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DAY TRIPS The National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg is a must-visit for World War II buffs

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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.

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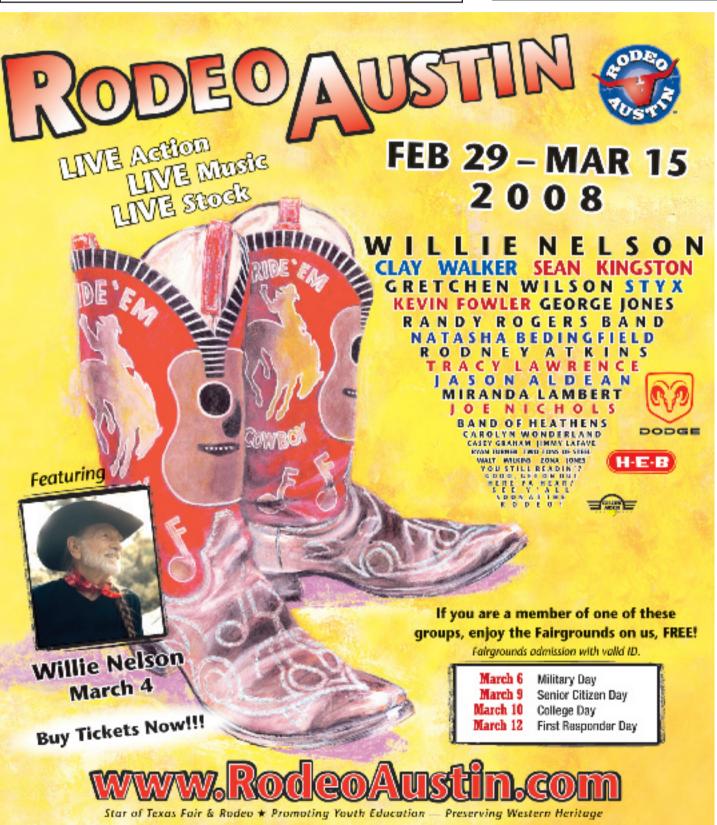
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Welcome to the Funhouse

Republicans' rhetorical sleight of hand distorts our founding principles while seeming to uphold them

BY LOUIS BLACK

When I was in my early teens, my mother took a group of us to Freedomland, a New York amusement park. One of the attractions was a house where everything inside was slanted at the sharpest angle, almost but not quite 90 degrees. Even though everything was on a startling downward angle, objects seemed to defy gravity. On the pool table, the balls rolled upward, as did the cans placed on the kitchen counter. Our guide pointed out every incident of this seeming defiance of scientific law. Very mystifying.

Eventually, it was explained that the foundation of the house was even more dramatically angled in the opposite direction. Placing the sharp angle on a diametrically opposite sharper angle accounted for the seeming anomaly. Witnessing things that seem to be contradictions of known rules of science, we discovered, was deceptive. Scientific laws and the power of gravity prevailed, no matter how it looked.

This situation seems an ideal visual metaphor for many issues - political, religious, and social. What something or someone appears to be in actuality often turns out to be nearly the opposite. The Republicans' brilliant manipulation of language lends itself to this construct. It's not that the Democrats or other politicos are above this, but none has concentrated on separating language from meaning with the Republicans' brilliance. Certainly government has long had such tendencies, draping the difficult-to-stomach in sterilizing language - using terms like "collateral damage," "acceptable casualty rate," and "friendly fire."

Still, over the last decade, the Republicans have taken this to heights only George Orwell previously imagined. Not only do they drape activities in reassuring language; they've managed to recast much of the long-established language of the progressive agenda to mean its almost exact opposite.

Given Bush's relationship with language, it might be considered odd that the most sustained semantic study, other than that of Noam Chomsky and colleagues at MIT, has been going on among Republican strategists. Unlike the Cambridge academics, they are not just into study but its implementation as well, actively engaging in linguistic reorientation, corruption, and manipulation.

The Republican right has not only reimagined but reconstructed the basic language of civil rights, labor, social justice, constitutional mandates, human rights, and societal fairness. Let's accept that Reagan's administration was transformative – although, quite clearly, this is meant in historical terms without implying any approval. By the same standards, the Bush administration must be considered the most transformative of at least a century, even more so than FDR's or Reagan's. It took the fall of the Roman and Greek civilizations, famine, the bubonic plague, endless civil wars, oppression, and all manner of persecution for a few centuries of European history to be labeled the Dark Ages. In this country, the struggle toward human rights and universal suffrage, as well as social and economic justice as described in the Constitution and Declaration of Independence, has been slow (except when it was nonexistent), hard-fought, and painful. Opposition to any and all progressive change not only came from traditionalists, reactionaries, racists, religious bigots, and those who benefited from these many forms of oppression but just as often from the federal and state governments. Over the last 150 years, this country has moved gradually,

jerkingly, and, at best, sporadically toward these goals. This has been achieved through the efforts of a vast number of individuals and organizations, including those that are conservative, religious, philanthropic, and charitable as well as progressive, all of them involved in the struggles for such issues as religious freedom, universal suffrage, unionizing, quality public education, civil rights, the environment, feminism, and justice.

In six years, this administration has successfully reintroduced the social attitudes of this country from at least a half-century back; moreover, they haven't even stuck to merely archaic, mainstream values but rather included more extreme and sometimes even dishonored ones. Once again (though the behaviors never really went away), disparaging, stereotyping, and demonizing large segments of the American public is acceptable in public discourse. Semantic dishonesty, derogatory labeling, and persuasive contempt, as well as an all-encompassing assault on "political correctness," have led this country to an open embrace of the values of the "good old days" - including racism, sexism, religious bias, and bigotry accompanied by a new, finer blend of jingoism, national chauvinism, and discrimination.

Just look at civil rights. Those who don't trust the government at all, in any way, to do anything are usually especially militantly opposed to anything that hints of idealistic social-engineering projects. The sole exception is the civil rights legislation of the mid-Sixties. Whereas many conservatives oppose it specifically, they glowingly declare it an immediate universal success. Despite more than 200 years of slavery and more than 100 of segregation (institutionalized, government-approved racism), they

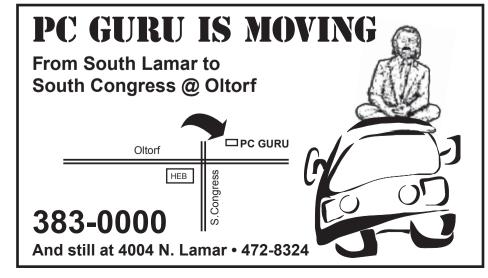
now declare all races are equal. These militant defenders of colorblindness and loving, absolute human equality don't limit this to race but find it applicable to every citizen. History be damned; the playing field is level for all. Hallelujah!

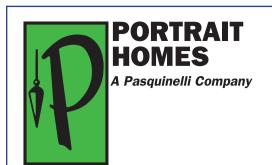
Forget the centuries of the dominance of white, Protestant, middle- and upper-class, landowning men. Forget institutionalized prejudice, bigotry, and racism. Forget any reasonable study of the impact of social and family history on the individual. Now, those who have enjoyed centuries of privilege are the same as illiterate ghetto orphans. Isn't this a great country?!

The Republicans have chosen their candidates with no unseemly consideration of human differences but simply by human merit (older, white men with conservative values who privilege their religious beliefs and honor the existing economic, social, and political class system). Meanwhile, those miserable Democrats, in the most overt display of prejudicial bigotry since slavery, are running a black man and a woman to play the race card and pander to the women.

One has to admire not only the blinders-on focus of this disdainful stupidity but the absolutely arrogant insistence that this view represents a pure, holy vision of human equality rather than a pasteurized sterilized, and shrunken take on pre-Civil War ideology. Bless them; they know not what they do. Still, even loving them, we should clarify their real positions. Just read the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States of America, then imagine documents of diametrically opposed values, beliefs, and politics. It's almost just that simple.







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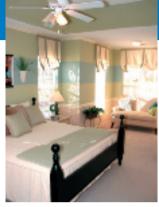
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Death Penalty Won't Protecť Children

In response to Jordan Smith's Jan. 11 [News] article "Child Sexual Assault and the Death Penalty": It is a slippery slope we endeavor upon when the states begin to expand the use of the death penalty. The line will inevitably become very, very gray. Yesterday, it was the death penalty for committing homicide. Today, it's the death penalty for a child molester. What crime will warrant the death penalty tomorrow? Will this open the door for a slew of other inhumane punishments such as chopping the hands off of thieves?

The tendency to make examples of others for one's own political advancement is too great in this world for me to ever feel comfortable about expanding the use of capital punishment. Why would a state consider expanding the use of capital punishment when it is evident that innocent people have already been wrongfully convicted for crimes they did not commit and were sentenced and put to death?

The Louisiana Supreme Court reasoned that "since children cannot protect themselves, the state is given the responsibility to protect them." Protecting a child can be done through less barbaric means than killing an already incarcerated person. Capital punishment has nothing to do with protecting children and more to do with a society's desire for vengeance. In fact, it will only place children at greater risk for the very reasons that the National Association of Social Workers cites. It gives a perpetrator little motivation to spare a victim's life, and it also discourages children from speaking up by imposing too much pressure on them. If a child realizes that his or her coming forth could potentially contribute to the death of someone who might possibly even be a family member, then a child will be more inclined to keep the silence and endure the abuse.

> Regards, Allissa Chambers

Wal-Mart Works for People

I'm almost afraid to say that I like Wal-Mart. Since I make so much money as an elementary school teacher. Wal-Mart works for my budget. I can actually afford to feed and clothe my family with goods from Wal-Mart. Wal-Mart might even provide jobs for some of my neighbors and convenience for my elderly neighbors who don't own a car. I will still patronize Zingers, Sun Harvest, and the other stores close by because they offer something unique that Wal-Mart does not. The amount of whining by RG4N is sickening, and they waste both the time and money of the city

and the courts ["RG4N Vows to Fight On," News, Jan. 18]. RG4N does not speak for all the residents in this area. Some of us are actually looking forward to Wal-Mart. Please don't hate me.

Leslie Pearlman

AISD Needs a PAC but Where?

Dear Editor.

The Austin Independent School District's Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee is reviewing and discussing its recommendations for a proposed bond program in 2008. Current, future, and prospective Mueller residents (Pioneers) and members of the city-appointed Mueller Commission have been working to get the elementary school named on the bond ["Postmarks" online, Jan. 20].

Families with children are moving in, and we want to be a part of a positive boundary discussion that benefits not just our new neighborhood but the surrounding area, as well. Too many parents in the area are sending their kids to private schools. We want to work to change that. We believe in public schools. An elementary school has always been in the Mueller master plan. It has been mentioned in past AISD bond program recommendations. Catellus has donated the land, which would save \$2,574,880.

Enrollment projections from the district suggest that neighboring campuses can accommodate the influx of Mueller students until the 2012-13 school year. A school put on the 2008 bond probably wouldn't be built until 2012. Not waiting until neighborhood schools are at 125% capacity makes sense. Planning for growth makes sense.

There is a chance that the AISD Performing Arts Center is going to be plunked down next to that needed elementary school. This was never presented as a possibility to the Mueller Commission or the Mueller Pioneers. The judgment on whether AISD needs a PAC is not the question. The effect on the Mueller master plan and its principles has not yet been discussed.

Mr. Dick Rathgeber's generosity is appreciated; however, Mueller is not the best place for the PAC. Participants from the entire district traveling to more than 200 events a year are going to impact this community that is striving to be a pedestrian-oriented neighborhood. Whether AISD needs a PAC is not in question. We wish McCallum could be the location, as our kids will be students there eventually. AISD already owns land at 183 and Loyola. To say that two miles east of the Mueller location isn't central is just not acceptable when the Delco Center is nearby.

The careful planning that the city has put into Mueller should be respected and continued.

Even a Stopped Clock Is Right ...

Matthew Langston, thank you for your insightful commentary ["Postmarks," Jan. 4]. I have personally known Josh Rosenblatt for many years, more than 15 to be exact, and I would agree that he knows absolutely nothing about movies. However, I Am Legend is still an awful movie [Film Listings, Dec. 14]. I believe the movie Home Alone with Macaulay Culkin more appropriately creates the feeling of terror from being alone.

Now Call Them 'Gypzee Heart'

Dear Editor.

Thanks for the review of Gypzee Soul ["Texas Platters." Music, Jan. 181, but we changed our name to Gypzee Heart in September to avoid





Madeline and the Bad Hat -- February 3

An original musical based on the much-loved book, it traces the adventures of a young Parisian girl who — despite starting off on the wrong foot with a mischievous new neighbor — learns first impressions aren't everything.



Winnie the Pooh Sunday, March 2



Wizard of Oz Sunday, April 20

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legal hassles. Sorry I didn't send a new CD yet, as it has a few new songs and the correct name. Did you know that even if your band name is spelled differently, you can't use the name if there is another artist that has been using the name longer? We didn't know that. We learned a lot and even trademarked our new band name.

I think it is a really good review, almost offset by my inability to get out a press release and new CD. Please come hear us live at the Full Moon Barn Dance, or check our MySpace listing and come groove with us, musical capital of the world!

> Peace, Leeann Atherton/Zhenya Rock Gypzee Heart

Composting Made Easier

Dear Editor.

Thank you for your articles on recycling and composting ["Can Austin Waste Not?." News. Jan. 18]. I started composting a few weeks ago using something called the Sun-Mar 200 that we bought at Eco-Wise. It makes composting very easy. We stuffed a bunch of dry leaves in there, and now we just throw our food scraps on top, and it all mixes together. The door slides shut and keeps out any pests. Doing that, we have cut our curbside garbage by nearly half. We also started separating paperboard, and we take that down to Ecology Action when we fill a large box. The last thing we did was start bringing reusable bags for all our shopping. That cut down on the tons of plastic bags we normally collect. It is really exciting to see the difference a couple of changes can make. We hope to expand our efforts as the year goes on. Just wanted to encourage the environmental journalism you are doing. It helps bring about more attention to a really important issue. Also loved the energy challenge last summer [Kill-a-Watt Challenge]. Keep up the great work.

Kate Walker

Proud to Stand With Kim

Dear Editor,

In response to Mr. Lee Nichols' Jan. 18 [News] article "RG4N Vows to Fight On," I write to make clear why I have chosen to work on Jennifer Kim's re-election campaign.

I have known Jennifer for a while, and I support her because of her integrity, support for small business, dedication to the environment, and willingness to listen to the community. Jennifer worked closely and continuously with us during our efforts to prevent redevelopment of Northcross Mall that will be in contrast with the values and characteristics of the surrounding neighborhoods. She continues to support and fight for the neighborhoods.

I am proud to stand with Jennifer Kim as she seeks a second term as Austin City Councilwoman for Place 3, so she can continue to take a stand for us.

Regards, Paige Hill

Founder, Responsible Growth for Northcross

Time for a New Mueller School

Dear Editor.

As the Mueller Airport redevelopment project is a high-profile, urban, public/private collaboration that has served as a national model of community planning, the Austin Independent School District should contribute to the project by building the Mueller Elementary School. While the Mueller ES was on the list of original school-building projects for the 2008 bond, the school has been removed by the Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee for failure to qualify as a present, critical need.

The Mueller neighborhood is finally taking shape after a decade of collaborative planning. Mueller is projected to add 100 elementary-age students per year for the next 10 years. That would require that the existing Mueller-area elementary schools receive critical overcrowding assistance during 2011-12, precisely when schools from the 2008 bond would be completed.

Why can't the district allocate for well-planned civic growth when it is forced to consistently react to sprawl-oriented growth? It's time to reward good planning.

Dusty Harshman

Debunking McDonald

Dear Editor,

Uh-oh. Vance McDonald's padded cell is blocking transmission again ["Postmarks" online, Jan. 14]. May I assist? Here we are with more anemic thinking from another member of the Republican marshmallow brigade. Reality check: In many places in the world, America is considered to be one of "the dark forces of tyranny." It's complicated when you try to identify an entire people as evil, isn't it? That's thinking like a fundamentalist Muslim terrorist.

continued on p.10



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I I V I N G

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Anyone half-literate who views our recent foreign policy prudently would vote for a Democrat at this point. Vance can keep his head buried in the sand, but the fact is we've been meddling in Middle East affairs so much over the years, we're experiencing the backlash. McDonald wants to make it about ideological clashes (while accusing Democrats of the same). It's unsurprising that he's so lost in space he doesn't even realize that the Democrats could win if they nominated a used tampon. People are backing Barack Obama or Hillary Clinton because they are different from Republicans, not because they're black or female. Furthermore, for McDonald, of all people, to grumble about people placing ideology above the "issues" is so beyond ridiculous, it's mystifying. As for big government, yes, Democrats will raise taxes, but I'm sorry, it's a drop in the Grand Canyon compared to, for instance, the grievous mess of GOP-sponsored military spending on antiquated weaponry. The halls of Congress smell like the inside of a pig's ass, thanks to Bush and the GOP. Way to keep government small, guys! And much of the funding has gone to pre-9/11 programs, so just secure that bullshit. Tragically, the spike in Pentagon spending doesn't denote technological advancements. These half-wits are buying the same shit they did during the Reagan era; we're just paying more. And while Lockheed Martin/Boeing/Halliburton execs soil their pants with delight, no one notices (cares?) the corporate monster eating itself, along with the citizens who are forced to subsidize its outlandish profits. All in the name of "freedom" and "dynamic economic opportunity," eh? As for the Republican version of freedom, which laughs in the face of humanism and denies children health care and an education, I ain't

THIS MODERN WORL











by TOM TOMORROW





interested. Step aside, old-timers. It's nice if you've learned something, but we haven't come to teach you. We've come to take your place. That means you, Vance.

> Sincerely. Teighlor Darr

Unhappy but Will Be Back

Lee Nichols,

Our first trip to BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse [Restaurant Review, Food, Jan. 18] was two days ago, and my wife and I had our son with us, so

we were unable to sample any adult beverages. That part of the menu would probably bring us back without our son. The food, on the other hand, left us wishing we were somewhere else. The fish tacos (which we both ordered) were served with a stale wheat tortilla with a piece of fish that resembled something that came out of a Mrs. Paul's box. Just a friendly warning if you go back.

Thanks for the great writing, James Felps

Bigger Property-Tax Exemption

Dear Editor,

So I heard this guy Brian Thompson (running for Dawnna Dukes' job) supports a bigger prop erty-tax exemption. That's all you gotta tell me.

For the past two years, I've made about \$7,000 and paid \$3,500 in tax on my homestead. That doesn't even include my "housing expenses" (mortgage/interest and insurance, utilities and their separate taxes). My income is below poverty level, and I pay half my income for tax on my homestead.

Oh, but they say all the property-tax money goes to public schools. But then they say the public schools are starving.

Can anyone tell me how this isn't complete insanity?

Beky Hayes

Creationism to be Labeled 'Science'

Texas is poised to call creationism science. On Jan. 24, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will vote on a recommendation from an advisory panel to certify the Master of Science Education degree program from the Dallas-based Institute for Creation

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Research. The ICR is a young-Earth creationist group. With this certification, the ICR would be producing teachers, fully equipped and with the Texas stamp of approval, to teach kids that the Earth is about 10.000 years old and that our global geology is a reflection of a recent flood described in the Old Testament. Thankfully, of course, they won't be teaching this in public schools, since it would be illegal. Nevertheless, letting these "degreed" teachers loose in a society that is more and more dependent on a correct understanding of how the world works is a burden we can all do without. Indeed, this certification would also be a burden on Texas' reputation, and we can probably throw in the burden of the cost of a constitutional challenge. I might also point out what a slap in the face this decision would be to students and graduates of actual science programs at universities all over this state.

There is no debate or controversy in the research community about the accuracy and usefulness of the theory of evolution in explaining the nature and diversity of life on Earth. The theory of evolution is an extraordinarily powerful tool that improves our knowledge and our technology and that underscores our connection to the family of life on Earth.

Citizens for Science has more information on this issue at their website, www.texscience.org.

David Barker

Americans Shouldn't Only Speak a Foreign Language

Dear Editor,

It's disappointing that the Georgetown City Council did not follow through on their proposal not to hire contractors for city work who employ illegal immigrants. It was a smart proposal (more cities should consider) that was naturally tagged with the discrimination label. It is disconcerting to have the Spanish language so prevalent in our culture. Beyond that, it is negligent for our government to enforce heavy taxation on the income and spending of legal citizens then provide that money to illegal immigrants. People who remain here illegally and refuse to assimilate into our culture should not have access to free health care, free food, discounted housing. utility assistance, and so on, which is government assistance kindly provided with taxpayer dollars. The latest decision in Georgetown is another example of big business running the

continued on p.12



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

St. Martin's Lutheran Church 606 W. 15th Street, Austin
Tickets: \$30 General Admission /\$15 Youth

Sunday, February 3

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.

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show and not having any accountability. Legal, working citizens are clearly held to a higher standard of accountability than elitists and illegals. Being disgruntled at the inability to understand billboards, public notices, public television, and advertisements in your city because they are in a foreign language (Spanish) is undeniable. When consumers cannot communicate in English with employees at the local big-box store, that is unacceptable ["Postmarks" online, Jan. 13]. Our country doesn't need a wall to curtail illegal immigration. Stop the enabling by not providing the American way of life in a foreign language. And save the taxpayers' dollars for the taxpaver.

Regards,

KUT Too Commericial?

Dear Editor.

Re: "KUT - Once a Commercial-Free Station" "Postmarks," Jan. 4]: Bryce Welch is correct in his comment on KUT. I complained to the management some months ago about their relentless commercial announcements, with no effect other than being told that their Federal Communications Commission license-renewal as a "public" station wasn't for several more years. I guess that doesn't prevent listeners from contacting the FCC to mention KUT's violation of the spirit, if not the letter of the rule. Of course the station is a creature of the University of Texas, which makes it more or less invulner-

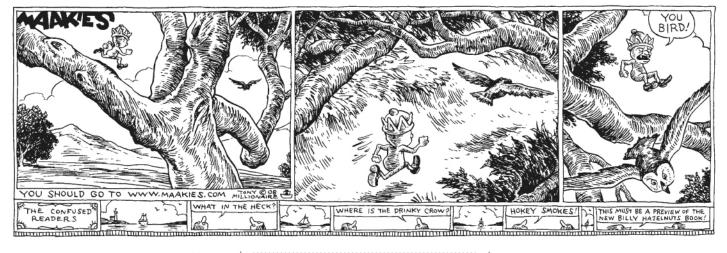
John Callaghan

Defending Signs

Dear Editor,

Let me assure you there are much uglier things in Austin than political signs ["Postmarks," Jan. 18]. At least when the election is over, those signs are taken down. In the part of town where I live, I have a cocaine dealer who recruits the neighborhood kids to work as lookouts, and if they "prove themselves," he eventually starts giving them dope to sell. He has built a 2,400square-foot house with his dope money. It took me nine months to get the crack house around the corner shut down. It had been in business for more than 12 years now, and on Friday and Saturday night the street it was on looked like a McDonald's parking lot at lunch. The area around Burton and Oltorf is riddled with prostitutes, drug dealers, and various other shady characters. Montopolis and East Austin is covered in gang graffiti. It is everywhere, and the people that did it never take it down. It doesn't help anyone and usually spreads gang messages. About a month ago, an Austin Police Department officer was shot by a 70-year-old man in a drug raid.





The part of Austin you live in may be beautiful, and I'm happy for you, but the part I live in needs a lot of work, and many of those candidates that you have said you would never vote for because of a simple little thing like their signs, those same politicians have all been very instrumental in helping me to bring about change in a part of Austin that very much needs that change. I have and will keep their large signs posted on my front fence. I guess life is a matter of priorities, and I can only wish that campaign signs were the biggest problem in my neighborhood. Must be nice to live in ivory towers.

> Sincerely, Delwin Goss

Problems With Bush's Tax Plan

President Bush is working on another tax rebate scam ... I mean plan. I believe this time he is proposing to fix the economy by giving all single taxpayers approximately \$800 and married families around \$1,600. There are a couple of problems with this. First, if you are already among the poor people, then you don't get a check (because you don't pay any taxes). I believe to get the full amount of the rebates you will have to have an income well in excess of \$24,000. In other words, if you don't really need the money, you will get the full amount.

The second problem with this plan is that the median credit card debt per household in America is between \$6,000 and \$10,000 (depending on the source). So, the rebate checks will at best pay 7.5% of the average credit card debt? However, this is not what the president wants you to do with the "free" money. The money is meant to be spent on stuff to stimulate the economy. How much sense does this make? Most people stop buying things when one of two things happen. One, they run out of money. Two, they are out

In summary, our leader's plan is this: The people of the country are not buying enough stuff, due to being out of money/credit. So, even though our federal government is out of money and running out of credit, they will give the people some money to spend on more stuff.

Steven McCloud

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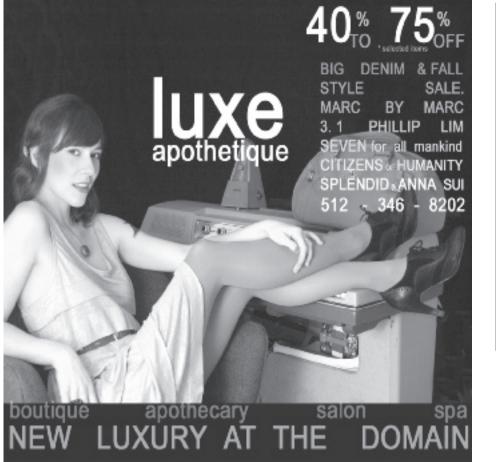
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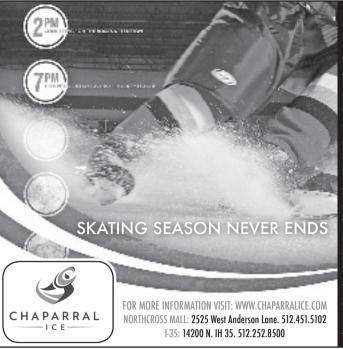
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Monday January 21, 2008

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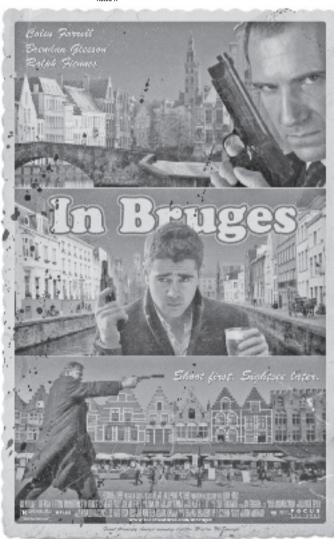


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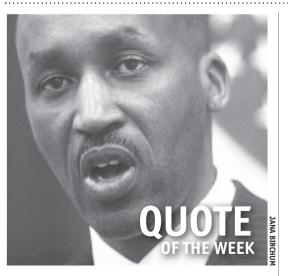
23 CROSS-BORDER CRAZINESS 27 THE HIGHTOWER REPORT 28 PRIMARY-ELECTION PREVIEW





Tuesday, the political action committees of Austin's public-safety unions - the Austin Police Association, the Austin Firefighters Association, and the Austin/Travis County Emergency Medical Services Employees Association - issued combined endorsements for May's City Council races, a historic first. Lee Leffingwell got the nod for Place 1 re-election, while in the race to fill newly open Place 4, Cid Galindo

was endorsed. In Place 3, newcomer Randi Shade was endorsed over incumbent Jennifer Kim; the associations cited Kim's inaccessibility in making their decision. "We looked at the candidates," said Wuthipong "Tank" Tantaksinanukij (l), senior police officer and APA vice president. "We also did our homework. These are the ones that have reached out." - Wells Dunbar



"You know, there's a first time for everything. I was struck by Council Member [Sheryl] Cole's comments about ... the first African-American city manager, and I certainly understand the significance of that. There always has to be a first in order for there to be a second. I understand that, and I understand the responsibility that comes with that. And I certainly intend to stand very tall in that regard."

> - From the acceptance speech of Marc Ott, Austin's new city manager

HEADLINES

- Amid a week of wet, cold January weather, Austinites honored the memory of Martin Luther King Jr. in a march through town and a celebration at Huston-Tillotson University.
- The Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee to the Austin Independent School District board held its final meeting Tuesday night to discuss recommendations for the proposed May interim bond election, battling the perennial constraints of too many needs and too few resources. See "Point Austin," at right.
- In a brazen attempt to confuse already addled voters, the city's public-safety unions issued endorsements for the May 10 City Council elections, even though we're still trying to determine who's running in the March 4 party primaries.

NAKED CITY

The Austin legislative delegation - red and blue - has united against the plan by the State Preservation Board to remove the Capital Metro bus stop from 11th Street in front of the Capitol grounds. The busy stop serves at least 1,400 riders on a typical week day, providing a direct stop to 27 different routes and effectively serving as a transfer point for 20 other routes nearby. The board says the stop must be removed to facilitate what it says are needed security upgrades to the Capitol. In a letter to Gov. Rick Perry, the eight lawmakers serving the city of Austin called for reconsideration of the issue and wrote, "[O]f concern to us is that the decision to move this Capital Metro bus stop from its current and long-time location was made without input from Capital Metro, the City of Austin or the hundreds of citizens who use this stop daily." The new security plan calls for all Capitol traffic to exit through the south gates, and the board demanded the stop's removal because of fears that buses stacking up at Congress and 11th would block that gate. The legislators refuted that: "Many of us in the delegation exit the south gate of the Capitol at all times of the day and night, and never once to our knowledge has the exit been blocked by bus traffic.' Lee Nichols continued on p.17

POINT AUSTIN

Gift Horse

A rich guy wants to give AISD \$7 million. What's the catch?

BY MICHAEL KING

Largely below the public radar, for many weeks the Austin Independent School District's large Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee has been diligently working to present to the board of trustees an interim bond package intended for a May 10 vote. Last night the CBAC held its final meeting, hoping to whittle down about 300 million (or more) dollars' worth of school needs into a total closer to \$200 million, including: new schools, new infrastructure, technology upgrades (a surprisingly big hit of \$70 million, for technical and curriculum reasons), and that's hardly all of it. Also on the wish list, for several years now, is a much-needed districtwide performing arts center, location yet to be determined. Indeed in 2004, voters approved \$8.8 million for a center - but made it dependent on the raising of matching funds that never appeared, while simultaneously, construction costs exploded.

With the freestanding construction estimates now closer to \$30 million, the CBAC explored a \$20 million proposal to expand the Long Center to accommodate district needs, but in recent days that already uncertain proposition appears to have imploded - there's just no room to build it at Long. So out of the gloom rode a rich man with a big idea: Developer/philanthropist Dick Rathgeber has offered to "donate" to the district a tract of land at the Mueller neighborhood development (and a couple million dollars more) to site and jumpstart the project.

There are, alas, more than a few small problems with Rathgeber's offer: 1) The math only works if the gift can still be considered "matching" funds for the 2004 bonds, which likely will require the attorney general's review. 2) Would the location be part of the new bond vote - and if the site doesn't work out for any reason, does the bond crater again? 3) At this very late date in the bond process, how are the CBAC and the board and the public supposed to evaluate this (admittedly very well-dressed) pig-in-a-poke?

The most curious and comical obstacle is one that has been entirely missed in the early public spinning of Rathgeber's offer: Rathgeber does not own the property he is so generously offering to donate to Austin's schools.

Shakespeare They Ain't

I was alerted to that last, rather significant detail by Mueller neighborhood advocate Jim Walker, who was hung out to dry last week by the Statesman's editorialists, falling all over themselves to applaud "Rathgeber's opening act" and to denounce Walker as an obstructionist. In its cutesy-poo Jan. 17 editorial literally casting Rathgeber as "the protagonist" and Walker as "the antagonist," the daily insisted that the district should simply take the money and run and not bother with any of those tedious public

continued on p.16

processes that have been the hallmark of the Mueller master plan. In their scramble to endorse Rathgeber's unilateral determination that a Mueller tract of his personal choosing is the best place to put the center ("There is no doubt that a venue that provides live music, dance, and theater would enhance the Mueller redevelopment"), the editors somehow failed to mention that "the protagonist" doesn't even own the land - rather, he's proposing to buy it from the current owners, the city of Austin, via the Mueller developer, Catellus, just as soon as AISD and everybody involved can agree, pronto, that wherever Midas puts his golden thumb on a city map is where El Dorado must be.

That's me talking, not Walker, who instead

editorial literally

casting Rathgeber as

"the protagonist" and

Walker as "the

antagonist," the

the district should

money and run.

generously described In a cutesy-poo Jan. 17 the largely undefined Rathgeber proposal as "a good idea terribly misplayed." At length and with some irritation ("You know me; I'm the guy that hates kids who play instruments"), Walker explained several of the more obvious pragmatic problems with the Statesman insisted that proposal: The Mueller areas dedicated for "regional" uses have simply take Rathgeber's always been on the opposite, western side of the development; the land in question is

planned for schools/residential, with limited road access, not for a 1,200-seat public venue in heavily trafficked use for more than 200 events a year; the complex CBAC bond proposal was nearly completed when this personal, private bombshell was dropped, and now everybody is expected to genuflect.

"It's not a deal that Dick can make," said Walker bluntly. "He knows there's a process." (Rathgeber has been indirectly involved in Mueller plans through his land donations for the "children's village" of social service agencies to be located nearby.) Walker is justifiably proud of the communitywide public involvement in planning and creating Mueller, and he's speaking from long experience when he says, "You can't have a community process just when it's convenient."

Welcome to the New School

Catellus apparently agrees with Walker. Last week the developer sent a letter to Mueller residents noting that Rathgeber would have to buy the land before he can give it away and continuing, "In keeping with the history, vision and spirit of the community, Catellus will not contract for or agree to a facility of a performing arts center until there is a thorough public process that is open to residents, neighbors and other stakeholders in order to properly weigh the local impacts of this type of facility." That seems simply rational and also requiring enough community time and effort that it can't instantly be plopped on a ballot as a "done deal" ready

for rubber-stamping by Austin voters.

But in prematurely promoting the proposal through a frankly misleading (and blatantly unfair) Statesman editorial, somebody has once again decided that the Usual Suspects should lead and the rest of us politely get in line. "This is 'old school' development in action," said Walker. "Somebody gets a bright idea, decides unilaterally what should happen, and wherever the shit falls, someone else has to clean it up. ... For years, we have

had a community-driven plan at Mueller that is creating a diverse, pedestrian-oriented neighborhood. We cannot allow the old school way of developing to undermine that."

Nobody wants to gainsay Rathgeber's generosity. If there really is "no doubt" that a performing arts center plunked down willynilly into the middle of an unsuspecting neighborhood is a good idea, then it will be obvious to those neighbors when they get a real, thorough chance to consider it. But if not, maybe the folks at AISD should get cracking on that fundraising they explicitly promised when they first put this matter before the voters in 2004.

Maybe they can even persuade Mr. Rathgeber to kick in.

BESIDE THE POINT

Don't Forget Your Vest

BY WELLS DUNBAR

In the press conference immediately following Marc Ott's naming as city manager last Thursday, he sought to impart to the assembled journos his hands-on, in-the-field style. "I know what it's like to stand there," Ott said -"there" being outside a crack house in the night air, "with a bulletproof vest on, watching the K-9 unit go in first." After getting a pointblank barrel blast of Austin democracy in action, he's probably wishing he'd already packed the Kevlar. After that morning, he could be excused for thinking he needs it.

Ott's selection had been leaked to the 10 o'clock talking heads the night before, and the chambers were crowded with cameras and onlookers with Ott; his wife, Pamela; and their children, Gabriel and Carly, sitting in front-row seats marked "Reserved." The idyllic, historic moment was interrupted minutes later, when council gadfly and Eastside politico Gus Peña, signed up to comment on the item naming Ott, used the occasion to embarrass himself, frantically attacking council for a lack of public input in Ott's hiring and decrying the process as flawed - without once mentioning what input might have been required or what specific flaws compromised the search. (A more politically iaundiced observer might argue that Peña, a self-fancied Latino political power broker, didn't raise any such objections until Assistant City Manager Rudy Garza was out of the race.) All in all, Peña's histrionic performance made the next speaker, Jennifer Gale, and her suggestion that we keep runner-up Jelynne Burley around in a co-city-manager capacity, by comparison sound well-reasoned.

Things calmed once council chimed in - for a minute, at least. Lee Leffingwell offered Ott his "full support going ahead," while Mike Martinez intoned, "Your success is our success; your failure is our failure." (Distressingly, he then stole BTP's joke about Major Applewhite being Austin's next city manager - we gotta hide our notes.) Betty Dunkerley lauded Ott's "warm and open and outgoing personality," while Brewster McCracken called him a "major figure" on Texas transportation and land use. A visibly moved Sheryl Cole added: "It is a change, it is historic, and in the words of the old Negro gospel [hymn], it is a 'Happy Day.' I cannot tell you how ecstatic this entire community

is to have you, including the African-American community, and it pleases me to tell you that this council has unanimous support behind you."

The reference to council support wasn't exactly a throwaway. Jennifer Kim, while "thrilled" over an African-American city manager and certain Ott will "do a tremendous job," said that due to a lack of "adequate public input in the process," she could not vote for Ott and the process that selected him. To audible gasps, murmurs, and scattered applause, Kim said, "It is because of this lack of process that I must in good conscience abstain from today's vote."

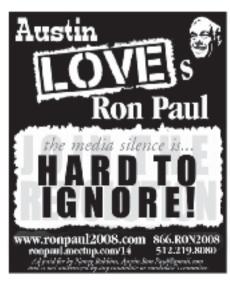
Kim's abstention was instantly seized upon by her May campaign opponent Randi Shade. who argued the council member had ample time to raise such concerns earlier in the process instead of at the end, after the Statesman and the Better Austin Today PAC (strange bedfellows, indeed) started complaining. "Protesting in the 11th hour, and only after it appears politically advantageous to do so, is classic Jennifer Kim. Instead of working with the council to create good process on the front end, Jennifer Kim consistently waits until the last minute and then cries foul," Shade said. Afterward, Kim told BTP her concerns were "raised with [search firm] Arcus earlier to ask them how we could get public involvement, and that response always was: 'This is not something you want to do. This is not how this is done.' ... I wish we had really had more of a discussion about it, gone beyond them to get advice and find out what other cities do."

