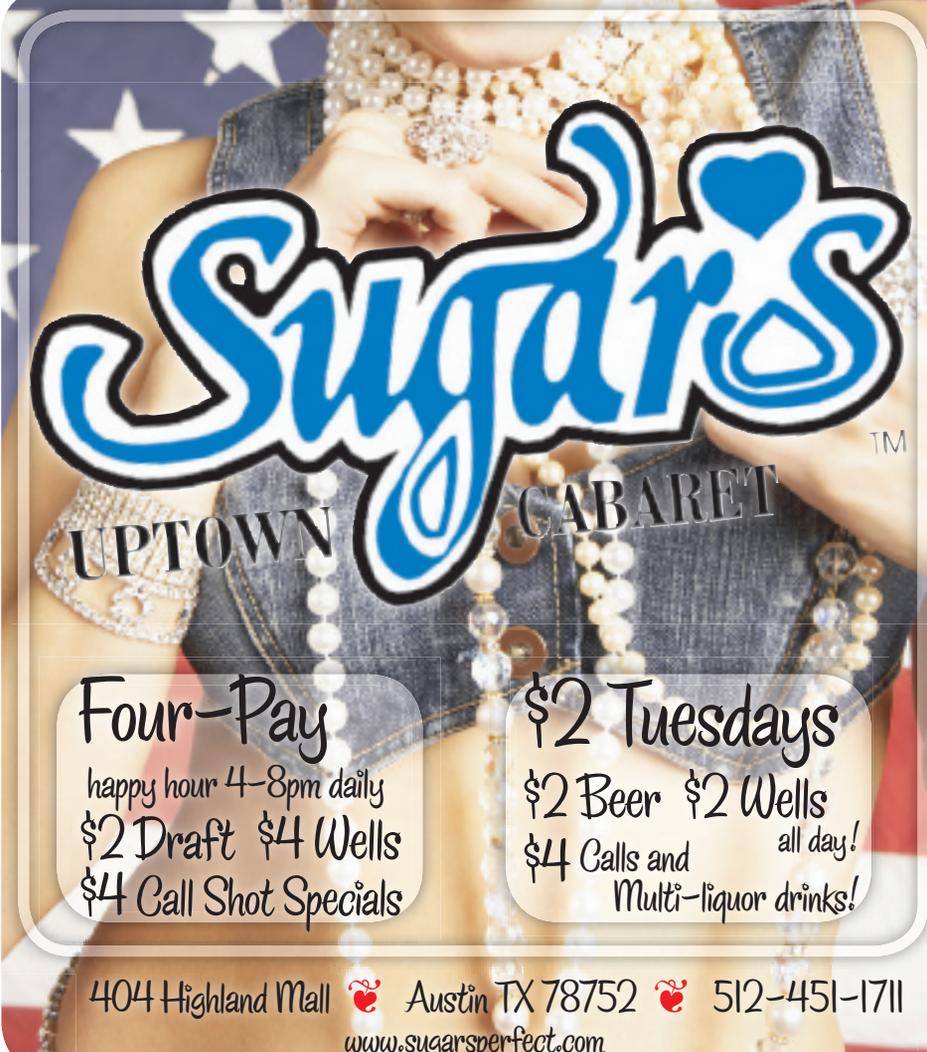
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# COMICS

## How to Be Happy (EPILOG) by Shannon Wheeler

REMEMBER WHEN WE RODE THOSE WHALES? HA.

WE DESTROYED THE METEOR FACTORY WHERE I'D WORKED.

THOSE WHALES WERE A PAIN TO GET RID OF. DO YOU STILL KEEP IN TOUCH WITH MY OLD DOG-BOSS? DIDN'T YOU HAVE A THING WITH HER?

WE KEPT IN TOUCH FOR A WHILE AFTER WE WENT OUT, BUT SHE GOT WEIRD AFTER I GOT MARRIED.

I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE YOU GOT MARRIED.

YOU AND ME BOTH.

PAPA! PAPA! PAPA! PAPA!

©2007 SHANNON WHEELER READ THE WHOLE STORY AT: WWW.TMCM.COM

R.E.C.A.L.L.

LANDY BURROG

ONE MEATBALL.

By FRED MILTON.

WOW.

Yow.

e. coli.

IN EVERY MEAT BALL THERE IS A WORLD TURNING.

UNSEEN! INSCRUTABLE! INVISIBLE! HOW MANY RUMINANTS ART THOU?

YES

THEY CROSSED STATE LINES!

HEY!

ok!

HOW MANY THOUSANDS OF MEAT BALLS RECALLED? HOW FAR HAD THEY ROLLED BEFORE THE WHISTLE BLEW?

DARK AND CARELESS MEAT MASTER STRATAGEM OF GRINDING SO MANY TOGETHER AND SENDING THEM AWAY!

I AM

THEY RECALL YOU BUT THEY DON'T REMEMBER YOU!

BAD MEAT WILL NOT BE EATEN AND YOU HAVE FOUND A WAY TO BE BAP!!

ROLLING AGAINST THE DESIRE OF THE CORPORATE MEAT KING, THIS BLESSED PLOT, THIS EARTH, THIS REALM, THIS MEAT BALL!

THE HERD IS REUNITED WITHIN YOU, MEAT BALL!

FRED MILTON HEARS A Moo.

POETIC MEATBALL! MELANCHOLY WAD OF LOST FEED-LOT FRIENDS!

STILL

e. coli!

ow!

YOUR POST-MORTEM MUTINY HAS BEEN NOTED.

THEY RECALL YOU BUT THEY DON'T REMEMBER YOU!

BAD MEAT WILL NOT BE EATEN AND YOU HAVE FOUND A WAY TO BE BAP!!

ROLLING AGAINST THE DESIRE OF THE CORPORATE MEAT KING, THIS BLESSED PLOT, THIS EARTH, THIS REALM, THIS MEAT BALL!

## TROUBLETOWN

THIS YEAR'S BOARD OF EDUCATION HEARING ON SCIENCE STANDARDS FOR THE SCHOOLS HAS A NEW COMBATANT.

THE LORD MADE PEOPLE OUT OF CLAY!

PEOPLE EVOLVED FROM ALGAE OVER BILLIONS OF YEARS.

I HAVE A NEW IDEA!

©2002

PEOPLE EVOLVED, SURE. THE FOSSIL RECORD IS VALID, WE JUST BELIEVE THAT AN ENTITY WAS THERE MAKING DESIGN DECISIONS!

GOD IS NOT AN INTERIOR DECORATOR!

JUNK SCIENCE!

BY LLOYD DANGLE

WE'RE NOT SAYING WHO THE INTELLIGENT DESIGNER IS, IT MAY EVEN BE A DESIGN FIRM, BUT NATURE IS JUST TOO PERFECT TO BE NATURAL!

ACADEMIC CHARLATAN!

UNWITTING TOOL OF SATAN!

I'VE BEEN COMING TO THESE HEARINGS FOR YEARS BUT YOU STILL IGNORE THE VAST EVIDENCE OF OUR EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL ORIGINS!

US PISCES PEOPLE CAME FROM ATLANTIS!

GOSH, THIS DEBATE IS TOO HOT FOR US STATE BUREAUCRATS TO TACKLE. I MOVE THAT WE GIVE EQUAL TIME TO ALL THESE VIEWS IN THE SCHOOLS' CURRICULUM!

SO MOVED!

I SECOND!

NEXT SEPTEMBER HAVE YOU SEEN THE SIZE OF THE 6TH GRADE SCIENCE BOOK? I WANNA BE HELD BACK!

EVER SINCE MY BROTHER ENTERED 6TH GRADE HE SEES A SHRINK, A RABBI, AND A PALM READER!

©2002

## EYEBEAM (com) by Sam Hurt

WOW. THAT'S IMPRESSIVE, I MUST SAY...

DO WHAT YOU LOVE...

...AND THE PROSPERITY WILL FOLLOW...

WELL, I'M A BIG BELIEVER IN THE OLD SAYING...

## MR. SMARTY PANTS KNOWS



Psychologists call the phenomenon of seeing human characteristics in inanimate objects "pareidolia."

The amount of new technical information is doubling every four years; for freshman in a four-year college, this means that half the information they learn this year will be outdated by their junior year. On the same note, the amount of technical information generated in 2010 will double every 72 hours.

Besides all being musicians, what do Mick Jagger, Graham Nash, Allan Clarke, Jimmy Page, Van Morrison, and John Lennon have in common? They all were members of skiffle bands.

Scientists in England and Germany have found that orangutans have a sense of empathy and mimicry, which form an essential part of laughter.

"Larboard" means the left side of a ship or aircraft to someone facing the bow or nose.

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](mailto:mrpants@austinchronicle.com).

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- 355 General
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- Shot in the Dark
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Children are our future.

Be a positive role model working with elementary age kids in the afternoons. Work hours 2:15-6:30 p.m. M-F. Starting pay \$9.00-\$9.60/hr. EOE. Sites at 64 elementary schools. Spanish speakers needed. Apply at

Extend-A-Care for Kids,  
 55 North IH 35,  
 www.eackids.org,  
 or call 472-9929 x408.

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Weekend Vehicle Driver II - 25% Time. Must have TX Commercial Driver's License Class A or B, experience driving large vehicles, buses or trucks and clean driving record. \$480.25/mo., 10 hours per week (weekends). Visit www.tsbvi.edu/hr or call 512-206-9129 for application information. EOE.

**SWIM INSTRUCTOR** Tom's Dive & Swim seeking energetic, self-motivated, and friendly individual to teach swim, indoor heated pool. Part time or Full time. E-mail resume to warren@tomsscuba.com or call at 512-451-3425.

## 130 HEALTHCARE

**CAREGIVER** Free room for part-time assistance w/active disabled woman.Lovely home near Zilker Park. 328-1761.

**SPEECH PATHOLOGIST** Health Force Pediatrics Outpatient Rehabilitation has an immediate opening for a Speech Language Pathologist to work full time. Apply in person at: 1501 N DeLeon St. Victoria, Texas 77901 or Call: 361-582-0611 or Fax 361-582-0555 email: health4s@zamigo.net or apply online at www.healthforcevictoria.com

## 135 HOSPITALITY

### ALL

Tired of the same restaurant?

Try Japanese.

Potential for big money. Hiring waiters, busboys, and chefs.

Kobe Japanese Steakhouse. 13492 Research Blvd., Ste. 380. NW corner of 183 and Anderson Mill Rd.



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### ALL

GLACIER NATIONAL PARK

Open Interviews  
 Hilton Garden Inn  
 500 North IH 35  
 Feb 9&10th  
 9am-4pm

**BEAT THE HEAT!**  
**Just don't feed the bears!!!**

**Glacier Park, Inc.** operates the 7 historic lodges in Glacier National Park. We are actively seeking the following positions for the 2008 summer season (May-Sept):

- \*Tour Drivers
- \*Waitstaff/Servers
- \*Line / Prep Cooks
- \*Retail Associates
- \*Night Audit
- \*Housekeeping
- \*Laundry
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Added incentives for management/bonus potential.

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**SUPPORT STAFF**  
 Alamo Drafthouse Cinema is now hiring for FT Support Staff at all locations.

Ever wanted to work for a local, friendly, & respectable business? We are currently looking to add to our team of badass employees! Line Cooks, Expos, and Bussers

with exp. needed. PM availability/flexible schedule a must!

Submit applications for ALL locations to The Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 3012 East 6th St. M-Th after 4pm. Applicants must be 18+ to apply.

Alamo Drafthouse Cinema was named "Best Theater in Austin" 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007. EOE

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**FISH PROCESSOR** Quality Seafood is seeking a full time fish processor. Flexible shifts Monday through Saturday. Apply in person. 5621 Airport Blvd.

**RECEPTIONIST**  
Night Receptionist for Downtown Private Fine Dining Club - Mon-Sat 4pm to close. Ideal for student - some experience necessary.  
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**145**  
**OFFICE/CLERICAL**

**GOVERNMENT JOBS** Earn \$12 to \$48 Per Hour. Benefits, Paid Training, Homeland Security, Law Enforcement, Administrative, Clerical, Office, Accounting, Finance, Wildlife, More! 1-800-320-9353 x 2001. (AAN CAN)

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**150**  
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**155**  
**PROFESSIONAL**

**FOODSERVICE DIRECTOR**  
Food Service Director Immediate full time opportunity available with a high-volume dining service operation in Killeen, Texas. Candidates must possess the following qualifications:  
Minimum three years prior management experience relevant to dining services including catering  
Experienced in customer service and customer relations  
Knowledge of Human Resource functions including benefits administration  
Ability to control company resources and adhere to budgetary guidelines.  
Excellent communication skills  
Excellent compensation and benefits package. Please fax resume to David Miller, District Manager, Great Western Dining Service, 870-934-8182 or email [dmiller@gwdining.net](mailto:dmiller@gwdining.net) An equal opportunity employer, M/F/D/V

**RECEPTIONIST/ADMIN ASSISTANT**  
The **AUSTIN CHRONICLE** is seeking a part-time receptionist, 30 hours per week. Competitive starting salary with merit raise possible after 90 days.  
Position requires familiarity with a multi-line phone system and the ability to function in an insanely busy office.  
The happiest candidate will be one who enjoys a mental and organizational challenge. Please email your resume to Jenn Nuzzo at [jnuzzo@austinchronicle.com](mailto:jnuzzo@austinchronicle.com).  
NO PHONE CALLS.  
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**CHRONICLE**

**160**  
**RESEARCH STUDY**

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Complete a 3-night research study at CEDRA and earn up to \$800.