At the press conference afterward - in between questions about public-safety contract talks, broached courtesy of the Statesman's monomaniacal obsession with police spending (if not with union salaries for Austin's workforce in general) - BTP asked Ott how he plans to serve effectively in the midst of such consternation. He answered: "I may be a slim guy, but I have broad shoulders and a thick skin. ... There is no facade here. What you see is what you get."

Mr. Ott, we wish we could say the same about the Austin politics you experienced. Welcome, and good luck.

Council takes a breather this week, returning to the dais Thursday, Jan. 31. In the meantime, write to BTP at wdunbar@austinchronicle.com.





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NAKED CITY :: FROM P.15

- Charged with finding ways to "transform Austin into a world class bicycling city," by creating and promoting the best environment for the friendly coexistence of bicycle riders and other transportation users, the city's Street Smarts Task Force has met regularly over the past 10 months to draft a set of recommendations, which council will review for inclusion in the ongoing update of the city's 12-year-old, spottily implemented Bicycle Plan. The task force released a final draft of its recommendations last week, expected to reach council by Feb. 28. The draft is a conglomeration of some of the best ideas of the last several years for increasing local transportation cycling viability and safety that haven't yet found their way into policy. Task force Chair Sara Krause, who bike-commutes into town once a week from Circle C Ranch. thinks "the will of council is there" to make the recommendations a reality and pointed out how complementary the traffic and greenhouse-gas reductions associated with car-to-bike converts are to the city's stated objectives. Check out the Street Smarts draft recommendations at www.ci.austin.tx.us/ council/streetsmarts.htm.
- Physically weakened, 15 pounds lighter, and more than slightly frustrated, Uri Horesh, an Arabic lecturer at the University of Texas, ended his sevenday hunger strike - a nonviolent protest of the fact that the university does not provide health benefits for same-sex partners of faculty members. However, the university is held accountable to state law, which says coverage can only be provided to an employee's married spouse. (And we all know that Texas voters in 2005 overwhelmingly approved a constitutional amendment to define the word "marriage" as "a man and a woman" only.) Horesh, though eating again without an adjustment in university policy, believes his strike did much for visibility and exposure of the need for change concerning this issue. "[F]rom now on, same-sex spousal benefits at the University of Texas is an issue at the forefront of the public discussion in this community," he said in a statement. "The people in charge of diversity and institutional equity at UT will now have to begin delivering their promise and live up to their job titles. Because we are now a large group, a diverse one at that, of people who are on the lookout." Kate Getty
- AISD trustees appointed two new administrators at their meeting last Monday. Texana Turner will take on the position of director of middle grades at the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders. Turner is a former teacher and has been assistant principal and principal of Sims Elementary since 1999. Nancy Johnston Phillips has been appointed director of state and federal accountability. Phillips has been the director of ESL and bilingual programs/instructional technology at the Corsicana Independent School District and an adjunct professor at Texas A&M University-Commerce.

- Michael Mav

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

- Former Bastrop Co. Sheriff Richard Hernandez and current Precinct 1 Commissioner David A. Goertz pleaded guilty on Jan. 22 to charges of official corruption in connection with allegations that they'd misused taxpayer funds and other resources - including inmate labor and county vehicles. Under the terms of his plea agreement, Hernandez, who served as sheriff from 1997 until resigning his office after he was indicted in May, will serve 90 days in jail and 10 years on probation and will forfeit his peace officer's license, the Texas Attorney General's Office announced Tuesday. Hernandez, who, among six felony charges, was accused of using inmate labor and county materials to install doors on a barn located on his private property, will pay \$16,000 in restitution to the county. Goertz, who took office in 2005, pleaded guilty to a class A misdemeanor for "abuse of official capacity," also connected to the misuse of inmate labor (notably, to perform "electrical wiring projects" at his private residence) and other county "equipment and materials." He received a probated jail sentence and must pay \$1,499 in restitution, plus a \$1,500 fine, and must perform 120 hours of community service.
- Georgetown City Council put out a fire Tuesday, as another roared. Responding to protests over an ordinance that would require employers to certify employees' legal status, the council approved, to a standing ovation, a dampened requirement that contracts should comply with state and federal law. Earlier that day, Texas Civil Rights Project Director Jim Harrington announced the Texas Indigenous Council had filed suit alleging the city had violated ordinance protesters' rights, when on Jan. 8 police threatened permitless protesters, some carrying signs reading, "Honk for Justice," with arrest. The complaint also slams a catch-22 stipulation for a 30-day notice of a protest "event" as implausible, because agendas change weekly. "The history of the United States is filled with examples of spontaneous ... peaceful demonstrations," the complaint states. Moreover, there is time to deny a permit to "suppress political expression." A sense of "subliminal racism" is pervading the legal status flap, Harrington said, and no wonder. In support of the beefier ordinance, the tad reactionary blog Williamson Republic (www.williamsonrepublic.com) screamed, "A large percentage of the felony indictments in this county are made on people ... suspected to be illegal." In addition, protesters reported they'd been labeled at City Hall the not-so-subtle pejorative "Mexican Mafia." - Patricia J. Ruland
- Audience members at a **Pedernales Electric Cooperative** meeting Monday asked members of the board - especially the advisory board - to resign their posts and allow the beleaguered, massive, rural co-op to address the

- issues posed by the recent member lawsuit that revealed widespread creditcard abuse and inflated salaries among top officials. The 16-member board did not respond to any of the comments - some kind and others cruel though members did applaud an audience member who said the co-op members were not fully to blame for the problem and should not be forced to resign. One speaker noted that the board had not followed Open Meeting laws in voting on unposted business, but counsel Walter Desmond said the co-op structure is not regulated under the Texas Open Meetings Act. Sen. Troy Fraser, R-Horseshoe Bay, has pledged Lege meetings on the co-op; his office says he's waiting for interim charges from Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst. Kimberly Reeves
- The state of Texas will soon begin to test high school athletes for steroids, now that a testing services provider has been selected. State officials announced Tuesday that they selected the National Center for Drug Free Sport, a provider of testing services for the National Collegiate Athletic Association, to test some 23,000 student athletes for performance-enhancing drugs. The Texas program will be the largest in the country. The Lege had hoped for testing to begin before football season last fall, but there were delays in finding a contractor. – Justin Ward
- In the ongoing, slightly scaled-back rush to build new coal-fired power plants in Texas, the state's historically industry-chummy environmental commission has been roundly criticized for failing to assess the cumulative airquality impact of proposed coal plants, as well as whether they're necessarily based on Texas' true energy needs, prior to handing out new permits. But thanks to language written into the 2008 federal appropriations bill by Waco-area Democratic Rep. Chet Edwards, the federal Government Accountability Office will be called in to conduct such a study. Among Edwards' concerns, as the Environmental Protection Agency prepares to tighten ozone pollution standards, is that Waco and several other cities statewide (including Austin) will become federal violators, forcing local governments to take costly countermeasures. Edwards says the study should analyze cumulative emissions in Central Texas from existing and planned coal burners for an entire ozone season. Currently, permitting procedures only address cumulative impacts within 37 miles of a plant. Gov. Rick Perry reportedly called for GOP attacks on an earlier version of the bill, due partially to its focus on not-yet-regulated carbon-dioxide emissions, apparently fearing the results could somehow make Texas look worse than its present status as the nation's No. 1 emitter of CO2.
- Also in the air: "In Texas, we've got a state environmental agency more interested in serving industry than in enforcing our pollution laws," said Environmental Integrity Project senior attorney Ilan Levin in a statement. "This is a state renowned for lax environmental enforcement, issuing weak permits, and basically thumbing its nose at federal law, so we're asking EPA to do its job." Levin fled a petition this week with the EPA on behalf of several environmental nonprofits, alleging that the **Texas Commission on Environmental** Quality routinely violates the Clean Air Act and its own air-quality programs through wimpy permitting decisions concerning power plants and other large polluting facilities. Environmental Defense Regional Director Jim Marston said the TCEO's failure to consider the best and cleanest technology in four recently issued coal-plant permits, per the Clean Air Act, ultimately prompted the petition. It asks that the EPA use its authority to impose one or more of the following sanctions: Prohibit construction of new large power plants or refineries, withhold highways funds, or implement reduction of offsets from other pollution sources in the state. For more, see www.texas.sierraclub.org.
- Veteran newspaper journalist Terri Burke has been named executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Texas, replacing former state ACLU leader Will Harrell, who left the post last year to take on the job of chief ombudsman for the Texas Youth Commission. Burke, most recently editor of the Abilene Reporter-News, was a deputy managing editor of the Austin American-Statesman in the mid-Nineties. She was selected for the job from a pool of 50 applicants, ACLU board President Paul Asofsky told the Reporter-News. Burke told the Abilene daily she applied for the job because it seemed like a continuation of her "life's work" in journalism. "I wanted to be a journalist because I thought journalism was a way to further the democratic process." she said. "At its heart, journalism is about the First Amendment, All my life. I've been interested in those kinds of issues.
- On Jan. 22, the 35th anniversary of the landmark U.S. Supreme Court abortion decision in Roe v. Wade, the national Planned Parenthood Action Fund announced its intention to step into the electoral ring in an effort to bring 1 million voters to the polls in November - a plan dubbed the One Million Strong Campaign. "Under President Bush, women have seen access to basic health care like birth control become increasingly unaffordable and inaccessible. ... And now they've seen the White House and state governments pour more than \$1.5 billion into ineffective and dangerous abstinence-until-marriage programs that do nothing to prevent unintended pregnancies," PPAF President Cecile Richards said in a press release Tuesday. "To keep our doors open and continue serving [millions of women], it's clear that we need to step into the electoral arena. \dots Women voters and young adults already trust Planned Parenthood's health information - and this year they'll be able to rely on the Planned Parenthood Action Fund for election information." The goal, of course, is to elect pro-choice candidates during the fall's general election, Richards said. For more on the new campaign, see www.plannedparenthoodvotes.org.





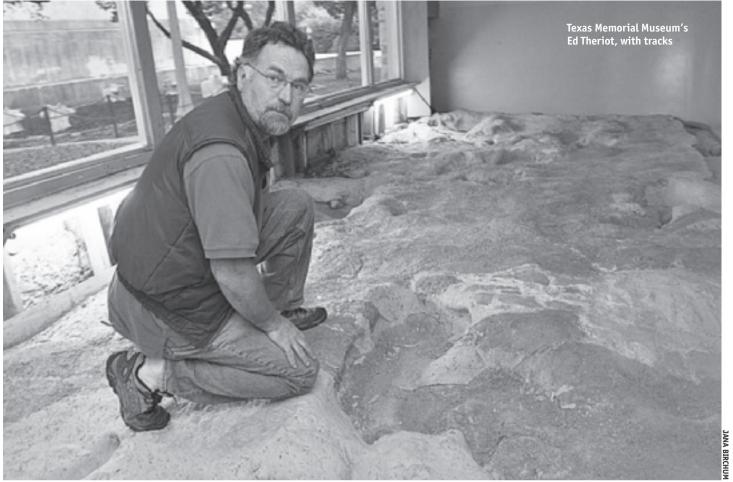
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Dinosaur-Track Rescue Mission Under Way at UT ... Slowly

A legendary set of dinosaur tracks that have been deteriorating outside UT's Texas Memorial Museum for nearly two decades could soon have a new home - if the project can make it over the last of a long series of bureaucratic hurdles.

While making a plaster cast of the tracks in 1988, sculptor Pam Maceo noticed that the tracks' stone surface was literally turning to dust and informed the museum's director. For five years, nothing was done about the tracks until a 1993 report called attention to them once more. The report suggested monitoring, cleaning, and making alterations to the antiquated track house.

Despite the university's efforts, however, the tracks continued to decay. The problem was the track house itself, which was built in the 1940s

when the fossils were first brought to the university from the excavation site near Glen Rose, Texas (now the site of a creationist museum claiming the tracks provide evidence of humandinosaur coexistence). Ed Theriot, director of the Texas Memorial Museum, said that because of poor storage, the tracks essentially started breaking down the moment they were excavated. "Sixty years ago, they really didn't have an idea of how to treat and conserve these things. They thought, 'Hey, these tracks were safe in the ground. Why wouldn't they be safe above ground?" Theriot said. "Now technology has really caught up with our desires."

The house afforded the tracks little protection from the elements. Not only were the fossils exposed to the devastating effects of humidity, the report said, but squirrels and

other animals were slipping into the track house and using the tracks as a toilet. In 1997, a second report came out recommending the fossils be relocated inside. But the wheels of the university bureaucracy were slow to turn, and for the next decade, the project remained mired in red tape.

The university took no steps toward a relocation project until 2004, when contract architects were inspecting the museum for repairs and noticed the state of the tracks. Shortly thereafter, College of Natural Sciences Dean Mary Ann Rankin met with the architects and Theriot and determined the fossils were in a state of "emergency." Rankin tasked Theriot with finding a conservator, but heels would be dragged for another two years before a request for qualifications was put out in fall 2006.

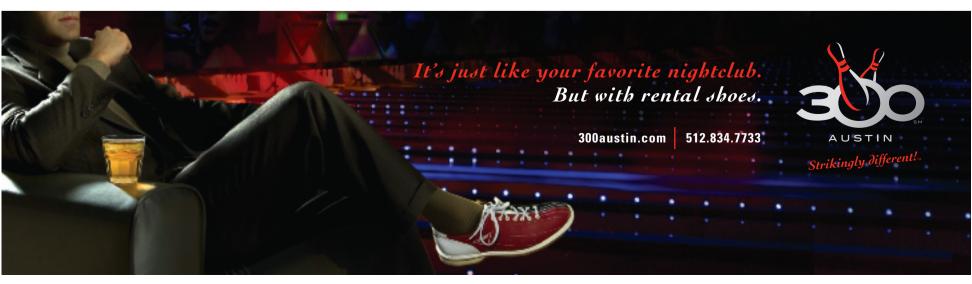
"They say it'll be next week, and then next week comes, and they say it'll be another week. And that can go on forever and ever." - sculptor Mike O'Brien

The first request drew no bidders, so it was redrafted and submitted again in July 2007. The second time around, five conservationists attended a presubmittal conference, and two submitted proposals. Though the contract hasn't officially been awarded, UT officials have reportedly settled on Conservation Solutions out of New Mexico, which submitted another proposal in late December, and now they're moving on to the next stage, which involves hammering out the specifics, said **Daniel Heath** of Project Management and Construction Services for UT-Austin. The project is taking so long because it can't be carried out by a garden variety contractor. Heath said. As he put it: "It's not like fixing a toilet."

Despite the snags, Theriot said he's satisfied with the way things have progressed thus far. "The pace that we're moving forward with reflects the careful deliberation that is need[ed]," he said, adding: "They're still in very good shape. We've caught it before it has become critical."

But local sculptor Mike O'Brien, who has campaigned for years to have the tracks restored, begs to differ. O'Brien said the tracks' deterioration is obvious, even to a layman. "[Theriot] and I are friends, but for him to say that the tracks aren't in bad condition. ... They're in appalling condition!" O'Brien is also skeptical the project is moving forward. He says he's heard the same song and dance ad nause am. "They say it'll be next week, and then next week comes, and they say it'll be another week. And that can go on forever and ever."

Even after the contract is awarded, the specific funding remains uncertain. Once the conservator is officially named and cost estimates come in, said Theriot, the university will likely have to find a private donor to underwrite the project. O'Brien says he hopes the university will take action soon, because he wants to get on with his life. "I would just like UT to say when it is going to happen. I want them to commit to some type of schedule." - Justin Ward



City Council Election Money toward May

.....

The following candidates have filed

contribution and expense reports for the

Place 4

Cid Galindo

Robin Cravey

Jennifer Gale

*= incumbent

Laura Morrison

Samuel Osemene

CITY COUNCIL RACES

May 10 City Council election.

Place 1

Place 3

Ken Weiss

Lee Leffingwell*

Allen Demling

Jennifer Kim*

Randi Shade

While most political eyes remain focused on the national and March 4 Texas primaries. and the May 10 municipal election is months away, City Council candidates are already raising money and their public profiles - and broadcasting the results.

The Jan. 15 deadline to report funds raised last year turned into a PR battle for the big three candidates looking to fill incumbent Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley's term-limited Place 4 seat. The candidates issued dueling press releases trumpeting their fundraising prowess. Downtown Austin Alliance board member and urban-planning maven Cid Galindo raised \$7,350 in December and \$3,800 this month, for

more than \$11,000. However, he has already spent more than \$14,000 on campaign expenses, including \$6,250 in consulting retainer fees to Kelly Vidovic: a \$10,000 loan to himself has closed the difference.

Development consultants Michael Casias and Tom Stacy are among Galindo's contributors.

Environmentalist and

Friends of Barton Springs Pool founding member Robin Cravey reported \$13,900 raised, plus another \$4,400 in January. As of filing, he's spent nearly \$12,150, \$3,000 of that in consulting fees to Stanley-Garrison &

Associates; former Council Member Beverly **Griffith** and Planning Commissioner **David** Sullivan are among his contributors. (Parks liaison to the Downtown Commission Jeb **Boyt** contributed to both Cravey and Galindo.)

Accumulating the most treasure thus far, however, is former Austin Neighborhoods Council leader Laura Morrison, reporting \$40,015 raised by the reporting cutoff - not counting any funds raised this year. Beverly Griffith also contributed to Morrison, as did Zoning and Platting Commission member

Orange Report) has received \$1,375; Ignite Consulting got \$3,375 for yard signs and another \$955 for "design services."

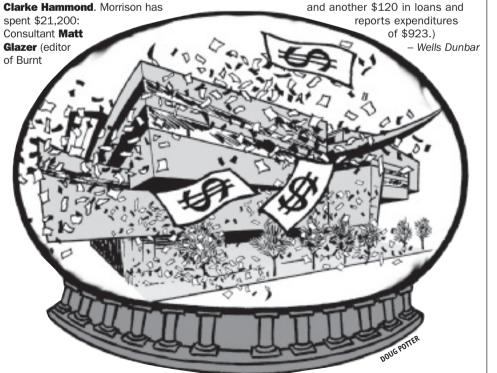
A fourth filed candidate, Samuel Osemene, a Navy veteran pursuing a political science master's degree from UT, has spent \$1,300 of his own money. (Perennial candidate Jennifer Gale reports \$12 in contributions, none of it vet spent.)

Over in Place 1, incumbent Lee Leffingwell collected \$46,900 by the end of December. He has several \$600 bundled contributions from couples, including Paul Carrozza (owner of RunTex) and his spouse and developer Larry Warshaw and wife Meredith Page

Warshaw. At filing time, Leffingwell had spent a relatively modest \$1.300. His only declared opponent, Allen Demling, running on a bike-friendly transit and arts-supportive platform, reported \$650 in contributions, including a \$150 donation of ad space in local zine Misprint. He has loaned himself \$2,500. (Both Responsible Growth for Northcross

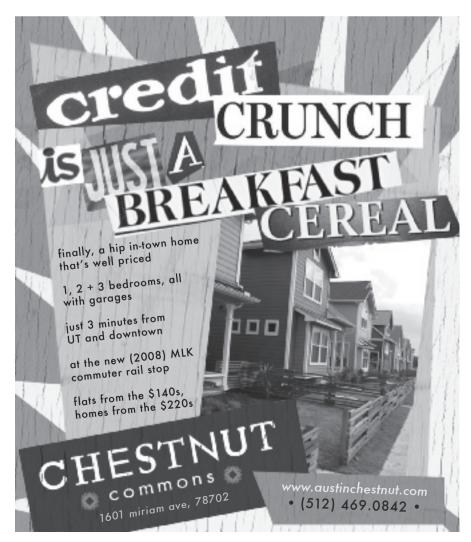
Communications Chair Jason Meeker and FixAustin spokesman Ryan Clinton are reportedly considering Place 1 runs, but neither had yet filed or announced as of press time.)

The Place 3 throw-down between incumbent Jennifer Kim and Internet charity entrepreneur Randi Shade has the council member reporting \$56,700 in end-of-year contributions to Shade's nearly \$62,200. Kim has spent \$12,765, more than \$9,950 of that to Ignite Consulting for "consulting fees, ad printing [and] data/voter lists," and also loaned \$7,700 to herself. Shade has loaned herself \$10,000; so far, she has spent \$3,316, with \$1,727 of that going to printing. (A third candidate, Texas Army National Guardsman Ken Weiss, has collected \$860 in contributions





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Downtown Mural Awaits a New Home

On the corner of Sixth and Guadalupe, the Starr Building has sat empty of business since the state comptroller moved out in 2005. But remaining inside is a unique piece of Texas art history that the state and federal governments are working to save from the threat of the

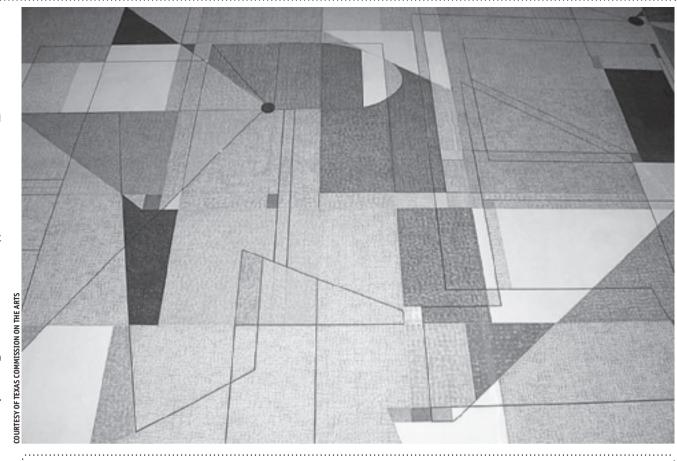
The untitled mural by leading Texan modernist artist Seymour Fogel fills a wall on the second story of the former tax office. In 1954, Fogel, an apprentice of Diego Rivera and a staff member at the University of Texas College of Fine Arts, was commissioned by American National Bank to create a mural for the bank's new Austin branch. The result, a 28-foot abstract swathe of geometric shapes, has survived in remarkable condition - except for a hole punched through it for a fire alarm. "It's important, because it was nationally one of the first examples of the integration of art and architecture," said attorney Robert Summers, who first saw the mural in 2003 when a custodian let him in. "I made him promise to tell me if he would ever see a wrecking ball there."

When the comptroller moved to the Lyndon B. Johnson State Office Building, the Starr Building – and the mural were transferred to the **General Land Office** for eventual sale. With the doors locked, the mural is untouched. "Our role is to do nothing, which is good," said GLO spokesman Jim Suydam. "It's doing nothing but rising

"The best preservation would be to find a developer interested in preserving the mural and the building," said Lisa Harvell of the Texas Historical Commission's Architecture Division, But in case that doesn't happen. steps are being taken to find the Fogel a new home. Made of concrete on a steel frame, it can be moved in one piece. So Summers contacted Judge Lee Yeakel and Magistrate Judge **Andy Austin** of the U.S. Western District, and they proposed moving it to Austin's new federal court building. Architect Mack Scogin approved, and the U.S. General Services Administration, the federal government's acquisition agency, began negotiations with the GLO. "Everyone's on the same page," said GLO marketing manager Laura Rogers.

Texas has already lost two Fogels, in 2002, when Houston's Petroleum Club was converted into condos. But the Starr mural seems safe, as the administration's Fine Arts Division this week sent a letter recommending accepting the mural. Now Summers, with the Friends of the Texas Historical Commission, plans to raise \$500,000 for renovation and relocation. "After many months of trying to get everyone together, things seem to be moving," Summers said. - Richard Whittaker

For fundraising-effort details, call 936-2241 or see www.arts.state.tx.us/ fogelmural/fogel.asp



UT AND VA COMBINE FORCES TO STUDY BRAIN TRAUMA IN IRAQ VETS

Lucky us; it looks like Austin's a pretty good place to have a head injury. At an open house at UT's J.J. Pickle Research Campus in North Austin last Thursday, officials announced plans to conduct brain-imaging research on combat soldiers in hopes of better understanding traumatic brain injury and post-traumatic stress disorder. They'll be using a state-of-the-art brain scanner and \$4.2 million in funding from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to address a growing population of veter-

"There's a lot more art than science," in modern rehabilitation methods, said Dr. Robert Van Boven, UT's brain-imaging lab director, in a keynote address to a roomful of men and women in uniform, doctors, and others who came out to avail themselves of the tasty breakfast buffet at the research center's wooded campus.

ans surviving the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan

with brain injuries.

The VA and UT hope to combine scientific research with qualitative methods like psychological analysis to determine new, more effective treatments for soldiers returning from war with brain trauma. Of 1.6 million deployed troops, there may

be as many as 150,000 who ultimately suffer brain trauma, according to Van Boven, who consulted with the Centers for **Disease Control and Prevention** for the estimate. The imaging lab at UT is remarkable because of the methods its researchers will combine to create images of the brain.

> Blood flow to the brain is tracked via magnetic resonance imaging, then magnetic resonance spectroscopy measures chemicals in the brain, and diffusion tensor imaging tracks water movement, all while volunteer subjects are stimulated by images, objects, and sounds.

Sen. John Cornyn attended the open house and closed out the event with a speech about "Great Americans," "heroes," "pride," "angels," "God," "blessings," "service," "honor," "dignity," etc.

The 150 servicemen and -women who have volunteered for the study are all first-time combat soldiers. Their brains and behavior will be analyzed before and after deployment to track the effects of trauma, which according to Van Boven, "will create a new standard" for comprehensively diagnosing



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Hollywood 1, OCEAN O Council fumbles Eastside McMansion amendments

While the chill outside confirms it's that sad time of year for the annual Cowboys collapse, Thomas "Hollywood" Henderson (former linebacker for America's Team) has won a big one with a special teams assist from City Council.

During zoning hearings last week, council

unanimously voted against more restrictive McMansion regulations for some 655 lots in the Central East Austin Neighborhood Planning Area, an area roughly bound by I-35, Chicon, MLK, and Seventh Street. Home sizes are currently limited to either a 0.4 floor-toarea ratio - basically 40% of the lot size - or 2,300 square feet (whichever is larger). But the Organization of Central East Austin Neighborhoods proposed a McMansion amendment that would eliminate the 2.300square-foot option, leaving only the 40% FAR requirement - a necessity, they believe, to slowing overbuilding, gentrification, and the spiraling property taxes concurrent with larger houses or developments on the historically smaller lots. The **Planning Commission** agreed, forwarding OCEAN's request in its 7-0 recommendation to council.

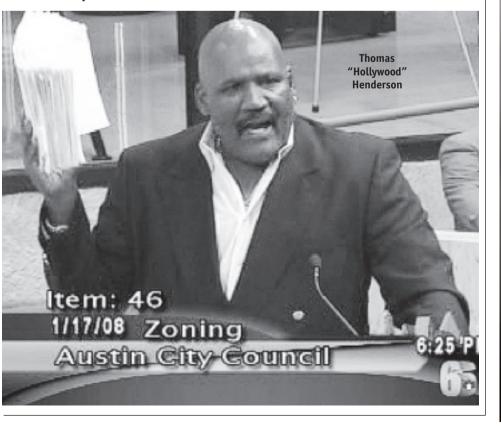
Enter Henderson. Following the commission decision, the grizzled gridiron vet and Lotto Texas winner, who has a homestead and owns Eastside lots on Cotton Street, distributed an incendiary letter blasting "big government trying to control our Historically Black Community." The four-page screed defending "property rights" included a petition against the amendment, which Henderson submitted to council. At the Thursday hearing, Zoning staffer Jerry Rusthoven reported receiving "about 266 letters in opposition" to OCEAN's 45 or so in support.

Speakers in favor denigrated Henderson's petition, saying it was sent to the entire 78702 ZIP code – not all of which would be affected by the amendment - and was riddled with overstatement and oversimplification. OCEAN President Rudolph Williams didn't address

Henderson directly but spoke to the amendment's need, saying small single-family houses are being razed and "replaced with \$300,000 houses. ... The pressure to tear down those small houses because of the appraisal system. and because of the taxes is just tremendous." Henderson defended his petition effort, saying he "probably would have got 800 if I would have put a return stamp on the envelope." Citing not-entirely-exclusive needs like increasing density and affordable housing and preserving the neighborhood's character and property values, he excoriated OCEAN for what he called its "clandestine meetings at the Carver Library." where the organization voted (narrowly. in his telling) to support the ordinance. Another speaker, saving she wasn't "hoodwinked or bamboozled" into signing Henderson's letter, declared, "I'm not a slave. ... Either you have a right to own property, or you are property."

Ultimately, the petitions and pitched rhetoric might not have even been needed; before the hearing even began, Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley said she "probably won't be supporting this" due to concerns "the impact is going to be too great." Brewster McCracken called the 2,300-square-foot option an "incredibly important part of the compromise." With the protracted 2006 squabbles over the McMansion Ordinance still fresh in their minds, the council members were visibly hesitant to revisit the issue, voting 7-0 to leave things just as they are.

Not one for winning graciously, following the amendment's defeat Henderson sent an allcapped e-mail to Williams announcing, among other things, "A COMMITTEE THAT MEETS AT THE CARVER LIBRARY DOES NOT HAVE THE RIGHT OR POWER TO PULL OFF WHAT YOU TRIED TO DO. THAT 7-0 VOTE WILL HOLD YOUR MONKEY ASS. YOUR LAST ARGUMENTS TO COUNCIL JUST CLARIFIED HOW OUT OF TOUCH AND STUPID YOU ARE." - Wells Dunbar





City Still Cleaning Up Waller

Cleanup crews have removed the worst of a leak that coated Waller Creek with 4,000 gallons of fuel oil. But two weeks later, the city is still cleaning up and checking for injured or poisoned wildlife.

On Jan. 10, a water main in the alley between the Littlefield Building and the Driskill Hotel on Sixth Street poured into an underground storage tank containing an estimated 9,000 gallons of fuel oil. About half was flushed out and went directly into the storm sewer to be dumped into the creek. Luckily, this meant the oil was contained to a relatively small area. The city immediately called San Antonio-based

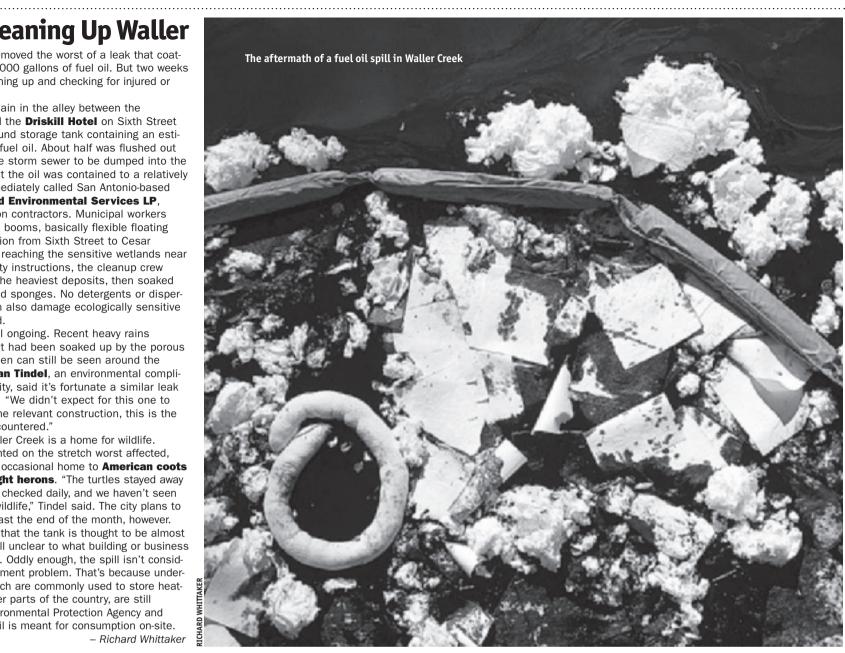
Eagle Construction and Environmental Services LP, Austin's rapid remediation contractors. Municipal workers deployed floating skirted booms, basically flexible floating strips, at every intersection from Sixth Street to Cesar Chavez to block oil from reaching the sensitive wetlands near Lady Bird Lake. Under city instructions, the cleanup crew used hoses to suck up the heaviest deposits, then soaked the rest up with pads and sponges. No detergents or dispersal chemicals, which can also damage ecologically sensitive environments, were used.

But the cleanup is still ongoing. Recent heavy rains flushed out some oil that had been soaked up by the porous bedrock, and an oily sheen can still be seen around the Fourth Street bridge. Stan Tindel, an environmental compliance specialist for the city, said it's fortunate a similar leak hadn't happened before. "We didn't expect for this one to turn up, but with all of the relevant construction, this is the only one that's been encountered."

Like any waterway, Waller Creek is a home for wildlife. Turtles are regularly sighted on the stretch worst affected, and the creek is also an occasional home to American coots and yellow-crowned night herons. "The turtles stayed away and out of the oil. We've checked daily, and we haven't seen any dead or distressed wildlife," Tindel said. The city plans to keep checking until at least the end of the month, however.

Part of the problem is that the tank is thought to be almost a century old, and it's still unclear to what building or business it was originally attached. Oddly enough, the spill isn't considered a regulation-enforcement problem. That's because underground fuel-oil tanks, which are commonly used to store heating oil for homes in colder parts of the country, are still exempt from federal Environmental Protection Agency and state regulations if the oil is meant for consumption on-site.

- Richard Whittaker





NINE-DAY MONTH

It seems the state wants to cram in a lot of public education about the risk from stalkers at the end of the month. On Wednesday, Jan. 23, first lady Anita Perry and Rep. Valinda Bolton, D-Austin, proclaimed January 2008 the first-ever Stalking Awareness Month in Texas.

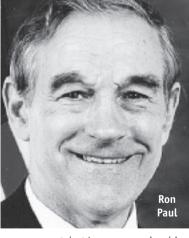
Which sort of prompts the question: If they wanted to make this Stalking Awareness Month, wouldn't it have been a good idea to do it, say, before the beginning of the month, rather than with nine days to go? Especially since it coincides with National Stalking Awareness Month, which has been going since 2004. - Richard Whittaker Posted Monday, Jan. 21, on the

Chronicle News blog, austinchronicle. com/newsdesk.



ELECTION NOTES

▶ Good news for **Ron Paul** fans: The Libertarian-friendly Republican presidential hopeful from Texas is the party's No. 5 candidate in terms of delegates. He currently has six convention pledges (four from Nevada, two from Iowa). This means, going into the Florida primaries, he's ahead of Rudy Giuliani, who only has two. Two other GOP contenders have dropped out. Rep. Duncan Hunter, who won the Republican Party of Texas presidential straw poll last September, has abandoned the race and his sole Wyoming delegate. Citing his failure "to gain traction in conservative states," he said he would return to Congress to concentrate on the 2008 Defense Appropriations Bill. And on Tuesday, former U.S. senator from Tennessee and lobbyist Fred Thompson also withdrew. Running a distant fourth with eight delegates, Thompson said, "I hope that my country and my party have benefited from our having made this effort." - Richard Whittaker



▶ A concerned citizen named Mike Conwell contacted the Chronicle as we were going to press and said while working as a Travis County poll worker in the November 2007 election he encountered several voters who thought they were registered to vote but instead had been purged from the rolls. This led him to audit records at the Travis Co. Tax Office, and he believes that as many as 1,400 active voters may have been improperly removed from the rolls shortly after casting ballots in recent elections. The Chronicle wishes to emphasize that we have not had a chance to review Conwell's research or get a response from Travis Co. officials, but even if Conwell is wrong, it still doesn't hurt to confirm your voter registration. The easiest way to do so is by going to www.traviscountytax.org/showVoterSearch.do. Or you can call 854-9473. If you received a new voter-registration card within the past couple of months, you're OK. If you are not registered and want to vote in the March 4 primaries, you have until Feb. 4 to get signed up (also by going to that website or calling the above phone number).

CROSS-BORDER CRAZINESS



round in the U.S.-Mexico border's Frankenfence battle. On Monday, Jan. 14, U.S. District Judge Alia Moses Ludlum ordered the city of Eagle Pass. Texas. "to 'surrender' 233 acres of cityowned land" to Uncle Sam for fence construction, according to the Associated Press. "The Justice Department sued the municipality for access to the land. ... The government had warned the city, which opposes the fence, it would sue under **eminent domain** laws to secure access to the property, declaring it is 'taking' the property for 180 days," reports AP, adding, "The Justice Department is expected to file 102 lawsuits against landowners for access to property the Border Patrol and Army Corps of Engineers want to survey to decide where to put border fencing or other barriers." According to Texas Rio Grande Legal Aid, the government filed a dozen of those suits last Friday against landowners in Cameron County, of which Brownsville is the county seat.

The federal government has won the latest

The strongest opposition to the 700 miles of fence planned for the Texas portion of the U.S.-Mexico border has been east of Eagle Pass in the Rio Grande Valley, which has a history of particularly close ties to its sister cities and towns on the Mexican side of the border, and is home to multiple sensitive ecological areas the wall is slated to run right through.

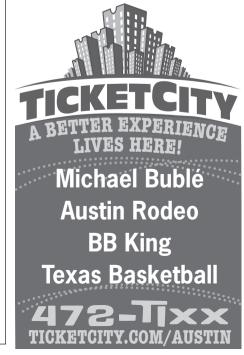
Also on the environmental front, the **Ciudad** Juárez-El Paso area hasn't been a clean-air oasis in decades, but post-North American Free Trade Agreement, the region's air has been even more polluted, thanks mostly to an increased number of factories, or maguiladoras, and vehicle traffic, especially from big rigs loaded with goods destined for both sides of the Rio Grande. This is nothing unique among border sister cities. The real news is that the "municipal administration of [Juárez] Mayor José Reyes Ferriz has drafted a set of goals to attack" air pollution, reports Frontera NorteSur, an online border news site based at New

Mexico State University. At a Nov. 8 meeting in Sunland Park, N.M., Hector Sandoval, director of Juárez's ecology department, "laid out 13 clean air policy goals established by the Reyes administration. Highlights of the strategy include installing four air quality monitoring stations, requiring air emissions stickers on private vehicles, conducting inspections of private businesses, promoting a car-pooling lane on the heavily-traveled, international Bridge of the Americas, and bringing the municipal environmental ordinance up to date," reports Frontera NorteSur. Now, whether Juárez will actually follow through on any of this is an entirely different story. For more on the plan, see www.nmsu.edu/~frontera; check out "The Hightower Report," p.27, for unrelated NAFTA commentary.