CEDRA Clinical Research is seeking participants for a 3-night research study on an investigational medication. To qualify you must be:  
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• pass our phone and clinic screenings  
• available to stay overnight in our clean modern facility  
This study does not require keeping a daily diary and dosing will not be done daily. Study-related lab tests, physicals, meals, wireless Internet, computers, satellite TV, video games and pool tables are provided at no cost.  
At our Austin clinic:  
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338-3474  
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These men and women are responsible for the installation and customer care of the new U-verse integrated digital TV, high speed Internet and voice services in the Austin area.

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**Customer Care Agent Kyle, Texas**

Pedernales Electric Cooperative is looking for a friendly and dependable employee to work in our Kyle District Office. Our Customer Care Agents accept and reconcile consumer payments, prepare forms and reports, maintain various lists, files and records and assist members in obtaining services. This position communicates with members concerning their accounts, Cooperative policies and procedures. The ideal candidate will be organized, detail-oriented, and have excellent communication skills. Bilingual (Spanish) skills are a plus.

**Minimum Job Requirements:**

- A high school diploma or GED
- Professional demeanor and telephone etiquette
- Must be able to work rotating shifts, Saturdays and after-hours call-out

Salary starts at \$11.54/hour. PEC offers a generous benefits package which includes a matching 401(k) plan, health, dental, and life insurance.

PEC is the nation's largest and fastest growing cooperative. We provide exceptional customer service and reliable electric service to over 220,000 members in the Texas Hill Country.

For more information about Pedernales Electric Cooperative please visit our website:  
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Mail, email or fax application/resume to:  
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P. O. Box 1  
Johnson City, Texas 78636  
Email: [careers@peci.com](mailto:careers@peci.com)  
Fax: 830-868-4993  
No Phone Calls Please  
Applications must be received by January 23, 2008.

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**DEPRESSION**  
**ARE YOU SUFFERING FROM DEPRESSION?**  
 Are you experiencing any of the following symptoms?  
 • Sad or depressed mood  
 • Loss of interest in work or activities  
 • Change in appetite - over-eating or loss of appetite  
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 Call to participate in an investigational medication study.  
 512-323-2622  
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personal experiences, including sexual behavior. If you have a history of sexual abuse and it has affected your sexuality you may qualify. For more info, please call  
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 All calls are confidential.

**MENSTRUAL CRAMPS PAINFUL MENSTRUAL CRAMPS?**  
 Millions of women experience painful cramps immediately before or during menstruation. If you are one of these women, SCIREX may be able to help. SCIREX is looking for qualified individuals to participate in a clinical study that will evaluate an investigational pain medication to treat menstrual cramps.  
 Qualified Study Participants Must:  
 • Be 18-40 years of age  
 • Have regular cycles  
 Qualified Study Participants May Receive:  
 • Investigational medication  
 • Study-related physical exams and lab tests  
 • Financial compensation for time and travel  
 800-320-1630  
 www.scirex.com  
 Click "Study Volunteers"



**165 RETAIL**  
**SHIFT MANAGER** Local CD/DVD Store needs Shift Manager for Evenings and Weekends. Retail store experience a plus. Please apply in person Monday thru Friday 10am to 4pm.  
 Musicmania 38 1/2th St. and IH35 next to Fiesta Mart. No phone calls please.

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Glacier Park, Inc. operates the 7 historic lodges in Glacier National Park. We are actively seeking the following positions for the 2008 summer season (May-Sept)

- \* Tour Drivers
- \* Housekeeping
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 Sign up now at [www.sxsw.com/volunteer](http://www.sxsw.com/volunteer) and attend the 2008 Volunteer Call.  
 Email [vol@sxsw.com](mailto:vol@sxsw.com) for more info.

**SXSW Volunteer Call**  
 Sunday, January 20th  
 Hilton Hotel, 500 E 4th St  
 Austin Grand Ballroom, 6th Floor  
 3:30-5:30pm

**HAS SEXUAL ABUSE AFFECTED YOUR LIFE?**

Researchers at the University of Texas at Austin are conducting a treatment study for women with a history of sexual abuse who are experiencing sexual difficulties. Treatment is free of charge, and compensation for time and travel is provided. The study involves answering questions and writing about personal experiences, including sexual behavior. If you have a history of sexual abuse you may qualify.

For more information, please call  
**(512)232-4805**  
 All calls are confidential.

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**NOW HIRING:**

**Broadband Technician Trainees**  
 Time Warner Cable is looking for men and women to join our Installation Team in Austin, Waco and Killeen. You will install and repair broadband products and services including Digital Cable, High-speed Internet, and Digital Phone. Valid drivers license and clean driving record required.

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 Time Warner Cable is looking for men and women to join our Customer Care Team in Austin and Waco. You will provide outstanding customer service through sales and retention initiatives. FT with various shifts, flexibility required.

**Direct Sales Representatives**  
 Time Warner Cable is looking for motivated men and women to join our Sales Team in Austin, Waco, and Killeen. In this role, you will have direct contact with the public through residential and door-to-door sales. Average annual income ranges from \$45,000 to \$115,000. Valid drivers license and clean driving record required.

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 Time Warner Cable is looking for men and women to join our Warehouse Team in Austin. This position receives and distributes materials, converters and supplies from the warehouse and maintains plant inventory. Valid drivers license and clean driving record required.

We offer excellent benefits including Free Digital Cable, High-speed Internet Service, and much more!

Submit your resume online at [www.timewarcable.jobs](http://www.timewarcable.jobs). Many other opportunities are available, please visit our website for a current job listing.

EOE M/F/D/V

**Pedernales Electric Cooperative, Inc.**

**Customer Care Supervisor**  
 San Marcos, Texas

Pedernales Electric Cooperative is looking for a dynamic customer service professional to join our 24/7 call center located in San Marcos, Texas. The Customer Care Supervisor will train, schedule and supervise the daily activities of our telephone representatives. Proven leadership qualities and excellent communication skills are a must. The ideal candidate will have call center operations experience. Bilingual (Spanish) skills are a plus.

**Minimum Job Requirements:**

- Bachelor's degree
- Two years leadership experience
- Must be able to work any schedule which may include weekends, holidays, and nights

Salary starts at \$24.00/hour. PEC offers a generous benefits package which includes a matching 401(k) plan, health, dental, and life insurance.

PEC is the nation's largest and fastest growing cooperative. We provide exceptional customer service and reliable electric service to over 220,000 members in the Texas Hill Country.

For more information about Pedernales Electric Cooperative please visit our website:  
[www.pec.coop](http://www.pec.coop)

Mail, email or fax application/resume to:  
 Pedernales Electric Cooperative Human Resources, Req. #14162  
 P. O. Box 1  
 Johnson City, Texas 78636  
 Email: [careers@peci.com](mailto:careers@peci.com)  
 Fax: 830-868-4993  
 No Phone Calls Please  
**Applications must be received by January 29, 2008.**

**Your Power Professionals**  
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**DE, SP, FR LINGUISTS**

Localization company seeking qualified, DE, FR & SP linguists. Responsible for translation, editing and proofing. Must be proficient in target language & exp. in translation, editing and proofreading texts from English into target language. bachelor's degree required. We offer great FT/PT positions with great benefits.

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# Painful Menstrual Cramps?



Millions of women experience painful cramps immediately before or during menstruation. If you are one of these women, SCIREX may be able to help. SCIREX is looking for qualified individuals to participate in a clinical study that will evaluate an investigational pain medication to treat menstrual cramps.

## Qualified Study Participants Must:

- Be 18-40 years of age
- Have regular cycles

## Qualified Study Participants May Receive:

- Investigational pain medication
- Study-related physical exams and lab tests
- Financial compensation for time and travel

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- using a steroid nasal spray for allergies
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- pass our phone and clinic screenings
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This study does not require keeping a daily diary and dosing will not be done daily. Study-related lab tests, physicals, meals, wireless Internet, computers, satellite TV, video games and pool tables are provided at no cost.

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| Check-in      | Check-out     |                               |
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**WRITERS** Wanted: The Academy for Alternative Journalism, established by papers like this one to promote diversity in the alternative press, seeks talented journalists

and students (college seniors and up) for a paid summer writing program at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. The eight-week program (June 22 - August 17, 2008) aims to recruit talented candidates from diverse backgrounds and train them in alt-weekly style feature writing. Ten participants will be chosen and paid \$3,000 plus housing and travel allowances. For information and an application visit <http://aaj.aan.org>. You may also email us at

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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 start.

**180**  
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**QUALCOMM**, Inc. has the following experienced and BS degreed positions available in Austin, TX:  
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**215**  
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[ronjontheapartmentmon@hotmail.com](mailto:ronjontheapartmentmon@hotmail.com)

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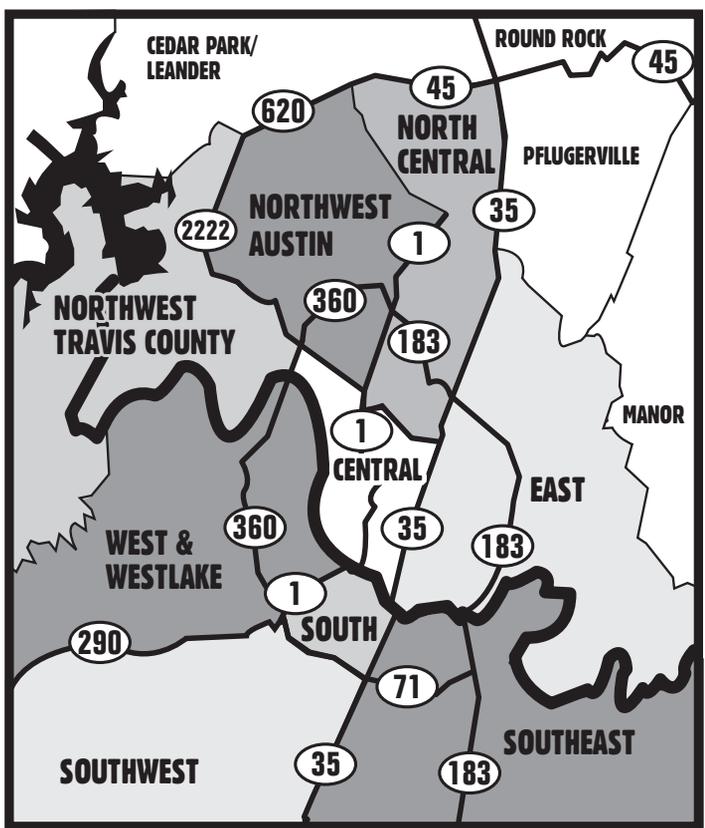
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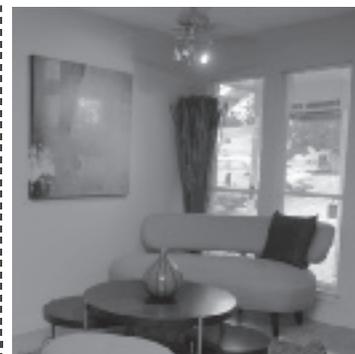
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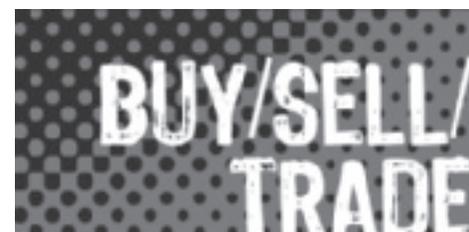
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**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered 459732, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District, State of Texas, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6, FM Road, Water Control Improvement District No. 17 and County Education District are plaintiffs, and Charles E. Boyd, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Charles E. Boyd, Audrey Boyd, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Audrey Boyd and Roy Charles Boyd are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$10,360.43** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53RD District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 21, 2000.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**.09 of an acre out of the B.K. Stewart Sur. 84 as described in Volume 3593, Page 2285 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$10,360.43** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**468234 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250TH District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered 468234, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Rosemary Lane, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Rosemary Lane and James R. Lane are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,601.51** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 31, 2002.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 2017, Bar-K Ranches, Plat No. 2, Plat No. 57/14 as described in Volume 5753, Page 418 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$8,004.18** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**ALIAS CITATION BY PUBLICATION**

**AUSTIN CHRONICLE**  
4000 N IH 35  
AUSTIN, TX 78751

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**  
**TO: JAMES ZOU Defendant,** in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: 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 of this citation, the same being MONDAY

02/18/08 a default judgment may be taken against you.

**CAUSE NUMBER: C-1-CV-06-006991,** filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW 2

**CACH VS ZOU**  
Filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW 2 (Travis County Court-house, corner of Tenth Street and Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas) on December 26, 2007.