Finally, here's some immigration-related info that shouldn't fly under Austinites' radar. The American Renaissance Conference, put on by American Renaissance magazine, which Google Directory describes as "A conservative monthly publication [promoting] a variety of white racial positions," will take place Feb. 22-24. The conference website (www.amren.com/ conference/2008/index.html) certainly lends credence to Google's description: "In all parts of the world, whites are afraid to speak out in their own interests. Racial differences in IQ, the costs of 'diversity,' the challenges of non-white immigration - politicians and the media dare not discuss what these things mean for whites and their civilization." The biannual event is booked at the Crowne Plaza Dulles Airport Hotel in Herndon, Va., and activists are busy making plans to protest the gathering outside the hotel all day Saturday, Feb. 23, starting around 9:30am. Up for a trip to Herndon? Shoot an e-mail to soloagent1@yahoo.com, the address of protest organizer Marco Del Fuego, a member of Resistance and Solidarity, a self-described "DC-based collective opposing racism, fascism and the cruelties perpetrated by the capitalist system." - Cheryl Smith









Seaholm East What future for Green?

In anticipation of issuing requests for pro-

posals from development teams in February,

City Council has drafted a resolution estab-

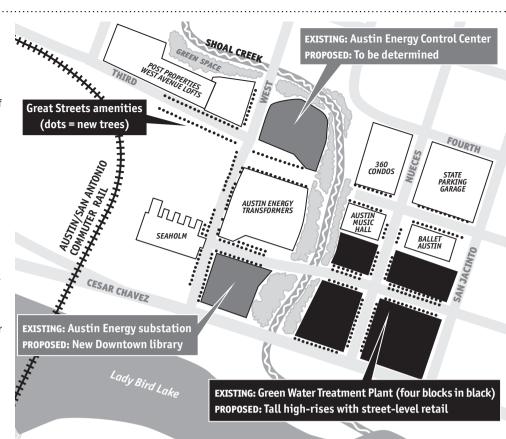
lishing its "guiding vision and policy principles" for two large city-owned tracts of land in the Seaholm east redevelopment district: 1) the 4.5-acre site of the decommissioned Green Water Treatment Plant and 2) neighboring parcels that house **Austin Energy** structures. The resolution officially reserves the south substation site, which faces Lady Bird Lake, for a new central public library.

The resolution reiterates relevant council policy and goals, including: Downtown revitalization, the Downtown master plan, completing the Second Street retail corridor, and connecting to Seaholm proper. For the library site, the resolution specifies a stand-alone building, an analysis of best-practice design and construction methods, and "the inclusion of a public process in the city's selection of the best design." All proposals should include integrated parking structures - preferably owned by the public, with net parking revenues earmarked to fund transit and trails. A key goal, of course: growing the city's tax base by selling the land for redevelopment in a manner that "achieves other community values."

Some activists question whether a sell-off of citizen-owned land isn't innately antithetical to protecting community values, and advocates have been begging council members to require affordable housing at Green. Most sympathetic has been Council Member Jennifer Kim. "Personally, I would like to see designs that preserve green space," she said recently, "as well as provide homes and a quality day care that are affordable to Austin families."

The resolution does explicitly establish that 40% of property-tax proceeds "go [to] the Austin Housing Trust Fund to be spent to provide affordable housing in the urban core," which in theory could mean as much as \$1 million annually. Projected future revenues could also be bonded to create a larger pot of money for affordable housing now. Housing advocate **Heather Way** recently expressed the hope that, if affordable housing is not required on-site at Green, council would dedicate a portion of its sale proceeds upfront for the purchase of other Downtown tracts.

Instead, council proposes that Green sale proceeds would cover direct project costs. The multimillion-dollar infrastructure costs anticipated include decommissioning and removing the Green plant, reconfiguring the sites, building new streets and a bridge over



Shoal Creek, and financing new parking structures. If there's anything left over, it would be spent on "additional public amenities, to be identified" on-site. Katherine Gregor

To see the resolution, check for the related item on the Jan. 31 council session agenda (to be posted online Jan. 25), unless delayed.



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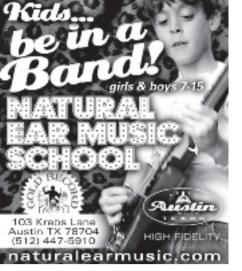
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HAPPENINGS

For more events, see Community Listings, p.66.

THURSDAY 24

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, Dean Keeton & Red River, 471-1990. Free. www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

FRIDAY 26

COMMUNITY TAX CENTERS KICK OFF FREE TAX SERVICES Starting today, nine area locations provide free tax-preparation services to income-qualifying households. See www.communitytaxcenters.org for locations, hours, and details on income qualifications. Rep. Lloyd Doggett speaks. 10am. Foundation Communities, 3036 S. First #200. Free.

UT SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS SUMMIT Find out how environmentallyfriendly companies are creating economic opportunities at this two-day conference featuring business leaders and faculty from the McCombs School of Business. Jan. 25-26. Fri., 7-11pm: Texas Union, 24th & Guadalupe. Sat., 8am-9pm: UT campus, McCombs School of Business. \$10-50. www.utsummit.com.

SATURDAY 26

BIG BEND LETTER-WRITING PARTIES Write TxDOT and ask it to reconsider its plans to build a truck corridor through Big Bend National Park, or call 800/517-4652 to protest. 1-3pm. Jo's Coffee: 1300 S. Congress, 242 W. Second. www.stopthetrucks.org.

HARRY BELAFONTE delivers the Live the Dream keynote address to conclude the Austin Area Heritage Council's MLK events, accompanied by a performance from Sweet Honey in the Rock, 6:30-8:30pm. Riverbend Centre, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-9416. \$25 (\$15 hearing impaired), online and at Mitchie's Gallery, 6406 N. I-35 #2800. www.mlkcelebration.com

SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION SERVICES PROVIDER FAIR invites parents to learn about free weekend and afterschool tutoring services (at program centers or at home) available to students of Austin schools that have not met the Adequate Yearly Progress requirements under the No Child Left Behind law. Sat., Jan. 26, 9:30am-noon. Delco Center, 4601 Pecan Brook, 414-0012. www.austinisd.org.

SUNDAY 20

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM: Special guest Leslie McCulloch speaks on past and present efforts to create a cabinet-level U.S. Department of Peace. 11:30am-12:30pm. Free. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. www.austinuu.org.

TUESDAY 20

PHILANTHROPY DAY LUNCHEON The Association of Fundraising Professionals hosts this annual luncheon to honor those who've had the most positive impact over the last year on the quality of life in



Council will decide during its Jan. 31 meeting whether to designate the Henry Colley House at 718 Norwalk in the Deep Eddy neighborhood as a historic landmark. The home, built around 1909, was originally owned by former slave Henry Colley – who reportedly bought it from former Texas Gov. Elisha Pease's widow. Lucadia Pease. Although city staff concluded there is "insufficient information to justify a designation as a historic landmark" - noting the current owner would like to relocate the home to a parcel of family property in Liberty Hill - a supermajority of the Historic Landmark Commission voted late last year to approve the designation. The Colley House - owned by the family of William and Evie Hays since the 1940s - is arguably the best-known of the neighborhood's older homes and serves as both a symbol of and link to the neighborhood's original fabric and feel, which the construction of large custom homes is consuming.

Central Texas. 11:30am-1pm. Hilton Downtown, 500 E. Fourth. \$75 (\$60, AFP member). www.afpaustin.org.

TOWN HALL MEETING: CITY WEBSITE REDESIGN The first of six meetings inviting input on the city's websites. 6pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2260. www.ci.austin.tx.us/austingo.

WEDNESDAY **30**

ARTIST INFO MEETING: BRAZOS STREETSCAPE PROJECT Take a tour of the area, listen to a presentation from the Austin Public Works project manager overseeing the streetscape project, and find out how artists can participate. 7-8pm. International Center of Austin, 201 E. Second, 974-9314. www.cityofaustin.org/aipp.

CENTRAL TEXAS GROWTH SUMMIT Sen. Kirk Watson leads a presentation on regional trends likely to affect Central Texans in the future. Register online. 11am-1:30pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 494-2548. \$60. www.bizjournals.com/austin.

THURSDAY 🕄 🛈

COME BACK TO GARRISON UT reopens Garrison Hall with the Institute for Historical Studies. Faculty discuss such topics as: Torture, Past and Present; Rewriting the Vietnam War: New Evidence From the

Johnson Library; The Second World War in Global Perspective: and Jesus at the Movies, The Silent Era. 10am-5:30pm, Garrison Hall; 4-7pm reception at the UT Tower; free. 7pm dinner, \$65. Full schedule: www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/history/comeback/schedule/

FIGHT PROPOSED NUCLEAR PLANTS IN TEXAS This presentation from Nuclear Free Texas features information about two new plants proposed for Texas. 8pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. www.nukefreetexas.org.

ONGOING

REVEALING CAPITOL TREASURES The Capitol Visitors Center's new est exhibit features artifacts found during archaeological digs on the Capitol grounds, historic artwork, and more. Through Jan. 27 112 E. 11th, 305-8400. www.texascapitolvisitorscenter.com.

TEXAS GROW HOME DESIGN COMPETITION EXHIBIT showcases the 160 designs submitted by architects, affordable-housing developers, policy leaders, and Hurricane Rita survivors in the Texas Grow competition. Three winning designs will be built and sold with interestfree mortgage loans to Hurricane Rita survivors. Winners will be announced Thu., Jan. 31, noon, in the Capitol ground-floor rotunda Jan. 25-31. Texas Capitol, www.capitol.state.tx.us.

FIND A MATE IN '08

Start your new year right by turning onto Lovers Lane, the Chronicle's online community for hooking up with real people from the Austin area. On Lovers Lane you can read profiles, look at pictures, and listen to voice greetings from people right here in Austin - absolutely free. You can also place your own profile, upload pictures, and record a voice greeting for free. You could be meeting new, interestingt people right now. Chec out Lovers Lane at austinchronicle.com/loverslane. Plus, if you place a profile with a picture before 5pm Monday, Feb. 4, you could win a \$150 gift certificate to TABU!



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THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

FACTS FOR ACTION ON HEALTH CARE

Widely reported fact No. 1: Our country faces a growing health-care crisis that leaves 47 million Americans with no health insurance – an increase of 7 million people since the year 2000.

Little-reported related fact: The healthcare crisis not only affects the uninsured but also the growing number of insured families that find themselves paying more and more money for policies that deliver less and less care. Out-of-pocket costs for health coverage are skyrocketing - some 61 million Americans are now in families that will spend more than 10% of their incomes on medical costs this year, according to a recent report by Families USA, a nonpartisan advocacy group. That's a jump of nearly 20 million people since 2000, and the vast majority of them has insurance. More astonishing is the finding that nearly 18 million Americans are in families now paying more than 25% of their incomes on health costs.

Widely reported fact No. 2: Credit-card debt continues to pile upon the backs of American families, and there's now a worrisome surge in the number of serious delinquencies and defaults.

Little-reported related fact: More and more financially squeezed families have been paying their ever-rising health-care bills with their credit cards.

These interrelated facts explain why American voters are telling pollsters and politicians that access to affordable health care is their No. 1 domestic concern in this year's elections. Not only does a large majority want the federal government to guarantee every American has health coverage, but 60% of the people say they are willing to pay higher taxes to get it done.

For information and action on health-care reform, call Families USA: 202/628-3030.

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PAYING THE PRICE FOR NAFTA

New Year's Day is normally considered a harbinger of hope, but this new year dawned as a day of dread for hundreds of thousands of small farmers just to the south of our border with Mexico.

Their unease is the product of their real-life experience with the North American Free Trade Agreement – the corporate-generated trade scam that Mexico's ruling elite had promised would be a boon for that country's rural people. The promised boon was a bust. Fifteen years after NAFTA was approved, some 3 million Mexicans have lost their farms or their farm jobs, 19 million more Mexicans have been added to the country's poverty rolls, and millions have had to leave their homeland and cross into the U.S. to try to lift their families from abject poverty. Of the 400,000 Mexican people who migrate to our country each year, 80% are from rural areas.

NAFTA did have one safety valve in it, however. Corn and beans – which are economically and culturally the two most important Mexican crops – were protected for 15 years from a deluge of exports that would otherwise have come from subsidized corporate farms in the U.S. On Jan. 1, that protection expired, and the full corporate arrogance of NAFTA is about to come down on the remaining small farmers of Mexico.

Corn and beans have been both a staple dish and an essential part of Mexico's identity since the Aztecs. Now, Mexicans will be made dependent on Cargill, ConAgra, and other U.S. exporters for these basics. Many more Mexican farms and farm jobs will be lost – and additional hundreds of thousands of Mexican people will have no choice but to head north.

If we are ever to deal with the waves of illegal Mexican immigrants in our country, we must stop looking down at the hordes of desperate people crossing over – and instead start looking up at the corporate elites in both countries. It's their insider, self-serving deals like NAFTA that are causing this mass displacement.

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







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Looking for 'Real' Democrats

A report from the endorsement circus

BY LEE NICHOLS

Unless you've been living under a rock for the past few months, you might have noticed: There's an election coming up. But you might not yet have realized there will be names on the ballot other than Clinton, Obama, Huckabee, and McCain. The primaries are coming to Texas March 4 (early voting runs Feb. 19-29), and the Texas politicking is just hitting full stride; battle lines are being drawn and endorsements declared.

Unlike the rest of Red Texas, the dominant Travis County party is of course the Democrats. Last week, seven Democratic clubs held a four-hour clusterfu ... er, forum, bringing together almost every candidate who will be seen on the spring ballot. Six of the clubs handed out endorsements at the end of the night. It wasn't exactly a foolproof process: Each candidate made a oneminute opening statement, followed by two questions, asked by rotating clubs selected at random. An even deeper weakness is the loose membership of some of the clubs – interested parties could pay dues that night and instantly become voting members of a particular caucus, which leads to understandable charges of candidates mobilizing supporters to stack the votes (see "Election 2004: Endorse-o-rama!" March 5, 2004).

However poor a method of picking favorites, the evening was great for something else: sound bites and catfights. While a variety of issues crucial to Travis Co. and Texas was raised, these are the party primaries, so one issue bubbled repeatedly to the surface only of importance to the blue side of the ballot: loyalty to the Democratic Party. At this particular junction in Texas history, this is no mere pettiness. Written off as a joke only two election cycles ago, the Dems clawed their way back to relevance in 2004 and 2006, taking back three fairly conservative House districts here in Travis and coming within five of a House majority. On this night, any candidate who ever dared stray from the flock got his or her nose bloodied.

Foremost among the targets was seven-term state Rep. Dawnna Dukes, whose District 46 covers East and Northeast Austin. She's drawn the ire of local Dems by her apparently unwavering loyalty to Republican dictator - excuse me, speaker of the House - Tom Craddick. And because of that, she has also drawn a challenger, 27-year-old lawyer Brian Thompson, who moved to Austin in 2002 and the Eastside in 2006. Dukes has steadfastly insisted that her votes to keep Craddick in the speakership - votes that have to some degree thwarted bipartisan hopes of removing the autocratic Midland Republican from power – were necessary for precious committee assignments (most notably, Appropriations) and the advancement of bills benefiting her constituents.

"I believe that our leaders have an obligation to lead with a set of principles that cannot be sold to the highest bidder and that cannot be exchanged for committee memberships," Thompson told the crowd to loud applause. When Dukes took the stage, the Capital City Young Democrats asked if she would pledge not to vote for Craddick next year. "I will look at every person who is running for speaker of the House and make a decision in 2009 based on who will do the best job to help me represent the people of District 46. If the Democrats take over the House, that will be a Democrat." She also delivered impassioned speeches reminding Democrats that back in 2003, she was one of the Ardmore 51, who broke quorum to try to stop Republican reredistricting, and about how she worries about her constituents' struggles for good schools and against garbage landfills.

The endorsers were not impressed – five of the six groups voting that night went for Thompson; the Austin Tejano Democrats did not endorse in the District 46 race. (Ultimately, it may not matter heavily: None of the five clubs is specifically African-American or even Eastside in orientation.)



Similar spats took place in races for Travis Co. Precinct 3 commissioner and constable and the 353rd and 427th District Court races. Incumbent Precinct 3 Constable Richard McCain charged that challenger Robert Eller is a closet Republican who took campaign money from former state rep and current Craddick parliamentarian Terry Keel (Eller's current campaign finance reports do not show any contributions from Keel). "If he wants to be a Democrat, we welcome him back over, but don't run against incumbents.' Eller, a 22-year county employee, admitted that in 2000 he worked for a Republican friend's constable campaign but denied that he's a Keel crony and said he has "voted for the people who were best for the job. ... I may be naive in the workings of politics, but I'm not naive on the workings of the constable's office.'

Scott Ozmun, 353rd District Court candidate, pointed out that his opponent, Madeleine Connor, ran for the 299th District Court as a Republican (Connor did not attend the forum). And apparently no sin was too old: Another fight flared when 427th

Court candidate Karyl Anderson Krug was asked why she voted in the Republican primary in 1998. She said she couldn't remember for certain, but perhaps it was to vote for then-Republican Judge Julie Kocurek (who has since turned Dem). When someone yelled that Kocurek didn't take the bench until 2000, Krug replied, "That is Mr. [Jim] Coronado's campaign operative, so thank you for that, and by the way, Mr. Coronado is not really a judge, but we won't go into that." "Please do!" the audience member yelled. Krug angrily fired back, "Oh, I'd love to!" but the moderator cut off the exchange. (Coronado, the Travis Co. Criminal District Court magistrate, bills himself as "Judge Jim Coronado" in campaign literature - possibly skirting judicial ethics standards.)

The loyalty question might have counted for something in those races - neither Eller, Connor, nor Krug picked up a single endorsement.

Precinct 3 commissioner candidate Karen Huber, vying to take on GOP incumbent Gerald Daugherty, was apparently continued on p.32



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Dukes Under Siege

District 46 race pits veteran incumbent vs. newcomer Thompson

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

For nearly 13 years, Rep. Dawnna Dukes has been a fixture in East Austin Democratic politics. But now she faces angry Democratic criticism over her tactical support for House Speaker Tom Craddick and for failing to deliver real results to her district and a primary challenger in the form of attorney Brian Thompson. "If the narrative from the Dukes campaign is that, 'I did this for my district; I supported Craddick so I could get on the committees I need to be on to bring something home,' well, what has she done?" asks Thompson.

Dukes says she's not surprised that she faces a primary opponent, having heard rumors of a search for a candidate well before Thompson announced his candidacy. "There were a handful of people," she said, "most of them outside my district, looking for a challenger against me. So that's no secret." These unnamed opponents, she added in a conversation last week, argue "that an individual should vote their conscience or what they think is best for their district. But in reality, if you do that, then you get a primary challenger.'

Thompson, who currently sits on the Austin Human Rights Commission, calls his campaign a response from a district that has seen little from Dukes, either in the form of investment shepherded its way or in essential programs protected. "I'd heard rumors that there was some anger in the community over her voting record," he said. "I'd also heard rumors about her general absenteeism, not just from the Capitol but the community itself."

Much of Thompson's most vocal early support originated from strongly anti-Craddick blogs like Burnt Orange Report. But BOR Editor Matt Glazer called the idea that Thompson's candidacy is a creation of the blogosphere "a silly notion. Anytime someone runs against a [longtime] incumbent, there has to be a lot of community support. HD 46 is no different."

Now both candidates are running as the 'real" District 46 candidate, and criticism goes both ways. Thompson has been accused of being a newcomer and Dukes of fleeing to the suburbs. A native of Birmingham, Ala., firstgeneration college graduate Thompson came to Austin in 2002 to attend the University of Texas School of Law. In 2006, he moved to East Austin. Dukes notes that her family has lived in East Austin since the 1800s, though she now lives in Pflugerville. Referring to Thompson as "the one that's lived in the district 13 months," Dukes dismisses the issue. "I've lived in that district for 44 years and five months. End of subject." As for her move, she said, "The district is the district."

But the issue on which Thompson is targeting Dukes most strongly is her connection to Craddick and her failure to pass meaningful legislation. "It's not just her speaker vote," he said. "It's the fact that she failed to vote to fully fund [the Children's Health Insurance Program], that she voted against ethics reform time and

time again, that's she's voted against environmental bills." On the CHIP vote, Dukes points out that as a member of Appropriations, she supported the budget compromise that came out of committee – a standard floor strategy. The pattern is repeated for her green voting record: While the Texas League of Conservation Voters gave her an "A" on their "2007 Legislative Scorecard," she lost points for votes against four



"Even when the House was Democratic, it was still either conservative or liberal. ... If you marginalize yourself on the floor, so you don't have that majority of relationships, you're not going to pass anything."

environmental proposals - all of which were proposed floor amendments to the budget.

Craddick's shadow falls on more than just this one race. After the brutal 80th session, in which Craddick fought off an attempt to remove him, many Republicans and Democrats face criticism and challenges over their connection to a speaker described by Republican Byron Cook as "bullying." Dukes has been saddled with the term "Craddick D," partly due to her membership in the Democrats for Reform. Group spokesman Colin Strother says the group is simply a loose affiliation of 15 House members, committed to pursuing a progressive agenda, who signed off on a 16point agenda to protect and extend vital services. "This doesn't have anything to do with Craddick and had some pretty ambitious and progressive goals," he said. The list was compiled, he said, because there had been no agenda set by the Democratic leadership.

But due to the support several of its members showed for Craddick during the unsuccessful challenge by Jim Pitts and later in the session, they have been tagged as Craddick Ds. Strother, who is also Dukes' campaign spokesman, called it "comparable to using a slur, whether it be a racial or sexual. It's a lowbrow way." Since no Democrat was running for speaker, he said, "The difference between Pitts



"If the narrative from the Dukes campaign is that, 'I did this for my district; I supported Craddick so I could get on the committees I need to be on to bring something home,' well, what has she done?"

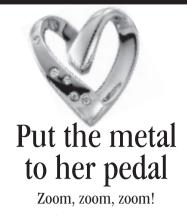
and Craddick is different right-wingers blocking legislation." Still, several other members of the group have since distanced themselves; District 45's Patrick Rose went from seconding Craddick's speaker nomination at the opening of the last session to disavowing him on the

Dukes describes her tactics, including her de facto support for Craddick, as essential to building working relationships and getting a strong voice in powerful committees, like the budget-building House Appropriations Committee on which she sits. This, she argues, is the only realistic way to fight back against even greater cuts in vital services like CHIP. Calling the selection of floor votes to use against her "cherry-picking," Dukes argued that this ignores the battles where regulation is derailed on procedural motions and the intricate deals struck in committee. "Even when the House was Democratic, it was still either conservative or liberal," she said. Taking radical postures may appeal to primary voters, but "if you marginalize yourself on the floor, so you don't have that majority of relationships, you're not going to pass anything." Even now, she says, she would not rule out backing Craddick as speaker again next session.

Thompson accepts that explaining the sometimes esoteric workings of the Lege will take a lot of block-walking. "We're going to get out on the ground and explain to voters who don't know the harm that having someone like Tom Craddick as speaker and having someone that supports Tom Craddick as speaker as representative does for this community," he said.

But for a rookie candidate running against a popular seven-term incumbent, Thompson's campaign has gained traction. At a group endorsement meeting at the AFL-CIO building on Jan. 18, he received official backing from six Austin-area Democratic groups, including the South and Southwest Austin Democrats and Austin Tejano Democrats. (See "Looking for 'Real' Democrats," p.28.) Dukes, on the other hand, has earned the support of the influential Austin Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO), an umbrella group of local unions. There has also been one surprise, out-of-town endorsement for Thompson: Democratic state Rep. Lon Burnam of Fort Worth, who called his support for Thompson "a clear statement that a vote for Tom Craddick is not only bad for your district, but it is also un-Democratic." Burnam is often a lone wolf on the House floor, and his stance in opposing "Craddick-crats" is simple. He believes that the deals that the Craddick Ds struck did not justify keeping Craddick and have borne poor results. "Just because they got incremental changes in the law doesn't mean they're really representing the people," he said. Dukes responded sardonically. "Lon Burnam? Who? You never know what he's going to do."

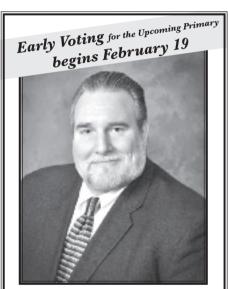
Thus far, Dukes has out-raised and outspent Thompson. In the semiannual financial reports the Dukes campaign filed on Jan. 16, Dukes had \$51,761 cash in hand, compared to Thompson's \$11,272, which includes a \$5,056 loan of his own money. (There's a separate controversy brewing over Dukes' insufficient accounting of campaign fund expenditures.) Thompson's biggest donation was \$500; Dukes has received several large donations from industrial political action committees, including the Craddick-connected HillCo PAC. Dukes pointed out that many Democrats, including Valinda Bolton, took HillCo cash. But after the \$25,000 it gave Lt. Gov. David Dewhurst, the next three biggest donations were \$10,000 each to Dukes and her fellow Democrats for Reform Kino Flores and Kevin Bailey. All three face primary challenges - Bailey from Armando Walle, a former staff member for U.S. Rep. Gene Green, and Flores from educator Sandra Rodriguez. All three face the same accusation that Thompson levels against Dukes: "If you sell your soul to the devil," he said, "you need something to show for it.'



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- **AUSTIN POLICE ASSOCIATION**
- AUSTIN/TRAVIS COUNTY EMS/ FIRST RESPONDERS
- CAPITAL AREA PROGRESSIVE DEMOCRATS CAPITAL AREA ASIAN AMERICAN
- DEMOCRATS
- * North by Northwest Democrats
- * SOUTH AUSTIN DEMOCRATS
- SOUTHWEST AUSTIN DEMOCRATS
- CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL (CLC)
- * Latinos For Texas
- * West Austin Democrats

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more convincing. Opponent Albert Gonzales attacked her for being a lifelong Republican until this election, but Huber described herself as a "zealot convert" who had been raised in a Republican family. "I just thought I was Republican," she said. As she began to get involved in political issues, "I began to realize my core values were Democratic." Huber is running as an environmentalist devoted to protecting the Hill Country - in recent years she's been quite visible in those battles – and she got the nod from the Texas Environmental Democrats and the Capital Area Asian American Democrats, while Gonzales was favored by the Austin Tejano Democrats and Southwest Austin Democrats (of which he is the president).

Now comes the drive to primary day: Endorsements, name ID, and money will all clash. The results in many races are anything but predetermined.

In the constable race for Precinct 1, Willie Joe Madison racked up more endorsements Wednesday evening, but Danny Thomas has bigger name ID as a former Austin City Council member. (Janie Serna is also on the ballot.) For Precinct 2, Adan Ballesteros easily took more endorsements over Paul Labuda, but Ballesteros reportedly had a troubled employment history with the Department of Public Safety - ending in a lawsuit - so that may shadow his campaign. For Travis Co. Democratic Party chair, Andy Brown gives a better speech, but Fidel Acevedo won the endorsement of the very active South Austin Democrats.

And then there are the highest-pro-

It would appear that the Congressional District 10 race is breaking toward Dan Grant - at least to observers in Travis County, which has the strongest influence in the Democratic primary. But without any news organizations taking polls, it's hard to determine how the money, celebrity, and Houston connections of trial lawyer and former Texas Justice TV star Larry Joe Doherty are playing at the other end of the district. Dems of every stripe – urban, suburban, and rural - will have to decide which of the two is more electable against the cash and incumbency of Republican Michael McCaul.

The next Travis Co. district attorney will be determined on March 4 - since there's no Republican entrant – but who will it be? Gary Cobb and Rick Reed would seem to have an uphill struggle against the cash and political experience of Mindy Montford but Montford will have to fight against what might be the biggest hammer of all, the endorsement of retiring DA Ronnie Earle for Rosemary Lehmberg.

Realistically, the tax assessor-collector race will be decided on that date, too, as conventional wisdom doesn't give Republican Don Zimmerman a chance. But just getting to March 4 has already turned into a bloodbath, as Glen Maxey's challenge to 16-year incumbent Nelda Wells Spears has caused a huge rift in the county party, with the loyalists that Maxey built up during his 12-year tenure as a state representative arguing that the office needs revitalization, while others (most notably, former tax assessor and county Judge Bill Aleshire) stand by an incumbent who has been successful by most measures of the office. Minority issues are no small factor: In addition to lawmaking success, Maxey will forever be remembered as Texas' first openly gay legislator, while those standing by Spears are appalled at the thought of turning out a black female incumbent.

Get ready: February is gonna be

Endorsements Who's Zooming Who?

Here's a selection of announced endorsements in Travis County Democratic primary races.

	Endorsing groups (see key below)	Other notable endorsements
Congressional	District 10	
Dan Grant	134568	Ted Ankrum
Larry Joe Doherty		Barbara Ann Radnowsky, Richard Morrison
Travis Co. Com	missioner, Pred	cinct 3
Albert Gonzales	2 5	
Karen Huber	13	
Travis Co. Dist	rict Attorney	
Rosemary Lehmbe	erg 137	Ronnie Earle, John Sharp
Mindy Montford		Austin Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO)
Gary Cobb	2 5	
Rick Reed		
Travis Co. Tax	Assessor-Colle	ctor and Voter Registrar
Glen Maxey	3 6 8	
Nelda Wells Spear	s 57	Austin Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO)
State House, D	istrict 46	
Dawnna Dukes		Austin Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO)
Brian Thompson	1 3 4 5 6	Lon Burnam (D-Fort Worth) Texas Progressive Alliance
98th District C	ourt Judge	
Rhonda Hurley	7	Austin Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO)
Andy Hathcock	5 6 8	
Robert D. Ettinger		
Judge, County	Court at Law N	lo. 8
Carlos Barrera	2	
John Lipscombe	3 4 5 6 7 8	Austin Central Labor Council (AFL-CIO)
Key/Endorsing Gr 1) Texas Environme 2) Austin Tejano D 3) Capital Area As	ental Democrats emocrats	4) Capital Area Progressive Democrats5) Southwest Austin Democrats6) South Austin Democrats7) West Austin Democrats

8) Latinos for Texas

OTHER CONTESTED **DEMOCRATIC RACES**

Travis Co. Constable, **Precinct 3**

Richard McCain³ Robert Eller

Travis Co. Constable, **Precinct 1**

Willie Joe Madison **Danny Thomas** Janie Serna

Travis Co. Constable, **Precinct 2**

Adan Ballesteros Paul Labuda

Travis Co. Constable, **Precinct 4**

Maria Canchola* Alonso "Al" Reves

353rd District Court Judge

Scott Ozmun Madeleine Connor

427th District Court Judge

Jim Coronado Karyl Anderson Krug

Travis Co. Democratic **Party Chair**

Fidel "Ace" Acevedo

*= incumbent

The Early Money Race

Money can't buy votes - but it sure can buy a lot of TV time. The latter is already in play in the district attorney's race, a shortnotice, high-speed contest born of District Attorney Ronnie Earle's mid-December announcement that he would not seek re-election.

While most other candidates for Travis County's elected offices have been on the fundraising circuit for the last six to eight months, pity the poor DA hopefuls who have only a matter of weeks to put together economic stimulus plans to get themselves known and make themselves viable candidates - the campaign equivalent of a reality-TV series.

First out of the chute with television ads was Mindy Montford, one of four of Earle's deputies jockeying for the high-profile office. Her Jan. 15 campaign finance reports show she raised \$45,550 between Dec. 19 and 31. She reportedly bought \$50,000 worth of TV time, which put her image and campaign message of "change" in heavy Central Texas rotation. Montford is blessed with strong ties to the tithing business lobby. Her father, John Montford, a former state senator and conservative West Texas Democrat who presided over the powerful Senate Finance Committee, is now the chief lobbyist for AT&T. Her campaign filings report \$10,000 apiece from her father and stepmother, plus another \$10,000 donation from former Gov. Dolph Briscoe. A trust fund run by another former governor, Mark White, gave Montford \$1,000, while former mayor-turned-lobbyist Bruce Todd kicked in a relatively frugal \$500. Montford's campaign treasurer is Junior Leaguer and Austin Community Foundation leader MariBen Ramsey.

Next up on TV will likely be Rosemary Lehmberg, Earle's longtime top deputy and his endorsed candidate. A latecomer to the race, Lehmberg still raised \$35,500 in the few days remaining before the Dec. 31 cutoff for this reporting cycle. Most of her contributions came from family members; other donors included former Comptroller John Sharp, who gave \$1,000, Lehmberg's first major fundraising effort kicks off next week. Financially speaking, her late entry into the race does not bode well for fellow candidate Gary Cobb. Lehmberg is expected to siphon a good chunk of change from the same progressive and establishment Democrats that Cobb had hoped to tap. Like Montford, Lehmberg has a stellar campaign treasurer in bank founder and civic booster Bill McLellan.

Democrats

Cobb is the only candidate without a financial report posted on the county's website, but he told the Austin American-Statesman he had raised less than \$4,000 by the end of December. Cobb's own campaign website bears a who's who list of liberal and moderate supporters, but whether that support can translate into dollars and votes remains to be seen. His campaign treasurer is Capitol lobbyist and Travis County Healthcare District board Chair Carl Richie.

A fourth candidate, Rick Reed, is not expected to gain much financial traction beyond the \$314 he's reported raising so far.

In another closely watched county contest, fundraising records in the tax assessor's Democratic primary race show incumbent Nelda Wells Spears on top, with \$47,925 collected at year's end. After expenditures totaling nearly \$40,000, she has \$8,183 in cash on hand. Her opponent, former Austin state Rep. Glen Maxey, reported raising \$20,544, spending a little more than \$14,000, and having \$6,023 in cash at the end of

the year. His contributors include Austin developers Larry Warshaw (\$2,500) and Perry Lorenz (\$1,000).

Spears' supporters had initially feared that Maxey's campaign would be partially funded by attorneys of an Austin law firm seeking to take control of the county's multimillion-dollar delinquent tax-collection business. Spears has steadfastly fought against farming out one of the county's biggest revenue generators to a private collection firm. Now she has the support of Dale Linebarger, the founder of the firm that has long lusted for the part of the county's business. Linebarger, who last year sold the firm to some of the younger lawyers there, contributed \$1,000 to Spears' campaign, along with a glowing letter praising her skills. "I unequivocally support you in your reelection campaign," he wrote.

Linebarger's gesture hardly closes the book on the firm's county privatization efforts. One partner at the firm - former County Attorney Ken Oden - has vowed to continue his pursuit of the county's delinquent tax-collection operation. Toward that end, Spears' supporters are keeping a close eye on a political action committee that formed in July - Progressive Action PAC, to which Oden has written a \$10,000 check. A similar Oden-backed PAC played a prominent role in securing the 2006 re-election defeat of former county Commissioner Karen Sonleitner, an outspoken opponent of Oden's privatization campaign.

At the state level, Rep. Dawnna Dukes is the only local candidate to face opposition in the Democratic primary. Newbie challenger Brian Thompson reported raising \$11,272, more than \$5,000 of which is his own money. During the same time period, Dukes raised \$73,972, with a good share coming from the usual business PACs. - Amy Smith



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and land for far too long and should not reopen.

Asarco's El Paso smelter has contaminated the air

Faces Against Asarco

Over 90% of the more than 10,000 public comments received by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality during the latest comment period were against Asarco reopening.

Governor Rick Perry appoints individuals to the TCEQ (MC 100, P.O. Box 13087, Austin, TX 78711-3087, (p) 512-239-5500, (f) 512-239-5533), whose three Commissioners will make the decision on Asarco's permit application

Please contact Governor Rick Perry (P.O. Box 12428, Austin, TX 78711, 1-800-252-9600, (f) 512-463-1849), and ask him to use his influence over his TCEO appointments to deny Asarco's permit application #20345.

The science is done. Asarco's permit application #20345 if approved by TCEO will allow the annual emission of 7,560 tons of pollutants each year in the form of Sulfur Dioxide, Particulates, Lead, and Arsenic.

Administrative Judges from the State Office of Administrative Hearings have already heard the arguments and concluded that Asarco should not be allowed to reopen because of its pollution potential and their dismal environmental compliance record. Their report states, "A staff member experienced heaviness in the chest, periodic increases in heart rate, sulfur odor and tastes, and general feelings of discomfort... consistent with the... respiratory illnesses that sulfur dioxide exposure can produce." (p. http://shapleigh.org/system/reporting_document/ file/191/582-05-0593-pfd.pdf or Google Shapleigh Asarco Files). Asarco was fined \$20 million by the EPA for illegally burning hazardous waste from 1992 to 1997 (New York Times, 10/11/06, "Copper Plant Illegally Burned Hazardous Waste, E.P.A. Says." (http://www.nytimes. com/2006/10/11/us/11toxic.html?ex=1318219200&en=3 ee634faa2197f28&ei=5088&partner=rssnyt&emc=rss or Google New York Times Hazardous Waste).

Asarco only measured contaminants from three of the 103 emission points. Even so, Sulfur Dioxide emissions were double what they had been allowed. Nitrogen Oxide emissions were at 2 1/2 times the allowable levels. The smelter

mitted 11 times the authorized evels of Carbon Monoxide and its oxic Arsenic and Lead emissions vere exponentially higher than (http://www.ci.elpermitted vaso.tx.us/asarco.asp, or http:// hapleigh.org/system/reporting_ locument/file/191/582-05-0593ofd.pdf or Google El Paso Asarco /ideo).

If Asarco reopens, "El Paso vould potentially have the listinction of being home to he facility with the HIGHEST LEVEL OF LEAD EMISSIONS N THE UNITED STATES capitalization added)"...Asarco would emit 12 TIMES the sulfur

dioxide and DOUBLE the particulates of the next highest El Paso emitter. http://www.ci.el-paso.tx.us/_documents/ article%20-%20Why%20Asarco%20-%20longer%20versi on%20for%20website.pdf

Other industry in El Paso is relatively clean. Asarco, in a dubious class all by itself, should not reopen.

El Paso is out of compliance with the EPA on particulate emissions. Asarco's contamination of tons of particulates into the air per year will put El Paso even further in violation. Good employers will locate elsewhere rather than subject their employees to all that Asarco air contamination. Significantly more jobs will be lost than the few provided by Asarco.

Many prominent people are against Asarco reopening, including City of El Paso Mayor John Cook and the City Council, builder and member of the University of Texas System Board of Regents Woody Hunt, State Senator Eliot Shapleigh, and US Congressman and Chair of the House Intelligence Committee Sylvestre Reves ("Reves: Don't permit Asarco to reopen," July 28, 2007; http://elpasotimes. typepad.com/capitol/2007/06/reyes-to-tceq-t.html Google Reves Asarco).

Numerous officials in New Mexico and Mexico have come out against Asarco, to protect the health and economic well being of their residents (http://newspapertree.com/ politics/1450-2-countries-3-cities-take-stand-againstasarco-asarco-fights-back or Google 2 Countries 3 Cities Against Asarco). We deserve no less from Governor Perry. Please contact Governor Rick Perry today at the address and phone/fax numbers above, and ask him to help stop Asarco's permit application #20345. Thank you!

If you can, please also come to the final hearing at the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (12100 Park 35 Circle, Austin, TX 78753 512-239-1000), on February 13th, 2008 at 1 PM.

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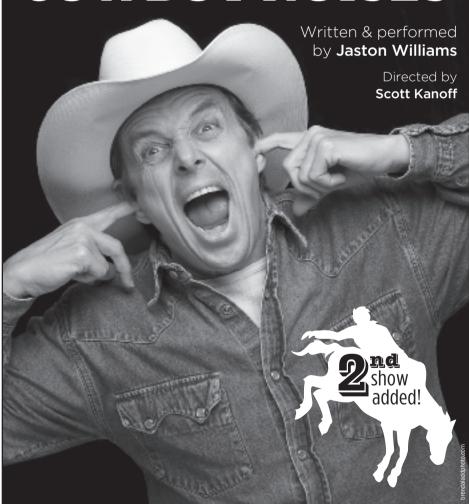




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The arts listings

'Fritz Haeg: Attack on the Front Lawn' Activism disquised as art

Unless you're a moron, morally blind, or possibly a Republican, it's easy to see, in both the microcosm and the macrocosm, that as a nation and a people we are becoming more and more isolated from one another and from the world. While the party line focuses on diversity and acceptance, anyone who has ever hung around the halls of a high school can tell you that those who differ from the norm are ridiculed and shut out. We don't know our neighbors, and if we do, we probably don't like them. And despite the sniggling innuendos of conservative editorialists, anyone with half a brain and the ability to sense changes in the weather knew the world was getting a lot hotter 10 and even 15 years ago. We're in denial, folks. We have been for a long time, and no landscape is more barren than the landscape of denial.

Thank the powers that be, then, for individuals like Fritz Haeg. An architect/artist/teacher, Haeg began his attack on denial July 4, 2005, by launching his Edible Estates project, replacing a residential front lawn in Salina, Kan., the geographical center of the U.S., with a vegetable garden. Since then, Haeg has done the same in Los Angeles, New Jersey, and London, and this coming March, in conjunction with an exhibition at Arthouse opening this week, Haeg will plant his fifth such garden in front of a residence in the Austin area.

"Why are we attacking lawns?" asks Arthouse curator Elizabeth Dunbar. "Why not? They suck up lots of water, and there's chemical runoff. And there are a host of other issues associated with having a front lawn. For the most part, the lawn is nothing more than a decorative space

with no real function other than just sitting there and sometimes being pretty. A lot of times it isn't even that.

"Edible gardens weren't really considered something to hide until fairly recently. Fritz is reversing that trend by putting them in the front yard, making them functional, making them aesthetic, and also making them sites of conversation and social interaction. At the same time, he's asking us to think about where our food comes from. Most of our produce is shipped something like 1,500 miles before it gets to us in stores. Fritz wants to inspire people to become more involved in thinking about where their food comes from and considering what kind of environmental and sociological impacts food production has on our world today.

"In a way, Fritz's project is social activism wrapped in the guise of art. I think he really expands the definition of what art can be. Fritz also fits in with many other artists who are working today in what is called relational aesthetics, whose artworks consist of working within communities and involving themselves in facilitating social interactions."

In addition to the Arthouse exhibition, which will feature photographic and video documentation from the Edible Estates project, a series of workshops titled How to Eat Austin will be held every Saturday, 3-5pm, in a large geodesic tent inside Arthouse's main gallery space. The workshops will focus on subjects such as composting, planting, and caring for a garden; cooking the food you grow; and possibilities for selling what you grow. Haeg will attend the workshop on Jan. 26, as well as return to Austin for another of the workshops and, of course, the planting of the garden itself.





'Portrait of Allison' Kid pix

How long has it been since you've seen the world through the eyes of a child? The annual photography exhibition "Portrait of Allison," now in its fifth year, gives you the opportunity to see the world around Allison Elementary School through the eyes make that the lenses – of the school's fifth- and sixth-grade photography students. The works in the show, which is up for one night only, are available for purchase, with all proceeds going directly to the individual students. Refreshments will be served, and music will be provided by DJ Sugar Bear. "Portrait of Allison" is on view Saturday, Jan. 26, 6-10pm, at the Austin Figurative Gallery, 301 Chicon Unit F. For more information, call 296-6624. - Robert Faires

see.hear.speak.three They said 'yes and' and had a festival

Anyone paying any attention at all to the Austin comedy scene over the last couple of years couldn't help but notice ColdTowne. In 2006, it won the Chronicle "Best of Austin" Readers Poll award for Best Improv Group and in 2007 received the B. Iden Payne Award for Outstanding Improvisational Theatre Ensemble and the "Best of Austin" award for Best Comedy Troupe. While these accomplishments are impressive all on their own, they take on even greater significance when you consider that ColdTowne wasn't anywhere to be found in the Austin area in mid-2005. "We started out in New Orleans," says Michael Jastroch, one of the five people who officially make up ColdTowne, "and we kind of washed up here after the hurricane, which seems to be the story that's going to be perpetually written about us for the rest of our lives, no matter what."

While the ColdTowners, like so many local comedians, started out working wherever they could, they managed to quickly establish themselves in their own venue on Airport Boulevard and 481/2 Street, right next to I Luv Video. "Opening our own space was something we all decided we wanted to do when we got here," says Jastroch. "Fortunately, Tami Nelson, who's in the group, lived here for a number of years before she moved to New Orleans, so we had contacts with the people that owned I Luv Video and also Spider House. They helped us out a lot in terms of finding the space and helping promote us. That's one of the reasons we stayed in Austin, because people are so eager to promote the arts. We opened the theatre a little over a year after we moved here, but we were doing events at the Space, that's now the theatre, before that."

One of the events they did was a little festival called see.hear.speak. Says Jastroch: "An underlying rule of improv is to 'yes and' each other. For instance, you say, 'Look; I have an apple,' and I'll say, 'Yes, and the apple is green.' That's one of the fundamental building blocks of an improv scene, which, in a metaphoric sense, translates to the rest of our lives." In the case of see.hear.speak., the ColdTowners yes-anded themselves into a popular comedy festival. "Someone said, 'Hey, let's do a special event,' and then we just kind of kept yesanding each other and making it into a bigger thing, and eventually see.hear.speak. was born."

The festival, spread across three nights, breaks down into one night of "see" (comedy with video), one of "hear" (comedy with music), and one of "speak" (comedy in a solo format). This year, for the first time, the ColdTowners are flying in acts from around the country, including Jill Bernard, who'll perform in both "hear" and "speak." "In the improv world, Jill is kind of an icon," says Jastroch. "She's teaching a bunch of classes on Saturday [Jan. 26] during the day. Last year, that was a little fantasy dream we had of actually bringing in people we like to perform for an Austin audience. And to be able to actually pull it off this year is really exciting. And we're throwing a fairly large afterparty after 'speak.' Someone yes-anded and got a bunch of sponsors, so we'll have free food and probably some drink specials and all sorts of crazy stuff."

see.hear.speak.three runs Thursday-Saturday. Jan. 24-26, with shows at 8 and 10pm, at Cold-Towne Theater, 4803-B Airport. For a complete listing of acts and events, visit www.coldtowne theater.com. And make sure you get your tickets early. Seating is extremely limited.

Jazzin' Up Catfish Row

After 70 years, Zach creates a 'Porgy and Bess' for Austin

BY GRAHAM REYNOLDS

Porgy and Bess is often considered America's first significant addition to the opera canon, the masterpiece of one of this country's greatest composers at the height of his artistic powers and popular success – a 3½-hour epic that is both accessible and sophisticated, satisfying but enigmatic. A love story set in a fictional tenement on the waterfront in Charleston, S.C., Porgy and Bess has found new audiences in each of the more than seven decades since its creation

The star-studded audience at the show's Broadway premiere in 1935 was full of names we still recognize: Joan Crawford, Katharine Hepburn, Virgil Thomson, Ben Hecht, Jascha Heifetz, Paul Whiteman, and Condé Nast, to name a few. Todd Duncan and Anne Brown took the lead roles, and it helped make them stars. Due to the incredible cost required to keep the huge production open, the initial run closed after a respectable but unremarkable 124 performances. Just a few years later, though, the show was retooled and reopened to greater success, eventually leading to national and European tours and worldwide acclaim.

With each decade, the piece has been renewed and reborn. The Forties brought international recognition; the Fifties brought several key recordings of reinterpretations and the release of the Sidney Poitier film. In the 1970s, after decades of stubbornly ignoring it, the opera establishment finally accepted the work, with a full production by Houston Grand Opera, and in 1985, the Metropolitan Opera put its stamp of approval on the piece with its entry into their repertoire. Now, in the 2000s, Porgy and Bess meets the Zachary Scott Theatre Center, with Artistic Director Dave Steakley reinventing the work from a jazz/R&B perspective. Austin-based composer and orchestrator Greg Bolin is providing new instrumental and vocal arrangements, while music director Lyn Koenning provides additional music for this new, shortened version of the classic.

Of course, the story is not really so simple. Porgy and Bess has been surrounded by controversy throughout its life span, and any new production raises some of the same questions. For many people, these controversies are long resolved; for others, they may never be.

Accusations of Racism

Despite the accolades and hype associated with George Gershwin's score, Porgy and Bess encountered rockiness from the beginning. During the opera's development and after its premiere, accusations of racism arose around the piece. Actors refused to take parts in it, and prominent African-American voices wrote and spoke in protest against it.

Director Steakley explains that "original cast members had concerns that their characters played into a stereotype that African-Americans lived in poverty, took drugs, and solved their problems with fighting. At that time, there were very few positive depictions of African-Americans in plays or films, and those roles were generally restricted to house servants, tap-dancing entertainers, or low-life characters. When a community is working so hard to achieve equal rights, every artistic depiction before the people holding the power becomes very important in order to create positive change." Harold Cruse, professor of African-American studies at the University of Michigan, called Porgy and Bess "the most incongruous, contradictory cultural symbol ever created in the Western world."

All the primary creators were white: composer George Gershwin; his brother Ira, who contributed to the lyrics; DuBose Heyward, who wrote the original novel, Porgy, and most of the opera's libretto and lyrics; and his wife, Dorothy, who first adapted the novel to the stage. As almost all the characters and cast members were African-American, the question of cultural thievery and exploitation followed almost automatically.

continued on p.38



GREG BOLIN NON-AUSTIN AUSTIN COMPOSER



In November, Greg Bolin was hired to do an unenviable task: reassess, edit, and rewrite a masterpiece, Porgy and Bess. And not only did Bolin have to work with George Gershwin's intimidating score; he also had to work with the signature reinterpretations of it by some of America's best known and highly skilled musical artists: Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald, Cleo Laine and Ray Charles, and Nina Simone, among others. To take all those artistic voices and visions and put them together into one work that retained the best of each while creating a cohesive larger whole is, at the least, a challenge. The end result would need to serve and support the narrative; rather than simply be a revue that skips around the decades and styles, Bolin's version had to capture a singular place and time.

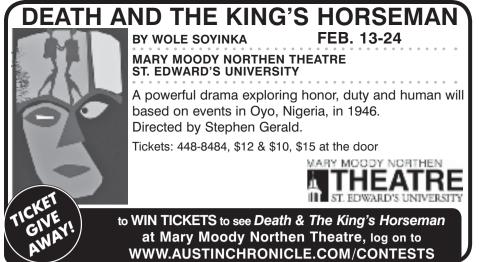
The Zachary Scott Theatre Center found the right person for the job, as there is probably no composer in Austin better prepared for this particular assignment. Bolin's doctoral thesis was in opera, he has an interest in musicals, and while possessing a personal style in his composition, he is also accustomed to the submission of ego and relative invisibility of the job of orchestration. Bolin knew right away that this

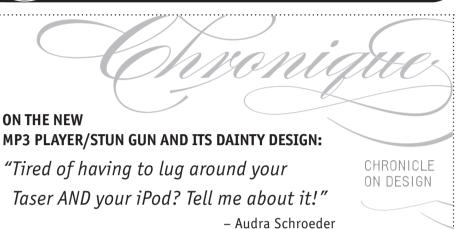
wasn't a bullhorn for his personal signatures, that his voice would be subtle in the final product. He also understood that while Ray Charles' version of "Summertime" could be influential, the audience couldn't immediately recognize it as such. They needed to accept Porgy as Porgy, not as an iconic pop star. "The biggest thing that's tricky is, yes, we want to do this piece that takes these numbers and gives them a contemporary jazz or R&B or gospel [style]," Bolin notes. "That's terrific as long as you also keep an eye on how those things work into the piece dramatically." The reinterpretations did not have to tell a story; Bolin does.

Opera and musicals are not the same thing, and one does not easily become the other. Bolin asks the obvious first question: "How do you make an opera into a musical theatre piece like this? Because opera happens in slow motion - that's why it's 31/2 hours long. If you read those lines between the songs, there would be something like 45 seconds of lines, then another song. When they're sung, that's six or seven minutes of music. That's why the opera is so huge."

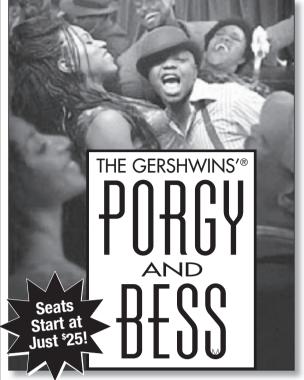
"What I've basically done," Bolin explains, "is gone through and taken a look at the opera itself, a 31/2-hour opera that's solid music, and it's difficult; it's seamless. It's hard to say, 'Well, this is a number.' It's a lot more integrated that way, so I just started by taking the score and sort of dissecting it into what I thought was recitative and what I thought was a number. Then I just spent a good while making sure I understood where each song was falling in the dramatic context of the piece."

Bolin is a native of Montana, and much of his national network of connections stems from his roots there. His pieces have been performed from Buenos Aires to Japan, Chicago to Missoula, and now, with his resetting of Porgy and Bess, Austin. Bolin landed in Austin to pursue his doctorate in composition, which he completed last year. Asked to describe his music - always a challenging question at best - Bolin offers: "I guess at its core. it's contemporary concert music, but that's probably a little misleading, because it's all informed by my other musical interests, including theatre and jazz. If Debussy and John Adams had a love child named Stephen Sondheim?" So, French impressionism, American minimalism, and the most sophisticated of recent Broadway composers. Clips of his pieces can be heard at www.gregbolin.com. Listen and welcome a new compositional voice to the Austin scene. You'll find that his description is not far off at all.





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Not all response to the work was negative, however, and some in the African-American community found promise and opportunity and even progressive politics – in the piece. The opera brought African-American artists onto stages they had never been allowed to grace and in numbers never before seen. (Gershwin stipulated that the show couldn't be cast with white actors; he didn't want it to become a blackface minstrel show.) And in at least one example, the production forced a change in the segregationist policy for audience seating, starting with the National Theatre in Washington, D.C. As for the piece's social commentary, historian John Hope Franklin wrote, "[The drug dealer] Sportin' Life clowns but not for white audiences. Porgy's clowning is a deliberate frustration of white power. Porgy also plays Uncle Tom, but he is never servile and lives for no white master."

For better or worse, the questions of racism and racial politics will likely always live with Porgy and Bess. But even so, the opera's artistry continues to move and inspire audiences.

An Opera or Not?

The question of whether or not Porgy and Bess was truly an opera, as the creators called it, created a second controversy around the work. As Steakley puts it, "Porgy and Bess is a hybrid of musical theatre, folk songs, spirituals, Tin Pan Alley popular music, jazz, and opera. Because it is not 'pure' in its form, it is not considered by some to be an opera." After all, the initial production took place in a Broadway theatre, not in an opera hall. When the work was revived on Broadway in 1942, the operatic aspects were cut back and spoken dialogue was inserted between songs, making it more like a musical than an opera. (And that production was more of a success than the original, playing 286 performances and getting revived on Broadway twice more over the next two years.) Most major opera companies did not touch the piece for decades, and when they did, it was considered a big deal. But the original version is a stage narrative, sung though, not with songs between spoken dialogue, traditionally considered the key difference between an opera and a musical. Additionally, classical Western opera singing style was applied, even with the songs based in other styles.

Gershwin realized that his work didn't fit into preconceived categories, explaining to The New York Times that "because Porgy and Bess deals with Negro life in America, it brings to the operatic form elements that have never before appeared in opera, and I have adapted my method to utilize the drama, the humor, the superstition, the religious fervor, the dancing, and the irrepressible high spirits of the race. If I have created a new form, which combines opera with theatre, this new form has come quite naturally out of the material."

From Opera to Musical Theatre

For the creators of the Zach Scott production, the issue is decided: Both Steakley and Bolin consider the original Gershwin Porgy and Bess to be an opera. Ironically and boldly, they are removing the operatic elements and transforming the work into a piece of musical theatre. For Steakley, this production is as rooted in famous interpretations of the music as the original Gershwin score: "In 1997, I directed a production of Dreamgirls for Zach at the Paramount Theatre, and after a performance, my friend Joe York said to me, 'You should really tackle Porgy and Bess next because you have assembled the talent to pull it off.' I was not very familiar with the opera, and even though I knew some of the music, I didn't know the story at all. So I started digging, and being a soul music fan, I was delighted to discover that Ray Charles and Cleo Laine had made a wonderful recording of Porgy and Bess. It became for me a perfect introduction to this beautiful score. Digging deeper, I discovered Nina Simone's moving recordings and the wonderful recording made by Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong. These recordings became my window into this terrific music by George and Ira Gershwin. My dream was that we would create a version of Porgy and Bess that was inspired by these legendary recordings I have grown to love so much." Last November, he hired Greg Bolin to combine the original score and the rerecordings and create a new version of the piece that also held together on its own. (See "Greg Bolin: Non-Austin Austin Composer," p.36.)

Steakley's vision of a rescored version of the opera from a jazz/R&B angle is in line with his ongoing efforts to develop Zach into a theatre that stages ambitious projects not just exciting for Austin audiences but worthy of attention on the national theatre scene, shows such as The Gospel at Colonus, Angels in America, The America Play, Jouet, The Laramie Project, and Keepin' It Weird. But because this concept of Porgy and Bess originated at Zach, it has greater potential to draw interest from around the country. The project has already earned Zach a \$40,000 American Masterpieces grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, and more national attention may be coming.

Messing with a classic is always a risky proposition, as these creators realize. Revisions have been tried many times with Porgy and Bess, not always with satisfying results. But making a piece one's own is also a tool for revitalizing and personalizing a piece while preparing it for a new audience. Dave Steakley is Austin's most established and acclaimed director of musicals, Greg Bolin adds a powerful and intelligent musical voice, and the cast, featuring David Jennings and Marva Hicks in the title roles, is stellar. The opportunity to see this 20th century classic staged is rare. To see it created by this exceptional Austin team is a privilege.

Porgy and Bess runs Jan. 25-Feb. 3 – Wednesday-Friday, 7:30pm; Saturday, 2 & 7:30pm; Sunday, 2:30pm - at the Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces. For more information, call 476-0541 or visit www.zachscott.com.

'PORGY AND BESS' A SELECT CHRONOLOGY

1925: DuBose Heyward writes the novel Porgy. 1926: George Gershwin reads Porgy and writes Heyward to ask about creating a musical version of it. 1927: Dorothy Heyward adapts the novel into the play of the same name as a surprise to her husband. In October, the play opens on Broadway and runs 367 performances.

1935: Renamed Porgy and Bess, the opera version premieres in New York, a collaboration among the Heywards, composer George Gershwin, and George's

lyricist brother. Ira. 1942: Producer Cheryl Crawford revives the opera for Broadway with the operatic score cut back and spoken lines from the Heywards' play inserted between songs. Etta Moten joins the revamped production as Bess but protests use of



the word "nigger" in the libretto, refusing to sing it. With the full support and participation of Ira Gershwin, the word is removed from the text.

1943: The Danish Royal Opera premieres the first of many overseas productions, a version in Danish with an all-white cast in Copenhagen on March 23, 1943. Despite the strong audience response, repeated and threatening warnings from the Nazis force it to close.

1952: A European tour is developed starring William Warfield and Leontyne Price, with Cab Calloway as Sportin' Life. A second tour the next year adds a young Maya Angelou as Ruby.

1955: The international touring version of Porgy and Bess becomes the first American theatre performance in the Soviet Union since the Bolshevik revolution.

1956: Arranged by Russell Garcia and Duke Ellington, the second "complete" recording of the opera features jazz singers and musicians, including Mel Tormé and Frances Faye as Porgy and Bess, Johnny Hartman, Betty Roche, and the Duke Ellington Orchestra.

1957: Russell Garcia continues his work on the piece, this time on a shortened "highlights" album featuring Louis Armstrong and Ella Fitzgerald.

1958: Miles Davis, in collaboration with arranger and conductor Gil Evans, records an instrumental jazz album of Porgy and Bess interpretations. 1959: Otto Preminger directs a truncated film

version starring Sidney Poitier, who later regrets taking the role.

1976: Ray Charles and Cleo Laine record Porgy & Bess. featuring highlights from the opera, this time with a more R&B tilt but including a 78-piece orchestra.

1976: The Houston Grand Opera performs Porgy and Bess, the first major and influential classical opera

1985: The Metropolitan Opera adds Porgy and Bess to its repertoire, a final surrender by the opera establishment over whether the piece is an opera.

1993: Acclaimed stage director Trevor Nunn's version of the "complete" Porgy and Bess is released on video, a distinct alternative to the heavily edited and adapted 1959 film version.

2008: One of the flagships of Austin's bustling and internationally recognized theatre scene, the Zachary Scott Theatre Center, not only takes on Porgy and Bess but edits, adapts, and orchestrates its own version.

THE ALLEY TO THE CONCERT HALL ORGE GERSHWIN FROM



One of the most significant musical phenomena of the 20th century was the blurring of what had been the relatively distinct lines between popular culture and "high art." Owing in large part to the invention and spread of recording and duplication technologies, as well as the relative universality of public education, musical literacy and expertise was no longer the exclusive domain of a tiny wealthy elite. In the West, the sophistication of jazz had already started to confuse those lines, but the institutions of classical music still fell relatively secure in their exclusivity. Then in 1924 came Gershwin's Rhapsody in Blue, and the invasion

had begun in earnest. Gershwin was a Tin Pan Alley composer who wrote pop songs and didn't even have the background to orchestrate his own score. (This was done by another composer, Ferde Grofé.) Nonetheless, here Gershwin was, writing music for the concert hall and breaking the superficial physical barriers right along with the more substantial and subtle musical ones. By the time of his Concerto in F, Gershwin's skill set had evolved, and he orchestrated his own material from there on out. Porgy and Bess took this branch of his career to its grandest point.

Born in Brooklyn in 1898, Gershwin started his career on "the Alley" plugging other people's songs. But he quickly moved up the ladder, composing his own songs, then Broadway hits, Hollywood hits, and, of course, orchestral concert pieces, which led him to become the most powerful, recognized, imitated, and sought-after songwriter in the era of the Great American Song. Just a few of the standards he contributed to the repertoire include "I Got Rhythm," "Let's Call the Whole Thing Off," "'S Wonderful," "Summertime," "Somebody Loves Me," "Swanee," 'Someone to Watch Over Me," "I Got Plenty o' Nuthin'," and "A Foggy Day." His most frequent lyrical partner was his brother Ira, but he collaborated with others throughout his career.

As with so many musical greats, Gershwin's career was cut tragically short. In 1937, the composer succumbed to either overwork, brain cancer, medical negligence, or some combination of the three (reports vary). But whatever the cause, he was gone. The July 19, 1937, issue of Time magazine reported, "Serious musicians joined pluggers and crooners to mourn the 38-year-old composer who had made the world sing his songs and who never, even in his most pretentious work, disdained the antic, impertinent data he had picked up in Tin Pan Alley." The world had lost a musical bridge-maker whose bridges are still in use today.

BROOKLYN WAS MINE

edited by Chris Knutsen and Valerie Steiker Riverhead Trade, 232 pp., \$15 (paper)

The first time I went to Brooklyn was in 1995 and doesn't count - I spent one night in Williamsburg, which reminded me of Sesame Street. The second time, also Williamsburg, 1997, doesn't count either: At the time I had no inkling of the magnitude of the Brooklyn myth. The first time I really went to Brooklyn, I was reading - make that consumed by

 Jonathan Lethem's The Fortress of Solitude. I stayed in Prospect Heights but made a pilgrimage to Dean Street, took pictures, confirmed the existence of Pintchik's, and, unbelievably, saw the drummer for Holly Golightly get shaken down on a dark, leafy, brownstoned street, just like the kid in the book does.

It's a place that pretty much demands to be understood literarily, whether the literature of choice is Walt Whitman's or Jay-Z's. "Brooklyn has become an idea, a symbol, and a contested one at that," writes Phillip Lopate in his

introduction to Brooklyn Was Mine; titled after a line from Leaves of Grass, this new collection of essays gathers some inheritors of the borough's writerly mantle to hold forth on that hallowed and embattled ground.

For all that, there's something prim about Brooklyn Was Mine. While its title implies contentiousness and claim-staking, aside from Lethem's "Ruckus Flatbush" - a very funny, dystopian disaster scene followed by a provocative apologia - and Lara Vapnyar's "I Hate Brighton Beach" - ambivalent and nuanced, title aside - most of the pieces are both smitten and

vaguely rootless. Quite a few are soft odes to mostly predictable things that make Brooklyn at once small-townish and mythical: its baseball diamonds, Prospect Park, its toxic sludge, Coney Island, its (relatively) open skies, its jarring mix of the majestic, the industrial, and the verdant.

Other pieces in the collection, such as Alexandra Styron's "A Sentimental Education" and Lawrence Osborne's "Riding in Red Hook," deploy place to negotiate personal history. But because all of Brooklyn, as Philip Dray writes

about the Williamsburg area in particular, "has an almost bottomless past," quirky histories of the borough's forgotten corners - Jennifer Egan's "Reading Lucy" (about a woman who worked at the Brooklyn Navy Yard during World War II), Emily Barton's "Eli Miller's Seltzer Delivery Service," and Elizabeth Gaffney's "Down the Manhole," about the excellence of Brooklyn's 19th century sewers work best.

While the volume makes no claims of representation, the space where African-American Brooklyn should be is rather gaping, not to mention mysteri-

ous. The collection focuses heavily on early Eastern European immigrants, their descendents, and contemporary immigrants, for the most part skipping over the generations of U.S.-born African-Americans who undeniably and indelibly shaped the borough.

What's left, then, is the writing, which holds its own in Brooklyn's literary legacy. That these tales are masterful, elegant, and sweet makes it difficult to hold their slightness and occasional sentimentality against them. It must be said, however, that fewer mentions of the Kentile Floors sign wouldn't - Cindy Widner have hurt anvone.



by Kathy L. Patrick Grand Central Publishing, 334 pp., \$13.99 (paper)

So you've written a novel. That's the hard part, right? Well, next comes finding a publisher to throw gobs of cash at it. You're set! Uh, there's

that sticky issue of readers. You see, your friendly neighborhood bookstore has lots of books. Lots and lots of books. Oodles and caboodles of books, books, books. Yours will be on the shelf. Over there in the corner, Way over there. Good luck, my writerly friend. Fantasize that your book is being tub-thumped by Oprah Winfrey. Better yet, imagine Kathy Patrick finds your scribblings and introduces you to her tiara-wearing friends. They'll be dressed in pink.

Meet the Pulpwood Oueens and Patrick, Texas' answer to Oprah and perhaps just as impor-

tant a name in the word biz. For the uninitiated, Patrick is a Kansas native who moved to East Texas and opened Beauty and the Book, a combo hair salon/bookstore that has taken on legendary status. Winfrey herself has even taken notice. A hairdresser-turned-publisher's-rep who was laid off when the number of independent bookstores

started tumbling in the onslaught of Amazon.com and the corporate bookstore chain. Patrick had the odd notion of melding two careers and then, for good measure, added the Pulpwood Queens, fun-filled book clubs spreading across the country and around the globe.

Patrick loves books, and now she's written one. It's not a masterpiece, but it's enough to make her fellow authors applaud. It tells of a

> shy girl from a dysfunctional family who learned to believe in herself and her dreams. A teacher introduced this shuddering waif to books, and she saw the light. Books and beauty parlors. Both are about community, Patrick tells us. Ring up Beauty and the Book (I did), and she'll explain all. You'll be convinced you've found the nicest, most vibrant person on the planet. The same earnest happiness glows from the pages of this memoir. Patrick wants you to turn off the television and read a good book. And she

gives you lists to guide the way. That and recipes, both for sticky, icky, gooey treats and for how to start up your own chapter of this book club on a mission. It may change your life, if not your hairstyle. - Joe O'Connell

Kathy L. Patrick will appear at BookPeople (603 N. Lamar) on Wednesday, Jan. 30, at 7pm.

Love is in the Ear



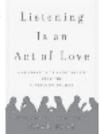
LOVE IS A MIX TAPE **ROB SHEFFIELD** Sunday, January 27 5 PM **Random House**

Rob Sheffield, rock critic, Rolling Stone contributor, and BookPeople favorite, will be making a special appearance today at 5PM. His heartbreaking and hip memoir, Love is a Mix Tape, documents Sheffield's idyllic five-year marriage to his unforgettable wife Renee through songs on his personal mix tapes. Stitched together, the songs help to tell the story of their love, marriage and her tragic death. This touching story will strike a chord in anyone who has used songs to try to express the ineffable.

> LISTENING IS AN ACT OF LOVE **DAVE ISAY** Tuesday, January 29 7:30 PM

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BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

PARTY PIG Okay, it's true - I'm partying like I'm possessed these days, attending everything from the big glam events to the opening

of a new check-cashing business in Hutto (just kidding). Last Saturday was the always-fab Jingle Ball (okay, I'm just going to have to get over the fact that very few people understand the term "black tie"), always so fun and completely agendafree. I hung with my old friend Andy Brown, candidate for chair of the

Travis County Democratic Party, as well as friends like Gail Chovan, **Evan Voyles**, and so many others. But primarily my attention was devoted to my friend and former Austinite Mark Sullivan, who called me from Houston at 5pm and slyly said, "I hope you're going

to be at the same party

I'm going to tonight." I was

so excited to know he'd be here that I just about peed on myself. Mark's PR firm in Houston, Studio Communications, is doing the PR for Austin's W Hotel, so he'll be around more regularly. But since it was such

a special occasion, I orchestrated an awesome afterparty - shameless and unapologetic I rounded up a charming crew, each with

BUADARRAWA

A cream-colored silk gown made a splash

on the runway of the Celestino Couture

by Sergio Guadarrama collection.

presented by St. Thomas Boutique.

his or her own special talent or contribution (said Mark, quoting from Mommie Dearest, "| might have known you'd know where to find the boys and the booze"). Well, duh. I think I made it home around 11am the next morning. Believe me, there's something innately trashy about arriving home in broad daylight - the festive outfit that was so fun at the club looks pretty tawdry by the light of day. I just pretend that I'm one of those movie stars who has to arrive at the Oscars completely decked out in evening wear at 3 in the afternoon. I wish I could say that this was an uncommon scenario, but, well, I'd be lying.

THE FASHION TRACK The former Vertigo Hats, on Sixth Street across from the Driskill Hotel, is now Hatbox: A Modern Haberdashery, with a hot new website (www. hatbox.com) and a complete product line that



includes Kangol, Resistol, and Borsalino of Italy. Go ahead; try one on. You know you want to... Accessories designer David Hall Hodges is turning out some pretty cool work in his Dripping Springs studio. Using exotic skins like alligator, python, stingray, crocodile, or ostrich leg, he designs bracelets, women's belts and purses, and even a custom guitar strap. Drool over his work at www.dhhdesign. com... Teen Vogue did a photo shoot at the **South Austin Museum of Popular** Culture!... The wonderful Sage Salon is back in its newly renovated space at 4111 Medical Pkwy. See their services at www.sagesalonaustin. com, and make an appointment, dammit!

DOING GOOD It was not the usual crowd at La Zona Rosa last Thursday. These people were all perfect, healthy specimens out to do **Enthusiastic riders** raise money while biking through glorious wildflower country at last year's Hill Country Ride for AIDS.

good. Imagine. The event was the kickoff party for the Hill Country Ride, which provides life-giving support for our neighbors with HIV/AIDS. And frankly, it's just about the only event I can think of where Lycra/ spandex is not only for-

given but encouraged. Hill Country Ride Director David C. Smith is an inspiration to the riders, and this year's ride is expected to raise more money than ever. The ride is April 26, and you can sign up or pledge support at www.hillcountryride.org... Last Sunday was the sponsor party for Project Transition's huge annual fundraiser, Guess Who's Coming to **Dinner?** With dinner parties spread across 20 Austin homes, this event is just about the coolest fundraiser I can think of. Sometimes the most desirable parties do not have an open guest list, so this year, I finagled and whined until I got invited to just the right party. I'll be sure and reveal all after it's over.

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





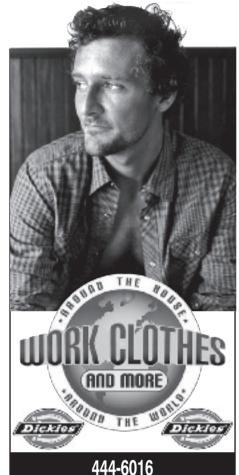






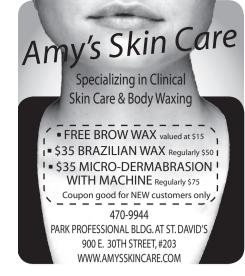






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tood

44 PRIMIZIE/RED CAP CHICKEN **46** RESTAURANT ROULETTE

MORIMOTO: THE NEW ART OF JAPANESE COOKING

by Masaharu Morimoto DK Publishing, 272 pp., \$40 www.chefmorimoto.com

From a first glimpse of Morimoto-san on the old Japanese Iron Chef series. I knew he was the emperor of Japanese fusion cuisine: He's a classically trained traditional chef with total disregard for tradition, borrowing heavily from Japanese, Chinese, and Mediterranean components paired with French technique. His recipes are playful takes on established dishes and methods, incorporating 21st century artisanal ingredients. His training in sushi and kaiseki cuisine (a perfectly balanced meal composed of many small artistic plates) has polished his creative plating technique to a fine edge. These and many more talents of

the amazing Morimoto are displayed for all to learn in his new cookbook.

He sets the stage admirably, describing traditions, definitions, and common misconceptions, while techniques such as slicing, curing,



pickling, and many more are gorgeously photographed step-by-step. There are detailed descriptions of ingredients such as nori, dashi, and the like, but some of these pages are printed over a blinding horizontal pattern of earth tones (the book's designer should be whipped). The numerous photographs are of the highest food-porn quality, and all 125 of the recipes are well-written, easy to follow, and logical in progression.

When you examine some of the dishes, you begin to get a real feel for Morimoto's playful brilliance: raw tuna "pizza" on a flour tortilla; tempura with a Gorgonzola sauce; chips and guacamole, but with chips made from pounded-out snapper; seafood and white miso baked in orange shell: grilled onions stuffed with pancetta-wrapped scallop. This is food that will wow your friends, and it's easy to produce with Morimoto's guidance. - Mick Vann

WOMEN OF THE VINE: INSIDE THE WORLD OF WOMEN WHO MAKE, TASTE, AND ENJOY WINE

by Deborah Brenner

John Wiley & Sons, 256 pp., \$16.95 (paper)

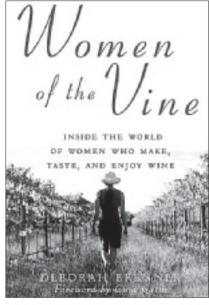
I had high expectations for this book when I first heard of it. With women taking an increasingly active part in an industry previously dominated by men, it seemed that the publication was indeed timely and would offer new insights into gender issues in the wine industry. Instead, Deborah Brenner's Women of the Vine left me a bit cold.

Through informal interviews, Brenner - a marketing executive-turned-wine label owner portrays the success stories of a group of women in many aspects of the wine industry. She starts with a description of the wine-making process and defines winemakers' jobs clearly and concisely, painting a picture of the incredibly complex work that this job entails. The glossary at the end of the book will be useful to those unfamiliar with wine terminology. While most of the interviews are with winemakers, several are with aficionados such as Stephanie Browne, founder of Divas Uncorked, a wine group for African-American women, and top industry scholar Dr. Ann Noble, inventor of the Wine Aroma Wheel.

These women's stories of overcoming adversity, gender discrimination, and family tragedy are clearly meant to serve as inspiration à la Oprah. However, it is hard for me to believe that anyone with the last name Gallo would find it difficult to make it in the wine world. And the lack of geographical diversity is a disappointment. All of the women featured in the book are in the U.S. wine industry, and the winemakers are from some of California's most prestigious vineyards. Understandably, writing a comprehensive book of women in the industry would be daunting, but there are plenty of successful women in the global wine world such as Argentina's Susana Balbo, Sicily's Barbera sisters, and our very own Susan Auler - just to name a few - who deserve equal praise.