**STYLED: CACH VS ZOU**

**NATURE OF SUIT: debt**  
Given under my hand and the seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on January 02, 2008.

County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. BOX 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714-9325  
By Deputy:  
/s/ C. Maddox  
Plaintiff Attorney:  
CHRISTOPHER R. DELONEY  
2214 MAIN STREET  
DALLAS, TX 75201

**Application has been made with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a BEVERAGE CARTAGE, MIXED BEVERAGE, MIXED BEVERAGE LATE HOURS, and CATERER'S PERMITS by University Food Services, Inc., d/b/a Executive Education and Conference Center, 1900 University Avenue, Austin, Travis County, Texas 78705. Officer of said corporation is Charles Leon Blackwell, President, Secretary and Treasurer.**

**CAUSE NO. 87,368 IN THE GUARDIANSHIP OF ADELE MAE NOSSOV, AN INCAPACITATED PERSON**

**IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Temporary Guardianship for the Guardian of the Person and Estate of ADELE MAE NOSSOV, an Incapacitated Person, were issued on December 5, 2007, in Cause No. 87,368, in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to DEBBIE PEARSON, as Temporary Guardian of the Person and Estate of ADELE MAE NOSSOV.

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 MoPac Blvd., Suite 300

Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

Dated this 14th day of January, 2008.

By: /s/ Deborah Green  
Attorney for Guardian

**CAUSE NO. 87,822 IN THE ESTATE OF ELIZABETH WEICHEL BAIRD, DECEASED**

**IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE**

**TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Independent Administration with Will Annexed for the Estate of Elizabeth Weichel Baird, Deceased, were issued on December 20, 2007, in Cause No. 87,822, pending in Probate Court Number One, Travis County, Texas, to: John A. Weichel, Sr.

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: James L. Arth  
700 Lavaca Street,  
Suite 1150  
Austin, Texas 78701

DATED January 10, 2008.

/s/ James L. Arth

Attorney for John A. Weichel, Sr.

State Bar No.: 01362900

700 Lavaca Street,  
Suite 1150

Austin, Texas 78701

Telephone: (512) 479-8989

Facsimile: (512) 479-7910

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION - DIVORCE**

**CLERK OF THE COURT**

**LISA DAVID**

**405 M.L.K. ST., P.O. BOX 24**

**GETTIGERTOWN, TX 78626**

**PETITIONER(S) ATTORNEY**

**BARBARA LASSO**

**ADDRESS UNAVAILABLE**

**THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO: LUIS FERNANDO LASSO**

and to all whom it may concern, Respondent(s). 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 for the relief demanded in the petition may be taken against you.

The ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE of Barbara Lasso, Petitioner(s), was filed in the County Court At Law #2 County of Williamson County, Texas, on the 26TH day of APRIL, 2007, against Luis Fernando Lasso, Respondent(s), numbered 07-915-FC2 and entitled IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF BARBARA LASSO AND LUIS FERNANDO LASSO IN THE INTEREST OF BARBARA S. LASSO AND LUCY LASSO, CHILDREN.

The suit requests THAT THE COURT GRANT RELIEF REQUESTED WITHIN THIS PETITION.

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 seal of said Court at Georgetown, Texas, this 20th day of December A.D. 2007.

Attest:  
LISA DAVID Clerk, of the County Court At Law #2,  
WILLIAMSON County, Texas.

By: /s/ Brandi Spivey, Deputy

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF CAROLYN INSCORE, Deceased, No. 87932 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 29th day of November, 2007.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF CAROLYN INSCORE, Deceased, No. 87932 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 29th day of November, 2007.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

tate, filed on the 7TH day of JANUARY 2008, an Application to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said CAROLYN INSCORE, 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 Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 7th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EPIFANIO Y MANCERA, Deceased, No. 87789 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 8th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EPIFANIO Y MANCERA, Deceased, No. 87789 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 8th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-07-005851 TO: HONG YANG 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, 419TH 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 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 November 13, 2007, and said suit being number D-1-FM-07-005851 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF JUN P TANG and HONG YANG, ET AL, and in the interest of SYVANG TANG, CHILD". 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 in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 14, 2007.

**AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA**  
Travis County District Clerk  
Travis County Courthouse  
1000 Guadalupe,  
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)  
Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ MCGARY ASHANTI, Deputy

REQUESTED BY:  
**ERIC MICHAEL WILLIE**  
3755 S. CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY, STE. 250  
AUSTIN, TX 78704  
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 478-0834  
FAX: (512) 478-1265

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JUANITA LUCILLE HILL, Deceased, No. 87876 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 7th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ O. Ruiz

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 22nd day of October, 2007.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ O. Ruiz

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JUANITA LUCILLE HILL, Deceased, No. 87876 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 7th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EPIFANIO Y MANCERA, Deceased, No. 87789 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 8th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EPIFANIO Y MANCERA, Deceased, No. 87789 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 8th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-07-005851 TO: HONG YANG 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, 419TH 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 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 November 13, 2007, and said suit being number D-1-FM-07-005851 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF JUN P TANG and HONG YANG, ET AL, and in the interest of SYVANG TANG, CHILD". 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 in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the determination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, December 14, 2007.

**AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA**  
Travis County District Clerk  
Travis County Courthouse  
1000 Guadalupe,  
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)  
Austin, Texas 78701

By /s/ MCGARY ASHANTI, Deputy

REQUESTED BY:  
**ERIC MICHAEL WILLIE**  
3755 S. CAPITAL OF TEXAS HWY, STE. 250  
AUSTIN, TX 78704  
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 478-0834  
FAX: (512) 478-1265

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 22nd day of October, 2007.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ O. Ruiz

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JUANITA LUCILLE HILL, Deceased, No. 87876 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 7th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF JONATHAN SIR HENDREY aka JONATHAN RICHARD LEE SIR HENDREY, Deceased, No. 87951 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 9th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EPIFANIO Y MANCERA, Deceased, No. 87789 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 9th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EPIFANIO Y MANCERA, Deceased, No. 87789 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 9th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EPIFANIO Y MANCERA, Deceased, No. 87789 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT** at office in Travis County, Texas, this 9th day of January, 2008.

**DANA DEBEAUVOIR**  
County Clerk,  
Travis County, Texas  
P.O. Box 149325,  
Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Marie Shanklin

**CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS**

**TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF EPIFANIO Y MANCERA, Deceased, No. 87789 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.**

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

**GIVEN**



"AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-000975

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-000975, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Wanda R. Block and Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 52949 = \$8,999.78, Tract Two: Billing Number 58212 = \$11,859340 and Tract Three: Billing Number 60425 = \$13,792.97** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 22, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**TRACT ONE:**

**Parcel No.01-6486-0908-0000**  
**Billing No.52949**  
**Location3101 MARSHALL AVENUE, LAGO VISTA, TX 78645**

**Legal Description:LOT 20043, HIGHLAND LAKE ESTATES, SECTION 20, PLAT NO. 63/19 AS DESCRIBED IN VOLUME 8898, PAGE 383**

**TRACT TWO:**

**Parcel No. 01-6886-0606-0000**  
**Billing No. 058212**  
**Location 4222 HILLSIDE, LAGO VISTA, TX 78645**

**Legal Description:LOT 1339, COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES, SECTION 7, PLAT NO. 47/42 AS DESCRIBED IN VOLUME 8873, PAGE 111**

**TRACT THREE:**

**Parcel No.01-7280-0705-0000**  
**Billing No.060425**  
**Location20823 EL DORADO, LAGO VISTA, TX 78645**

**Legal Description:LOT 628, LAGO VISTA COUNTRY CLUB ESTATES, SECTION 3, PLAT NO. 41/28 AS DESCRIBED IN VOLUME 8873, PAGE 145**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 52949 = \$8,999.78, Tract Two: Billing Number 58212 = \$11,859340 and Tract Three: Billing Number 60425 = \$13,792.97** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.  
BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY  
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-

RANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-001039

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-001039, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Education District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Nasrullah Yousufi and Tando Allahyar are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,614.72** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 15, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 29075, Highland Lake Estates, Section 29, Plat No. 78/33 as described in Volume 9895, Page 913 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,614.72** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-001068

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-001068, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Education District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Paul D. Harrison, Sandra P.R. Harrison and Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Education District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s),

in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$11,451.09** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 22, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 1027, Bar-K Ranches Plat 1, Plat No. 55/57 as described in Volume 5679, Page 1097 of the deed record of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$11,451.09** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 29075, Highland Lake Estates, Section 29, Plat No. 78/33 as described in Volume 9895, Page 913 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

**D-1-GV-07-001270**

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 419th District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-001270, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Travis County Hospital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Gerald G. Ohlsen are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$5,219.16** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 419th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 22, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 11, Block B, Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No. 36/2 as described in Volume 6491, Page 603 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$5,219.16** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-

TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-402128

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98TH District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered GV-402128, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and International Ministries, Inc. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,889.25** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on December 3, 2004.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 118, Lago Vista Country Club Estates, Section 1, Plat No. 38/22, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in document number 2002201025 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$3,889.25** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**GV-403538**

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered GV-403538, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Francisco Jaramillo, Esperanza Jaramillo and Wachovia Bank, N.A. (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$11,363.71** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the

said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 15, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 51, Block D, North Point, Phase 1, Section 2, Plat No. 86/21D as described in document number 2000114061 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$11,363.71** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-504908

**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200th District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered GV-504908, wherein City of Lakeway, Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6, Travis County Healthcare District and Water Control Improvement District No. 17 are plaintiffs, and Southwestern Investment Company, Trustee nka Southwest Beneficial Finance, Inc. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$7,268.50** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 12, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 121, Cardinal Hills Unit 5, Plat No. 50/95 as described in Volume 4039, Page 1853 and Volume 3169, Page 321 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$7,268.50** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.  
BRUCE ELFANT,  
CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-

RANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

**JAV Investment Group LLC, Vivek V. Anand, President, Aplesh D. Patel, Vice President DBA Red Brick Pizza is Making Application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Wine and Beer Retailer's Permit and Food and Beverage Certificate on the Address of 4301 W. William Cannon Dr., Bldg. B #185, Austin, Travis County, Texas.**

NO. 87857  
**ESTATE OF HERBERT M. WOLFF, DECEASED**  
**IN PROBATE COURT NO. 1 OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**  
Notice is hereby given that on January 3, 2008, Letters Testamentary upon the Estate of HERBERT M. WOLFF, Deceased, were issued to GLENYS A. WOLFF, as Independent Executor of said Estate, in proceedings in the Probate Court No. 1, of Travis County, Texas, numbered 87857, and pending in said Court and that she now holds such Letters.

All persons having claims against the Estate are hereby required to present the same to the said GLENYS A. WOLFF, as Independent Executor of said Estate, in care of her attorneys, at the address given below and within the time prescribed by law.

Fulbright & Jaworski L.L.P.  
Attn: G. EDWARD DEERY  
1301 McKinney, Suite 5100  
Houston, Texas 77010-3095  
Dated the 9th day of January, 2008.  
FULBRIGHT & JAWORSKI L.L.P.  
By /s/ G. EDWARD DEERY  
State Bar No. 00789250  
Attorneys for GLENYS A. WOLFF, Independent Executor of the Estate of Herbert M. Wolf

1301 McKinney, Suite 5100  
Houston, Texas 77010-3095  
Telephone: 713-651-5151  
Telecopier: 713-651-5246

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicles will be auction off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1992 HONDA  
JHMCB7659NC024935  
1984 PONTIAC  
2G2AT69HXE9712525  
1994 DODGE  
3B3AA46K5RT334768  
1994 MAZDA  
JM1BG2241R8003770  
1987 CADILLAC  
1G6CD5180H4219891  
1995 CHEVY  
1GNCS13W6S2158063

**AUCTION February 1, 2008 @ 6:00 A.M.**

**ADVANCED TOWING & RECOVERY**  
**1810 BENCH MARK DR**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78728**  
**(512) 402-0024**

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** PURSUANT TO TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE(S) WILL BE AUCTIONED OFF BY AUS-TEX TOWING & RECOVERY, LLC UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

**BUICK, 2-RAL MS, VIN# 3G4AG55M7RS613016**  
AUS-TEX TOWING & RECOVERY, LLC  
306 FARLEY  
AUSTIN, TX 78753

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicles will be auction off unless charges are satisfied within 10 days.

1992 HONDA  
JHMCB7659NC024935  
1984 PONTIAC  
2G2AT69HXE9712525  
1994 DODGE  
3B3AA46K5RT334768  
1994 MAZDA  
JM1BG2241R8003770  
1987 CADILLAC  
1G6CD5180H4219891  
1995 CHEVY  
1GNCS13W6S2158063

**AUCTION February 1, 2008 @ 6:00 A.M.**

**ADVANCED TOWING & RECOVERY**  
**1810 BENCH MARK DR**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78728**  
**(512) 402-0024**

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** PURSUANT TO TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE(S) WILL BE AUCTIONED OFF BY AUS-TEX TOWING & RECOVERY, LLC UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

**BUICK, 2-RAL MS, VIN# 3G4AG55M7RS613016**  
AUS-TEX TOWING & RECOVERY, LLC  
306 FARLEY  
AUSTIN, TX 78753

**ADVANCED TOWING & RECOVERY**  
**1810 BENCH MARK DR**  
**AUSTIN, TX 78728**  
**(512) 402-0024**

**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.

**GARAGEKEEPER: DENVER'S TOWING, 2000 FERGUSON LANE, AUSTIN, TEXAS 78754**  
MID TO LATE 60'S VOLVO  
18005 26903 PICKED UP AT 2800 LA FRONTERA BLVD.

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** PURSUANT TO TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE(S) WILL BE AUCTIONED OFF BY AUS-TEX TOWING & RECOVERY, LLC UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

**BUICK, 2-RAL MS, VIN# 3G4AG55M7RS613016**  
AUS-TEX TOWING & RECOVERY, LLC  
306 FARLEY  
AUSTIN, TX 78753

**NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES** PURSUANT TO TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR ACT, THE FOLLOWING VEHICLE WILL BE AUCTIONED OFF BY THE TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED.

**GARAGEKEEPER:**  
TIGER TRUX TOWING  
407 FM 685  
PFLUGERVILLE, TX 78660  
512-989-9595

VEHICLE: 2008 DODGE RAM  
2500 BLACK IN COLOR  
PICKED UP AT: 4600 BLK PFLUGERVILLE  
VIN: 3D7KS28A98G117441  
PLATE: NONE

**NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS** Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, proposes the approval of the following traffic regulation:

**PRECINCT THREE: SET MAXIMUM PRIMA FACIE SPEED LIMIT ON ABBOTS-BURY DRIVE.**

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** Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, **Stor-A-Way**, located at **550 South IH-35, Round Rock, TX 78681**, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will begin at **10:00 a.m. on February 5, 2008**. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and clean up may be temporarily required. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property in each space may be sold item-by-item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space.

A006 Holy Mole - boxes, hot salsa, table/chairs, pallet jack  
B019 Stacy McIntosh - boxes, lawn equipment, refrigerator, bedding, plastic tubs, table/chairs, game table  
B202 Ford Cornett - boxes, bike, clothes, bedding, table, chairs, misc. household items  
D008 Kristina Harris - bags, dresser, chairs  
D113 Terra Pfeifer - boxes, plastic tub  
D140 Richard Ancelet - pool table, chairs, boxes, misc. items

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE** Under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, (Chapter 576 Acts of the 68th Legislature Regular Session 1983) U-Store-It, will hold a public sale of delinquent units in order to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be conducted on site on **February 5, 2008** beginning with the 10025 Manchaca Rd. Austin Texas 78748 site at 10:00 am to the highest bidder for **CASH**. All units contain household items unless otherwise mentioned. Units and locations are listed below:

**U-Store-It # 753**  
**10025 Manchaca Rd**  
**Austin, Tx 78748**  
**512-292-1760**  
India High-Williams - Boxes,

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC 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 located at 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. Auction will take place **February 5, 2008 12:00 pm at Stor Self Storage 2508 W. Pecan St. Pflugerville, TX 78660**

**512-990-1000, Unit #155 Carolyn Benevolent, 25 boxes and 3 plastic tubs. Unit #220 Carolyn Benevolent, Christmas decorations, crib, red wagon, large full sports equipment bag. Unit #326 John Rueter, organ, dining room chair, crib, lamps. Unit #443 Steve Adams, entertainment center, office chair, washer, dryer, comforter, boxes. Unit #705 Steffan Cheatum, tv, clothes, electric guitar, computer. Unit #736 Demetra Arnold, washer, computer, toys, boxes, mattresses, full unit with household goods.**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE** Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, **Stor-A-Way**, located at **550 South IH-35, Round Rock, TX 78681**, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will begin at **10:00 a.m. on February 5, 2008**. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and clean up may be temporarily required. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property in each space may be sold item-by-item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the following tenants, with brief description of contents in each space.

A006 Holy Mole - boxes, hot salsa, table/chairs, pallet jack  
B019 Stacy McIntosh - boxes, lawn equipment, refrigerator, bedding, plastic tubs, table/chairs, game table  
B202 Ford Cornett - boxes, bike, clothes, bedding, table, chairs, misc. household items  
D008 Kristina Harris - bags, dresser, chairs  
D113 Terra Pfeifer - boxes, plastic tub  
D140 Richard Ancelet -

**AN SUV CAN CHANGE A PERSON**

Dear Tom and Ray:  
I listen to your show a lot, and I completely agree that SUV drivers are a menace. I know, because I just bought one. I had a Saturn sedan and I was very careful and considerate. After I bought my Toyota Highlander, I realized that I drive faster, I can't see a lot of things I could see before, and last week I actually got out of my car and nearly got into a fistfight with another woman. I'm not usually a fighter; in fact, I'm a Catholic-school religion teacher at an all-boys school, and I'm really soft-spoken and patient. The only explanation I have is the SUV. It has changed me. I'm thinking about selling it, even though I only bought it in December. It's only got a four-cylinder engine, and it has front-wheel drive only, so it's not a big gas-guzzler. It's gray-green, and my neighbor started calling it "The Battleship," which is what it feels like. Should I cut my losses and get a Subaru? I want to be safe, but I also want others to be safe in my vicinity!

— Trish

TOM: Wow. So the SUV turned you into a jerk, huh, Trish?

RAY: Yeah. We're still trying to figure out what my brother's excuse is. He drives an MG.

TOM: To be honest with you, the Highlander hardly is among the worst SUVs. It's midsize, it's based on a car platform, and yours has the optional four-cylinder engine, so it's not like people can legitimately oink at you as you drive by.

RAY: However, it is quite a change from your old Saturn sedan. In the Saturn, when you got up to 60 mph, the noise and vibration probably told you that you were going plenty fast enough, thank you very much. But the Highlander is brand new. And it's very well-made. As a result, it's so quiet and smooth that even at high speeds, you don't feel personally endangered, like you did in the Saturn. And that lack of negative feedback has released your inner animal, Trish!

TOM: While I normally wouldn't put the Highlander in the category of dangerous vehicles, in your hands I guess it is. I mean, fistfight, Trish?

RAY: So, if it makes you uncomfortable, Trish, and you don't like the way you behave in it, then trade it in for something you like better. Life is too short to be known as "that jerk Trish." If you don't believe me, ask "that jerk my brother."

\* \* \*

Don't get stuck with a lemon. Be an informed shopper. Read Tom and Ray's guide "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 website at [www.cartalk.com](http://www.cartalk.com).

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on



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Distributed by King Features Syndicate

Refrigerator, Suitcase, Totes, Desk.  
Gilbert Taylor III - Clothing.  
Melissa Alvarado - 2001 Mitsubishi Galant 4-Door VIN 4A3AA46G11E074638 License # 442-CIK.

**U-Store-It # 751**  
**610 E. Stassney Lane**  
**Austin, TX 78745**  
**512-441-8300**

BITL LLC - Boxes, Chairs, Desks, Pictures, Table, File Cabinets.

Meriah Wright, Meriah J. Wright - Bags, Box Spring, Mattress, Boxes, Dresser, Lamps, Microwave, Sofa, Trunk, Artificial Plants, Night stand, Chair.

Stephen Torrez - Chairs, Dresser, Sofa, Table, Boxes.

Anthony Turner - Box Spring, Mattress, Boxes, Chairs, Clothing, Fan, Microwave, Table, Big Screen TV, Clothes Baskets, Exercise Dummy.

Eddy Martinez - Bags, Bed, Bookcase, Boxes, Dresser, Entertainment shelf, computer, CDs, Misc. Household Items.

JewDon Priestley - Bed Frame, Chairs, Radio, Shelves, Records, Cassette tape Cases, Glass, Music Equipment, Exercise Equipment.

Pamela Washington - Baby Crib, Bed, Books, Boxes, Lamps, Table, sofa, Table, Toys, TV, Washing Machine, Chairs, Foot Stool.

**U-Store-It # 748**  
**12006 RR 620 N**  
**Austin, Tx. 78745**  
**512-336-5333**

Sarah Ray - Sofa.  
Schannen Pearson - Mattress, Stereo, Love Seat, Chair, Futon, Book Shelves, Rug, Dolly, Tables.

Elizabeth Kristin - Bike, Ab Lounge Exercise Machine.

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE**  
The following property, currently housed at Budget Storage and Parking, 12001 Manchaca, is to be offered for sale to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to Texas Property Code, Chapter 59.

**Linda Smith - refrigerator, washer, dryer, hockey sticks, treadmill, karaoke machine**

**Linda Smith - couch, fax machine, dressers, file cabinet, misc. furniture**

**Linda Smith - desk, wheel barrel, game table, misc. items**

**Addison Sander - tires, lawn mower, weights, chairs, misc. items**

**Roger Gentry - computer monitor, printer, books, clothing, misc. items**

**Jennifer Monsevais - mattress, washer, dryer, bicycle, microwave, dog kennel, dresser, computer monitor, chairs, table, clothing, misc items**

**Beverly Batie - dog kennel, fan, computer printer, misc. items**

The sale shall be held at Budget Storage & Parking, 12001 Manchaca, Wednesday, February 6, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m. Property will be sold to highest bidder for cash. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property at any time prior to sale. Successful bidders shall be required to post a \$50.00 refundable deposit to ensure removal of property. Questions regarding this sale may be directed to Mrs. Liz Crum, Property Manager at (512) 282-7867.

**NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY**  
**State of Texas**  
**County of Travis**

**Cause: 206546** By virtue of an Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the Justice Court 5 Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, November 01, 2007, in cause numbered 206546, styled HCCC, INC versus ANGEL MACHELLE RALLS, JONATHAN T. MCM-

CHAEI, AND MJM INVESTMENTS D/B/A PARK PLACE APARTMENTS on a judgment rendered against ANGEL MACHELLE RALLS, JONATHAN T. MCMICHAEL, AND MJM INVESTMENTS D/B/A PARK PLACE APARTMENTS: I did on November 16, 2007, at 3:00 P.M., levy upon as the property of ANGEL MACHELLE RALLS, the following described real property:

**0.327 ACRES OF LAND, BEING ALL OF LOT 17 AND A PORTION OF LOTS 16 AND 18, BLK 1, GROOMS ADDN, A SUBDIVISION OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TEXAS, RECORDED IN VOL. 1, PAGE 59, PLAT RECORDS, TRAVIS CO. TEXAS, BEING THAT SAME PROPERTY CONVEYED TO ANGEL MACHELLE MCMICHAEL BY SPECIAL WARRANTY DEED RECORDED IN VOL. 12440, PAGE 1648... of the real property records of Travis County, Texas.**

On February 05, 2008, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 A.M., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of ANGEL MACHELLE RALLS, in and to the real property described above.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, December 31, 2007.

Bruce Elfant,  
Constable Precinct 5  
Travis County, Texas

/s/ Alan Redd  
by SENIOR DEPUTY ALAN REDD, Deputy

Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

**NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY**  
**State of Texas**  
**County of Travis**

**Cause: 030619265** By virtue of an Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the District Court 365 Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, November 15, 2007, in cause numbered 030619265, styled PEDRO REYES versus KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS on a judgment rendered against KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS: I did on December 17, 2007, at 2:00 p.m., levy upon as the property of KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS the following described real property:

**LOT SIX (6), OF WOODLAND HILLS, SECTION ONE, A SUBDIVISION IN TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED IN VOLUME 6, PAGE 105 OF THE PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS.**

On February 05, 2008, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS in and to the real property described above.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, January 09, 2008

Bruce Elfant,

Constable Precinct 5  
Travis County, Texas  
/s/ Alan Redd  
by SENIOR DEPUTY ALAN REDD, Deputy

Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

**NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY**  
**State of Texas**  
**County of Travis**

**Cause: DIGN07001613** By virtue of an Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the District Court 345 Court of TRAVIS County, Texas, November 26, 2007, in cause numbered DIGN07001613, styled RUDOLPH WILLIAMS versus KENNETH BROOKS AND VALIANT HOMES INC, JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY on a judgment rendered against KENNETH BROOKS AND VALIANT HOMES INC, JOINTLY AND SEVERALLY; I did on December 04, 2007, at 1:00 p.m., levy upon as the property of VALIANT HOMES INC the following described real property:

**Lot 2, Block 5, Kincheon Subdivision Section 1, a subdivision in Travis County, Texas according to the map or plat recorded in Volume 5, Page 115 of the real property records of Travis County, Texas of the map or plat records of Travis County, Texas.**

On February 05, 2008, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 a.m., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of VALIANT HOMES INC in and to the real property described above.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, December 17, 2007

Bruce Elfant,  
Constable Precinct 5  
Travis County, Texas

/s/ Alan Redd  
by SENIOR DEPUTY ALAN REDD, Deputy

Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor-Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST**

**THE ESTATE OF CLAUDIA B. MILLER** Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Claudia B. Miller were issued on January 8, 2008, in Cause No. 87,805, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: GERALDINE GRUETZNER

The address of such Independent Executor is 326 Gruetzner Lane, Elgin, Texas 78621. The Independent Executor directs that all claims against this Estate be addressed to:

GERALDINE GRUETZNER  
Representative of the Estate of CLAUDIA B. MILLER  
c/o Nancy N. Scherer  
Scherer & Scherer  
602 West 13th Street  
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 8th day of January, 2008.