This book will be entertaining to beginning wine enthusiasts who want to learn more about the industry. To me, Women of the Vine is a "girly girl" book that reminds me of those annoying Kathy Womack paintings of upperclass women drinking wine on the veranda.

- Claudia Alarcón





As Food Editor Virginia Wood says, off with my head. There was a miscommunication between myself and Kobrand, the importers of the wonderful Christian Moueix wines I wrote about last week. They should be available widely, but they won't be in Austin until late April. Sad as I am about the delay, they are worth waiting for. I'm sorry for the mistake. - Wes Marshall

..... **EVENT MENU JAN. 26-FEB. 3**

The **Blair House Inn** (100 W. Spoke Hill Dr., in Wimberley, 877/549-5450; www.blairhouseinn.com) has announced their 2008 Vintner Dinner Series, with weekly events scheduled for January and February. Next up, the Trinchero Family **Estates** of Napa Valley present their wines with a five-course meal prepared by Executive Chef Mark Malowski. Dinner is \$159.03 per couple, all inclusive; reservations are necessary. Saturday, Jan. 26, 6:30pm.

The Texas Conference on Organic Production Systems: Nourishing Agriculture takes place next weekend at the Hilton Conference Center in College Station. The event is open to all aspiring or current farmers and gardeners and members of the public with an interest in sustainable agriculture and healthy eating. It will include educational seminars, farm tours, movie screenings, plus organic luncheons and dinners. For more info, or to register, call 979/836-3135 or see www.tofga.org. Friday-Sunday, Feb. 1-3. - V.B.W.

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD Over the past year I've heard from several people about their interactions with inspectors from the **Austin/Travis County Health & Human Services Department**. A few of the people who wrote were event planners or local food artisans, which was understandable, but what made me realize there was a column in the making was that some of the others were grocery store and farmers' market shoppers, members of church congregations, and even gallery owners. Some people contacted me about what they perceived to be an injustice at the hand of inspectors, but the gist of most of the correspondence was that people are aware of greater permit regulation enforcement efforts on the part of the Health Department and were curious about why this is happening now. So I had a conversation with Shannon Jones, assistant director of public health, to discuss this issue. We discussed the tremendous growth in the local food industry in recent vears and the overall increase in the number of public events that include some kind of food service. (The department did 1.000 inspections of public events offering food in 2005 and 1,119 inspections in 2007.) Jones said that inspecting the safety and cleanliness of all food-service establishments and guarding the public against food-borne illness have always been the department's mandate. They do this primarily by issuing permits for food preparation locations, inspecting those locations on a regular basis, responding to complaints from the public, and doing research about events where food is being offered to the public, so they can check to make sure that necessary permits are in place. That last component is where most of my recent correspondents have gotten hung up - folks who wanted to know why their nonprofit benefit, annual church barbecue fundraiser, art show opening, or customer appreciation day party with refreshments suddenly needed a temporary food-service permit after operating safely and successfully without one, sometimes for years. Said Jones: "Public events that serve food have always required a temporary food-service permit and inspections. even if they've operated under the radar successfully for years without one. Once we know about the event, we are obligated to contact the organizers and educate them about the need for temporary permits and inspections." Jones also made the distinctions very clear - private events at your home, church, or place of business that serve food to your family and guests, congregation, or employees, are your own business and do not require a permit. Any event where open, unpackaged food will be given or sold to the general public does require a temporary food-service permit or proof of an existing permit. If there are multiple vendors serving food, each will need a permit or proof thereof. This is necessary to help the Health Department determine the source of any food-borne illness, should one arise. Permit fees vary depending on the number of days the event runs and should be built into the event budget during the planning stages to avoid unexpected last-minute costs. Jones shared another crucial piece of information: Health Department employees do research event calendars, articles, and advertisements in local print and online publications for notices about food products and events where food will be offered. This is simply a word to the wise if you're sending out advertisements or public service announcements about a food-related event or giving interviews about the availability of a food product, it is a good idea to make sure your permits are in order first. Contact Sabrina Vidaurri, temporary event coordinator, at 972-5671, if you have questions about temporary food-service permit requirements or need an application.

recently reviewed

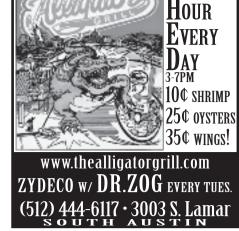
CHAIN: BJ'S RESTAURANT & BREWHOUSE Beer snobs have been impressed with the selection of ales from this California-based chain. Don't skip the food, though: Try the creamy spinach and artichoke dip, the Santa Fe spring rolls, and the avocado egg rolls. 5207 Brodie #300, Sunset Valley, 512/892-3800. www.bisbrewhouse.com

ITALIAN: TRATTORIA LISINA The view of a busy kitchen makes us hungry: Homemade charcuterie cures, meats turn on the rotisserie, baked dishes and thin-crust pizzas emerge from a wood-fired oven, while the corps de cuisine toss pasta dishes with sauce. 13308 FM 150 W., Driftwood, 512/894-3111. www.trattorialisina.com.

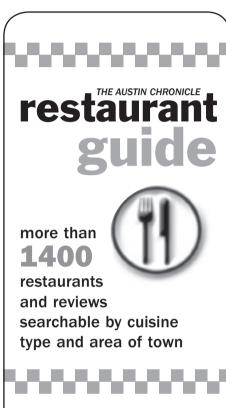








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PRIMIZIE

1000 E. 11th #150, 236-0088

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Painted on the short, western wall of Primizie is a mural depicting a group of merry people quaffing wine and having a decidedly great time. Included in this scene is a dictionary definition of an osteria - a traditional meeting place for family, friends, and neighbors to imbibe, share a meal, and enjoy one another's company. The term "trattoria" has been in the common American restaurant lexicon for a long time, but we weren't as familiar with the term "osteria." If this is what Primizie purports to be, then what is a trattoria? We checked with our source of Italian expertise, our friend Stefania who hails from Bologna, and she revealed the subtle differences between the two. In an osteria, Stefania said, you can drink a lot of wine with your friends and bang your hands on the table and sing songs, and no one will mind. A trattoria is traditionally operated by a family, and such behavior will likely get you tossed out. Got it!

We didn't bang our hands on our table and sing songs, but on a recent Saturday night at the new 11th Street eatery, we recognized friends at no fewer than three of the 20 or so tables, all of whom appeared to be enjoying the savory food, liberally imbibing in wine, and having a fine time. Primizie opened to crowds that quickly embraced the sleek but casual cafe. Situated on the thriving 11th Street corridor in a new, multipurpose brick structure, Primizie features a long, expansive wall of windows facing 11th Street. During the day, the dining room is bathed in natural light; at night, the twinkling lights of the urban location lend a sophisticated air to the room. The decor is sleek and minimalist without being cold: polished concrete floors, wood tables, and stylish hanging light fixtures. At lunch, orders are placed and checks settled with the cashier at the counter. There's full table service at dinner.

My husband and I enjoyed a rare late lunch out together in the bright dining room on a recent Friday. The menu, including specials listed on the chalkboard, features the three big Ps of Italian eateries: pizza, panini, and pasta. On this day, a fourth "P" was offered as a special: polenta topped with house-made

sausage (which I initially read from across the room to my horror as "horse-made sausage"), caramelized onions, roasted red tomatoes, and wilted fresh spinach (\$12). My husband went with the gnocchi with corn, chanterelle mushrooms, and sage (\$11). I started with a side Caesar salad (\$5), a dish I used to adore but which has become so ubiquitous, it seems to be included on all menus by law, where it rarely amounts to more than romaine overly dressed with vaguely cheesy, mayonnaisebased dressing. At Primizie, you're treated to the pale interior leaves of romaine (usually not my favorite part) tossed with a delicate, olive-oil-based dressing and topped with pickled red onion, shavings of Parmesan, and Primizie crisps, their version of the necessary crouton. It was an ideal example of the care lavished on the most rudimentary dish at the osteria. Our entrées delighted both of us, as well. The sausage was fully flavored with fennel, and the accompanying vegetables created that delicious Italian trifecta of sausage, peppers, and onions. The bed of golden polenta on which the stew sat was perfectly textured and flavored. We were equally smitten with the gnocchi cooked to a lovely, fluffy texture. The crisp corn kernels provided a sweet and crunchy contrast to the dumplings. The entrées were accompanied by squares of a curious sort of bread that resembled a mildly herby tortilla more than anything. Despite the midday hour, we couldn't resist a glass of wine each to go along with our lunches, a lovely Tiamo Sangiovese (\$7) and Bong Bong Shiraz (\$8) respectively. We just had to prolong the experience, so we perused the bakery case and picked a sample of the offerings including a pignoli cookie (75 cents), a citrus ricotta treat (75 cents), a brownie (\$1.50), and a lemon bar (\$1). A couple of cups of coffee and several shared nibbles later, we were perfectly satisfied.

Our second visit was on the aforementioned crowded Saturday night. This time, our 15-year-old joined us. The bustling room and repeated greet-

ings from friends and acquaintances from adjoining tables gave the room the ambience described on the mural. For starters this time, I opted for the spinach with ripe dolce Gorgonzola, candied pecans, and balsamic vinaigrette (\$5), while my husband had the Insalata Misto (\$10) with grilled avocado, pancetta, and red-chile and black-olive vinaigrette. Grilling avocado is an excellent idea, and it provides a silky and mild counterpoint to the snappy and salty wafers of pancetta.

Our entrée selections were Ravioli di Caprino con Burro di Oliva (\$13), triangles of pasta filled with goat cheese and scallion in a black-olive butter; Taglitelle Alla Bolognese (\$13), which was rich with beef and sausage; and one of the evening's specials, scallops with grilled corn and pomegranate seeds atop mashed potatoes (\$13). Each dish was a success, enthusiastically shared and tasted among the three of us. The Bolognese, meaty and hearty and soul-satisfying, felt like a hug, though it would have benefited from a bit more defatting. The tang of the goat cheese in the pasta pillows went beautifully with the briny olive butter (although more butter than necessary dressed the plate), and the crisp kernels of sweet corn and pomegranate contrasted nicely with the silky scallops. The same curious flat bread accompanied the entrées and came in handy to wipe the plates.

We weren't exactly hungry, but we managed to sample desserts just the same. I went with the semifreddo (\$6), a charming dish of two petite scoops of deeply vanilla gelato dusted with cocoa, a steaming cup of espresso, and a hazelnut biscotto. Our daughter tried the Torta di Limone (\$6), a tangy round of lemon cheesecake served with a white-chocolate straw and dabs of lemon curd, while my husband made another pass at the dessert case and chose a chocolate/pecan bar (\$1.50). Steaming cups of cappuccino (\$2.65) provided the ideal accompaniment and finale.

Owners chef Mark Spedale and his wife, Lisa, have a hit in Primizie, thanks to their clear vision of the friendly osteria they wished to create and its careful realization. Upon departing, you're thinking of the next time you can return with friends; you also get the feeling that if you found yourself moved to sing a few tunes, diners at adjoining tables and the staff would approve. - Barbara Chisholm

RED CAP CHICK

2510 S. Congress, 416-1134

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

The letters KFC have a new meaning in Austin: Korean fried chicken, the food craze that took New York City by storm about a year ago, which is now colonizing the West Coast. The dish is yang nyum tong dalk, or seasoned fried chicken, a concept which springs from Korea's love of platters of fried chicken as a bar food, meant to be snacked on with beer or soju, the Korean version of vodka. It became hugely popular in Korea back in the early 1990s and is typically a dish that a person eats in a specialty restaurant or bar, since it's too time-consuming and laborious to cook at home.

Red Cap Chick, located on the west side of South Congress. a bit south of Oltorf, started up a little over a year ago and several months back was purchased by husband and wife team Hayeal and Heewon Lee. Red Cap also serves conventional fried chicken and tenders (including gizzards and livers for all of you organ lovers), as well as fried catfish, with all of the conventional Western trimmings, but Korean fried chicken is their specialty. Making it is a complicated process, and it is not fast food; it's prepared in small batches, to order, so you'll wait 10 minutes or so for the order to cook.

The chicken is first hacked Asian-style into 2-inch-wide pieces, bone and all, and then marinated with a spicy dry rub overnight. Heewon would not reveal the secrets of her seasoning mix, but subtle hints of garlic and red chile come through. It is then dunked in a thin batter, deep-fried at 350 degrees until it's partially cooked, and then drained and chilled. "We use potato starch in the batter because it makes a thin crust that's extra crispy," says Heewon. When the KFC order comes in at the counter, the chicken goes back into the batter and then into the fryer to finish cooking and turn golden and crispy. At this point it gets served either plain or covered with a sticky, reddish hot-pepper glaze or a sweet garlic glaze. In talking about the all-natural sauce ingredients, Heewon mentioned kiwi fruit as one component, but she was tight-lipped about the other ingredients. A regular order of about six pieces is \$6.99, while the large order of 16 pieces is \$12.99.

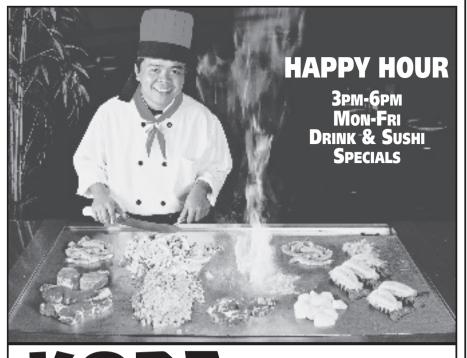
We loved all three versions, finding the skin especially crispy and delicious and the meat within very moist and tender. We would prefer the glaze to be thinner so that it gets absorbed lightly into the skin. The spicy version could have been much spicier, and the sweet garlic could have been much more garlicky for our tastes; the Korean flavor profile is normally more aggressive, so perhaps they've toned it down for Western tastes. On our next visit, we'll see if they can bump up the heat and garlic.

This is definitely a meal where you'll be licking your fingers, as the glaze tends to stick to your digits. And expect to nibble around the bones for all of those juicy tidbits. It comes with the traditional accompaniment, mool, delicious cubed sweet pickled daikon radish, which nicely balances the sweetness of the glaze.

We have to mention the amazingly good catfish. We got the plate with four pieces (\$6.89), which was essentially two goodsized fillets with the dark vein in the middle trimmed away. The coating is well-seasoned, light, and crispy; the flesh, moist and sweet. It's served with your choice of sides and two onion hush puppies, and for the price, it's a bargain.

Red Cap Chick is unique, bringing Austin its first taste of Korean yang nyum chicken. It's a taste well worth the brief wait and Heewon's considerable efforts, and don't forget their catfish. – Mick Vann





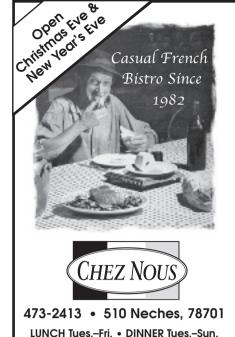
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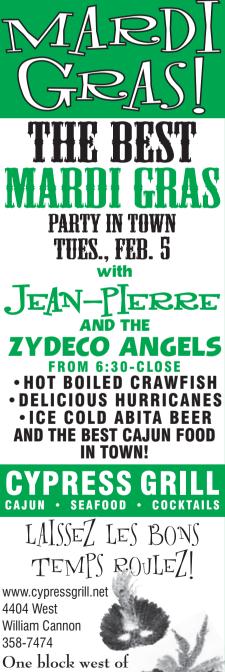
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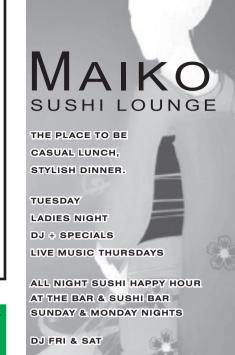






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AMERICAN CAFE: RANCH 616 The venison Frito pie took the critics' Best Retro Game Dish in the 2006 Restaurant Poll, but others go for the fried ovsters. 616 Nueces, 479-7616. www.ranch616.citysearch.com. \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: ARTURO'S BAKERY & CAFE Shouldered in between El Mercado and Galeria Sin Fronteras, you'll find Mexican fare, sandwiches, burgers, smoothies ... and knockwurst! 314 W. 17th. 469-0380. \$

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

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

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

FINE DINING, ITALIAN: CIBO Chef Will Packwood's long-anticipated return to the restaurant scene lives up to expectations, delivering elegant, traditional Italian dishes with vibrant flavors, excellent service, and a comprehensive wine list. 918 Congress, 478-3663. www.ciborestaurant.com. \$\$

FINE DINING, PACIFIC RIM: KENICHI Offering freshly ground wasabi root, more than 20 different types of sake, and Kobe beef carpaccio, the trendiness of its clientele is matched equally by its decor. 419 Colorado, 320-8883. www.kenichiaustin.com. \$\$\$

JUICE BAR, VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: LIVING FOODS BAR AT WHOLE FOODS Über-healthy living-foods bar and "deli" case offering Austin's largest selection of all-raw entrées, juices, smooth ies, desserts, and salads. 525 N. Lamar, 476-1206. www.wholefoodsmarket.com. \$\$

STEAKHOUSE: III FORKS A great sommelier, traditional luxury, and prime, aged beef, keep the crowd coming back. Enormous wedge salads and terrific steak-house sides tempt newcomers 111 Lavaca, 474-1776. www.iiiforks.com. \$\$\$\$

TEX-MEX: IRON CACTUS MEXICAN GRILL & MARGARITA BAR In addition to stacked enchi ladas, the extensive menu offers hearty steak, chicken, and shrimp dishes treated with combinations of Southwestern and Interior Mexican spices. 606 Trinity, 472-9240. www.ironcactus.com. \$\$

EAST

AMERICAN CAFE, PUB GRUB: BIKINIS BAR & **GRILL** Some say the minihamburgers here are the best in town. Happy hour draws a crowd, and so do 31 TVs for the sports crowd. **6901** N. I-35, 454-2247. www.bikinissportsbarandgrill.com. \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: CAFE MUNDI This Eastside boho combo coffeehouse/art space/ gift shop serves up sandwiches, salads, and 1704 F Fifth #100 236-8634 \$

BARBECUE: BEN'S LONG BRANCH BBO Smokin good barbecue with deep historical roots. Solid sides, killer banana pudding, cobbler, a great beer selection, and fork-tender meats keep the hungry coming back. 900 E. 11th, 477-2516. www.benslongbranchbarb.ypgs.net. \$

CAJUN/CREOLE: NUBIAN QUEEN LOLA'S CAJUN KITCHEN A proprietess as friendly as her food is good is serving up huge portions of good burgers and Cajun chow from a limited menu. The dining room is communal and friendly, and Lola is a blessing. 1815 Rosewood, 474-LOLA (5652). \$

SEAFOOD: TERRY'S SEAFOOD COMPANY Terry knows how to batter up and fry right. Ample dinner boxes of shrimp, fish, and chicken. 1805 Airport, 477-3233. \$

SOUTH AMERICAN TEX-MEX: EL ZUNZAL RESTAURANT A cozy, comfortable place serv ing Mexican and Salvadoran specialties. We recommend the arroz con albondidas the nariscadas, and the pupusas. 642 Calles, 474-7749. \$\$

SOUTH AMERICAN: PAILA PERUVIAN CUISINE The authentic flavor combinations here are both seductive and ethereal. Sample any of the stews, and do not pass up the *chicharror* de pollo, the causa rellena, or the seviche. Desserts to die for. 5100 E. Seventh, 386-5799. \$\$

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

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

TEX-MEX: TAQUERIA MORELIA Great fajita special on Wednesdays, 11am-3pm, served in a quiet, relaxing environment. 105 Tillery, 385-8002. \$

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: MR. NATURAL A juice bar, bakery, health-food store, and vegetar ian Mexican restaurant in one: your onestop shop for sovbean seviche, pineapple empanadas, and queen bee royal jelly. 1901 E. Cesar Chavez, 477-5228. www.mrnatural-austin.com. \$

LAKE

AMERICAN CAFE, BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: CAFE LAGO You'll be rewarded with fresh, delicious breakfast food, plus a healthy and inviting selection of soups, salads, and sandwiches 1200 Lakeway Dr., 261-8141. \$

BARBECUE: OPIE'S BARBECUE Get there in a hurry because the pork chops go fast. The usual sides of coleslaw, beans, and potato salad keep them company. 9504 Hwy. 71 E., 830/693-8660. www.opiesbarbecue.nv.switchboard.com. \$

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

NORTH

AFRICAN: T'S CAFE Go with a small army, and safari your way through the menu of tasty and exotic stews, starches, and appetizers. 15608 Springhill #102, 251-4432, 913-1095. \$\$

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FINE DINING, INTERIOR MEXICAN: FONDA SAN MIGUEL Popular Nueva Cocina cuisine, which takes traditional Mexican ingredients and gives them a French spin. Try the white-cheese queso. 2330 W North Loop 459-4121 www.fondasanmiguel.com. \$\$\$\$

INDIAN, VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: SWAD INDIAN VEGETARIAN RESTAURANT The Thalli Platter is probably the best taste sampler for newbies, but you can't go wrong with the different dosas they offer. 9515 N. Lamar #156. 997-7923. \$\$

INDIAN: MADRAS PAVILION Spiced vegetable dishes served with white and tamarind rices for lunch, and for dinner a wide selection of reason ably priced appetizers, dosai, and uthappam. 9025 Research #100, 719-5575, \$\$

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

PUB GRUB: DAVE & BUSTER'S Order a Players Platter, and check out a game on one of more than 30 hi-def TVs. The midway keeps the kids entertained while you cheer on your team. 9333 Research Ste. A-600, 346-8015. www.daveandbusters.com. \$\$

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

VIETNAMESE: HUONG GIANG Featuring the foods of the central region of Vietnam, they've got great selections of appetizers, soups, noodles, and rice plates. 9200 N. Lamar, 834-1736. \$\$

NORTH CENTRAL

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Go for light fare such as cilantro lamb wraps, sandwiches, salads, and pastries. Don't forget to wash it all down with a terrific coffee drink. 4600 Guadalupe, 380-0097. www.flipnotics.com. \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: QUACK'S 43RD STREET BAKERY Carrying on the tradition of slackerera Austin, it is a great place to luxuriate over coffee and a muffin. 411 E. 43rd, 453-3399 www.quackquacks.com. \$

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

CHINESE: CHINA PALACE The Palace was huge back in the Seventies and Eighties, with long lines and great Chinese cuisine. It's back with a vengeance, loaded with authentic taste. Insist on the Chinese menu, and be adventurous. 6605 Airport, 451-7104. \$

CHINESE: SHANGHAI RESTAURANT The 168-item menu contains enough to satisfy any crav-ing, from the usual favorites to some exotic Cantonese offerings. 6718 Middle Fiskville, 458-8088, \$\$





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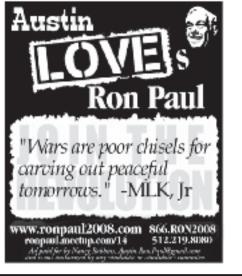
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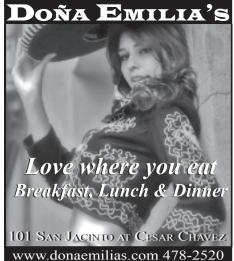
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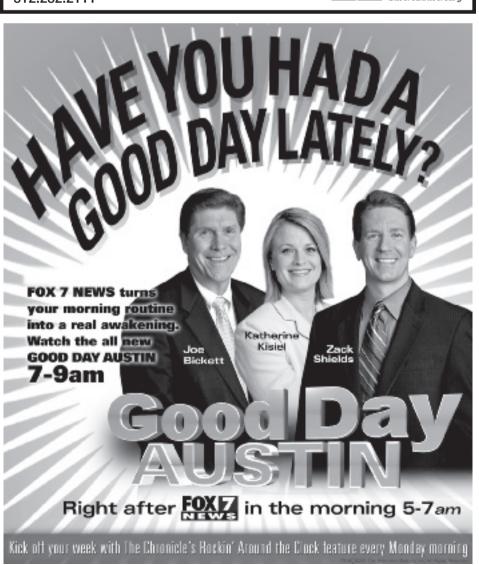


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food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.46

wich selection ranges from traditional deli to wraps and pita pockets, plus there are special menu sections dedicated to heart-healthy and kids' choices. 1000 E. 41st #940, 453-8666 www.iasonsdeli.com. \$\$

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

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

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

TEX-MEX: TAMALE HOUSE An Airport Boulevard institution, they offer authentic, no-frills Tex-Mex Pull up a chair on the sunbaked concrete, and forget about tamales; they actually do not serve them. 5003 Airport. 453-9842. www.myspace.com/tamalehouse.\$

SOUTH

AMERICAN CAFE: GREEN MUSE CAFE Drinks. pastries, gatherings, bands, Wi-Fi, and movies make this coffee shop a community hangout. 519 W. Oltorf, 912-7789. \$

BARBECUE: GREEN MESQUITE BBQ & MORE One of Austin's favorite barbecue dives - it may look seedy but the menu is extensive, and the food is terrific. 1400 Barton Springs Rd. 479-0485. www.greenmesquite.net. \$\$

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CHINESE: MARCO POLO RESTAURANT It lures quality-lovers in with the promise of a never-ending lunch buffet, but diners are seduced by the surprisingly fresh choices laid out every day. 2200 S. I-35, 445-5563, \$\$

INTERNATIONAL: CHOOBY DOO INTERNATIONAL CAFE A small neighborhood cafe with a mod ern feel, serving healthy and tasty fast food from gyros to Vietnamese sandwiches, fresh pearl drinks, fruit slushies, and teas. 3601 W. William Cannon #175, 891-9850.

ITALIAN: ROMEO'S Familiar Americanized Italian food in a fun, romantically retro dining room. Choose from rich pastas, a low-carb menu, and pizzas. Full bar and weekend brunches 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090. www.austinromeos.com. \$\$

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

TFX-MEX: CASA GARCIA'S Offers a wide selection of traditional Tex-Mex favorites as well as an enticing array of Interior Mexican dishes. The *cabrito* is worth a return visit. 1901 W. William Cannon.

VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: DAVINE FOODS Located inside the Enchanted Forest, this laid-back vegan spot boasts all-organic ingredients in every dish. The menu features vegan, vegetarian, and living food options. 1412 W. Oltorf, 448-3100. www.davinefoods.com. \$

VIETNAMESE: HAI KY Spare in decor but meticulously clean. The menu features a mix of Viet noodle-house items, from appetizers to pho, *bun*, and rice plates, with a smattering of Chinese stir-fries thrown in for the timid or uninformed. 1931 E. Oltorf. 693-2464.

UT

AMERICAN CAFE: KERREY LANE CAFE Famously fab ulous for breakfast, lunch, and dinner and a favor ite of the late-night set. It wears its groovy legacy on its sleeve with Frishee-sized nancakes nastas black beans, and great coffee. 2606 Guadaluµ 477-5717. www.kerbeylanecafe.com. \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: METRO Juan Valdez meets Metropolis in this industrially outfitted 24-hour java joint. Also featuring a limited selection of American cafe food 2222 Guadalupe, 474-5730. \$\$

CHINESE: THE MAGIC WOK Cheap lunch and affordable dinners that include soup and a egg roll. 27161/2 Guadalupe, 474-7770. \$

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

FINE DINING, MEDITERRANEAN: FINO

RESTAURANT, PATIO & BAR From the owners of the popular Asti Trattoria in Hyde Park come influences from Nice to Morocco, Italy to Athens to Valencia, all ably executed by chef Tristan White and his team. 2905 San Gabriel #200, 474-2905. www.astiaustin.com. \$\$\$ INTERNATIONAL: BOOMERANG'S GOURMET

VEGGIE & MEAT PIES Find more than 11 different flavors of authentic Aussie meat pies in flaky crusts. Very friendly counter folks and great coffee, too. 3110 Guadalupe, 380-0032 www.boomerangspies.com. \$

ITALIAN: TONY'S ITALIAN VINEYARD Count or pasta to eggplant parmesan, just about any thing smothered in marinara sauce at Tony's is good. 2828 Rio Grande, 476-5600. www.tonysvineyard.com. \$\$

MIDDLE EASTERN: TOM'S TABOOLEY The kitchen offers tabbouleh, dolmas, baklava, gourmet coffee, and lots of surprising tidbits for lunch and dinner. Pick up some brined grape leaves to cook with at home. 2928 Guadalupe, 479-7337. www.tomstabooley.com. \$

PUB GRUB: POSSE EAST Beer and burgers for the pre-, post-, and during-the-game crowds. In-house ATM for those who fit into all three categories. Try the Sheriff's Sandwich while you check out six flat screens. 2900 Duval St., 477-2111. \$

TEX-MEX: TRUDY'S A wide range of Tex-Mex with a slightly contemporary twist, and fans are crazy about the chipotle salsa and chips. The halfpound burgers are tasty and massive, and they also offer chicken-fried steaks. 409 W. 30th.

AMERICAN CAFE: THE KITCHEN DOOR Don't miss the meatloaf sandwich and creamy chicken salad at this takeout spot. Baked goods here salad at this takeout spot, baked goods here like cinnamon rolls, cream-cheese brownies, and Texas spice cake epitomize old-fashioned cooking. 2504 Lake Austin Blvd., 236-9200. www.thekitchendoor.us. \$

BARBECUE: TEXAS RIB KINGS If you are crazy enough not to eat the excellent beef or pork ribs, take a chance on the chicken, turkey, or ham. 9012 Research, 451-7427. www.texasribkings.com. \$

BRAZILIAN: SAMPAIO'S This inviting and cool modern space with a neighborhood feel is the closest Austin has to authentic Brazilian fare, offering unique and exciting flavors and a very pleasant atmosphere. Try the fabulous tropical drinks on the patio. 4800 Burnet Rd., 469-9988. www.sampaiosrestaurant.com. \$\$

BURGER JOINT: DAN'S HAMBURGERS One of several burger outlets operated by Austin's Hamburger King, Dan Junk, whose trademark has always been good, fresh food and friendly service. 5602 N. Lamar, 459-3239. \$

CHINESE: SUZI'S CHINA GRILL & SUSHI BAR Normally priced Chinese food that manages to surpass the mundane, sometimes by a good bit. Vegetarians: Try the eggplant in garlic sauce but make sure you specify "without pork." 7858 Shoal Creek Blvd., 302-4600. www.suzischinagrill.com/shoalcreek.html. \$\$\$

FINE DINING ITALIAN SIENA RISTORANTE TOSCANA Loyal customers from the Loop 360 set enjoy hearty roast meats, homemade nastas, a liberal use of truffle oil, and the glow of a crackling fire. 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., Bldg. B, 349-7667. www.sienarestaurant.com \$\$\$\$

FRENCH: LA MADELEINE Diners slide their trays down the cafeteria-style line to order quiches, salads souns and sandwiches on dense homemade bread and croissants 3418 N. Lamar, 302-1486. \$\$

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

PIZZA: ROUNDERS PIZZERIA Their pies are handtossed into a thin crust and baked until crispy. Fresh salads, made-to-order calzones, and an abundance of available ingredients are sure to please. 1203 W. Sixth. 477-0404. ww.rounderspizzeria.com. \$

TAKEOUT: SASHA'S RUSSIAN MARKET This grocery and deli offers a selection of blintzes, fresh-smoked and marinated fish, caviar, topquality meats, and Russian breads. The daily lunch specials ensure a surprise treat for every visit. 5523 Balcones, 459-1449. \$

TEX-MEX: FUEGOS Impeccably fresh and delicious Mexican and Californian beach cuisine, heavy on seafood delights. Hands down the best grilled-tuna sandwich in town and an orgasmic hamburger. If there's a wait, it's worth it. 7600 N. Lamar Ste. F, 524-1164. www.fuegosauthentic.com. \$\$















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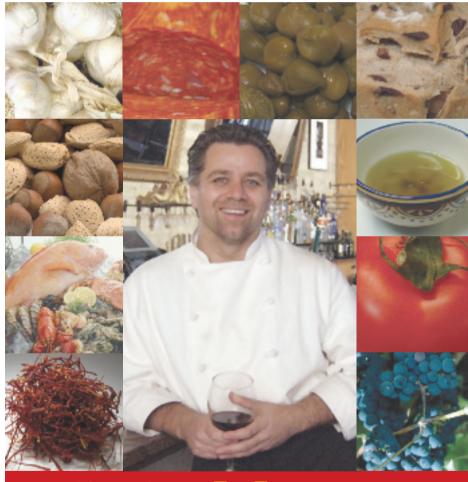






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Tradition in Transition Previewing the sixth annual Austin Jewish Film Festival

BY JOSH ROSENBLATT

One of my favorite quotes in movie history comes from Woody Allen's Deconstructing Harry. While arguing against the longstanding conventions of Judaism with his devoutly religious sister, atheist Harry Block (Allen) snaps, "Tradition is the illusion of permanence." It's a great line, and not just because it's funny and cold-blooded, but because it gets right to the heart of several of humanity's, and Judaism's, most pressing concerns: Where is the line between tradition and superstition, between knowledge and faith? How does the individual find his way with the weight of thousands of years of history bearing down on him? And what value is there to all of that tradition when it conspires to keep mankind at war with itself? This battle between individuality and tradition resides right at the core of Judaism, with its 5,000-year history of inherited rituals and social struggles, and it has become increasingly relevant with the maturing and passing of the 20th century, which saw the Jewish people live through the depths of deprivation in Europe, the height of cultural fecundity in America, and the dark mire of political and moral ambivalence in Israel.

That great discussion continues here in Texas, Jan. 26, with the opening of the sixth annual Austin Jewish Film Festival. Funded by donations from groups like the University of Texas' Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies, Congregation Agudas Achim, the Austin Film Society, and this newspaper, this year's festival will feature 25 movies over one week, movies from all over the world (including Israel, the U.S., Canada, and Portugal): documentaries, features, shorts, comedies, dramas, even musicals, all of them about the Jewish experience or created by those who have been defined by it. The themes common to that experience are all over this year's festival: anti-Semitism, the never-ending struggle between Jews and Arabs in the Middle East, the joys and disasters of assimilation, the prevalence of humor, the ongoing battle between religion and the temptations of secularism, and the push and pull of family and individuality. Now if someone would just make a movie about the difficulty of finding a decent sandwich in Central Texas, all the relevant angles would be covered.

This year's festival opens on a dark note, with David Gow and Mark Adam's 2006 drama Steel Toes, which is about a Jewish lawver (Good Night, and Good Luck's David Strathairn) who's appointed to represent a Nazi skinhead (Andrew Walker, star of, among other things, The Beach Party at the Threshold of Hell) on trial for the racially motivated killing of a West Indian immigrant. As the relationship between the two men grows more ambiguous and entangled, the film begets a discussion about racial tolerance in our increasingly multihued Western society.

Festival Co-Chair Cindy Pinto says that, though there's never an official theme for the Austin Jewish Film Festival, a sort of de facto motif tends to suggest itself during the filmselection process to give each year's iteration



The Austin Jewish Film Festival runs Jan.

26 through Feb. 1. For a complete schedule and

ticket information, visit www.austinjff.org.

In its far-reaching exploration of the Jewish experience, the AJFF will screen The Bubble, an Israeli-made interracial love story.

a particular identity. This year, she says, that motif is tolerance - racial, religious, cultural, political - which is one of the primary reasons why Steel Toes, with its tale of two diametrically opposed world-views butting heads, was chosen to kick off the festival.

The tolerance theme is all over Israeli director Eytan Fox's excellent comedy/drama The Bubble (which also screened this past year at the Austin Gay & Lesbian International Film Festival). Following the lives of a young Palestinian named Ashraf and his Israeli lover Noam, The Bubble dares to take on not just the intractable conflict between Arabs and Jews but also the even more slippery issue of homosexuality in traditional Arabic culture. Poor Ashraf is heir to and victim of a cultural, political, and religious legacy of intolerance and willful ignorance (coming from all sides) that he has no hope of

escaping. Watching him attempt to do so is to witness joy, terror, resignation, and true tragedy.

All is not dark and racially suspect in the

world of Jewish film, however. The Jews have been laughing in the face of daunting historical reality for centuries, and the Austin Jewish Film Festival is filled with comedies and documentaries about the role of humor in modern Jewish life. These films include Local Call. Arthur Joffe's absurdist French narrative about a young man who's abandoned his Jewish faith and is now receiving expensive, nagging collect calls from his father - who has been dead for two years. Then there's Rachel Talbot's Making Trouble, a feature-length documentary about female Jewish comedians, including Fanny Brice, Joan Rivers, Wendy Wasserstein, and Gilda Radner. The film looks at the nature of the female Jewish comic psyche through interviews, performances, and archival footage.

One of the gems of the festival will be Michael Tully's documentary about indie-rock musician David Berman, Silver Jew, which I was lucky enough to see at last year's South by Southwest Festival. Silver Jew is a fascinating look at the spiritual reawakening of a secular American pop-ironist and former drug addict confronting himself in the back alleys of Old Jerusalem while on tour with his band. Seeing a pop-music poet of disaffection, the spokesman for a generation of bearded and bedraggled postgraduate cynics, break down at the Wailing Wall was one of the unexpected joys of my movie-watching year, and one of the purest expressions of religious revelation one could hope to witness onscreen.

The festival will close Friday, Feb. 1, with True to Life: Stories by Ramla Youth, a collection of short films about life in the mixed

> Arab/Jewish city of Ramla, in central Israel. Producer Moshe Levinson gave video cameras to local teenagers and allowed them to direct

their own stories about life in their culturally diverse hometown. The films they made - shot in Amharic, Arabic, Hebrew, Russian, and Turkish - shed light on the next generation of Israelis as they struggle with the same issues Israelis have been struggling with forever: racial mistrust, religious division, economic disparity, and cultural integrity.

All of these issues can be neatly summed up as the weight of history and the strain of tradition, two things the Jews know something about. And since these concerns aren't going anywhere, it seems appropriate to end the Austin Jewish Film Festival with a view of the future created by those who have a vested interest in shaking off the shackles of the past and moving on to freer days.