NANCY N. SCHERER  
SCHERER & SCHERER  
602 WEST 13TH STREET  
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701  
ATTORNEYS FOR THE INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

**NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF RICHARD PHIPPS, DECEASED**

**OF APPOINTMENT OF INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of RICHARD PHIPPS were issued on the 4th day of December, 2007, in Cause No. 87692 pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: ANA AGUALLLO, INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR.

The residence of such Executor is Austin, Texas. The post office address is c/o Malcolm Greenstein, Greenstein & Kolker, 1006 E. Cesar Chavez Street, Austin, Texas, 78702.

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 18th day of January, 2008.

GREENSTEIN & KOLKER  
1006 E. Cesar Chavez Street  
Austin, Texas 78702  
(512) 472-6270  
(512) 472-8263 (FAX)  
Malcolm Greenstein  
Attorneys for Independent Executor

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary of Independent Administration for the Estate of Don Byars Morgan, Deceased, in Cause No. 87807, have been issued by the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Mary Walton Morgan.

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: LAW OFFICE OF CATHERINE A. MAUZY  
Attorney at Law  
700 Lavaca Street,  
Suite 1150  
Austin, Texas 78701

DATED the 9th day of January, 2008.

LAW OFFICES OF CATHERINE A. MAUZY  
700 Lavaca Street,  
Suite 1150  
Austin, Texas 78701

512/474-1493  
512/479-7910 FAX

By: /s/ Catherine A. Mauzy  
State Bar No. 13239400  
Margaret E. Tucker  
State Bar No. 00789912

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Daniel C. Haines, Deceased, were issued on November 29, 2007, in Cause No. 87654, pending

in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Robert Eric Guzman.

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: Brian T. Willie,  
Law Office of Willie & Dasher  
3755 Capital of Texas Highway South  
Suite 250  
Austin, TX 78704

DATED the 15th day of January, 2008.

Brian T. Willie, Law Office of Willie & Dasher  
Attorney for Robert Eric Guzman

State Bar No.: 24059330  
3755 Capital of Texas Highway South  
Suite 250  
Austin, TX 78704

Telephone: (512) 478-0834

Facsimile: (512) 478-1265

**NOTICE TO CREDITORS**

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lillie Mae Hawn, Deceased, were issued on December 20, 2007, in Cause No. 87763, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: William C. Hawn.

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: Brian T. Willie,  
Law Office of Willie & Dasher  
3755 Capital of Texas Highway South  
Suite 250  
Austin, TX 78704

DATED the 15th day of January, 2008.

Brian T. Willie, Law Office of Willie & Dasher  
Attorney for William C. Hawn  
State Bar No.: 24059330  
3755 Capital of Texas Highway South  
Suite 250  
Austin, TX 78704

Telephone: (512) 478-0834

Facsimile: (512) 478-1265

**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.Grounds Maintenance - TNR Parks, B080074-RG  
Opens: January 28, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767.

Specifications can be 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](http://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 ENGINEERS**

**TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS**

Notice is hereby given that qualification statements will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1. Professional Engineering Services for the Design of the Imperial Valley Drive Design Project, RFQ Q080082-LP  
Opens: January 30, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.

2. Professional Architectural/Engineering/Landscape Architect Services for the design of the Northeast Metro Park Improvements, Phase III, in Precinct 2, RFQ Q080083-LP  
Opens: February 7, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.

**AN OPTIONAL PRE-PRO-**

**POSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 23, 2008 @ 10:00 A.M.**

Qualifications statements 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](http://www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp).

**PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS** Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of LUCILLE ANN BRIGHTBILL STEGMAN were issued on January 8, 2008 in Docket Number 87840, pending in the Probate No. One, Travis County, Texas to HAROLD LEROY STEGMAN, JR., Independent Executor. The address of record for HAROLD LEROY STEGMAN, JR. is 11029 Mint Julep Drive, Austin, Texas 78748. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims to the foregoing address within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

S/ HAROLD LEROY STEGMAN, JR.  
Independent Executor of the Estate of LUCILLE ANN BRIGHTBILL STEGMAN

**SUMMONS IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DIVISION OF ST. CROIX CIVIL NO. 296/2006 ACTION FOR DAMAGES JURY TRIAL DEMANDED**  
CHERENE WILLIAMS individually and as Mother and Next of Friend for ROHAN WATSON, JR., CHERENE WATSON, ROSHAWN WATSON, CHERAINE CHRISTIAN, and MALIKA FELIX, minors, Plaintiffs, v. STEVEN LEJEUNE and BRUCE MERRITT, WYATT V.I., INC., CARIBBEAN AUTO MART I/k/a ANTILLES AUTOMOTIVE, CARMELO ORTIZ TORRES d/b/a HIGHBRIDGE AUTOMOTIVE, "BILLIE DOE", Defendants.

Address: 4252 Country Road 141, Leona, Texas 75850

Witness my hand and the Seal of the Court this 30th day of July, 2007.

DENISE ABRAMSEN  
Clerk of the Court

By: /s/ Sharlene Turnbull  
Court Clerk #

/s/ Lee J. Rohn, Esquire  
Law Offices of Rohn and Cameron, LLC

1101 King Street  
Christiansted, VI 00820

Telephone: (340) 778-8855  
Facsimile: (340) 773-2954

Note: The defendant, if served personally, is required to file his answer or other defense with the Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the plaintiff's attorney within twenty (20) days after service of this summons, excluding the date of services. The defendant, if served by publication or by personal service outside the jurisdiction, is required to file his answer or other defense with the Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the attorney for the plaintiff within thirty (30) days after the completion of the period of publication or personal service outside of the jurisdiction.

**X98-08658**  
**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**

**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Tra-

vis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered X99-08658, wherein Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Austin Community College and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Walter Langdon, Jr., Walter Langdon, III, Paula Campbell, City of Austin (In Rem Only) and Travis County, Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin and County Education District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 81111 = \$15,439.72 and Tract Two: Billing Number 81130 = \$29,324.92** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on June 23, 2006.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**TRACT ONE: Billing Number 81111**  
 Lot 1 and the East 1/2 of Lot 2, Block 12, Belcher Re-subdivision of a portion of Glenwood Addition, Plat No. 232/618 as described in Volume 2147, Page 520 and Probate Cause No. 55,671 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas

**TRACT TWO: Billing Number 81130**  
 Lot 6, Block 4, Glenwood Addition (Oit. 32 & 33, Div. B), Plat No. 2/154 as described in Volume 614, Page 395, Volume 621, Page 414 and Probate Cause No. 44,335 and 55,671 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: **Tract One: Billing Number 81111 = \$15,439.72 and Tract Two: Billing Number 81130 = \$29,324.92** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.  
 BRUCE ELFANT,  
 CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
 BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY  
 ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

X99-09504  
**CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE**  
**REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES**  
 BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered X99-09504, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Jay Cooper, Trustee and Michael B. Suffness, PC (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$75,659.92 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment

recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 17, 2006.  
 I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

**Lot 28, Block B, Violet Crown Heights, Section 1, Plat No. 4/256, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 3756, Page 486; Volume 10628, Page 583, Volume 13185, Page 265 and Volume 13207, Page 166 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.**

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$75,659.92 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.  
 BRUCE ELFANT,  
 CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS  
 BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY  
 ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.



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'08 MERCEDES 350clt  
 Black convertible, very low miles, 2 months old!, \$53,000  
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**620 SUV'S**

'99 TOYOTA RAV4L \$7,500. Black, 88,250 miles, good condition and appraised at Carmax for \$8,650. Auto, power, cruise control, & more! email Celine05@gmail.com

**VOLKSWAGEN JETTA**  
 2000 New tires, heated seats, inspected, good condition. Local inquiries only. Cash only. No checks/money orders. 740-8914

**615 TRUCKS**

**AUTOS** Wanted 1995 or newer cars, trucks, vans, or SUVs. Wrecked, running or not. Mike 796-4081



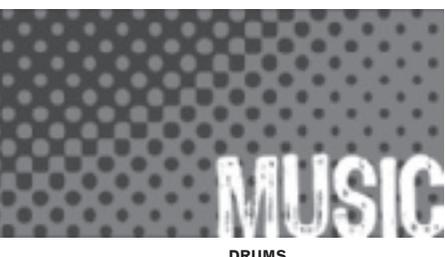
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- 1991 Mercedes 300SE \$2950 (trade possible)  
 Recent complete overhaul with new timing chain, valve job. A classy classic (needs minor TLC) that looks and drives excellently!
- NEW! 1991 Corolla \$2950  
 Four-door, auto, warranty, A/C, looks & drives super.
- 1992 Celica Convertible \$4250  
 In process of complete restoration, 127k, full warranty, go with the top down and the tunes up.
- 1992 Accord \$2750  
 Two-door, auto, looks & drives super. Higher highway miles
- NEW! 1993 Civic Si \$3950  
 Two-door, 5-speed. 75,000 miles. New shiny red paint. This one is NICE! Warranty.
- 1995 Civic \$2950  
 Four-door, 5-speed, new motor
- 1996 Camry \$4500  
 Auto, 134k, looks and drives like new. Full warranty.
- 1997 Jeep Grand Cherokee Laredo \$3950  
 Leather, auto. Just installed a new motor & timing chain. Cosmetically & mechanically a "10." Recent 65 point check.
- 1997 Ford Ranger \$3950  
 V6, 107k, Really clean.
- 2000 Toyota Solara \$5950 (can trade)  
 Two-door, V6, loaded. An extremely clean car that had cosmetic damage (fully repaired). Dark green with biscuit leather. Gorgeous!
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## THE LUV DOC

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Monday is MLK Day. If you're one of those fortunate 33% of Americans who actually get the day off, knuckles, yo. You deserve some extra shuteye. Nothing wears a body out like a grueling eight-hour shift in some faceless bureaucratic sinkhole. You have to work three times as hard when everything has to be done in triplicate, right? Just maybe not three times as fast, and one less day shuffling down fluorescent-lit corridors at a sleepwalkers pace for no other apparent purpose than to generate static electricity in your orthopedic shoes is reason enough to get on the civil rights bandwagon, isn't it? Not to mention you can work that same slow, shuffling gait past all those sucker furniture salesmen and department store clerks who are surely wishing they could hitch a ride on the government gravy train too. Sadly, that's about the limit of possible MLK Day merriment. Sure there are political rallies, a smattering of marches and parades, a lecture or two, but ultimately, MLK Day lacks the festivity of a St. Patrick's Day or Valentine's Day or even a Cinco de Mayo. This may have something to do with the fact that it's wicked cold outside in January. It could also have something to do with the fact that MLK Day is a relatively new holiday - a holiday memorializing a man who got shot in the head by a stupid cracker - or maybe a conspiracy of stupid crackers, depending on who you believe. Regardless, it's hard to find a party angle that doesn't seem a little disrespectful. Given enough time however, you can bet that Anheuser-Busch, Miller, and Coors will come up with something to put the PAR-TAY in MLK. That's the bottom line: MLK Day hasn't made it to prime time because corporate America hasn't figured out how to make money off it. Give the Madison Avenue product pimps enough time and pretty soon the shelves at Walgreens will fill up with Martin Luther King Cakes, I Have a Dreamcatchers, Civil Right Guard, Selma-Nilla Wafers, and Montgomery Bus Boycottage Cheese. That's when the real party starts. Until then you'll just have to make do with relatively somber, reverent memorials to one of America's greatest civil rights champions. Or, you could go to Alamo Drafthouse Downtown where, as a part of their usual Music Monday series will be featuring *James Brown Live 1968*, a recording of a live, televised broadcast of the James Brown concert at Boston Garden that took place less than 24 hours after the Martin Luther King assassination. City leaders felt that televising the concert would keep attendance down and thus limit the possibility of rioting in the downtown area. They were right. Only 2000 people showed up for the concert in a venue with capacity for 14,000. True to form, Brown still put on a blistering performance. The legacy of the concert however, is an extraordinary recording of Brown at the peak of his abilities and a moving historical document of the times. If you're still revved up after the show, you can attend an afterparty at the Jackalope sponsored by Dewar's featuring music from the film. Sounds like a crazy cultural clusterfuck, maybe not the promised land Dr. King described, but at least a little bit closer.