DVD WATCH

IT CAME FROM BENEATH THE SEA Sony Pictures, \$24.96

EARTH VS. THE FLYING SAUCERS Sony Pictures, \$24.96

In 1955, producer Charles H. Schneer and special-effects guru Ray Harryhausen began their long-running collaboration, creating 12 fantastic films in 26 years that profoundly influenced future filmmakers such as Steven Spielberg, George Lucas, Peter Jackson, and Terry Gilliam. The duo's first two films, 1955's giant-octopus tale It Came From Beneath the Sea and 1956's Earth vs. the Flying Saucers (self-explanatory), transformed movie storytelling by using revolutionary stopmotion techniques to produce realistic-looking monsters, aliens, and even spaceships.

Handsomely packaged using the original movie posters, both reissues feature the remastered films in their original black and white and in newly crafted, Harryhausen-supervised, colorized versions. As Harryhausen mentions repeatedly throughout the extras, he and Schneer conceived the films in color but were limited financially. The colorization, far superior to the misguided Turner-sponsored attempts of the previous decade, sparkles and actually looks natural. The less engaging Earth vs. the Flying Saucers especially benefits from the new process, making the revamped incarnation actually better than the original.

The films, which come in separate 2-DVD

sets, feature a plethora of extras cursed with poor editing and direction. The exceptions - intriguing Harryhausen remembrances of both films, a lively conversation between Tim Burton and Harryhausen (unfortunately, the same short appears on both sets), entertaining film commentaries by Harryhausen and others, and a fascinating behindthe-scenes look at the colorization process - manage to salvage the bonus features. Another notable fault of the extras is the omis-



sion of the still-living Schneer, who, while mentioned frequently throughout, fails to - Rick Klaw appear anywhere.

ALSO OUT NOW ...

Blade Runner: Five-Disc Ultimate Collector's Edition (Warner, \$78.92): With all five versions of the movie and hours of extras, this is truly the ultimate edition of the cult classic.

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The King of Kong: A Fistful of Quarters (New Line, \$27.98): Seth Gordon's entertaining and amusing look at the secret world of video games was the best documentary of 2007.



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This Kitty's Got Claws

'Teeth' tears into everything from abstinence programs to rape culture. Is Austin grownup enough to handle it?

BY MELANIE HAUPT

The scene: Saturday night, Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar, the sold-out 7:30 screening of Iuno. The hipsters on dates and mommies on an evening pass pulled on pints and giggled over glasses of wine as the theatre darkened for the trailers. And there it was in all its somewhat-deceptive intensity: the preview for Teeth, which was filmed locally, to some controversy. "There's something wrong with me," wails a teenage girl in voiceover as a towel-clad young blonde sits at the edge of a bathtub, clutching her crotch. "Dentata," she hisses, her voice trembling in fear and dismay. The audience titters; a few men groan. "Eww!" a woman protests, realization dawning. The laughter grows louder as the film's tagline fades in: "Every rose has its thorns." Cue outright guffaws.

It seems that, even in our ultraprogressive 21st century, vaginas - even fictional ones have a way of making people uncomfortable.

Teeth is, simply put, a horror-comedy about a chaste teenage girl who discovers, quite by accident and in a rather grisly circumstance, that she has teeth in her vagina. The myth of the vagina dentata is a pervasive one across temporal, cultural, and geographic borders, from certain Plains tribes of the Americas to Christians in the Middle Ages, Shelob the spider in Lord of the Rings, and Sarlacc, the desert-pit-dwelling creature from which Luke Skywalker rescues himself in Return of the Jedi. The term is often attributed to Freud, who spilled much ink on men's castration anxiety and spoke to a primal male fear of the female sex organ. According to the myth, the hero must conquer the vagina dentata, thereby rendering her a more appropriate receptacle for the male organ.

Feminist film theorist Barbara Creed writes, "The myth about woman as castrator clearly points to male fears and fantasies about the female genitals as a trap, a black hole which threatens to swallow them up and cut them into pieces." It is precisely this gynophobic myth that captured writer/director Mitchell Lichtenstein's imagination, one he decided was due some tweaking, inserting his narrative alongside films like Carrie and Ginger Snaps into a genre well-versed in fear of young, female sexuality.

"The pervasiveness of the myth in so many cultures does say something about primal male fear, and it does say something about men and their attitude toward women," he says. "The goal was to take a misogynist myth and turn it around." Lichtenstein does so by writing his heroine, Dawn (played with admirable intensity by newcomer Jess Weixler), as a naif who slowly learns to accept and love her body, especially the power it enables her to exert over men who might attempt to violate her or add her to a list of conquests. Along the way, Lichtenstein, son of the prominent pop artist Roy Lichtenstein (who, coincidentally, is

the subject of a current exhibit at the Austin Museum of Art), takes jabs at teenage abstinence movements, as well as a Lynchburg, Va., school board that insisted upon censoring the image of a vagina in a high school textbook. According to Lichtenstein, these little digs at the right wing are all metaphors for Dawn and her complicated relationship with her body.

"These abstinence groups want to delay experience and restrict knowledge," he explains. "It seemed to me that it would make perfect sense for her to join such a group.' Lichtenstein also notes that the abstinence movement sends teens - especially girls - into the world ill-prepared for the vagaries of hormonal surges, something Dawn experiences firsthand and with no small amount of trauma. "Research shows that the [abstinence] movement doesn't really delay sexual activity for very long, and when you fall off the wagon, it's spontaneous. The girls don't know about birth control and are more likely to get pregnant." Or, in Dawn's case, likely to discover that her va-jay-jay is full of den-tay-tay, which is initially a frightening liability but, by the film's end, is an asset when she finds herself vulnerable in the face of salacious dudes.

Kirk Honeycutt of The Hollywood Reporter writes that Teeth "is the most alarming cautionary tale for men with wandering libidos since Fatal Attraction." And yes, it is fun to play a bit of wink-nudge in regard to a movie about a girl whose cooch bites off unwelcome penises (and fingers), but such subject matter is not without its ethical

and political problems.

While it's all well and good to reimagine and defang a hateful cultural construct, such an act has the potential to turn back upon itself, thus undermining the power and intent of said reimagining. For example, many feminists might have a problem with the fact that sex (or, more accurately, her vagina) is the only site of Dawn's power, a classic no-no within the world of feminist rhetoric. And while queer theorists

might argue that penetration as passivity is merely a construct of the patriarchy, Dawn must be penetrated in order to exert her power, which some might argue neutralizes her agency. Weixler, whose turn in Teeth won the Special Jury Prize for Acting at Sundance last year, sees things differently.

"She comes away fairly scot-free metaphorically in that she never gets blood on her; blood is always on the guy. She's able to step out of it knowing that she took their weapon away.

It's not so much, 'Oh, they penetrated me'; it's like, 'You don't deserve to have this anymore because you keep abusing it." Within Lichtenstein's fantasy world, the toothed vagina serves a policing function. According to this logic, one could argue that rape as a social, rhetorical construct serves to police women's bodies and behaviors (a woman is "asking for it" if her skirt is too short/she's walking alone at night/she has too much to drink/she flirts too much); in this way, the vagina dentata serves the same sociocultural purpose that rape does. That the film's solution to male violence against women is horrific, violent revenge is cold comfort.

> Lichtenstein is quick to acknowledge the ambivalence and problematic nature of his subject. "I definitely see that it can be controversial; the very fact of a character embodying the original gynophobic myth is gonna be risky. And my big fear is that it would be taken as misogynist," he says evenly. "There is always the danger, since you're dealing with the same thing, of it being exactly what you're talking about."

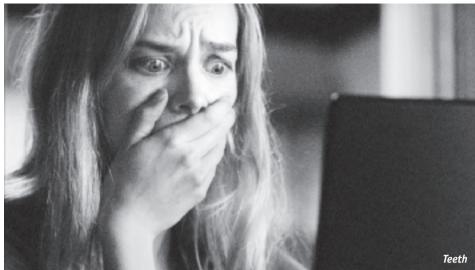
On the other hand, engaging in such sub-

ject matter reveals to a community its own vestigial fear and loathing of the yoni, as evidenced by the twittering reactions to the film's trailer at the Alamo Drafthouse. Lichtenstein cites numerous factors in his decision to film Teeth in Austin, from the favorable weather conditions that made filming outdoor swimming scenes possible in early spring to the availability of a seasoned local crew. However, it was Hamilton Pool's "naturally formed vagina dentata, the overhang with the stalactites,"

in combination with Krause Springs, that was the deciding factor in choosing this location. Funny, then, that residents of a progressive town like Austin would get their panties in a twist about this movie.

Windsor Park is one of those Eastside neighborhoods euphemistically described as "in transition." In other words, the upwardly mobile yuppies with small children and disposable income are snapping up the real estate and putting down roots (or flipping midcentury modern homes at rather outstanding profits). It's a haven for lefties who plant Obama and Edwards campaign signs in their front yards and recycle assiduously. By all accounts, most residents in the blocks surrounding the corner lot that served as Dawn's celluloid home considered it pretty cool that a movie was in the works in the 2-3. However, word got out - vaguely - that the movie was about a girl with teeth in her vagina, and two and two quickly became five "I think the neighborhood was like: 'They're making a porn. It's about a vagina; it must be porn," says Weixler. "They didn't care about reading the script; all they needed to know was that it had to do with a vagina with teeth." Windsor Park resident Silver Chisum raised the hue and cry and got others on board, calling news crews to the scene of the imagined crime. Eventually, then-newly appointed Texas Film Commission Director Bob Hudgins had to step in and hose down the controversy, asserting that "it's in incredibly bad taste, but it's not pornography."

This incident reveals that some of us still regard vaginas as unclean things that should remain wrapped in chaste cotton. Perhaps what Lichtenstein is suggesting with his film is that to marginalize and pathologize the vagina is to run the risk of underestimating its profound power. Tom Cruise in Magnolia told us to "respect the cock!" Perhaps we should apply the same philosophy to the lady garden, because you'll never know when your snake will get bitten.



It is fun to play a bit of wink-nudge in regard to a movie about a girl whose cooch bites off unwelcome penises (and fingers), but such subject matter is not without its ethical and political problems.



Rewriting the Rules

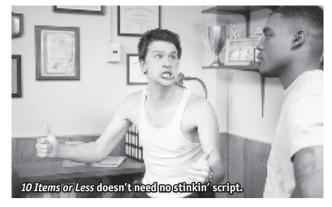
BY BELINDA ACOSTA

When the writers' strike began, there was speculation that TV would be filled with cheaply produced reality programming, second-tier series that were originally passed on, and, of course, reruns. All of this is true. But there is another form of TV that is appearing, probably more by coincidence than by planning: the unscripted series that relies on the improvisational skills of its actors. Three of them launch this month.

10 Items or Less (TBS) returned for a second season with an eight-episode run earlier this month. The cast remains the same series creator John Lehr stars as Leslie Pool, the owner/manager of a locally owned grocery store that he inherited from his father. The Green & Grains grocery store is barely surviving, thanks to the Super Value Mart chain store down the street and Pool's ineptness. Still, he manages his oddball staff with a stubbornly sunny disposition. His staff has other goals beyond the Green & Grains - all of them pipe dreams - but sticks around out of respect for the elder Pool, whom they all loved.

Like all unscripted series, a loose outline provides direction for the improvised dialogue. The eight-person ensemble features several live-theatre and improv veterans. This, in addition to a cast fully warmed up in its second time at bat, makes 10 Items or Less considerably tighter and funnier than its first season.

New to the unscripted scene are two workplace comedies, **Head** Case and Hollywood Residential. Although the preview screeners I watched were very rough, it's clear that the laugh potential is high in Head Case. The series stars **Alexandra Wentworth** as Dr. Elizabeth Goode, therapist to the stars. Coming in for time on Dr.



Goode's couch (as themselves) are Andy Dick, Jeff Goldblum, Joel Madden, and Jonathan Silverman, among others. Greg **Grunberg** (*Heroes*) has a particularly uncomfortable (and funny) appointment with Goode, in which he describes his messy sexual fantasy featuring the good doctor.

As if being on the receiving end of her very public patients' private problems weren't bad enough, Goode's own dysfunctional family does its part to cultivate her neuroses outside the office. That family includes a lascivious mother, a sister referred to as the "young, pretty one," and a father who has an uncomfortably close relationship with his youngest daughter. In short, Head Case is willing to skate very close to the edge; fortunately, it manages to do so without tippling over into bad taste. Steve Landesberg (Barney Miller) also stars as Dr. Myron Finkelstein, Goode's office partner.

Also set in La-La Land is Hollywood Residential. The title of this unscripted series takes its name from the fictional celebrity-home makeover show that aspiring actor Tony King (Adam Paul) hosts while waiting for his big break. Unfortunately for him, Tony's acting chops are as lame as his handyman skills. Hosting the small

cable show allows Tony proximity to the star power he wants. All the celebrities want is a free remodeling. Tony's schmoozing would be harmless if it didn't always lead to trouble, as when he parties a little too hard with **Tom Arnold**. Arnold ends up in rehab, derailing the makeover show's tight shooting schedule and inciting the wrath of the Hollywood Residential producer and director. Paul is particularly brilliant in a scene where he pulls off the bad actor audition with such finesse it makes you wince. Paula Abdul, Chris Kattan, Jamie Kennedy, Cheryl Hines, and Beverly **D'Angelo** are among the celebrities starring as themselves.

10 Items or Less airs Tuesdays at 10pm on TBS. Head Case airs Wednesdays at 9pm on the Starz network. Hollywood Residential airs Wednesdays at 9:30pm on the Starz network.

What Else Is On?

The Independent Lens series brings a writer's life to light in the sublime How Is Your Fish Today? Set in modern-day Beijing, the film follows Hui Rao (who co-wrote the script with director Xiaolu Guo), a struggling screenwriter who writes soap operas for a living. After a film producer rejects his last script, Rao goes into a funk, then begins rewriting. In doing so, he recalls a place he learned about as a boy, Mohe, a distant village near the Russian border. Mohe was a mythical place in Rao's young imagination. That memory gets Rao imagining his main character, Lin Hao, traveling to the distant Mohe. A visual depiction of his screenplay unfolding, interspersed with Rao's personal story, makes for a fascinating study of imagination, a writer's process, and how much characters drive their creators. Stunning, not only in how seamlessly the film accomplishes this marriage of fiction and nonfiction but also in its subtlety. A 2007 Sundance Film Festival selection, the film is presented in Mandarin with English subtitles. How Is Your Fish Today? airs Tuesday, Jan. 29, at 9pm on PBS.

As always, stay tuned.

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







More than 300 girls and boys are waiting for a mentor...



What are you waiting for?

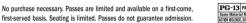
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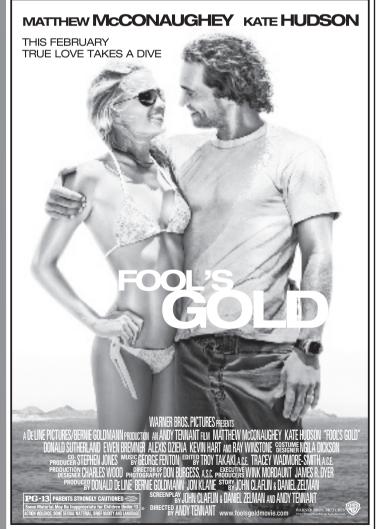


To sign up for a chance to win a pass to this screening, go to austinchronicle.com/contests by 4pm, Tuesday, January 29.









In Theatres Friday, Feb. 8

austinchronicle.com/contests



6TH ANNUAL

AUSTIN JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

January 26 - February 1, 2008

Everything Subject Film Schedule to Change

Regal Arbor Cinema

9828 Great Hills Trail Austin, TX 78759

Sat. Jan. 26 7:00 pm STEEL TOES

9:30 pm JELLYFISH Sun, Jan. 27

12:00 n SWEET MUD

2:30 pm SDXTY-SIX 6:00 pm MAKING TROUBLE

9:30 pm STEEL TOES

Mon, Jan. 28

12:00 n OUT OF SIGHT

4:00 pm A MOTHER'S JOURNEY 7:00 pm WEST BANK STORY with

MY FATHER MY LORD

9:00 pm VOICE WITHOUT A FACE with ALMOST

12:00 n THE GIRLS FROM BRAZIL

4:00 pm MY FATHER MY LORD 7:00 pm Screen 1: WEST BANK STORY

Screen 2: DISPOSESSION with

THREE MOTHERS

9:00 pm LOCAL CALL

12:00 m HER STORIES MY HANDS with STEAL A PENCIL FOR ME

4:00 pm SILVER JEW

7:00 pm ARRANGED 9:00 pm A DIFFERENT DISH with WRESTLING WITH ANGELS:

PLAYWRIGHT TONY KUSHNER Thurs. Jan. 31

12:00 n JELLYFISH

4:00 pm VOICE WITHOUT A FACE with ALMOST

7:00 pm BLUES BY THE BEACH

9:00 pm THE BUBBLE

Fri. Feb. 1

12:00 s. "QUADRUPLE FEATURE!"

HER STORIES MY HANDS SHABBOS MOTHER CHEFTZI ON AIR

WEST BANK STORY 4:00 pm TRUE TO LIFE: STORIES

BY RAMLA YOUTHS

Schusterman Center at UT Texas Hillel shown at Garrison Hall 0.102

Mon. Jan. 28 7:00 pm WEST BANK STORY

with MAKING TROUBLE Wed. Jan. 30

7:00 pm WEST BANK STORY with THE GIRLS FROM BRAZIL

FREE ADMISSION to films at UT and Hills through the generosity of the Schusterman Center for Jewish Studies 2105 San Antonio St.

Tue, Jan. 29 7:00 pm SILVER JEW

City Lights Theatre Georgetown, TX

Thur. Jan. 31 12:00 n ARRANGED















AJFF Badges, Passes and Tickets are ON SALE NOW

at the JCAA Welcome Desk - 7300 Hart Lane Mon. and Fri. 2 - 4 pm and Wed. 10 am - 12 noon, Jan. 14 - 25 and through the website www.austinjff.org

- FRIEND of the FESTIVAL FILM BADGE Valid for Admission to all films at all venues during the festival with VIP advance seating 15 minutes before show times. Special Sale Price of only \$120 each through January 18, 2008. After that, the price increases to \$150 each.
- FLEX PASS \$60 each. Good for 10 admissions to film(s) of your choice at any venue. Flex Pass holders will be seated after Badge holders and before general admission ticket holders.
- GENERAL ADMISSION TICKETS \$8 adult, \$6 student/seniors. A limited number of individual general admission tickets will be sold in advance online. Any remaining tickets will be sold at the theatre box office 15 minutes before the start of each film, after priority seating is given to Film Badge and Flex Pass holders.

A Service Charge will be added to all online and credit card purchases.



CHRONtourage

Thursday, Jan. 24, 8pm

Cap City Comedy, 8120 Research #100 www.capcitycomedy.com



Friday, Jan. 25, 5pm

GreyboyAllstars

Waterloo Records, 600-A N. Larnar www.waterloarecords.com

ZACH's George Gershwin's musical

Porgyandbess

Austin Music Hall, 208 Nueces

www.zachscott.com

Sunday, Jan. 27, 5pm

ROBSHEFFIELD: LOVE ISOMIXTOPE

BackPeople, 603 N Lamar www.bookpeople.com



ZACH

Check out photos of what you missed at

austinchronicle.com/whatyoumissed.

austinchronicle.com/chrontourage





music

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OFF THE RECORD music news

BY AUSTIN POWELL

HOUSE OF PAIN

Considering the rising **Red River Flats** condominiums and the booking battle taking place between the two venues at extreme ends of the strip, the Red River Entertainment District is starting to resemble a hotly contested game of Monopoly. While no ink has officially dried, Transmission Entertainment is close to purchasing **Red 7** (see "DIY or Die." June 22, 2007), although head talent buyer Graham Williams declined to comment. Emo's owner Frank Hendrix, who in turn is investing in Sixth Street bar Bourbon Rocks, initially showed interest in the property, but the owner was reluctant to sell at that time. "I wanted to make it happen," Hendrix said last August. "Red 7 reminded me of what Emo's used to be, a crusty punk rock club." Transmission has been booking shows there since September, and the local promotion venture has already secured the Vandals' only Texas appearance (March 1), along with upcoming dates for Converge and JFA in April. Rumor has it that a Hot Water Music reunion is also in the works for an unofficial day party during **South by Southwest**. Expect the walls to shake this Friday for the Don't Tread on Me showcase, a protest against the proposed amendments to the current Austin sound ordinance, featuring the Bread, the Stones We Throw, Like Dogs, Rend, and the Anchor.

LIVING LIFE

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"The play is essentially the dramatization of his psyche, dealing with the iconic figures from his drawings and songs," says Kathy McCarty of Daniel Johnston-inspired rock opera Speeding Motorcycle. "It's all pretty trippy." Following two successful stints in Houston Daniel Johnston's in 2006, rehearsals began on Monday in interpretation of Austin for the local edition, which is sched-Kathy McCarty from uled to run Feb. 14-April 13 at Zach Scott her Dead Dog's Theatre. One of the first local musicians Eyeball CD. to recognize the depth of Johnston's oeuvre with her celebrated 1994 tribute, Dead Dog's Eyeball, the Glass Eye guitarist and Chronicle Food writer will be appearing as an angel, a nurse, and a skeleton, among other iconic characters, and closing the show with a duet of the unreleased Johnston tune "Loving Feelings." Rounding out the house band for the performance are the Meat Purveyors' Bill

Anderson and Sherry Lane, Terri Lord, and members of the Invincible Czars, all of whom will appear at some point as Joe the Boxer. "I regard him as a universal figure," says director and creator Jason Nodler. "We all have the conditions that Daniel has; the volume is just turned up for him."



With the Chronicle's music cyberspace station firmly established, our staff is revamping its blog log beginning this week. Every weekday brings a weekly post from the roster at right, with additional roving posts from yours truly, OTR; Raoul Hernandez's Death Valley Nights; and Audra Schroeder's Schadenfreude: austinchronicle.com/earache.

Monday: Margaret Moser's Girlie Action

Tuesday: Thomas Fawcett's Bump & Hustle

Wednesday: Jim Caligiuri's Geezerville

Thursday: Doug Freeman's Southside of the Tracks

Fridav: Darcie Stevens' Shut Up!



REMAIN IN LIGHT

Only seven people attended the Black & White Years' official SXSW showcase last year at Opal Divine's, but as fate would have it, that included Velvet Revolver shredder Slash and former Talking Head and Modern Lover Jerry Harrison. "He came to our house, and we played a set for him in our living room, two nights in a row," recalls singer/guitarist Scott Butler of the latter. A month later, the Austin art-punk quartet was in California's Sausalito Sound studio with Harrison and Heartbreakers drummer Steve Ferrone, hammering out the follow-up to the B&WY's debut EP, Real! In Color! "When we walked in,

they were remastering the Talking Heads catalog for 5.1 surround sound," recalls keyboardist/guitarist Landon Thompson. "David Byrne's guitar was bouncing around the room." The resulting eponymous LP to be released by Houston's Brando Records at Stubb's on Feb. 22, carries all the Heads' trademarks: scattershot guitar, snaking synths, and quirky, hyperintelligent lyricism. This weekend the band tries its luck at the European counterpart to SXSW, the 2008 MIDEM conference in Cannes, France. "We're too broke to be overwhelmed," Butler concludes, "but things are looking good."

MIXTAPE MESSIAH

Rob Sheffield's Love Is a Mix Tape: Life and Loss, One Song at a Time is an emotional tribute to his late wife, explored through the music the two shared ("Rock & Roll Books," Nov. 30, 2007). The Rolling Stone contributing editor sent OTR his most recent playlist, which includes Spoon's "The Underdog." "It's actually not easy to imitate Billy Joel, not without sounding like



Springsteen or Harry Chapin or somebody," Sheffield writes of the song. "But this sounds so precisely like B.J., from the lyric to the acoustic guitar to the way the singer says, 'riiight.' I have to assume this is fully intended as yet another scene from that Italian restaurant." View the annotated playlist at the Off the Record blog (austinchronicle.com/earache), and catch Sheffield at BookPeople on Sunday, Jan. 27, 5pm.

Louis Jordan. "Don't Worry 'Bout That Mule" Bob Wills & His Texas Playboys, "Oozlin' Daddy Blues" Erase Errata, "He Wants What's Mine," Spoon, "The Underdog" Sade, "Smooth Operator," Of Montreal, "Trouble" Fleetwood Mac, "What Makes You Think You're the One" Mary J. Blige. "Just Fine." Mission of Burma. "2wice" Stephen Malkmus, "Real Emotional Trash" Gladys Knight & the Pips, "Midnight Train to Georgia"

RANDOM PLAY

Six months after Stephen Bruton's return at Road to Austin following his bout with throat cancer, the local guitarist is receiving additional treatment at M.D. Anderson in Houston. According to manager Ken Kushnick, the procedure is only a precautionary measure and should not slow down Bruton, who proceeded with his weekly residency at the Saxon Pub with the Resentments last Sunday.

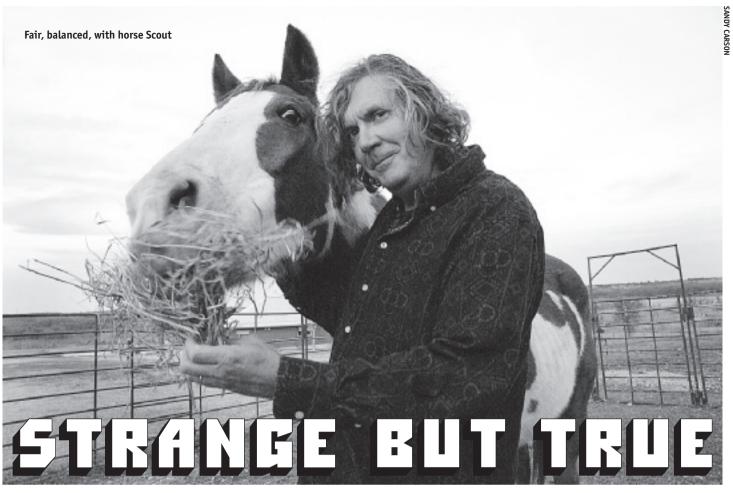


Toni Price's abrupt exodus from Austin, following her 15-year Hippie Hour residency at the **Continental Club**, wasn't without reason. "It's just dreadful what they've done to that town," the blues chanteuse told San Diego's North County Times.

"Condominiums, condominiums, and more condominiums. And they sure don't want any hippie singers there. They just tear down everything and build a condominium that I can't live in, and I don't know anybody who can afford to live in." That's part of the reason why local musician Troy Dillinger is campaigning for City Council to proclaim 2008 the Year of Austin Music. "It's an upside-down pyramid, where the city of Austin enjoys high amounts of revenue generated by musicians, but those musicians and venue owners aren't seeing any of the benefits," says Dillinger, who's calling a town hall meeting on Monday at the Austin Moose Lodge (2103 E.M. Franklin) to discuss the organization's five-tier plan of action. "It can't go on many more years in the state that it's in."

Broken Teeth's latest lightning bolt, *Electric*, storms Encore Records Video & Apparel (1745 W. Anderson) this Saturday, Jan. 26, 7pm, with free refreshments provided by Live Oak Brewing Co.

This is the last week to cast a ballot for the annual Austin Music Poll. Get it done.



BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

On a slate-colored Sunday afternoon in January, a dead dog lies in the tall grass under a street sign. Upon closer examination, its mottled orange and black fur makes it resemble something less, well, canine. Further examination reveals that it's indeed a dead dog and not some sort of errant chupacabra or mythical Texas dogbeast. A gang of vultures lingers, some flapping their wings as if shrugging, "Eh, we'll get to it.'

Of course, this is the street that leads to Jad Fair's house.

A spherical silver roof is the only thing visible from where the vultures sit and gossip. It looks like a UFO straight out of Plan 9 From Outer Space has landed in the middle of farm country. Which is wildly appropriate if you know Jad Fair's work. Many don't. Jad Fair isn't exactly a household name.

Here on the outskirts of Manor, where he's lived for a year and a half, Fair isn't recognized at the Exxon station, nor maybe even in Austin. The 53-year-old musician and artist lives here with his wife, Patty, their dogs, and a stable of horses. His trademark round, black glasses are gone thanks to LASIK surgery, and his chinlength hair is gray and wavy, making him look a little like Robert Plant.

Several of his folk art paper cuts, a new batch of which is now on display at Yard Dog on South Congress, line the walls and shelves of his house. A large wooden cabinet holds miniature tin robots as well as assorted alien and monster figurines, and a framed print of Daniel Johnston's famous "Hi, How Are You?" frog-lien greets us at the front door.

Living in the sticks hasn't diminished Fair's flair for the odd; really, it only makes his "outsider artist" tag more literal. His careerlong fascination with monsters, aliens, and other outsiders fuels his music and art and carries over to the custom-built cylindrical house he lives in, which overlooks miles of pasture and a slightly dilapidated mansion to the east. "Someone bought it on eBay," Fair explains.

As co-founder of the rock group Half Japanese with his brother, David, Fair's music hasn't been either conventional or immensely laboration, a 45-song beast fittingly titled Half Monster, is finally issued on local experimental label Misc. Music this month.

Austin Chronicle: Did vou move out here to focus on art or music or both?

Jad Fair: I do enjoy staying at home, so the art became more my focus. The only way to make money is to play live, which I still do, but I've cut way back.

AC: So the album that's coming out now, how did you meet Nao -

Here on the outskirts of Manor, where he's lived for a year and a half, Fair isn't recognized at the Exxon station, nor maybe even in Austin.

profitable. Their shambolic noise arose from Michigan in the mid-1970s and then slouched toward Maryland, blending free jazz and loose improv with songs largely about love and monsters, spewed from a soft spot for the Modern Lovers and the Velvet Underground. The

group launched Fair's career into constant project, whether art, music, or a dizzying array of collaborations.

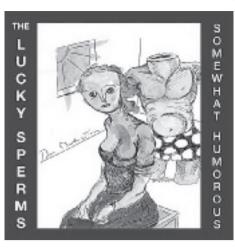
His most recent endeavor is with Japanese noise artist Naofumi Ishimaru, whom Fair met in the 1990s while touring Japan. Their musical coupling yielded mutant albums Half Robot and Half Alien. The third arm of the col-



JF: What I'm doing now? AC: Yeah, no ... with Nao, the stuff you did with Nao ...

JF: Oh! Naofumi. Well, he started using my artwork on his CDs and tapes, and we eventually started corresponding, and when I toured Japan, I asked if he

would do those shows with me. Then he came to America and to my house, and we recorded an album. Then I went to Japan to his house, and we recorded two albums. We were working 10-hour days, and one day, towards the end when we were mixing, I told him I was kind of tired and was probably going to go to bed, and he called me a lazy American!



Certainly not. So far, Fair's teamed up with a who's who of underground and indie artists: R. Stevie Moore, Teenage Fanclub, Maureen Tucker, the Pastels, Sonic Youth's Steve Shelley, Kramer, John Zorn, Yo La Tengo. Last summer at Emo's, Jad Fair opened for the Danielson Famile, a young band whose quirky pop - and especially singer Daniel Smith's squeaky voice - seems a half-breed of Half Japanese. Fair's currently working on an album with Smith, he and brother David have another album coming out soon, and he's recording with Norman Blake of Scots Teenage Fanclub and Isobel Campbell of Philly drone rockers Bardo Pond.

It's Fair's recordings with fellow singer-songwriter Daniel Johnston that appeared especially predestined. Jagjaguwar reissued 1989 lo-fi pairing It's Spooky in 2001, and it's truly a meeting of the minds. Monsters and love songs, subjects dear to both artists, get equal treatment, along with "I Did Acid With Caroline," "McDonald's on the Brain," and "I Met Roky Erickson." Johnston and Fair later worked together as the Lucky Sperms, whose Somewhat Humorous also received the reissue treatment from Jagjaguwar.

AC: You're a big fan of collaboration.

JF: Artistically, yes, and I'm friends with so many of the people I've collaborated with. Yo La Tengo - they were my neighbors when I was living in Hoboken. I've been very lucky to collaborate with people I really admire.

AC: Who's someone you'd like to collaborate with?

JF: I'm a big fan of Steve Earle.

AC: What do you like about him?

JF: Steve's a great musician, and I like that he stands up for what he feels is right, and he's willing to take risks. He could easily stick to one style of music and be successful, [but] I think it's great that he shows as much range as he does. Steve's a smart guy. He knows full well that some of his choices musically and politically are not in the direction of the dollar sign, but he still does it.

AC: Do you still talk to Daniel Johnston?

JF: You know, not as much as I used to. I see him every once in a while. I think we're going to do a split single that'll be on [Misc. Music]. with Danny & the Nightmares.

AC: What's recording with him like?

JF: The first time around, we did so much in, I think it was something like seven days, mixing and everything, so we kept really busy, and Daniel had very decided mood swings. When things would start going south, I would suggest that we would go out and get a pizza, and that would be fine.

AC: Everything would go back to normal?

JF: [Laughs.] Well, he'd go back to being Daniel. He's so talented, I left it up to him to choose the direction of the album, but when that direction was one I didn't feel comfortable with, it was pizza time.

AC: Did you and Daniel both meet Roky Erickson? **IF:** Daniel wrote the lyrics of that song: he used to go to Roky's home to watch monster movies. I've met Roky a few times. It's great that he's playing music again. He's in fine form.

AC: The same director who did the Half Japanese documentary, Jeff Feuerzeig, also did Daniel's. What did you think of it?

IF: I thought it was very well done, and such an undertaking. I was surprised there was so much video and audio to go along with pretty much any story there was.

AC: And there's a story about you and Daniel.

IF: Yeah, they had just done a bunch of renovations on the Statue of Liberty, so everything was nice and new, and when we were walking up the spiral staircase to the top, Daniel was behind me, so I couldn't see what he was doing. He had a marker and was drawing fish on the wall all the way up and down. Quite a bit of graffiti by Daniel, which would now be worth quite a bit of money. The police didn't see it that way.

New Brides of Frankenstein

Fair was born and raised in the small town of Coldwater, Mich., where he says his childhood had "good parts." He and his brother, David, two years older, got along well enough to form Half Japanese in 1974 while in college, with Jad on drums and David on guitar, neither particularly skilled. Their approach to playing is outlined in David's widely circulated essay, "How to Play Guitar," reiterating that yes, anyone can. To wit: "If you ignore the chords your options are infinite and you can master guitar playing in one day."

Jeff Feuerzeig's great 1993 documentary, Half Japanese: The Band That Would Be King, is a snapshot not just of the band but of the underground cassette and record culture they inhabited. It's filled with deadpan hyperbole and ringing testimonials, so much so that it often comes off like a Christopher Guest film.

The Fair brothers' humor has always been subtle, as illustrated in one of Feuerzeig's interviews: David, hulking and bespectacled, stands slightly to the left of Jad, wiry and also bespectacled, like a family photo. He explains that 1980's 1/2 Gentlemen/Not Beasts was originally titled Half Gentlemen/Half Beast, but they changed it because "We're nice guys." They were like a male version of the Shaggs, impervious to technical skills or knowledge of chords and quite self-possessed.

AC: Growing up, did you and David have similar tastes in music?

JF: David had a good record collection, so I was listening to the Stooges, Captain Beefheart, MC5, the Velvet Underground, a lot of bands that weren't popular in the town I lived. I was very lucky I had my brother to buy records.

AC: What was it like growing up in Michigan? JF: I ... I'm glad to be away from it. You don't realize how bad a place is until you're gone,

AC: In a small town like that, did you feel the urge to do something to stand out?

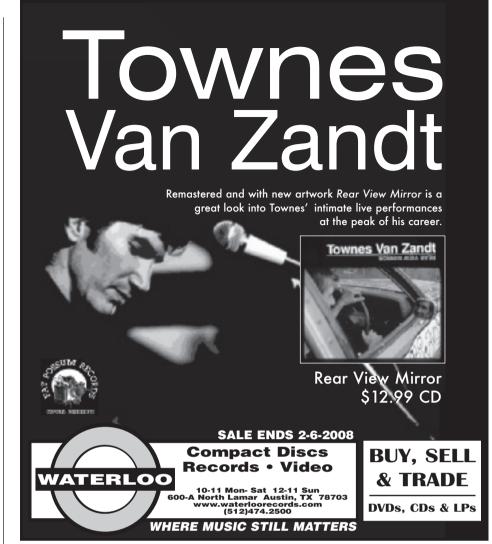
JF: I was very aware that I stood out. Everyone around me made me aware that I stood out.

Iad and David moved to Uniontown, Md., in 1975, and that's where Half Japanese began playing out and eventually solidified their classic lineup – one that will play South by Southwest this year - including guitarist Mark Jickling and brothers Ricky and John Dreyfuss, on drums and sax respectively. 1977 saw the release of their Calling All Girls 7-inch on friend and fan (and magician) Penn Jillette's 50 Skidillion Watts label, which he started solely to release Half Japanese records.

In 1980, the UK-based Armageddon Records offered them an unprecedented three-record box-set deal. By 1981's Loud LP and 1982's monster-themed Horrible EP, they had channeled their noise into an atonal, primal smack of fractured feedback and free-jazz sax, helmed by Fair's desperate yelps.

On "I Know How It Feels ... Bad," one of Half Jap's classic love songs, Fair pines with the self-assured half-smirk of his colleague continued on p.60





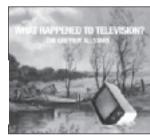
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What Happened to Television, the Greyboy Allstars' first studio release in nine years, reunited the band with pro-









AC: Does songwriting feel like a compulsion for you? JF: Compulsion is the exact word for it. At times I feel a bit like Horatio Caine on the show CSI Miami. He has a compulsion for fighting crime. I, too, have a compulsion.

Jonathan Richman: "I think about you. You're already in love, I know ... I wouldn't want you to break up because of me." Fair airs his revenge fantasies on the ambling "Dumb Animals," where he takes several of his high school teachers to task, and "High School Tonight," where he dreams of trashing the principal's office. On "Thing With a Hook," Fair squeals, "There's a thing with a hook, pulling heads off girlfriends! Down on lover's lane!" over a Stooges-inspired squall. Drag City reissued the 29-song collection Loud and Horrible in 2004, an excellent overview of this nascent, gnarly era of Half Japanese.