### ~INTOXICATING SENSUAL SADIST~

Live the fantasies you never thought possible with a brutally attractive Dominatrix. I have years of playtime experience and an incredible arsenal of toys. Are you my next willing pet? **DominaShannon**, 29, #124643

### MALE BODY LOVER

Looking for a "friend" not just a hook-up. Someone who is outgoing, an outdoor lover, intelligent and maybe a bit of a nerd. **rockett2222**, 34, #124473

### YES MASTER

Want someone to take charge. Sex in public. When there is the thrill of getting caught. Sex in front of others, either aware or not really turns me on! **LANAWIL**, 52, #124093

### GODDESS OF LOVE

I enjoy intellectual conversation with company and demand respect from men. Ultimately, I want someone to genuinely display interest in getting to know me. **lolita**, 27, #123960

### CUTE BI-CURIOS FEMALE

I am looking for someone around my age group, no older than 34. Experienced or inexperienced. Must be attractive, either Latina or Caucasian and be around my same weight. **austingr107**, 23, #123569

### REWARDING DOM

Looking for a consistent submissive, not a one time experience. Would like to meet them before anything sexual obviously. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me. **Tomorrows-Worse**, 23, #123509

### AUDACIOUS BEAUTY+ BRAIN

I see beauty beyond the orthodox vision of american eyes and seek someone with a strong sense of identity and awareness of the world willing to explore sensuality and sexuality. **SymposiumLover**, 20, #119431

### LIBRARIAN LOVER

In an open marriage. Not looking for a relationship. More like a rainstorm; a fun and honest lover. Please no christians or republicans Must love films and libraries. **LucifersWaitress**, 27, #119103

### WANTING SOME FUN

Young couple seeking a third for some fun and play. This would be a first time for us but are excited and looking forward to some fun. **maryagogo**, 18, #124721

### WE LIKE NUDITY

We are an average horny couple looking for other couples and bi females for naked fun. **davrinatx**, 38, #124671

### SHARE OUR BIRTHDAYS

We're a couple of old hippies who don't feel or act old. Butterfly very sensual and beautiful soul. Dog is into music. Looking for bi female for all night 3-some birthday celebration. **Butterflyanddog**, 50, #124509

### HORNY HISPANIC CPL

Married Hisp. cpl seek adult encounters. Mostly MFM, at times ply alone. She wants clean cut, endwd, Hisp. men 32yo>. Both 40, DDF, avg lks, 5'6", 190#, clean cut, endwd. **115536**, 46, #115536

### BI COUPLE LOOKING

attractive, experienced couple seeking bi couples or single bi individuals for erotic play, lots of fun, like to play dress up, love heels, and naughty. big on bedroom eyes, great smiles. **playfullpair**, 33, #124429

### THREE IS COMPANY

We're an attractive African-American couple looking for another to female to join us in spreading a little holiday cheer. Be ready to please, I guarantee you will be. **Threeiscompany2**, 23, #124414

### FIRST TIME COUPLE

We are a couple in love but wanting to expand our sexual pleasures. this would be our first time but we are very open minded. We're in our 40's. **080764**, 43, #124403

### SENSUALCPLSEEKING SPICE

We are a committed middle-aged couple interested in experimenting with like-minded individuals/couples to add spice to our hot lovemaking. If the words discreet, sensual, erotic, passionate, imaginative, fun interest you, contact us. **garf5848**, 48, #123217

### EXPAND YOUR HORIZON

bi-curious, sexy, stylish, feminine, exotic woman. looking for adventures with sexy guys and feminine girls. Chemistry is a must. I long for sophistication more than anything else. **mnesosyne**, 32, #124135

### DISCRETION WITH BENEFITS

Kinda-bi looking 4 same. No couples. Just party and play together. Love girl kissing & playing grab ass. I am pretty, femme and looking for the same; no make up, waifs ok. **lzy11**, 31, #117594

### LESBIAN LOVE

I'm a petite fem girl looking to mess around with similar. Preferably around my age and no strings attached. **heybaby**, 19, #123524

### KINKY BOOK LOVER

I'm just a kinky nerdy girl looking for some kinky nerdy sex. Can you flog me while you make me conjugate Latin verbs? If so, we should meet! **Plagosa**, 25, #123241

### ANY SUGGESTIONS?

27yro, 5'3, 145, athletic, Brn/Brn, MWF. Laid-back, flexible and love to laugh. Seeks discreet, fun and safe sexual encounter(s) with a woman. **Pierce**, 27, #123112

### WHAT YOU SEE

What you see is what you get, no lies, you wat to know something ask the answer will be truthfull. Am also looking for a friend as well. **Puddly**, 36, #122311

### ATTRACTIVE, INEXPERIENCED, BI-CURIOS

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**, 47, #120088

### 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**, 30, #119900

### SEEKING SWITCH PARTNER

You-looking for fun first and foremost with no pre-conceived expectations. US: Just average people looking for an above average time ;) Prefer sf, couples ok. Inexperienced welcomed. Honesty refreshing. **Bifemaustincpl**, 31, #121712

### FOOT/WS SLAVE

Seeking straight or bi masculine, slim buddies who love to be spoiled with foot massages. If your interested in either foot massages, write me. **Male-FootSearch**, 46, #123872

### TICKLE THERAPY

Need a good laugh? Expert tickler will use his wicked light touch everywhere from armpits to toes. Cute, smart, easy-going, respectful, and thorough! Can email a pic on request. **feather\_fingers**, 40, #122033

### SEXUAL ARTIST

Write if you want to know a well-rounded, intelligent, thoughtful, sexy man. I enjoy well-rounded hispanic, black and italian men. Low maintenance kind of guy. Casual encounters are fine. **cookster**, 48, #121616

### ROCK STAR

wild and wet and ready for who every who want it can get it's just like that. **RICHBO169**, 20, #124735

### HOT NAKED TICKLING

BIWM seeks a nice guy or girl who likes mutual erotic tickling. 33, 6' 0", 165#, DDF, Br/Hzl, safe, sane, playful, intelligent. Seeking slender, white, 18-35, DDF, friendly, LTR possible. **austintickling**, 33, #124633

### PLAYTIME

I am a playful man looking for others to open their minds and lets have some fun. **Sowrong**, 48, #119751

### MAN'S LADY'S MAN

Handsome, classy, sensual lady's man who loves to be a soft, silky man's lady. Seeking couples and women for a walk on the wild side in my sexy French lingerie. **Pantyboy**, 42, #123387

### SUB BI MALE

Experienced, kinky, submissive, bi male, into almost everything! Sane, safe, DD free, discrete, nasty, kinky and looking to play! **subslut**, 44, #122208

### TXSIZELOV'IN

I'm looking for fun. Play well with others, easy going and a big smile. Open to try anything once. If I like, I did it again. **BigSmileKeith**, 43, #122157

### WACO SUBMISSIVE MALE

I am an athletic, ddf, bisexual male that is single. I am more of a sub/bottom type and I seek to play that role with males, females, couples, and TV/TS. **biguywaco**, 49, #121961

### BLONDE SHEMALE TOP

Hot Blonde TS girl, likes to have late night (no strings) fun. Seeking HOT FIT WHITE Guys that like whats going on between my legs. **BlondeHottie**, 33, #101055

### SEXY CROSSDRESSER

Sexy Crossdresser looking for force feminization to teach me the proper ways of womanhood. I have sexy B cupped breasts. Love lingerie, Corsets, Girdles, ect. I'm open to anything new. **jackie66**, 41, #122825

### 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**, 48, #119822

### SEXY TS

iim a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. iim 5'10 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. iim very classy, too, and dress very provocatively. iim 28 years old. **nicole\_anais**, 30, #115140

### LOVEABLE HORNY PERVERT-VIRGIN

I'm a virgin that's willing to try just about anything. I'm willing to learn as long as you're willing to teach. I'd rather have love but I'm told I should-have-sex-for-now. **TheLonelyLover**, 20, #124746

### VAMPIRE WANTS PLEASURE!!!

21 yr old vampire living on the south-side of Austin seeking new 'pets' to play with! I love the goth/industrial scene, but am open to just about anything. Very spontaneous!! **DARKSALEM**, 21, #124698

### WHETTIVISTHEONE

I am a 35 yo male looking to explore and experience new sexual activities. I would love to be your first. **whetty**, 35, #124682

### ENERGIZER

I am here to help... Couples or single women that want to spice up their sex life should say hello. I workout 5-6 days a week and have stamina for days. **Single\_In\_Austin**, 24, #124652

### HORNY PLEASURE SEEKER

New to austin, to find some fun. Would enjoy meeting someone open minded fun and up to enjoy some times together! NSA or friends with benefits Come on ladies! **sparks**, 41, #124641

### TAT2'D CLEAN WHITETRASH!

down to earth single white male look'n for cool and relax'd people to have sexual fun with...i'm pretty open..u should b to!! south austin rules baby!!! **herbn\_cowboy**, 32, #124598

### OPENMINDED, NUDIST SWINGER

I am extremely open minded laid back, nudist, swinger and love sex in any place and time. I live on private and secluded land I host alternative parties. **gogetnaked**, 57, #115993

### RUG MUNCHER!!!

good lookin hispanic dude looking for some fun in the after hours. you know when you go out and come home horny as hell wishing you would've got some? **scattereddrummer**, 24, #124532

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ISO S/DM likes conversation, Hill Country, food, witty lady to share with. I'm 45, look 30s, kinda smart too. Bring brain, sense of humor; let's have an adventure! **WhiteRaven**, 45, #124674

**HARDWORKING, BOLD, INDEPENDENT**  
I generally focus on people's positive characteristics and enjoy making new friends. I would like to meet people that enjoy live music, beach and the great outdoors. **hrml3**, 51, #124727

**OPEN MINDED FUN**  
I am just a girl looking for someone that likes music, to hangout, watch movies. I don't like people that hold you back or doubt you. **nichole05**, 23, #124680

**COUNTRY GIRL**  
I am a smart and outgoing person. I love to do just about anything but no heights. I love going to sports events (especially football games **HOOK 'EM HORNS**). **Firecracker**, 22, #124675

**SOMETHING REAL & FUN.**  
Down to earth, love outdoors, travel, music, friends. I am cute, great smile, easy to talk to. Looking for a guy that can be understanding, fun, have his own life. **julesps**, 34, #124628

**SPRINKLE OF "SUGAR"**  
Attractive, strong willed, semi retired model, seeking romance, fun times and tour guide to help get settled in new town. Easygoing, drama free. If you don't sweat the small stuff, we're off to a great start! **MizSugah**, 45, #124629

**DAYTRIPS, NITELUBS, & INBETWEEN**  
Quirky and a little sarcastic, but good hearted and fun to be with. Not looking for anything but fun shared, squared, whatever. **cheerfully\_optimistic**, 50, #124627

**NY TO ATX**  
Looking for something a bit more serious than in my past. My life is super easy going....get to know me more and i'll tell you how lucky i really am. **substance\_etc**, 25, #124617

**AFFECTIONATE GUY WANTED**  
Female from Round Rock seeking heavy-set catholic 18-25 yr old male; must be affectionate and open-minded. **Amyjust-spelledifferent**, 18, #124606

**SCISSORTAIL FLYCATCHER**  
I am just a girl looking for someone to share my heart with who doesn't mind my dog sharing the bed. Sing to me and I'll melt at your feet. **Lucypie**, 22, #124605

**ADVENTURE**  
I enjoy spending time outdoors-beach, boating, fishing, camping, hiking, exploring. I love to dance especially C&W. I am looking for someone who likes to explore, adventure, intimacy, and communicating. **chrmarn56**, 51, #124596

**SEEKING FELLOW TRAVELER**  
I'm funny and smart, know foreign languages, but sadly, I am lousy at reading maps. If you're looking for a navigator, count me out. **isis\_isis\_ra\_ra\_a**, 54, #124531

**SEXY SMART EXSISTENTIALIST.**  
Ok here is the part that I hate more when doing this single looking for that prince charming thing. **angeleve**, 38, #124314

**FUNNY, KIND, WITTY.**  
Vivacious, kind, fit, petite, fun, fun to be with, smart, very family oriented loves the outdoors, organic wines, the gym, movies, the arts, healthy lifestyle, would love to find, a friend to enjoy what Austin has to offer. **Spanishrose**, 41, #124282

**WHERE ARE YOU?**  
Looking for my match. I'm fun, outgoing, somewhat witty, love animals and music. Looking for someone for me to get to know and hopefully date and see where it goes. **deenadub**, 34, #124272

**MS. GOOD... NOT-AT-A-BAR?**  
academic refugee, newly returned to Austin looking to make new friends - lazy Sundays with the NYT, nice restaurants, planning trips, snarky comments that crack us up, interested? **gamble1976**, 46, #124706

**AN INDIVIDUAL**  
I would say im a fun/ creative/ open person, who loves the hanging out and meet new people. So I am looking for new friends to have fun with. **gator3183**, 24, #124694

**X-GEN 3-D ARTIST**  
GEN-X artist, 41, Dripping Springs. Looking to be inspired, let's create a future. Companionship with integrity, romance, and intimacy makes life vastly enriched. No cigs, parents, players, or wannabees. **Davvo**, 41, #124679

**SEE WHAT HAPPENS**  
Once you meet me you will see I am very genuine, open and honest. Too hard to form an opinion here. Let's meet for a drink and see what happens. **Someonegenuine**, 54, #124672

**WHERE ARE YOU?**  
I'm a pretty laid back guy...looking for a funny, sometime dirty minded chick to hang out, go out, have some drinks and have some fun with. No drama and NSA... **mrboscoe**, 35, #124668

**SEEKING GOOD WOMAN**  
Are there any left? Good guy with shit together seeks honest, decent, sexy woman with some moxie. No teases or flakes. **Texan483**, 27, #124654