Live, they must have looked like they were from another planet. The Band That Would Be King includes footage of the group playing "Live in Hell" on a cable access show in 1985. Fair stumbles, twists, and roughs up his guitar, the total opposite of his reserved nature. Guitarist and longtime collaborator Don Fleming adds the appropriate noise to the white-hot set, filmed in front of a green screen with images of hellish things floating around and featuring an inspired cover of "You're Gonna Miss Me," alternately titled "You're Going to Regret My Departure." Through it all, Jad Fair smiles like this is the most fun he's ever had.

AC: Did you feel Half Japanese was doing something different?

JF: Yes, but that seemed normal to me. That's when it dawned on me that my definition of normal is not everybody's.

AC: What's the monster connection?

JF: Well, as a kid I always enjoyed monster movies. On weekends I would go to sleep very early because I knew I would want to wake up a few hours later, around midnight, when all the monster flicks would come on.

AC: What was the allure? Your monsters don't seem too scary.

JF: No, they just seemed cool to me.

AC: I noticed your collection of robots and aliens over there. I guess the robots are aliens?

JF: Right, I doubt any of them are from this planet.

Destroy All Monsters

This message can be found on his website: "I Jad Fair pledge to uphold the highest quality standards in my work, and never waver in my quest to push the envelope in both art and music, and to raise the bar of musical excellence to new heights. On that you have my word. Should I fall short of that goal I promise to shave my head and JF: Well, I go the straightest, simplest direc-

wear my clothes inside out for at least five vears time.'

His recent work has shifted more toward his artwork and paper cuts, something at which he's quite prolific and something he began doing to alleviate the boredom and headaches related to reading in the van on tour. Latest book Blue Skies and Monsters is filled with eyeball-twitching, scissor-cut creatures slightly menacing and oddly mesmerizing. It's been 14 years since he worked a day job, Fair's able to sustain himself through a combination of art and music. He takes a workhorse approach to his craft.

AC: What's this mission statement about? Have you had to shave your head?

JF: No, I haven't. Webster's Dictionary defines a human dynamo as a highly energetic and indefatigable person. That pretty much sums me up. There have been times when I've felt like taking a break, but I know if I did, I would let my fans down, and there's no way in hell I'd ever do that.

AC: Do you feel you've matured as you've gotten older?

IF: Very little about me has matured.

AC: How so?

(Alternative

Tentacles, 2002)

tion, and there's not that much thought process. It's a very childlike approach.

AC: Does songwriting feel like a compulsion for

JF: Compulsion is the exact word for it. At times I feel a bit like Horatio Caine on the show CSI Miami. He has a compulsion for fighting crime. I, too, have a compulsion. I feel compelled to do my part in making the world a better place in which to live.

AC: For \$300, you'll write a personalized song

JF: I've done quite a few birthday songs, songs for weddings. I did one marriage proposal, which was kind of odd, but she said yes. And I've done several songs about baby births. I tell them, please mention anything you want in the song, so I go into it knowing they want me to say something about Uncle Ioe or whatever.

AC: What's the strangest you've had to do?

JF: I did a birthday song for a guy, and the girlfriend wanted me to mention that he enjoys smoking meat.

AC: Smoked meats?

JF: Yeah. Not normally something I would put in a song.

AC: Do you feel like you know how to play

JF: When I was first picking up guitar, I paid more attention to what it looked like than what it sounded like. I would see Pete Townshend do the windmill arm thing, and I thought that's cool, that's how you play guitar. That stuck with me more than learning chords.

Peel Slowly and See

'What is that?" a companion asked one night late last May as we stood outside of Mohawk. A familiar voice - well, more like a midrange screech - wafted from the inside stage. Investigating, we realized it was Jad Fair, playing his heart out solo, gray hair obscuring his face. We both squinted to make sure it was him. It was the voice that gave him away having cleared the room – but remember that you've got to pay more attention to what it looks like than what it sounds like.

"Half Japanese played a show in Germany, and this guy comes over and says he wants an album," Fair relates. "I say, 'Well, we have these Jad Fair albums, then we also have these Half Japanese albums.' He says he wants Half Japanese, that he hates Jad Fair. So he buys the Half Japanese album, then asks me to sign it."

"Was he embarrassed?"

"Oh, yes."

كاكالمالات كالنالا كالنائا Selected Discography

1/2 Gentlemen/Not Beasts (Armageddon, 1980) Loud (Armageddon, 1981) Horrible (Press, 1982)

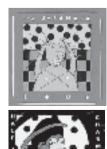
Charmed Life

(50 Skidillion Watts, 1988)

The Band That Would Be King

(50 Skidillion Watts, 1989)

Fire in the Sky (Safe House, 1993) Loud and Horrible (Drag City, 2004)



كالناك الانتاك **Selected Discography**

Jad Fair & Kramer, Roll **Out the Barrel** (Shimmy-Disc. 1988) Jad Fair & Daniel Johnston (50 Skidillion Watts, 1989) Jad & Nao, Half Robot (Paperhouse/Sakura Wrechord, 1993) Jad & Nao, Half Alien (Sakura Wrechord, 1997)

Jad Fair & Yo La Tengo, Strange but True (Matador, 1998) 26 Monster Songs for Children (Kill Rock Stars, 1998) Jad Fair & R. Stevie Moore, FairMoore (Old Gold, 2002) Jad Fair & Teenage Fanclub, Words of Wisdom & Hope

Bibliography

The Attack of Everything (Slab-o-Concrete, 2000) **Blue Skies and Monsters** (Map, 2006)

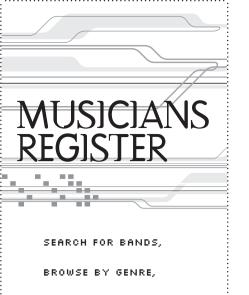












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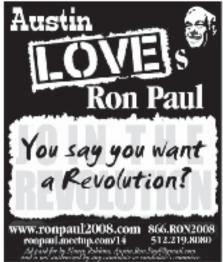
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Oracular Spectacular (Columbia)

Disheveled Brooklynites Andrew VanWyngarden and Ben Goldwasser seem unlikely to offer up a scorching, beat-laden debut on a major label, but then the new millennium's grooves have already been entrusted to an odd assortment of freaks and geeks. Slicing Bowie's sound and vision with the bluest-eyed bits of Barry Gibb, Oracular Spectacular proves the pair playfully conscious of their untested success with the hipster-irony of opener "Time to Pretend": "I'll move to Paris, shoot some heroin, and fuck with the stars" harmonizes the duo with disaffected vocals reminiscent of Her Space Holiday. Underlying the mock-star attitude of modern futility lies MGMT's attempt to stem the inevitable tide of maturity. The anthemic carpe diem of "The Youth" juxtaposes the cryptic lost innocence of "Kids," which kicks with a skuzzy Ratatat riff, but the irresistible disco-glam groove of "Electric Feel" rises as a centerpiece. The ringing acoustic reverb of "Pieces of What" wraps youthful anxiety in T. Rex, while the prog wash of "4th Dimensional Transition" and "Of Moons, Birds & Monsters" hearken further 1970s UK. Helmed by Flaming Lips producer Dave Fridmann, MGMT's eccentric elecro twists are well-managed, even as closing numbers "The Handshake" and "Future Reflections" bring the album full circle with a nostalgic regret at selling out that which they've hardly had time to cultivate.

- Doug Freeman



DRIVE-BY TRUCKERS

Brighter Than Creation's Dark (New West)

The Drive-By Truckers create albums that sprawl, epics not consumed one song at a time but full listening experiences that arc like a premium-cable-channel series. At 19 songs and more than 75 minutes, Brighter Than Creation's Dark just barely slouches to excess, mainly because it finds the Athens, Ga., quartet at its most tuneful. The upheaval associated with losing guitarist/singer-songwriter Jason Isbell in 2007 has served them well, Bassist Shonna Tucker (Isbell's ex) makes her debut with three songs, one of which, "The Purgatory Line," shimmers and aches in all the right spaces. Mike Cooley contributes patented Stones rip "3 Dimes Down" and closes up the honky-tonks on "Lisa's Birthday." Of the nine tunes written by frontman Patterson Hood, the ragged glory of "That Man I Shot" and "Daddy Needs a Drink," a meditation on some kind of domestic bliss, amply display his deft range. Trimming a couple of throwaways, like the silly "Bob," wouldn't have hurt, and the Skynyrd factor the Truckers are known for is kept to a bare minimum. Yet as always the attitude is: Fuck it, this is where we are. Let it sprawl. Let it rock.

- Jim Caligiuri

PINK FLOYD Oh by the Way (Capitol/EMI)

Trapped in a mirror on the front of Oh by the Way, the late Syd Barrett's shadowy influence lingers long after his



quartet's playfully psychedelic 1967 debut, The Piper at the Gates of Dawn. Housing the band's complete studio album discography, remastered and repackaged as miniature replicas of the original LPs (posters and postcards included but no bonus materials), the 16-CD box set proves the proverbial window into Barrett's creation. His cryptic composition "Jugland Blues" closes the following year's A Saucerful of Secrets, an exploratory work that balances prismatic pop ("Let There Be More Light") with solar flares ("Set the Controls for the Heart of the Sun"), while Barrett's "Astronomy Domine" opens the powerful live half of double album Ummagumma, recorded in Birmingham and Manchester in June 1969. Then, of course, there's 1975's poignant tribute to the departed founder,

Wish You Were Here. The transitory light-years preceding Floyd's conceptual masterpiece, 1973's Dark Side of the Moon, mark where things then get interesting. Floyd's oft-forgotten art film soundtracks, 1968's More and Obscured by Clouds in 1972, are fascinating sketches of mood and tone, particularly the former, delving into distorted, acid-psych ("The Nile Song," "Iziba Bar"), avant-jazz instrumentals ("Up the Khyber"), and pacifying acoustic ballads ("Green Is the Colour"). Individual character studies from Ummagumma begin to unify during the symphonic splendor of 1970's Atom Heart Mother, but it's not until the epic "Echoes" from the succeeding Meddle (1971) that all the elements of Floyd's futuristic vision coalesce. After that, group co-founder Roger Waters scores his trifecta: 1977 Orwellian treatise Animals, the monumental, if overrated, capstone double album, The Wall, and his largely lyrical and tyrannical manifesto, The Final Cut. The fallout from his departure manifests in 1987's lackluster A Momentary Lapse of Reason, dominated by David Gilmour's guitar-centric power ballads. 1994's The Division Bell actually rings more true, lacking the 1980s production pretensions and featuring more versatile, reflective songwriting. The only thing missing here is the band's coda Relics, compiling early rarities and singles. Otherwise, shine on.

- Austin Powell

ROGUE WAVE Asleep at Heaven's Gate (Brushfire)

The difference between Rogue Wave's third LP and their second. 2005's Descended Like Vultures (Sub



Pop), is clear from the first note of the opening track, "Harmonium." Where earlier "Bird on a Wire" swooped and swayed melodically, the Asleep at Heaven's Gate kick-off starts out with an allegro-paced drum solo and a long instrumental introduction that sets a tone for the entire album. The Oakland quartet, now on Jack Johnson's Brushfire imprint, has a greater sense of urgency, sharper edges, and a more mature sound overall. And yet, tunes like "Chicago x 12" and "Christians in Black" remain relentlessly pretty, while the opening strains of "Own Your Own Home" embrace the uglv. occasional discordances of life. All bands should demonstrate this kind of growth between releases, resulting in a Janus-like miniepic that encompasses the beauty that came before but also welcomes the vagaries of the future. (Rogue Wave matures at the Parish Friday, Jan. 25.)

– Melanie Haupt

WEEN La Cucaracha (Chocodog/

Rounder) Half the fun of listening to Ween is trying to discern



– Greg Beets

CAT POWER

Jukebox (Matador)

Chan Marshall nossesses one of music's most evocative voices even when she and her musical arrange ments aren't always



up to the material at hand. Jukebox follows the soulful turn of 2006's The Greatest, cueing up an uneven sequel to the hushed acoustics of 2000's The Covers Record. A slow funk opening courtesy of the Delta Blues Band digs its heel into "New York," Sinatra's bravado eviscerated by Marshall's

smoky wanderlust. "Ramblin' (Wo)man' sluices Hank Williams with a sultry, feminine surge, while Bob Dylan's "I Believe in You" receives an electric jolt. Strangely enough, Marshall infuses the songs with such personal ache that their emotional rawness can overpower; "Woman Left Lonely" quells Janis Joplin's ferocity with resignation, and Billie Holiday's "Don't Explain" is pure aural depression. Original "Song to Bobby" missteps with narcissism far removed from Dylan's "Song to Woody," and traditional "Lord, Help the Poor & Needy" sags without a glint of conviction, but Marshall recovers with George Jackson's "Aretha, Sing One for Me" and unrestrained reworking of her own "Metal Heart."

- Doug Freeman

BABYSHAMBLES Shotter's Nation (Astralwerks)

Not even the Clash's Mick Jones. who hosted both Libertines albums into Britshod culthood,



could salvage Babyshambles' gutter bound 2005 debut LP, Down in Albion. Free of his former band's birthplace, Pete Doherty now exacts revenge on Shotter's Nation, whose opening briar "Carry on up the Morning" rings instantly Libertine, as does the stumbling tempo and frontman's stutter-step lyricism on "Side of the Road." Rife with riff, Shotter's jangle-n-crank revs with "Delivery," which posts the album's title while piercing another Doherty melody "straight from the heart of misery." Curb-kicking vulnerability ("Unstookie Titled"), bass driven bluster ("French Dog Blues"), and the celebrity shuffle of guitarist Mick Withnall's hollow-body cabaret ("There She Goes") include not a single rotter among them. Folk surgeon Bert Jansch carves a stream of acoustic crystal upon which Doherty's sordid past washes up on closing farewell "Lost Art of Murder," the best shot on Shotter's Nation. Damon Albarn isn't Ray Davies yet.

Raoul Hernandez

THE HIVES The Black and White Album (A&M/Octane)

Despite uneven attempts to branch beyond their explosive pop-punk, the Hives' fourth full-length ulti-



mately delivers the goods. Lesser bands would kill for just one number as charged and catchy as "Tick Tick Boom," but the impeccably dressed Swedish quintet boasts several. "Try It Again" is jet-propelled by a cheerleader-style chorus, while the Pharrell Williams-produced (non-Buddy Holly cover) "Well All Right!" swings like a mod progeny of Ray Davies and Paul Weller. The album stumbles on "T.H.E.H.I.V.E.S.," a dance-oriented contrivance that sounds like a N.E.R.D outtake, but the unabashed teeth-rotting silliness of "Giddy Up!" is at least as amusing as a high school pep rally skit. With that out of its system, the Hives get back to work on "Square One Here I Come," a dynamic lament on the rat race. Even when they misfire, the next hook is only seconds away.

– Greg Beets



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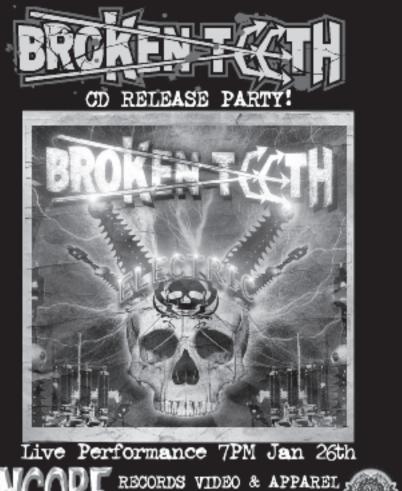


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LEAD STORY

Joshua Hoge, a schizophrenic confined to Washington's Western State Hospital, is claiming at least part of his late mother's estate even though he's the one who killed her in 1999. Washington law prevents profiting from the "unlawful" and "willful" taking of another's life, but Hoge was found "not guilty by reason of insanity," and the legal issue is still unsettled. Furthermore, according to a January report in The Seattle Times, it appears that the mother's estate consists almost totally of the \$800,000 the estate won in a lawsuit against a county health clinic because it was negligent in delaying Joshua's medications, which probably led to his killing her.

CAN'T POSSIBLY BE TRUE

Convenience-store manager Carol Mendenhall told reporters in December that among the police citations she had recently received for a disturbance at her home in Dibble, Okla., (pop. 282) was one for allowing her four goats to have sex in her front yard in public view, which was illegal in Dibble. She admitted that her billy goat, Adam, had been attending to three females who were in heat at the same time. (The city council has since repealed the ordinance, following a campaign Mendenhall conducted.)

INEXPLICABLE

- · Police in Mount Lebanon, Pa., said in December that no illegal acts were involved, but some parents still want to know why the nondenominational Christian Mount Lebanon Young Life club had staged a teenagers' social event during which boys wore adult diapers, bibs, and bonnets and sat in girls' laps while being spoon-fed. Said youth minister O.J. Wandrisco, the skits were not "dirty," but "to break down the walls and let [the kids] have fun." A previous skit involved, according to a parent, kids eating chocolate pudding out of
- In November, accused armed robber Steven McDermott, 49, was finally captured after leading California Highway Patrol officers on a high-speed chase in a commandeered taxicab, causing two minor collisions before McDermott fled on foot. When McDermott was finally cornered, officers said, he reached toward his waistband, leading one officer to shoot him, though the object McDermott was reaching for turned out not to be the gun used in the robbery but a sex toy, tethered to his belt loop.



CHUCK SHEPHERD



Mr. Coll Bell, a New Zealander who invented a composting toilet supposedly superior to a septic system and who wanted permission from the Auckland Regional Council to install one at a campground, said an ARC bureaucrat had gueried him on whether the worms he uses would be traumatized by the volume of work required in the annual two-week period of intensive campground use. Coll told Agence France-Presse in December that vermiculture expert Patricia Naidu had assured him that the worms would be "happy."

CHUTZPAH!

Ingrates: 1) "Get in here and do your [word omitted by the Allentown Morning Call] jobs, you dumb [omitted]," said Donald Reidnauer Sr., 56, after summoning police to investigate a BB pellet fired at his house in Richland Township, Pa., in November. "I pay taxes. I am your boss. Get in here and do your jobs or I'll have to kick your [omitted]." Reidnauer then lunged at officers and was arrested. 2) Marjorie Kelley, 50, called 911 in Sarasota, Fla., in January after feeling chest pains, but she requested that no sirens or lights be used by the ambulance. When EMTs arrived using sirens and lights, Kelley reportedly jumped up and chased them down the street, wielding a rolling pin, according to WWSB-TV.

INJUDICIOUS JUDGES

- In Dhanbad, India, Judge Sunil Kumar Singh has been trying to settle a 20-year-old land dispute involving temples of the Hindu gods Ram and Hanuman and has become impatient, according to a December BBC News dispatch from Patna. One priest claims the land belongs to him, but most locals say the temples own it, and Judge Singh, exasperated, recently placed ads in local newspapers asking Ram and Hanuman to come to court personally and address the issue.
- Judges Fond of Probation: 1) An unnamed Children's Court judge in Melbourne, Australia, sentenced eight boys to probation in November even though he had found them guilty of sexually assaulting a teenage girl, setting her hair on fire, spitting and urinating on her, and filming

the episode. (There was no jail time, but the youths were assigned to a rehabilitation program teaching "positive sexuality"!) 2) Britain's Judge Francis Gilbert in November sentenced a 28-year-old woman to probation for her eighth conviction for false claims of rape, involving seven men over a six-year period. In one case, police said, she called them "every two or three days" to keep the investigation alive.

· A Jury Fond of Probation: A Brownsville, Texas, jury in December found Traci Rhode guilty of shooting her husband to death in his sleep but rejected the prosecutor's recommended sentence of 60 years, opting instead for 10 years' probation and a \$10,000 fine. (She did serve two days in jail after the guilty verdict was announced, but before sentencing, but Rhode's lawyer was outraged even at that: "Can you imagine the shock," he told the jury, "of being locked up for two days in a 4-by-8 cell with cement walls, in isolation?") Texas subsequently passed a law banning probation as the punishment for murder.

PEOPLE WITH ISSUES

Serious Substance Abuse: 1) Bill Long, a former member of the county council in Daytona Beach, Fla., was charged with DUI in December after he, allegedly speeding, hit another car. "When officers arrived at the scene," reported WKMG-TV (Orlando), "[Long] was found drinking ... suntan lotion." 2) Joseph Cardillo, reportedly a certified therapist in tantra, kundalini, and other spiritual arts, was arrested by sheriff's deputies in Boulder, Colo., in November for, among other things, drinking an 8-year-old girl's urine, which he allegedly caught in his cupped hands, according to a report in Boulder's Daily Camera.

PEOPLE WITH TOO MUCH TIME ON THEIR HANDS

1) According to a report in Britain's Bolton News in December, the House of Lords has recently been discussing the need to reduce the thickness of slices of bread, which Baroness Gardener of Parkes said would help alleviate Britons' alarming levels of obesity. 2) TV's Weather Channel recently released a CD comprising 12 of what it called the most popular jazz selections that play on its "Local on the 8s" weather screens (tunes presumably requested by those who watch the Weather Channel often enough to actually have favorites).

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at newsoftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newsoftheweird.com). Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com

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Find More Great Listings in The Austin Chronicle Classifieds.

CENTRAL Open House Sunday January 27, 2-4 pm 312 W. Monroe in the heart of Bouldin/SOCO. 2 houses on one large lot(8083.50 sg/ft), Rear house Brand new construction... turn to Classifieds for more ...

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EAST UPPER EAST SIDE **GREEN HOME \$269K** OPEN HOUSE SUN 1-4PM 5004 Delores Ave (Off Webberville Rd) Designed by CF Architecture, this beautiful contemporary 2/2 home... turn to Classifieds

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SOUTHWEST • \$719,000 • 3+ BR Purple Martin House 612 Tumbleweed Trail North This house was originally one of the first built on Tumbleweed Trail. Now, it is a stunning 3,461 saft home... turn to Classifieds for more ...

SOUTHWEST • 3+ BR 3/2 Study from \$180,000. \$0 Move In, Great sqft. for the money. Choose your own upgrades. ... turn to Classifieds





for more ...



THE 2008 SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST MUSIC & MEDIA CONFERENCE

will showcase hundreds of musical acts from around the globe on over seventy stages in downtown Austin. By day, conference registrants can do business in the SXSW Trade Show in the Austin Convention Center and partake of a full agenda of informative, provocative panel discussions featuring hundreds of speakers of international stature, including **Keynote Speaker LOU REED** plus Steve Reich, Thurston Moore, Daryl Hall, Seymour Stein, Johnny Rivers, Sean Moriarty, Louis Messina and many more to be announced.

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M. USIC listings p.90

this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

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

Thursday 24



ANIMAL CRUELTY IDENTIFICATION & REPORTING CLASS Animal cruelty is easier to fight than you might think. The Austin SPCA has developed this class to teach you how. 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.angeloueconom ics.com to register. 7:30-9:30am. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 225-9322. \$165. info@angeloueconomics.com

BE JEWELED Enjoy an evening of gourmet appetizers, fashion shows, shopping discounts, and a silent auction to benefit the American Cancer Society. 6:30-9:30pm. Nieman Marcus at the Domain, 11410 Century Oaks Terrace. \$60. www.cattlebaronsballaustin.org.

GERMAN FREE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE features weekly guided tours of the German Free School's 150-year-old building and gardens. *Thursdays*, 1-4pm. German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. Free. info@germantexans.org, www.germantexans.org.

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.

the young ones

A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM This Pollyanna Theatre Company production is designed to introduce kids ages 5-12 to the signature language and characters of the Bard. Jan. 25-30. Fri., 10am & 7pm; Sat., 10am & 2pm; Sun., 2pm; Mon.-Wed., 10am. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 743-7966. \$7.50 (\$6, seniors/ACoT/ages 12-18; \$5.50, ages 11 and younger).

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 for details. Deadline: Jan. 31. aipfya@sbcglobal.net.

GET A GRIP COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS are available to area high school seniors who've been instrumental in organizing blood drives. See www.inyourhands.org for eligibility and application requirements. Deadline: Feb. 1. 206-1138.

CALLING ALL YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHERS! Aspiring choreographers ages 7-17 are invited to submit their best original, three-minute group routines to Ballet Austin's **Youth Choreographic Competition**. Winners (to be announced Feb. 9) will be awarded free dance classes, tickets to the ballet, and more. See www.balletaustin.org/youthcompetition/index.php for details. Deadline: Feb. 3. contest@balletaustin.org.

AUSTIN GIRLS' CHOIR AUDITIONS invites girls ages 8-18 to try out for one of the top treble choirs in the country. See www.austin.girlschoir.com for more info on the AGC; call 453-0884 to schedule an audition. Weekends, through Feb. 16.

MILEY CYRUS (AKA HANNAH MONTANA) The Disney star hits town on her Best of Both Worlds tour ready to sing Austin's preteen ears off. Thu., Jan. 24, 7pm. Frank Erwin Center, 1701 Red River, 471-7744. \$26-66.

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

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. 1-35, 974-7800. \$50. stacey.mason@ci.austin.tx.us, www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp.

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

Friday 25



COMMUNITY TAX CENTERS KICK OFF FREE TAX SERVICES Starting today, nine area locations begin providing free tax-preparation services to income-qualifying individuals and households. Rep. Lloyd Doggett will speak to mark the occasion as Foundation Communities opens its doors to anyone wishing to find out more. See www.communitytaxcenters.org for participating locations, hours, and details on income qualifications. 10am. Foundation Communities, 3036 S. First. Free.

FRIDAY NIGHT TEJANO DANCE Join the Texas Tejano Democrats and various elected officials from across the state as they converge on the

FROM BOOKS TO MOVIES invites kids ages 8-17 to get an in-depth look at the differences between novels and their film adaptations by reading books, watching their big-screen counterparts, and answering trivia questions about them. 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 for movie schedule. 974-7400.

AUSTIN CITY WIDE UNDER 21 POETRY SLAM This year, Austin's youngest poets are aiming to compete in this summer's national competition in Washington, D.C. Come on out and cheer them on, or join in yourself. Thu., Jan. 24, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 632-5033. \$5 (free, slammers & kids under age 5). u21slam@yahoo.com, www.txywc.org.

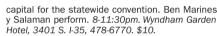
TAG: TEEN ADVISORY GROUP New TAGs are launching at three different libraries this spring, inviting kids ages 13-17 to get involved with the library by helping plan events, recommending new books for the collections, and more. See www.wiredforyouth.com for details. Next meeting: Thu., Jan. 24, 5:30pm. Southeast Austin Community Branch, 5803 Nuckols Crossing. 974-7400.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST It's up to the audience in this production of Beauty and the Beast to help Belle break the curse that turned a handsome prince into a unsightly monster. Jan. 26-March 2. Saturdays, 10am (no show Feb. 16); Sundays, 2pm; Tue., Feb. 19, 10:30am. Scottish Rite, 207 W. 18th, 472-KIDO. \$10 (\$7, ages 12 & under; \$3, infants). ww.scottishritetheatre.org.

DA DA DA DA HEROES! Read The Adventures of Max and Pinky: Superheroes along with some other tales of superpowers and nicking time. Tue., Jan. 29, 10:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

The legendary humanitarian and entertainer pays tribute to MLK

ISEE SATURDAY. HARRY BELAFONTE1



GREEN DRINKS This monthly happy hour for the environmentally savvy brings you special guest Salila Travers of the Sunset Valley Farmers' Market and Aztec Organic Pest Service to talk about organic foods and nutrition. 5:30-7:30pm. Opal Divine's, 700 W. Sixth, 477-3308. Free.

HISTORIC TEXAS BOOK OF DAYS Join mother/ daughter team Yvonne Bruce and Ann Bruce Hénaffas as they sign and discuss their book The Historic Texas Book of Days, which provides an elegantly illustrated overview of Texas through its flora and fauna, art,

architecture, cuisine, and traditions. 6pm. Neill-Cochran House Museum, 2310 San Gabriel. Free. MUSIC & MICROCINEMA Join Lori "16mm" Varga

for a light-and-film show accompanied by the music of Bright Duplex, Balmorhea, Gary Barft*ts, and a New Low. BYOB. 9pm-1am. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$5.

PRE-MARDI GRAS PARTY Don't even try to go in cold - let Chief Alfred Doucette, Big Chief Kevin Goodman & the Funky Flaming Arrows, Nelson Saga & Arma del Alma, and the Austin Nights Brass Band warm you up for the real Mardi Gras in February. 9pm. Řuta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$10. www.rutamaya.net.

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). Andrew and Grace Groten Stage at Zachary Scott Theatre. 1426 Toomey Rd., 476-0541 x1. \$10 (\$7, ages 12 & under). www.zachscott.com.

SRI ATMANANDA MEMORIAL SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE Come see for yourself the 10-acre campus that houses this K-12 school emphasizing both social and academic development. Sat., Jan. 26, 9am-noon. Sri Atmananda, 4100 Red River, 451-7044. www.samschool.org.

SUPPLEMENTAL EDUCATION SERVICES PROVIDER FAIR invites parents to learn about free weekend and afterschool tutoring services available to students of Austin schools that have not met the Adequate Yearly Progress requirements under the No Child Left Behind law. These services are available both at program centers and at students' homes. Sat., Jan. 26, 9:30am-noon. Delco Center, 4601 Pecan Brook, 414-0012. www.austinisd.org, www.tea.state.tx.us.

AUSTIN FAMILY CAMP FAIR Time to explore your kids' summer camp options for 2008. With something like 100 camps represented at this fair - plus special goodies and prizes like Abrakadoodle's free art day camp giveaway - there's no better place to start than here. Sat., Jan. 26, 10am-5pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 733-0038. Free. www.austinfamily.com.

AESOP'S FABLES Jim West brings to life some of Aesop's most beloved characters with his renowned large-scale puppets. Sat., Jan. 26, 11am-noon. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 32-WORLD. \$14 (\$12, kids). www.oneworldtheatre.org.

PORTRAIT OF ALLISON HuggyBear performs at this annual one-night exhibit of photographs taken by the fifth- and sixth-grade students of Allison Elementary. Sat., Jan. 26, 6-10pm. Austin Figurative Gallery, 301 Chicon Unit F, 296-6624.

FLYING THEATER MACHINE This interactive performance featuring games and stories provides kids ages 4-10 with an early introduction to improv comedy. Jan. 13-Feb. 24. Sundays, 2-3pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 971-3311. \$5 (free, babies). jessica@arjet.net.

WHY COWBOYS SING IN TEXAS! Slim Jim Bean and the Old Timer will learn ya the traditions of the Old West in this puppet show for kids ages 5 and up. (Call 974-7302 to reserve a space for five or more.) . Tue., Jan. 29, 11am: Pleasant Hill Branch Library, 211 E. William Cannon. Thu., Jan. 31, 10:15am: Ruiz Branch, 1600 Grove.

AFRICAN AMERICAN MEN & BOYS CONFERENCE (See Saturday.) Sat., Jan. 26, 10am. Pearce Middle School, 6401 N. Hampton, 585-6696. Free.

FRIENDS FOREVER Read Thank You, Bear and other heartwarmers. Wed., Jan. 30, 10:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

KIDS CULTURAL SERIES brings you an art lesson from pop artist Peter Max of the Abrakadoodle art school. Thu., Jan. 31, 6-8pm. Gattitown, 9900 S. I-35.

ONA'KAN INFORMATION/ORIENTATION SESSION

invites youth to enroll in the Ona'kan Afrikan-centered after-school/weekend program featuring creative writing, visual arts, dance, drama, and fighting arts workshops, as well as a Cultural Rites of Passage program and a Warrior Training/Ceremonies for Black Men program. Thu., Jan. 31, 6-8pm. Washington Carver Museum and Cultural Center, 1165 Angelina, 317-6826. Free. sankofaasafo@vahoo.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. 8 issue is Monday, Jan. 28. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials

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

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

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

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

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

the GAY place by kate X messer and kate getty

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

Southwest) where local folks, like **Kitty** from Foodies and Lloyd Doggett are recognized for their contri-butions to the cause. What cause? Equality. Justice for all. And a fabulous wardrobe, (We threw in that last part.) Silent auction, live entertainment. Y'all heard of Ruthie Foster, Josh Duffy, and Gabriel DeJoy?





Oh, boy. We have. And after the party is the Afterparty (the hotel lobby?), hosted by AGLCC, with \$35 tickets (for those without gala tix) that include an HRC membership. Sat., Jan. 26, 6pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 800/494-TIXS (8492). \$200 (\$35, afterparty or free with gala ticket). austindinner@hrc.org, www.hrcaustin.org,

www.boxofficetickets.com/hrc.

POWERHOUSE OF PRIDE United we stand. Divided, we don't ... thus, eight local LGBT-affiliated groups in Austin have banded together to form the **Pride** Coalition. (Parenthetical alert!) Check out all the acronyms standing together for change! Power in numbers (and letters!): AGLCC (Austin Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce). ALLGO (Austin Latina/o Lesbian/Gay Organization), Atticus Circle (y'all need an acronym!), PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), ET (Equality Texas), HRC (Human Rights Campaign), **OY Austin** (Out Youth), and **TACT** (Transgender Advocates of Central Texas). community@aglcc.org.

www.aglcc.org/75/strengthen_the_community.htm.

DIGGIN' IN THE GARDEN Tennessee Williams is pretty gay. And this play, no doubt, follows suit. "Garden District: Something Unspoken"/"Suddenly Last Summer" are two of Tennessee's wee pieces, directed here by Norman Blumensaadt, and featuring youmay-have-heard-of-her Rebecca Havemeyer (aka Paul Soileau, don't ask, we told). Look, it's fit for queens. And full of 'em. Fri.- Sat., 8pm. Through Feb. 2. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084.

BLOGGIN' THE GAY PLACE Come visit us in cybersphere. Check for a slew of Louisiana and Texas Mardi Gras fun 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, austinchronicle.com/gayplaceblog, 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

TUESDAYS TOGETHER This last-Tuesday-of-everymonth at rotating locations event for Human Rights Campaign is back for January. Check the HRC website for more info on events and news about the big gala! 289-2198. info@hrcaustin.org, www.hrc.org/austin.

PORGY & BESS DINNER ON CATFISH ROW Take your pick of one of eight show nights and get NOLA-fied! TRIO presents a preshow feast where you may ravish a grand spread of three beautifully designed courses (by award-winning culinary artistes) to celebrate the Big Easy inspiration of Monsoir Steakley's re-imagined take on *Porgy & Bess*. Catfish Row (of Charleston, S.C., in the original) transforms into New Orleans for this Zach Scott Mardi Gras-fueled version of the compelling (and often controversial) opera. Come taste the inspiration! The package includes valet parking and a gift certificate for spa services. Show tickets sold separately. And don't miss the **Opening**-Night Afterparty. Preshow dinner at TRIO: Jan 25-27, 30-31, Feb. 1-3; Grand Opening Afterparty at Austin Music Hall, Sat., Jan 26. TRIO at the Four Seasons, 98 San Jacinto 685-8300. \$49. www.opentable.com.

WILDE PARTY, O LAWD, I'M ON MY WAY A Mardi Gras themed preshow mixer with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, King Cakes, and beads, beads, beads, nosted by L Style G Style's Lynn Yeldell and Alisa Weldon. Just a two-block walk to Catfish Row, aka the French Quarter, aka the Austin Music Hall, where you will then revel in all the glory that is Gershwin's American folk opera reinvented a la Zach Scott, Porgy & Bess. Thu., Jan. 31, 5pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150. www.rainon4th.com

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, very lucky to welcome to our third coast. Live music queer capital. And yippee. Thu., Jan. 31, 9pm. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017.

GP LIKES TO TEASE It's just a teaser, but keep your eyes peeled fo' mo' info, and yes, now is the time to buy your tickets. For not one, but two, homo happenings on the horizon. First. Dance. **The Glamorous** Life: Baile XXIII: Sat., Feb. 9, 8pm, Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 472-2001 x101 or lorenzo@allgo.org, \$30 (\$25, advance). That's a cha-cha-cha. Now, what about love? It sucks, doesn't it? How about some kings and queens to really let you have it. Kings N Things presents: Love Is a Four-Letter Word: Fri., Feb. 8, 9pm, Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979, 21 and over, \$10. Everyone likes a li'l tease now and again, don't they?

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.

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 worldfamous 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. Charlie's, 1301 Lavaca, 474-6481.

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, www.gayribbeancruises.com.

For more gay stuff, see Calendar online: austinchronicle.com. Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.



2007/08 Season

- www.AustinTheatre.org
- (866) 4GET-TIX





Olympia Dukakis

In "Rose" - A One-Woman Show -- January 26

You know her from her films Moonstruck, Steel Magnolias and Mr. Holland's Opus, now see this Academy-Award winning actress live, onstage in the intimate portrayal of "Rose." Bring a handkerchief. You will be sobbing just as surely as you will jump to your feet at its triumphant end.



Debra Winger -- March 5

Texas Monthly's Evan Smith interviews Debra Winger to discover why she left Hollywood at the height of her career. The interview will be followed by a screening of one of her films!



Pat Metheny Trio -- March 4

One of the most successful and critically acclaimed jazz musicians to come out of the 1970s and '80s.

Upcoming Shows...

Madeline and the Bad Hat -- February 3 Pilobolus -- February 6-7 TexARTS' Damn Yankees -- Feb 28 - March 1 Louis CK -- April 4

* Full Bar Available

Opens an hour before performances. Come early and even enjoy your drink during the show.

Downtown Parking

\$6 covered parking just 1/2 block away at One American Center (7th and Congress).

⋆ Donate Now

The Paramount is a non-profit performance venue help preserve an important stage in Austin's history.

Season Sponsors























HISTORY. PERFORMED NIGHTLY.

SEX AND THE CITY, AUSTIN Strap on your Manolo Blahniks for an evening of jazz, Cosmos, and sex talk hosted by Slumber Party With Aimee. 6-9pm. Maggie Mae's, 323 E. Sixth, 478-8541. Free. www.maggiemaesaustin.com.

THE DON'T TREAD ON ME SHOW In protest of the pending sound-ordinance amendment proposing to decrease the Downtown noise limit by 10 decibels. tonight's lineup aims to crank it up. Expect to hear some very loud performances from the Bread, the Stones We Throw, Like Dogs, Rend, and the Anchor. 9pm. Red 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100. www.versatilesyndicate.com.