**ATTRACTIVE, INTELLECTUAL, INTELLIGENT!**  
I'm reborn in start something real. You must be Healthy, Outdoorsy, Positive outlook on life, Attractive, Intellectual, not taller than 5'7". Prefer Blue/Green/exotic eyes. OPEN MINDED! Willing to Vacation! IsThatU? **CharlesIII**, 25, #124650

**DOESTHISCOUNTASONEWORD**  
I'm reborn in the outdoors, I sleep best in a tent or under the stars. I enjoy long conversations, beautiful music, and powerful movies. I'm green, organic, and open minded. **mathiashenry**, 30, #124622

**FUN ADVENTUROUS HUMOROUS**  
Well, I am new to Austin. Will surely like to meet people here. You will definitely have a lot of fun... **hady**, 23, #124611

**FUN, ATHLETIC GUY**  
I am new to the Austin area. I teach and coach, and I am looking to get back into the dating scene. **runner25**, 25, #124610

**SMART GENUINE FUNNY**  
Some of my favorite activities are listening to live music, swimming in Barton Springs, walking Mt. Bonnell, and toasting the sunset at the Oasis. **Bluenote**, 34, #124594

**CURIOUS THOUGHTFULL INTREASTING**  
Im 22 years old but feel 30. Life has been rough but has showed me what doesnt kill you helps you overcome crappy situations. Hopping to meet somebody interesting. **Nemo6987**, 22, #124589

**CONSCIOUS SEEKS CUTIE**  
I am looking for something meaningful. It is time for me to have a girlfriend and find love again. I like sweet girls, who are affectionate and participate. **substance**, 30, #124583

**CITY COUNTRY BOY**  
Well now, ladies hold on to your petticoats 'cause this old cowhand is on the loose. Hope you don't take me too seriously, cause I'm just out to have fun. **Januaryman**, 58, #124578

**TRYING STUFF OUT**  
I moved from missouri two years ago and haven't branched out as much as should. I'd like to find some one doesn't mind good natured debate about movies and music. **SttScorpio**, 22, #115723

**AWAKENED**  
I have been working on my artist project for awhile. Now I have the quality time to find friends and enjoy life. I'm very open, honest person but shy around people. **magic**, 50, #124075

**SKINNYDIP ANYONE?**  
like's animals, live shows, hot people, bubbles, movies/tv shows and barton springs. hate's tomato's, spelling, the mall, cigarettes and awkward moments. I like very pretty girls who are sure of themselves. **smile4me**, 18, #123970

**OUTSPOKEN MUSIC LOVER**  
I love music, from rap to rock to spanish pop. I got tattoos, O's gauges and piercings. Im a communications major with a sense of perverted humor who cooks mexican food **ORALE!** **misshexum**, 21, #123761

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## men SEEKING women

**LOOKIN' 4 ....**  
I recently moved to Austin a few weeks ago and still getting familiar with the City. Looking for some people to hang out with. **BK**, 27, #124545

**ADVENTUROUS, AMBITIOUS, FRISKY**  
Me: Adventurous, Ambitious, Dynamic, Frisky, Vivacious, Romantic You: Real. **LocaVida**, 48, #124524

**OLD FASHIONED GAL**  
Hi my name is Beth. I am new to austin and would like to have some people escort me around town. Hope to talk to you soon. **beth311**, 47, #124511

**LOST IN AUSTIN**  
New to the area and looking for new friends. I love to laugh and have a pretty wild sense of humor...thick skinned only need apply! **itsonlydaria**, 41, #124489

**NATURAL, EARTHY, MUSIC-LOVER**  
I am a very simple, honest, and joyful woman. I am interested in making friends with those who guide their life with their heart. **Cypress**, 50, #124380

**BEAUTIFUL WILD CHILD**  
I'm new to Austin and I'm just interested in meeting people to hang out with. I'm a struggling Artist that likes to ride on motorcycles and in fast cars. **Queen\_Corvina**, 31, #124343

**I'LL LOVE YOU**  
The greatest thing, you'll ever learn, is just to love, and be loved, in return. It's a phrase that comes to mind every day. Being loved is all I want. **LonelyLover**, 20, #124740

**UP FOR ANYTHING**  
ima laid back guy . i love summer, you can usually find me on the lake wakeboarding , i go downtown. in winter i go to colorado to snowboard . **byerly54**, 25, #124744

**THREE WORDS..?**  
In general im a decent guy who gets bored easily.. I need people that will keep me entertained. I will finish this thing later. **piercerjason**, 23, #124739

**PLEASE PICK ME!**  
Just moved to Austin. I like to read, hang out at coffee shops, and swim. I've been told I've got a great sense of humor. **peloncito**, 36, #124723

**WELL HELLOOOOOO, YOU**  
If anything, I could use more friends. You can never have enough people that care about you. **Ramiro**, 28, #124716

**ROCKIN!!**  
i like to have fun pretty much always down to do anything :) i am looking for a girl that is fun and easy going kinda looking for a relationship. **raenius**, 26, #124715

**LOOKING FOR MYDREAMGIRL**  
I'm looking to meet a special woman for a long term relationship. I'm also willing to try casual dating or the friends with benefits if a physical attraction exists. **transformer**, 39, #124707

## women SEEKING women

**YOUNG OPEN ADVENTURER**  
I hope my ambition doesn't drive me crazy. I appreciate people, feel that everyone has something. I'm hot, cold, black, gray, white, good, bad, city, country. I like petite. **iamclrbld**, 23, #124648

**FEMME 4 RELATIONSHIP**  
My name is Sarah... honestly looking for a relationship 20 y/o. Long, Blk hr, Drk Brwn lz, 5'4, 110, Brwn Skn Lotz of pics I hope you do to :D. **SekCBinX**, 20, #124419

**JUST LOOKING**  
Looking for a long time too. Can't find the right Bi woman. Could it be you? Guess I'll just cross my fingers and see. I'm pretty picky, but not Dicky. **LoversInParadise**, 50, #124333

**KINK FREAK**  
So..i am a super cool chic, according to myself. I love the nightlife. I love gorgeous girls, not boy looking types. I'm always down for whatever. **tbozalcious**, 22, #124160

**LOUDLOVINGLOSER**  
outgoing, talkative person. i adore my friends, family & pets. lover of all music & film genres. can't beat a good live show when paired with good company, makes for the best dates. **rieslingowl**, 20, #124126

**SIMPLE, FUNNY, DRAMALESS**  
Respectfully entirely too open minded. I process my thoughts before they leave my mouth. I like shows. I'm pretty funny, serious when needed, more glass full type. **Rebecka\_Ann**, 24, #124084

**LANGUID, LAVISH LOVER**  
Soft nerd, 25-year old bookseller looking for casual dates and marathon rolls in the hay. Don't deny me the pleasure of your company. **Pippin**, 25, #123723

## men SEEKING men

**BES1971**  
GBM 6'0 175lbs black/brown. Told I have a nice smile. Like to cook/ bake, sing, dance, travel, read, theater/ movies, hiking/camping, swimming, bowling. Looking for W/H/M to start out as friends that may lead to LTR. Serious reply. **NIUU**, 36, #124639

**PAPIMORENO**  
Slender, fit professional Latino seeking available fit guys for dating, open to a never-ending relationship. I enjoy dancing, working out, massaging, yoga. My best quality my huge heart. **124268**, 55, #124268

**TAKE THE PLUNGE**  
Stable single guy looking to meet nice guys for fun, friendship, and possible long term romance. I enjoy biking, dining, cooking, as well as quiet times at home. **timebuddy**, 54, #121119

**IS IT YOU?**  
Where have all the good men gone? I am hoping that you are still there and that you are looking for me too. **GBM**, 39, looking for you. **Colorado**, 39, #123381

**BROODING, SHALLOW, PEDANTIC**  
pragmatist seeks cheeky times. Competent, well balanced men over 30 preferred; short, meaty/ husky/ stocky, overly educated a plus. Not looking for hookups, instant romance, or teetotalers. Me: 30yo, 6'0, 185lbs, VGL-fit, masc. **Sarkany**, 31, #123189

**CUTE ITALIAN LEO**  
I am a poet, a writer, a digital graphic artist, a Romantic, a Macintosh guru and a funny guy. I love the outdoors: camping, hiking, picnicking. Oh, and I'm HIV-positive. **panepinto**, 42, #121697

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## ModestMoses

AM I SERIOUSLY DOING THIS

Well now, here we go. I am a 22 year old filmmaker who happens to manage an ice cream shop to pay the bills. I spend a lot of my free time just hanging out. I like to go downtown on the weekends with friends( mainly hang around Red River) and just relax/ dance at area bars. I'm looking for a girl that likes to have just as much fun as I do. Not any more and not any less. As stated before I'm 22 years old and I would like to start moving forward in life. I'm trying to find someone going my same direction.

read the rest of **MODESTMOSSES'** profile  
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# FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsky for January 18 - January 24

**CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19):** When Doris Lessing was informed she'd won the Nobel Prize for Literature, she said, "I couldn't care less." What prompted her to be so blasé about receiving the world's foremost award for writers? Can you imagine what her state of mind was? I think you'll be able to after this week, Capricorn. You're likely to get a major ego stroke that isn't all that big a deal to you, mostly because you already know how valuable you are and don't need external confirmation of that fact.

**AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18):** While riding my bicycle through a quiet neighborhood this afternoon, I saw two girls fiddling with the gate of a tall wooden fence. They were frustrated because it wouldn't open and let them inside. One kicked the gate. The other tried unsuccessfully to climb up to reach down over the top to the latch on the other side. Finally, the younger girl put her hand under the gate and managed to free some obstruction on the other side. The gate opened. "I got it! I got it!" she yelled, jumping up and down with exhilarated triumph. I foresee those words and that emotion flying out of you soon when you, too, finally open a metaphorical door that has been stuck.

**PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20):** The president of the United States is George W. Bush, but the secret president of the United States is ... well, I can't tell you, can I, because then he or she wouldn't be secret anymore, right? I can reveal this, though: The secret president of the United States is working furiously behind the scenes to create a world in which generosity, not fear, is the prime motivator - a world whose moral system is rooted in beauty, love, pleasure, and liberation instead of control, repression, propaganda, and profit. And the secret president of the United States has a special assignment for you to carry out in the coming months, Pisces. Are you ready to become more of a leader than you've ever been before? Do you have the courage to be an inspirational role model who motivates people through the power of beauty, love, pleasure, and liberation?

**ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19):** I urge you to spend 2008 turning all of your pretty good but half-developed notions into a few brilliant, fully formed ideas. While you're at it, melt down your hundreds of wishy-washy wishes and recast them into three driving desires. This is the Year of Pinpoint Aim, Aries, also known as the Year of Lasering Your Focus and the Year of Seeing with Fierce Clarity. Psyche yourself up for a major campaign to cut the crap so the essence can shine.

**TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20):** My sensitive poet friend Carson taught criminals in a penitentiary how to write haiku poems. Novelist Margaret Atwood gave a class on the absurdist writing of Franz Kafka to engineers in British Columbia. And in 2008 I'll ask you to share your gifts with people you've always assumed wouldn't be receptive to you. Let alone be able to benefit from your unique talents. Get ready to push past your boundaries in the coming months, Taurus. Extend your sphere of influence and appeal to a larger audience.

**GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20):** As I approached a pickup truck from behind while out driving my car, I saw an unlikely bumper sticker. It said "Surf Colorado." But Colorado is a landlocked place, I thought to myself, more than a thousand miles from the ocean. At the next red light, I got closer to the truck and was able to read the fine print: "In your river kayak, you don't need an ocean to catch a wave." What a perfect message to convey to my Gemini readers, I mused, and resolved to write it into this horoscope. In fact, you are currently in a phase when you don't need an ocean to surf. Nor, for that matter, do you need a plane in order to fly, a soulmate to achieve romantic rapture, or money to be rich. Your imaginative powers are peaking at the same time as your resourcefulness.

**CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22):** "Dear Rob: Help! When I give love I feel powerful but when I accept love I feel weak. So even though I dearly crave love, when someone tries to give it to me I run away. I'm afraid of the vulnerability that comes from being the recipient of the gift; I'm afraid of being in debt to the person who's offering it; I'm afraid of the loss of control that comes from not providing myself with everything I need; and I'm afraid that if I accept love, I'll get addicted to it, and then how will I cope if it goes away? What can I do? Cowardly Crab." Dear Crab: In the coming weeks, the universe will conspire to help you find new ways to think about these riddles. You'll have tremendous access to the precise kind of courage you need.

**LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22):** I want to call your attention to a scene in the independent film *Autism: The Musical*. Neal is a 12-year-old autistic boy who has never spoken a complete sentence, not even to his beloved mother Elaine. He can barely form words. If you ask him to say "bar," he'll say "rahb." Elaine brings him to a therapist who guides autistic kids in using a machine that produces vocal sounds corresponding to words the kids type on a keyboard. For the first time, Neal's mom hears a message from her son: "Mom, I'm going to put you on the spot. You need to do more listening." I expect you will soon experience a metaphorically comparable event, Leo: A source you love will communicate with you in a novel way. Be receptive. Listen hard.

**VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22):** In 1954, the writer Albert Camus said, "A person's life purpose is nothing more than to rediscover, through the detours of art or love or passionate work, those one or two images in the presence of which his heart first opened." In the first month of 2008, a humble astrology columnist, yours truly, used Camus' words to direct Virgos toward one of their primary tasks in the year ahead.

**LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22):** A few months ago I went to a costume party on the cruise ship *Ecstatic*, which was docked in San Francisco Bay. The theme was "The Ecstatic Muse: What is the future of your own turn-on?" I recommend you make that your meditation in the coming weeks, Libra. According to my analysis of the astrological omens, you're overdue for a rigorous inventory of your approach to creating rapture, bliss, and joy. If in the course of your investigations you find you've been neglecting this essential aspect of your physical and mental health, take dramatic steps to upgrade your zeal. It's time to get more aggressive about feeling excited.

**SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21):** Internet pundit Ariana Huffington realized she was working too hard when she got so exhausted she passed out and broke her cheek-bone on her desk. Resolved to give herself more slack, she decided to carry just two BlackBerry with her at all times instead of the three that had been her constant companions. I request that you perform at least two similar acts of self-care in the coming week, Scorpio. They could come in the form of either eliminating complications, as Huffington did, or else adding luxurious treats. For example, you might want to arrange to be massaged in warm water by a team of charismatic healers singing you love songs and lullabies.

**SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21):** Ask not what you can do for your country; ask what your country can do for you. The same advice applies to your relationship with your family, job, closest companion, circle of friends, and favorite group. During this brief period when enlightened selfishness is the wise thing to pursue, don't get caught up obsessing on how you can serve them. Diplomatically request that they serve you.

Go to [RealAstrology.com](http://RealAstrology.com) to check out Rob Breznsky'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.

## LOOKING FOR LOVE

Laid back, hopeless romantic, jeans and t-shirt type guy looking for Mr Right. Looking for a partner that I can boot-scoot through life. Looking for THE DANCE. **tkAustin, 49, ☎, #119526**

## REFRESHING AND QUIRKY

I'm a fun and free-spirited person. I love experiencing new things, meeting new people, and living life to the fullest. If this sounds like you, we'll get along quite nicely. **nightblindness, 24, ☎, #118639**

## ATYPICAL, FLACO, EASY-GOING

Eclectic, smart, fun, professional, creative, curious, outdoors, DIY, garden, software, humor, travel. You also please be relatively fit, mature, confident, diverse interests, traveled, down-to-earth, spirited, versatile. **divido0, 49, ☎, #119363**

## SINGLE IN AUSTIN

Hopeless romantic, laid back, down to earth guy, interested in dating, new friendships, and more along the

way. lim looking for guys with good hearts, good head over their shoulders.

**juan41381, 26, ☎, #115939**

## IT'S ALL GOOD!

Looking for a boyfriend? I am 48 yr. old Hispanic with a lot to offer.I am looking for someone who is SINGLE and honest,no drugs,is that you? Let me know. **HusbandMaterial, 50, ☎, ☎, #115672**

# JUST friends

## LIFE'S A JOURNEY

A strong minded Gemini with the passion for life and the willingness to try new things. Lookinf for like minded people to connect with. **Mr\_Skellington, 39, ☎, #124642**

## PUNK MAMA

busy. **zombiegirl1986, 21, ☎, #124358**

## PUPPYLOVE A MUST

Well I pretty much like everything . **jussy\_love\_a\_must, 25, ☎, #124587**

## JUST BEING ME

Its late, I'm tired, and my allergies are off the rictor..the lengths we who luv Austin will go to just to stay in the city we adore. **RiotGirly, 34, ☎, #124585**

## SARCASTIC , QUICK-WITTED,

live music & the spray paint on my car rocks but the radio's busted, addicted to sewing pillows, try not to have expectations or plans, don't always trust my guts. **jilliegirl, 38, ☎, #124525**

## NEW TO AUSTIN

Im a outgoing gal who is looking for friends to hang with and show me around this awesome place..im big on 80's, love music, and love to laugh! **Catwoman, 23, ☎, #124467**

## BLUE EYED BOY

I'm a kind and generous software engineer who would much rather be composing music, living off the grid somewhere in the mountains of NM. **MazeRat, 50, ☎, #124338**

## COUPLE SEEKING FLIPSIDE-FRIENDS

Two cool kids out of college 23/24 y/old. Looking for like-minded couples or individuals to hang, listen to music, and smoke, while enjoying the hill country atmosphere - Flipside '08. **chiefdog, 23, ☎, #124334**

# messages

**YOU MISSED THE** point about the gurl

**HEY MISTER! YOU** are too good to me---lazy bone jones

**TAKE THE RISK** because you're the one I wouldn't ever run from.

## REMEMBER VANCOUVER, TREVOR?

I'm back in town, would love to see you again **When: Thursday, November 6, 2003. Where: Austin & vancouver. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902536**

## CONTINENTAL X-MAS FLIGHT

Continental night flight from Houston to Austin, Dec 28th. You tall, dark hair, and little white bag that looked like a stereo. Me: brown hair, bangs and blue shirt. **Coffee: When: Friday, December 28. Where: boarding night airplane in Houston to Austin. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902534**

## IT IS PARAMOUNT!

you: BnP customer(Brandy?) me: guy that always "checks you out". I'm ready for my first movie at the Paramount, join me for my first? **When: Saturday, January 5. Where: the BnP. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902533**

## LITTLE CITY CONGRESS

Sassy older gentlemen with glasses and black arm tat. Drinking coffee with girl(daughter?) in yellow peacock. Let's get together sometime and talk about the good old days. **When: Wednesday, December 19. Where: Little City. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902532**

## GREENBELT CAVE

overlook cave above the Campbell's hole rapids. You dark hair, gorgeous, red heeler. kids in tow scared you and the other two people away They're not mine! coffee? **When: Friday, December 28. Where: Campbell Hole Cave. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902531**

## MORNING OF NYE-STARBUCKS

We exchanged "Hellos" in the parking lot. I wish I had the nerve that morning to tell you(shaved head, black jacket, gray pants)how strikingly handsome you are. Happy New Year! **When: Monday, December 31. Where: South Lamar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902530**

## MARINA AT GRAHAMS

We rung in the New Year doing some intense dancing at Grahams. You are beautiful Marina (turquoise blouse/black pants). I lost you in the crowd. Cant stop thinking about you! **When: Monday, December 31. Where: Grahams in Round Rock. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902529**

## ALSO ONLINE:

**MORE Shot in the Dark!**

Now with photos so you can see who saw you. Search by When, Where, and Keywords. **FREE!**

# a Shot in the Dark.....>

## WE DREAM THESAMEDREAMS

You:Curly hair boy I teased about being in a Coma. Me:Tamed brunette.We found out that we dreamed the same dream!Had fun watching the bats with your friends. Do it again? **When: Wednesday, January 2. Where: Downtown. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902559**

## BLUE MOD-COAT BRUNETTE!

You: eating a cookie. Me: bearded in hoodie talking loudly with old fogeys. I couldn't take my eyes off you. Coffee? Sandwiches? Walking around London chewing gum, carrying laminated cards? **When: Saturday, January 12. Where: Dhaba Joy. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902558**

## DJ AT 710

You were playing records on Monday. Me: Hot photographer playing pool. You know everything about music! Wanna finger my records? **When: Monday, January 14. Where: Room 710. You: Man. Me: Man. #902557**

## SUGARS ON SUNDAY!

Hung out all night at SUGARS on Sunday! I want to make it up to you! You: Hott , Sweaty, Ashley "Sage". Me: Tall, Dark, Handsome. I know you remember! **When: Sunday, January 13. Where: SUGARS. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902556**

## TOILET PAPER WORK?

Late night. Hancock HEB. We were both buying toilet paper and shared some laughs and talked aesthetics. I'd be CHARMIN BEAR HAPPY if we could get some coffee. **When: Friday, January 11. Where: Hancock Center HEB. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902555**

## GROOVY LUBE TUESDAY

Groovy Lube Tuesday, around noon, you: blonde hair, light top, dark jeans, stunningly beautiful, me: blue shorts, t-shirt, black 4runner. I couldn't figure out what to do, what to say. **When: Saturday, January 5. Where: Groovy Lube. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902554**

## CENTRALMARKET WESTGATE SATURDAY

You: Tall, blonde wavy hair, blue eyes Me: Long brown hair, wearing black Met your gaze in produce, in frozen, and at baked goods. Say hello and I'll cook you dinner. **When: Saturday, January 12. Where: Central Market Westgate 4PMish. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902553**

## CENTRAL MARKET CHECKER

i was talking on my phone as i entered your line at central market and you teased me about it. i think your name started with a B. **When: Saturday, January 12. Where: Central Market on Lamar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902552**

## H2O CAR WASH

Waiting inside. You? Brunette with lap-top, Me? Asked if pacifier was yours... cracked up! Can't stop thinking about you. Wax your wagon sometime soon little kitty? **When: Saturday, January 12. Where: H2O Car Wash on Lamar and Barton Sprngs.. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #902551**

## SHANE? RUDY'S 360

Great eyes and smile. I didn't know how to order. You gave me samples but really just wanted more samples of you. **When: Wednesday, January 9. Where: Rudy's 360. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902550**

## NEW YEARS COFFEE

After stating you felt like an intern you told me your NYE was terrible, spared me your tears and i sold you 4 beverages w/Soy. you had RedShoes. Visit Again. **When: Tuesday, January 1. Where: Starbucks @ Oltorf. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902549**

## SOLO MOVIE WATCHER

hey, i saw you (25? y.o. guy with short brownish hair and beard) watching I Am Legend at alamo drafrathouse alone Friday afternoon. next time, invite me. :) **When: Friday, January 11. Where: Alamo Drafrathouse (Anderson Lane). You: Man. Me: Woman. #902548**

## JUST SO LOVELY

Aundrea, I see you once every couple weeks at WF Bank Lake Creek and it always makes my day! Me, tall, bald, black male, w/cool phone. Dinner sometime? **When: Friday, January 11. Where: WF Bank. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902547**

## MERGS

You: Blonde, taller than me, bunny face, dead sexy. Me: Evil short mexican, seldom shaven. wanna hop back to me? If you see her tell her to come back! **When: Wednesday, January 9. Where: Colonial Village. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902546**

## SMILING RUNNER

You(great smile, short dark hair & black running shorts) were the only person to smile back at me. We passed near the 1/2 mile mark. Me: long-sleeved yellow shirt. **When: Friday, January 4. Where: Town Lake Trail. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902545**

## HULA HUT

Noon on Thurs. You: Luck T-shirt,baseball cap. Me: Tall,gray shirt. You smiled at me as I walked out. Have we met before? If you're single, let's grab a beer. **When: Thursday, January 10. Where: Hula Hut. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902544**

## KIRBY GALAXY QUEEN!!

I loved your wild pink bee-hive. You loved my strong alien hands. My jet pack ran out of fuel. I need a push start. One more hot night in space??? **When: Saturday, September 15. Where: The Moon. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902543**

## VEGANSAUSAGE THE PARLOR

You have been away for so long, it has been so hard with out you. Thank you for being there for me now! I love you vegan sausage. mmmm yum. **When: Monday, January 7. Where: The Parlor. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902542**

## WALKUP PIZZA WINDOW

1/5 late Saturday night. You, Angelic Aura, w/Arizona friend; Me, Soul, Memorable, VulcanVideo, conked from swimming. You set off a spark. Loved our talk, lots more to explore. Ping me **When: Saturday, January 5. Where: Walk up pizza window on South Congress. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902541**

## CRAZY DOG LADY

I'm joining Lovers Lane soon, so if this doesn't work... However I saw your pic, read through your profile and can not wait! Charles!!! I'd love to meet you! **When: Monday, January 7. Where: Austin Chronicle Lovers Lane. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #902540**

## ELECTRO-HARMONIX WHOLE FOODS

You: Yellow Electro-Harmonix t-shirt. Blonde spiked hair, gorgeous eyes. Me: Buxom blonde. I couldn't keep my eyes off you. That hair rocks! Rock my world. Let's make beautiful babies together! **When: Sunday, January 6. Where: Whole Foods Downtown. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902539**

## HERE'S YOUR AD

Fri. beauty bar. You brown hair, blue eyes. Tight black hoodie and white belt. Navajo necklace. I blonde hair, blue eyes. Beige long sleeve over green collar. **Dancing? When: Friday, January 4. Where: the beauty bar. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #902538**

## VESPA, BUSTED TURN SINGLE

Your HOT riding around town! I love you all the way past the blue blue sky! **When: Tuesday, January 1. Where: S. 1st & Riverside. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902537**

## DESPERATE 4CAMERA, NEEDU

Lost NYE at Cool River Cafe. I was on-stage in bfw. Picture taker in black got sick, camera was in the wind. Broke my heart. Let's talk! Reward offered. **When: Tuesday, January 1. Where: center booth by stage. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902535**

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