UT SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS SUMMIT Find out how environmentally friendly companies are creating economic opportunities, and learn what to expect on the horizon at this two-day conference featuring business leaders and faculty from the McCombs School of Business. Jan. 25-26. Fri., 7-11pm: Sat., 8am-9pm, UT Campus, McCombs School of Business. \$10-50. registration@utsummit.com, www.utsummit.com

COMEDY (See Arts Listings.) John Rabon Velveeta Room

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.) **Arthouse at the Jones Center**

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

The Greyboy Allstars La Zona Rosa Terp 2 It Mohawk Amplified Heat, Ripe, Big Black Smoke

Scoot Inn and Bier Garten John Hammond Cactus Cafe The Slackers Flamingo Cantina

Chuck Prophet Continental Club

Saturday 2

CONFERENCE This monthly gathering brings young and old together to resolve important issues facing African-Americans. Today, you'll be celebrating the 25th anniversary of Pearce Middle School, and parents, educators, and students are welcome to attend the day's workshops and seminars fea-turing special guests Austin Police Department Assistant Police Chief Sam Holt, Austin Police monitor Cliff Brown, and keynote speaker Chance Lewis of Texas A&M's College of Education and Human Development. This month's theme: dropout prevention. 10am. Pearce Middle School. 6401 N. Hampton, 585-6696. Free.

ALL-CITY MARIACHI FESTIVAL Former Sen. Gonzalo Barrientos hosts today's festivities featuring mariachi bands from schools throughout AISD and other Texas school districts. 7pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 414-4489.

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

AUSTIN AREA LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS hosts a talk this evening from employment law attorney Sheila Gladstone, who'll present the Ins and Outs of the Texas Public Information Act. 6pm. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 451-6710. www.lwvaustin.org.

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Republic Square Park, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.

BIRDING FIELD TRIP TO COMMONS FORD RANCH This park's winter birds include 106 species, making it one of the most diverse areas in the city's park system. Dress accordingly; you will get the chance to bushwack for sparrows. 7am-noon. Commons Ford Ranch, Commons Ford Road, just west of Bee Caves, off Cuernavace, 300-BIRD. Free. fieldtrips@travisaudubon.org, . www.travisaudubon.org.

BULL CREEK PRESERVE ENTRY PERMIT HIKE

Today's hike (ranked easy to moderate) is required if you hope to earn an entry permit for hiking in Bull Creek Preserve during the upcoming breeding season of the endangered golden-cheeked warbler (March 1-July 31). 1-3pm. Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, 24518 FM 1431, just past Lago Vista, 263-6437. gall.mcglamery@ci.austin.tx.us, www.cityofaustin.org/water/wildland/bullcreek.htm.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY TEXAS OPEN **HOUSE** In anticipation of Concordia's impending relocation to a new campus, today's events will commemorate the current campus, which has been home to the school since 1926. The festivities kick off with a prayer walk and building tour, followed by a chapel service, art opening, Austin Children's Choir performance, storytelling for kids, and basketball games featuring Concordia's men's and women's teams as well as an alumni team. University President Tom Cedel hosts a special reception to close out the day's events. 10am-6pm. Concordia University, 3400 N. I-35, 486-1926. Free. www.concordia.edu/celebrationevents.

FAREWELL, PROPER GANDER The 9-year-old Austin zine is closing shop but not before this one last hoorah. Join Delicious Foods (featuring Brown Whornet's Peter Stopchinski), Fambly, Indian Jewelry, and Attic Ted in wishing them a final farewell. 10pm-2am. Scoot Inn and Bier Garten, 1308 E. Fourth, 392-4728. \$5.

atticted@yahoo.com, www.atticted.com.

FRANKEN BIKE All are welcome to buy, sell, or trade bike parts and gear at this friendly once-a-month swap meet. Location changes monthly; see website for details. *Noon-4pm. Free.* www.frankenbike.org.

HAND TALK This weekly sign language class for hearing and nonhearing participants kicks off with a special storytime 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.

HARRY BELAFONTE Who better to wrap up the Austin Area Heritage Council's series of events honoring Martin Luther King Jr. than Harry Belafonte, a former friend to the reverend and a lifelong supporter of human rights, beginning with his work with the Peace Corps under JFK and continuing with his civil rights activism, his pivotal role in organizing "We Are the World," his Goodwill ambassadorship under UNICEF, and much more. The legendary entertainer, humanitarian, and activist will deliver the Live the Dream keynote address today, accompanied by a performance from Grammy Award-winning a cappella ensemble Sweet Honey in the Rock. 6:30-8:30pm. Riverbend Centre, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-9416. \$25 (\$15, hearing impaired). Tickets available online and at Mitchie's Gallery, 6406 N. I-35. www.mlkcelebration.com

INTRO TO THE NIA TECHNIQUE No experience necessary. Call to register. 1-2:30pm. JoyMoves, 2501 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-4440. Free.

ORIENTATION FOR FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

CTTC offers preparatory, beginner, intermediate, and advanced computer classes for adults Monday Thursday evenings, with weekday-evening and Saturday-afternoon drop-in lab times available along with professional development seminars.

dayTRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

The National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg hosts an in-depth study of the Pacific Theater of Operations of World War II. Through photographs, artifacts, and stories, the exhibits cover the era from the causes of the war to the ultimate end at Nagasaki, Japan.

"More than anything else," says Dolores Young, public relations officer for the museum, "it is the story about the people who fought the war." From the trenches to the home front, few details of the war

Originally called the Admiral Nimitz Museum, the history display honored all of the service personnel in the Pacific and was housed in the old Nimitz Hotel. The commander of the U.S. fleet in the Pacific, Chester W. Nimitz, spent much of his early childhood with his grandfather at the hotel.

Charles H. Nimitz Sr. went to sea with the German merchant seaman as a 14-year-old. He landed in Charleston, S.C., in 1844, and was among the first German settlers to arrive in Fredericksburg in 1846. By 1855, grandpa Nimitz had opened a six-room hotel on the road from the Gulf Coast to California.

The business prospered, as Nimitz offered travelers the only hot baths between San Antonio and San Diego. The hotel grew to include a basement brewery, a concert/dance hall, and one of the best meals west of the Mississippi. By the mid-1870s, the hotel had a three-story front that resembled a steamboat.

The future fleet commander was born on Feb. 24, 1885, a few blocks from the Nimitz Hotel. After his father died, Chester and his mother moved into the hotel, and his grandfather became a father figure in his life. Although his mother remarried and moved to Kerrville, the old man remained a strong influence on his grandson. Nimitz moved to the Naval Academy in 1901 and never lived in the Texas Hill Country again.

By 1963, the hotel was sold by the family and was closed. The steamboat front had been removed in the 1920s, and the building had fallen into disrepair. A group of concerned citizens saved the building from the wrecking ball in 1966. Three years later it became a state historic site, and by 1981 it was being administered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

For many years the museum was a dark maze of exhibits honoring the men and women who fought in the Pacific Theater. The one bright spot was the Japanese Garden donated by the Japanese and built by Japanese gardeners in 1976. The beautifully kept sanctuary remains a monument to the peace shared between the two countries.

When President George H.W. Bush cut the ribbon to the George Bush Gallery in 1999, he opened a new phase in the museum's



development. Most of the exhibits were moved out of the cramped quarters in the hotel and the building was remodeled to more closely resemble its original floor plan.

In 2005, the museum became a Texas Historical Commission property administered by the Admiral Nimitz Foundation. ("Day Trips" No. 861 mistakenly said the property was transferred between state agencies in 2007.) The foundation has greatly expanded the museum's fundraising and educational programs.

The Admiral Nimitz Museum is now five museums rolled into one the Nimitz collection, the George Bush Gallery, the Memorial Courtyard, the Japanese Garden of Peace, and the Pacific Combat Zone (a collection of war machinery). Experiencing the exhibit feels like walking through a history book. Each major battle of the Pacific War is highlighted with details and illustrated with equipment and photographs. Not only does the collection include a miniature Japanese submarine captured at Pearl Harbor and a PT boat, but also soldiers' letters home, women's underwear woven from whatever materials were available, and an American flag made by POWs. It is an inspiring journey back in time when uncommon bravery was a

The National Museum of the Pacific War is at 340 E. Main St. in Fredericksburg. Doors open daily (except Thanksgiving and Christmas) at 9am and close at 5pm. Museum admission for adults begins at \$7, with discounts for students, veterans, and seniors. Admission to the grounds is free. For information, call 830/997-8600 or go to www.nimitz-museum.org.

864th in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

out of town

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.

COWBOY MARDI GRAS puts a country twist on Cajun-style music and food. Fri.-Sun., Jan. 25-27. Downtown Bandera, 800/364-3833. www.banderacowbovcapital.com

WAY OUT WINERIES MARDI GRAS ROAD TRIP lets the good times roll with Cajun food, wine tastings, music, and Mardi Gras beads. Fri.-Sun., Jan. 25-27. From Lampasas to Comanche to Granbury, 325/356-9100. \$25, per couple (good for eight wineries). tina@brennanvineyards.com, www.wavoutwineries.org.

LUCKENBACH BLUES FESTIVAL chases the winter blues away with a rocking show that includes W.C. Clark, Johnny Nichols, Shelly King, and more. Sat., Jan. 26. Luckenbach, 830/997-3224 or 888/311-8990. www.luckenbachtexas.com

ARTS ENCOUNTERS AT BENINIS presents an afternoon with Vermont sculptor Pat Musick, Grammy Award winning soprano Cynthia Clawson, a concert of Tibetan bowls by Kenny Parker, and more. Sat. & Sun., Jan. 26-27, 1:30pm Benini Foundation Galleries and Sculpture Ranch, 377 Shiloh Rd., Johnson City, 830/868-5244. Free.

WHOLISTIC RODEO features information, tools, products, and services that support health and wellness, personal and spiritual growth, and ecology. Jan. 26-27. Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., 11am-5pm, Inn of the Hills, 1001 Junction Hwy. Kerrville, 877/454-3411. \$10 for two-day pass. www.wholisticrodeo.com

www.artsencountersatbeninis.com

INDIAN ARTIFACT & COLLECTIBLE SHOW displays arrowheads, books, jewelry, pottery, and more. Sat., Jan. 26. Pioneer Pavilion at Lady Bird Johnson Park, Fredericksburg, 830/626-5561. richard.mentzer@sbcgobal.net.

EXHIBIT: FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF COLUMBIA TRAGEDY presents two large models of the Columbia and a history of the NASA program in honor of the seven astronauts who lost their lives when the space shuttle disintegrated over East Texas on Feb. 1, 2003. Through Feb. 10. Mon.-Fri., 9am-5pm; Sat., 10am-5pm; Sun., 1-5pm. Wyatt Building next to City Hall, downtown Nacogdoches, 936/468-6100. Free

Attendance at an orientation session like tonight's (scheduled twice monthly) is a mandatory pre-requisite. noon-2pm. Reagan High School, 7104 Berkman, 323-6773 x122. Free. www.skillpointalliance.org.

PERMACULTURE BASICS WEEKEND kicks off this spring's Permaculture Design Certificate course taught by the Austin Permaculture Guild. The series will teach you how to create sustainable human environments through gardening, green building, activism, alternative business models, and more. Completion of the entire course will earn you your certification, but you may also choose just to attend individual classes. See www.permie.us for further details. Sat.-Sun.. Jan. 26-27, 9am-6pm. TreeFolks, 10803 Platt, 619-5363. \$120 (\$500, entire course). austinperm@permie.us.

SAHAJA YOGA MEDITATION aims to help you achieve balance, inner peace, and resistance to stress, depression, and anxiety. Saturdays, 11amnoon. Austin Recreation Center, 1301 Shoal Creek Blvd., 828-0129. Free. www.austinsahajayoga.org.

SAVE BIG BEND: LETTER-WRITING PARTIES
The Texas Department of Transportation wants to build a truck corridor right through Big Bend National Park. Apparently, they're hoping exhaust and traffic congestion will be the park's biggest new tourist draw. If you think otherwise, join fellow clean-air breathers today to write letters asking TxDOT to reconsider its plans. (Interested in host

ing a letter-writing party yourself? Send an e-mail to highendletters@vahoo.com. Or just call TxDOT at 800/517-4652, and tell them what you think.) 1-3pm. Jo's Coffee: 1300 S. Congress or 242 W. Second. www.stopthetrucks.org.

SEEDS TO STARTS WORKSHOP Learn about the bio-intensive gardening method as you help the Green Corn Project folks prep their spring gardens. Call for details and registration. 10am-1:30pm. Free. www.greencornproject.org.

SELF-DEFENSE SEMINAR Designed to be simple and effective, this class promises you'll remember what you've learned when you most need it. 1-3pm. Martial Way Academy, 160-E Ohlen Rd., 821-3637. Free. martialway@hotmail.com, www.martialway.net.

SPRINGTIME IN JANUARY Join the American Association of University Women for a light buffet and fashion show benefiting the Legal Advocacy Fund. 10:30am. Church of Christ. 310 W. 43rd.

STARS ON PARADE Join students and faculty of Huston-Tillotson for an evening of music, fashion and talent shows, food, door prizes, and more to benefit the United Negro College Fund. You'll also be watching a screening of An Evening of Stars Tribute to Smokey Robinson. Call or e-mail to RSVP. 6-9pm. Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 505-3073. \$25. events@htu.edu, www.htu.edu.

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Saturday, January 26, 2008 10:00 to Noon at Ann Richards School 2206 Prather Lane

OPEN HOUSE AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THE PRINCIPAL, ASK QUESTIONS, AND TOUR THE SCHOOL.

You, your family, and friends are invited to learn more about the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders. Teachers will be available to help students with their applications.

> Don't forget this important date: Friday, February 8, 2008 Ann Richards Application deadline

calendar → COMMUNITY → ARTS → FILM → MUSIC

ZILKER BOTANICAL GARDENS VOLUNTEER MEET-**ING** Anyone interested in providing tours of 7ilker's gardens is welcome to attend today's meeting. 10am. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 477-8672. zilkerdocents@aol.com.

UT SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS SUMMIT (See Friday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
4 Walls, Art on 5th, Concordia University, **Lora Reynolds Gallery**

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Rocky Horror Picture Show @ Alamo Village,

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) Rattletree Copa Bar & Grill Al Stewart Cactus Cafe Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings Antone's The Slackers Flamingo Cantina Golden Arm Trio Lamberts

TOURS

- Sicily, Palermo, Taormina, Arigento June 5/13
- Rome, Amalfi Coast & Florence June 14/23
- Tuscany, Florence & Venice June 22/July 1
- Milan, Lake Como & Venice June 30/July 8

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www.ATasteOfItalyInAustin.com

EXHIBIT

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YOU'RE INVITED TO AN ART PART' & EXHIBIT OF NEW PAINTINGS, PHOTOGRAPHY AND SCULPTURE IN A SETTING OF MODERN RESIDENTIAL ARCHITECTURE BY METROHOUSE CURATED BY MARCY HOEN JANUARY 26TH, 6-10 PM **4011 LEWIS LANE**

(OPEN HOUSE AND ARTIST LECTURE) JANUARY 27TH, I-4PM

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Sports BY MARK FAGAN

THE HOME TEAMS

CHAMPIONSHIP MUSEUM AT THE UNIVERSITY CO-OP A new museum honoring UT women's sports is now open on the second floor of the University Co-op on the Drag. Visitors can see the LIT women's national championship team wall, conference and national championship trophies, Olympic medals, and more, and view a 15-minute DVD celebrating the accomplishments of UT women's athletics. University Co-op, 2246 Guadalupe, 476-7211. www.texassports.com.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Men's Basketball Vs. Panhandle State: Thu., Jan. 31, 8pm. St. Edward's RCC. \$5 (\$3 seniors/students; \$1, under 12). Women's Basketball Vs. Panhandle State: Thu., Jan. 31, 6pm. St. Edward's RCC. \$5 (\$3 seniors/students; \$1, under 12). www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm

AUSTIN ICE BATS For more on the Bats, see austinchronicle.com/sports, Vs. Texas: Fri., Jan. 25, 7:35pm. Vs. Wichita: Wed., Jan. 30, 7:35pm. Chaparral Ice Arena, 14200 N. I-35, 927-7825. \$9-35. www.icebats.com.

Contains the Holy Lonestar Rollergirls The 2008 season begins! 2007 Cavello Cup champs, the Holy Rollers, bash it out with the All Scar Army. Live music from Sabbath Crow and Splithoof. Sun., Jan. 27, 6pm (doors). Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs. \$15, \$13 presale. www.txrd.com.

AUSTIN TOROS For more on the Toros see austinchronicle.com/sports. Vs. Colorado: Thu., Jan. 7pm, Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, \$8-23, www.nba.com/dleague/austin.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Men's Baskethall Vs. Sul Ross State: Thu., Ian. 24, 7:30pm, Vs. Howard Payne: Sat., Jan. 26, 3pm. Vs. Texas Lutheran: Thu., Jan. 31, 7:30pm. Women's Basketball Vs. Sul Ross State: Thu., Jan. 24, 5:30pm. Vs. Howard Payne: Sat., Jan. 26, 1pm. Vs. Texas Lutheran: Thu., Jan. 31, 5:30pm. athletics.concordia.edu.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS For more on UT basketball, see "Playing Through" at right. Men's Basketball Vs. Texas Tech: Sat., Jan. 26, 7pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. Women's Basketball Vs. Missouri: Sat., Jan. 26, 1pm. Erwin Center. Men's Tennis Vs. SMU: Sat., Jan. 26, 1pm. Vs. Clemson: Sun., Jan. 27, 1pm. Penick-Allison Tennis Center, 1701 Trinity. www.texassports.com

RECREATION & FITNESS

ROUND ROCK WOMEN'S SPRING SOCCER Register now for the Round Rock Women's Soccer League. Open to ladies 18 and up. Check their website for info on free scrimmages, their 40-plus division, and more. Old Settler's Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley. www.rrwsl.org.

NATIONAL CHAMPS ALUMNI CLINIC Former Longhorn baseball players will host this youth baseball clinic on behalf of the YMCA of Greater Williamson County. It's open to boys and girls in first through eighth grade. Registration includes a clinic T-shirt and a Longhorns baseball cap. Limited to 80 kids. Sat., Jan. 26, 1-3:30pm. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley. \$60 (\$40. YMCA family members). www.roundrockexpress.com, www.ymcagwc.org.

ACC WINTER GOLF CLASSES No experience is necessary to start learning the fundamentals of this gentlemanly game. Group classes forming in February and March for Saturday and weekday classes. Register by calling 223-7542 or visiting www.austincc.edu/ce. \$82.

SPORTS COMPLEX IMPROVEMENT PROJECT GROUNDBREAKING The city of Round Rock invites you to "swing" on by to help celebrate the groundbreaking of this new renovation projections. ect. Improvements to the ball fields and softball complex are to include "lit batting cages at each complex, a drainage detention pond to help with runoff, a championship field with warning track and bullpens ... and additional playgrounds." Fri., Jan. 25, 4-5pm. Old Settler's Park, 3300 E. Palm Valley, at the softball field site. www.roundrocktexas.gov.

MOJO KICKBALL incorporates elements of dodgeball, tag, and flag football. Read the rules online, or show up early (1:30pm) for the tutorial. Sun., Jan. 27, 2pm. Krieg Softball Complex field No. 6, 515 S. Pleasant Valley. Free. www.mojokickball.com.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

😭 3M HALF MARATHON & RELAY This 13.1-mile race, in its 14th year, has it all. The chiptimed run offers long straightaways; a great goodie bag; water every other mile; power drinks at miles four, eight, and 12; entertainment, medical support; food at the finish; and more, Sun., Jan. 27, 7am. Arboretum area to Downtown, 984-7223. www.3mhalfmarathon.com.

News of the century! Well, okay, it's a young century so far, but truly, not since the Round Rock Express started operations back in '99 has Austin made such a splash on the national sports scene. The United Soccer Leagues announced Wednesday that the **Austin Aztex** have been awarded the newest USL First Division franchise. That puts Austin in the same league as the

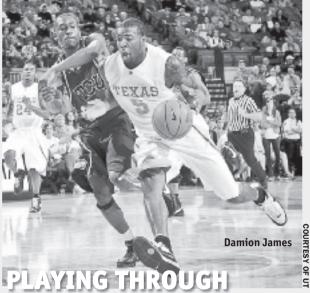
Seattle Sounders, Rochester

Rhinos, Vancouver Whitecaps, and others in the top U.S. pro league below Major League Soccer, starting in 2009.

Unlike any soccer team Austin's had before, this one is fully professional. And they'll start out with proven top-level management and connections to the top levels of international football: Owner **Phil Rawlins**. an Austin resident, is also an owner and director of Stoke City Football Club, with whom the Aztex immediately announced affiliation. Stoke chief executive Tony Scholes called that "an easy decision for Stoke City. We feel certain that

the Aztex will be a major success both in Austin and nationally and look forward to a long and mutually profitable relationship."

As part of the deal, the Aztex absorb the Premier Development League Austin Lightning as their U23 youth team. The Aztex U23 team will play in the PDL Mid South Division, where the Lightning played last year. That season starts around May 1; reportedly the USL put off setting the final PDL schedule until this deal could be announced. More online. - Nick Barbaro



BY THOMAS HACKETT

"Put Damion in!" someone yelled with a minute left in the first half and the University of Texas struggling against Colorado. No, the shout hadn't come from Damion James himself, though it might have.

"I was begging to be put back in," said the 6-foot-7-inch forward, benched for all but a couple of minutes of the half after picking up two quick fouls. "I knew when I got back in the game, I was going to bring it."

And so he did. In the first eight minutes of the second half on Saturday, Texas erased a 9-point deficit to take a commanding 9-point lead. James scored only 6 of those points - it was hardly his best night of the season. Yet with his eight rebounds, he was the difference maker.

That comes as no surprise to Dr. David Berri, even though he has never seen James play. Berri is an economist and co-author of The Wages of Win, a mathematical analysis of basketball performance that turns a lot of conventional wisdom on its head. For example, individual scoring isn't that big of a deal, according to Berri. The NBA's Allen Iverson scores a lot, but he also misses a lot. What matters is overall efficiency, and for all his flair, Iverson is an incredibly inefficient player who doesn't really help his

I had called Berri to understand why the Longhorns are playing exactly as well this year (they're 15-3) as they did last year, when they had the best college player in the country in Kevin Durant. I thought D.J. Augustin had to be the reason: To my eyes, the kid is clutch, averaging 20 points and six assists a game. But nope, that's not it. According to a metric that Berri and his co-authors call a "win score." the biggest reason the Longhorns have been able to pick up where Durant left off is James.

Last season Augustin had a win score of .149. So far this year, it's .182 - an improvement but nothing compared to James' .393, which is within spitting distance of Durant's score of .403.

"It's important to understand that when Kevin Durant is not there, somebody else is going to take those shots," Berri explained. "The question is: Are they doing that and the other things that create wins efficiently?"

With most things we do in life, performance is difficult to accurately assess: The data can be limited, the criteria arbitrary, and the analysis subjective. That's one appeal of sports: Objective measures reign supreme. If you don't score more points than the other team, you lose. Even so, in a complex and fluid team sport like basketball, individual performance is still hard to separate from team performance. We know who won the game, but without meaningful statistical analysis, we just don't know why. We don't know who is responsible.

For his part, James doesn't tout his stats and seems a bit surprised that some economist out in California would. Surprised but flattered.

"I don't think about Damion James," he says. "I just try to bring some energy and production when I'm out there and help the Longhorns win. It's a team thing."

Sunday 27

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

ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN Bring a tasty dish for this special meeting of the ESOA featuring the folks from Austin Progressive Potluckers. 10am-12:30pm. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. Free. contact@esoa.org, www.esoa.org.

NOBELITY ARTISTS & FILMMAKERS DINNER

Turk and Christy Pipkin, the filmmakers behind the award-winning documentary Nobelity, host tonight's dinner featuring Nobel Prize-winner Steve Weinberg Pulitzer Prize-winner Lawrence Wright, and musicians Shawn Colvin, Ray Wylie Hubbard, and the Dixie Chicks' Martie Maguire. Proceeds benefit the Pipkins' follow-up film One Peace at a Time as well as the Nobelity Project, a nonprofit working with Nobel laureates to solve pressing global problems 6-9pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 451-7770. \$500-1.000.

PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM presents special guest Leslie McCulloch, who will talk about the past and present efforts to create a cabinet-level U.S. Department of Peace. 11:30am-12:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.austinuu.org.

ST. AUSTIN CATHOLIC PARISH'S 100TH ANNIVER-SARY Join the the Rev. Bishop Gregory Aymond for a special thanksgiving mass in celebration of this historic church's long-running local legacy. 11:30am. St. Austin Catholic Church, 2026 Guadalupe, 477-9471.

PERMACULTURE BASICS WEEKEND (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Amadeus: Director's Cut @ Alamo Lake Creek,

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) Robin Trower La Zona Rosa Pharoahe Monch The Parish

Monday



AUSTIN BUTTERFLY FORUM features a presentation on the recent El Cielo Butterfly Festival in Tamaulipas, Mexico. 7pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 477-8672. Free. wv austinbutterflies.org.

BRAZILIAN POPULAR MUSIC Music scholar Martha de Ulhoa hosts this four-day noncredit course. Mondays & Wednesdays, Jan. 28-Feb. 6, 11am-12:30pm. UT campus, School of Music, MRH 3.314, 471-0777. Free. cjt@mail.utexas.edu.

EAT PRAY LOVE BOOK CELEBRATION Inspired by the bestselling book *Eat Pray Love*, tonight's celebration features all three. Bring an appetizer to share from one of the three regions featured in the book (Italy, India, or Indonesia), treat yourself to some tasty gelato, make your own mala beads and prayer cards, and enjoy a Lululemon trunk show. Austin Kula Yoga, 2415 Exposition, 542-3334. \$5. www.austinkulayoga.com.

INFORMATION SESSION: ACTON MBA IN ENTREPRENEURSHIP Learn what the Acton MBA program has to offer at this alumni panel discussion, and meet the program's current teachers and students. 6-7:30pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 495-9925. Free. jblanchard@actonmba.org, www.actonmba.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@ageofaustin.org

WINEBAT BLIND WINE TASTING features six Australian wine-and-appetizer pairings prepared by chef Charles Bloemsma. 7-8:30pm. Green Pastures 811 W. Live Oak, 961-6151 or 877/WINE-709. \$25 (plus tax & gratuity). www.winebat.com.

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) T-Bird & the Breaks Antone's

S@ccer

Ongoing Events

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 for application and details. Deadline: Feb. 15.

VALLEY LAND FUND WILDLIFE PHOTO CONTEST With 98% of Texas' lands privately owned, the future of the state's wildlife lies, for better or worse, in the hands of property owners. This annual photography competition rewards these environmental stewards for good behavior by pairing them with talented photographers who will capture on film the natural beauty of their wildlife-friendly properties. Participants are eligible to win \$130,000 in prizes for their work. See www.vallevlandfund.com for details. Registration: through Feb. 29.

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

FREE MONTH OF MARTIAL ARTS The Life Ki-Do Martial Arts & Life Education school teaches tai chi and qigong classes as well as martial arts classes combining elements of tai chi, qigong, Brazilian jujitsu, and Systema Russian. Right now, you may register to try out their classes for a full month for free. Through Feb. 28. Martial arts: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7-8pm; Sundays, 3-5pm. Tai chi/quigong: Tuesdays & Thursdays, 6-7pm. Westover Hills Club, 8706 Westover Club Dr., 215-0064. info@lifekido.com. www.lifekido.com.

KEEP AUSTIN BEAUTIFUL RAFFLE This month, you can win prizes for supporting Keep Austin Beautiful's environmental stewardship. Three lucky raffle winners will receive a pair of mountain bikes, a Dell laptop, and a certificate for professional landscaping. See www.keepaustinbeautiful.org to purchase your tickets. Drawing: Feb. 6. \$10 (\$50, six tickets).

CALLING ALL DIVAS. DOMINATRIXES, KINGS, QUEENS, AND COQUETTES The upcoming Hot Thang! A Valentines Ball is looking for volunteers to help out with various ushering, setting-up, and striking duties as well as entertainers interested in performing in the interactive maze. Call for details. Feb. 14. Monarch Event Center, 6406 N. I-35 #3100, 928-5864.

THE FACE OF TEXAS features a series of portrait photos from the book of the same name, all taken by award-winning Austin photographer Michael O'Brien. Through June 7. Seton Medical Center, Art & Healing Gallery, 1201 W. 38th.

STARS OF ENERGY EFFICIENCY AWARDS Do you know of any organizations or individuals who have shown extraordinary commitment to the cause of energy efficiency? Visit www.ase.org/nom for details on nominating them for recognition from the Alliance to Save Energy. Deadline: March 28.

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING CENTRAL TEXAS FOOD DRIVE Visit one of 59 participating HEB or Randalls grocery stores to participate in this benefit for the Capital Area Food Bank either by making a cash donation or by purchasing a prepackaged bag of food for donation to someone in need. See www.souperbowl.org for participating locations. Through Feb. 3.

YELLOW BIKE PROJECT CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS YBP needs help repairing mountain bikes for the kids at Bedicheck Middle School who are enrolled in the Citizen Schools Program. E-mail if you'd like to help out. austinyellowbike@gmail.com, www.austinyellowbike.org.

THIS WEEK ONLY

GROOVEE FORTUNE WEB CRAFTY CHALLENGE As far as we can tell, here's how it works: You submit an idea for a website by Jan. 31. Ten finalists will be chosen from among the idea submitters to compete in the Web Crafty Challenge by doing ... well, we're not sure. You might have to make something with glitter and puffballs, according to the contest website (the deadline for that part is Feb. 29). Then, the winner, to be announced March 8, wins their very own Web page. Presumably there are no Web skills whatsoever required for this contest. See www.grooveefortune.com/contest for more. Deadline: Jan. 31. 587-7183. Free. scarlotharlot@hotmail.com

LOCKS OF LOVE HAIR DRIVE Every Tuesday through Thursday at Avant Salon this month, you may donate your hair to kids in need. Your hair will be made into a wig for a child who has lost hair due to illness, and in exchange, you'll get your hair shampooed, cut, and styled for free. Call to make your appointment. Through Jan. 31. Avant: 318 Colorado, 472-6357; 9901 Capital of TX Hwy, 502-8268.

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

TEXAS GROW HOME DESIGN COMPETITION EXHIBIT showcases the 160 designs submitted by architects, affordable-housing developers, policy leaders, and Hurricane Rita survivors in the Texas Grow competition. The three winning designs will be built and sold with interest-free mortgage loans to Hurricane Rita survivors who lost their homes. Winners will be announced Thu., Jan. 31, noon, in the Capitol ground-floor rotunda. Jan. 25-31. Texas state Capitol, 1100 Congress, 305-8400

WIN A LIVING ROOM MAKEOVER Apply now to win a complete redesign of your living room by a team of carpenters, painters, and interior designers brought to you by Goodwill and Your Address magazine. (Applicants must be homeowners with living rooms no larger than 500 square feet.) See www.austingoodwill.org for details. Deadline: Jan. 31.

discussing New Frontiers in Biblical Studies, at this annual Austin Area Interreligious Ministries event. The AAIM folks invite you to join them in taking a look back over the past year as well as forward to what the 2008 calendar has in store. 7pm. King-Seabrook Chapel, Huston-Tillotson University, 900

GERMAN STAMMTISCH A weekly brown-bag lunch for anyone wanting to practice their German or just show it off. *Thursdays, noon-1pm.* German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. Free. info@germantexans.org, www.germantexans.org.

RECOVERY INC. MEETINGS For anyone suffering from anxiety, depression, anger, phobias, or other emotional problems. *Mondays*, 7:30-9pm: Unity Church of the Hills, 9905 Anderson Mill Rd. Thursdays, 7:30-9pm: St. Catherine of Siena Catholic Church, Parish Office Building, room 210, 4800 Convict Hill. 233-0650. Free. www.recovery-inc.org.

COME BACK TO GARRISON UT re-opens Garrison Hall today with the inauguration of the Institute for Historical Studies. Throughout the day, renowned faculty will be discussing such top ics as: Torture, Past and Present: Rewriting the Vietnam War: New Evidence from the Johnson Library: Bubble and Bust: Lessons from Japan: The Second World War in Global Perspective: The Normandy Scholar Program Looks at a Turning Point in World History; Jesus at the Movies, The Silent Era. 10am-5:30pm, Garrison Hall; 4-7pm reception at the UT Tower; free. 7pm dinner, \$65. Full schedule at www.utexas.edu/cola/depts/history/comeback/schedule/

BUSINESS STRUCTURE WORKSHOP The city of Austin Small Business Development Program hosts this class on how to determine the best structure for your business. 9am-noon. International Center of Austin, 201 E. Second, 974-7800, \$30. stacev.mason@ci.austin.tx.us. www.citvofaustin.org/sbdp

FIGHT PROPOSED NUCLEAR PLANTS IN TEXAS This presentation from Nuclear Free Texas features information about two new plants proposed for Texas and how you can help block them. 8pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. www.nukefreetexas.org.

WINTER BACKYARD BIRDS There are some birds that winter only in Austin. Why do they have such good taste? Find out this evening from John Kelly of the Travis Audubon Society. 7-8pm. REI, 9901 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 482-3357. Free.

YOUNG NONPROFIT PROFESSIONALS NETWORK BREAKFAST TALK-O What will nonprofits do in the face of statistics suggesting that much of the industry's executive leadership will be retiring or quitting in the next few years? Perhaps you'll figure it out in this morning's discussion moderated by YNPN. 7:30-8:30am. Leadership Austin Conference Room, 1609 Shoal Creek Blvd. #202. Free. rachel.christ@alumni.utexas.net, www.ynpn.org/austin.

GERMAN FREE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

(See Thursday 1/24.) MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

The Bangles La Zona Rosa Velvet Revolver Stubb's Bee vs. Moth Carousel Lounge Nicky Click Chain Drive Grand Champeen's 15th Anniversary Beerland



Tuesday

DANALYNN MEDIA previews two upcoming business classes today: Salesmanship Incubator (for anyone looking for new sales approaches) and Soul of Entrepreneurship (for newbie businessmen and -women). 7-9pm. DanaLynn Media Offices, 1511 E. Sixth, 320-8611. Free. dlminney@gmail.com, www.danalynnmedia.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. elsa@atasteofitalyinaustin.com, www.atasteofitalyinaustin.com.

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.

PHILANTHROPY DAY LUNCHEON The Association of Fundraising Professionals hosts this annual luncheon to honor those who've had the most positive impact over the last year on the quality of life in Central Texas. 11:30am-1pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 485-5999. \$75 (\$60, AFP member), www.afpaustin.org.

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING SEMINAR Learn about the various loan guaranty programs and free resources available to small businesses through the U.S. Small Business Administration. Call to RSVP. Noon-1pm. City of Austin Small Business Development Program Office, 505 Barton Springs Rd., 974-7800. Free. www.sba.gov.

TOWN HALL MEETING: CITY WEBSITE REDESIGN Surely you've got some idea of how the city of Austin website can be improved - tonight's meeting is the first of six inviting you to share your thoughts. 6pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2220.

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) **Gram Rabbit** The Parish Code Rainbow! Red 7

Wednesday 30

ARTIST INFO MEETING: BRAZOS STREET-SCAPE PROJECT Wanna make a contribution to the artistic concepts behind the Brazos corridor design? Attend tonight's meeting to take a tour of the area, listen to a presentation from the city of Austin Public Works project manager overseeing the streetscape project, and find out more about how artists can participate, 7-8pm, International Center of Austin. 201 E. Second, 974-9314. www.cityofaustin.org/aipp.

CO-DEPENDENTS ANONYMOUS is a 12-step program for people interested in overcoming co-dependence and developing healthy relationships. Tuesdays, 7pm; Riverbend Church, 4214 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 263-1037. Wednesdays, 7pm; Garden Terrace Residence, 1015 W. William Cannon, 243-0884; Fridays, 6:30pm; Shoal Creek Hospital, 3501 Mills, 243-0884. sunny55@austin.rr.com

AUSTIN PERMACULTURE GUILD WINTER TALK SERIES brings you a talk from Dick Pierce, Texology: Know This/Your Place, about how Austin came its unique soil, water, and climate. 7-9pm. Habitat Suites, 500 E. Highland Mall Blvd., 619-5363. www.austinprogressivecalendar.com, www.permie.us.

CENTRAL TEXAS GROWTH SUMMIT Sen. Kirk Watson leads this luncheon presentation on how regional trends are likely to affect Central Texans in the upcoming years. Register online. 11am-1:30pm. Hilton Hotel Downtown, 500 E. Fourth, 485-5999. \$60. www.bizjournals.com/austin.

GROUNDHOG DAY CELEBRATION Master Pancake's Ben Bartley joins his wife, family therapist Megan Bartley, in hosting this special screening of Bill Murray's Groundhog Day (accompanied by an appropriately repetitive multicourse meal) to benefit the **Austin Family Institute**'s work providing affordable mental-health services to those in need. 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 329-6611. \$60. www.originalalamo.com.

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. www.trla.org.

ME TARZAN, YOU JANE explores the differences in how men and women communicate. 7-9pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. Free. www.humanpotentialcenter.org

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB brings you award-winning writer and speaker Tweed Scott, who'll explain the "Texas psyche" in Inventing Texas, 7-8:30am, UT Club, Darrell Royal Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 479-9460. \$15-25 (includes breakfast/parking). www.mbcaustin.org.

SPEED-DATING ON AUSTIN'S WEIRDEST BIKE Not Your Usual Bikes hosts this romantic ride for bike lovers looking for something (or someone) else to love. The ride starts at Romeo's, where you'll be treated to an appetizer for two. (Ages 21-28: 7-8pm; ages 29 & up: 8-9pm.) 7-9pm. Romeo's, 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 740-7504. \$10. info@notyourusualbikes.com, www.notyourusualbikes.com.

BILINGUAL POWER YOGA FLOW (See Sunday.)

OFFSCREEN (See Arts Listings.) The Network Austin Mixer Mother Egan's

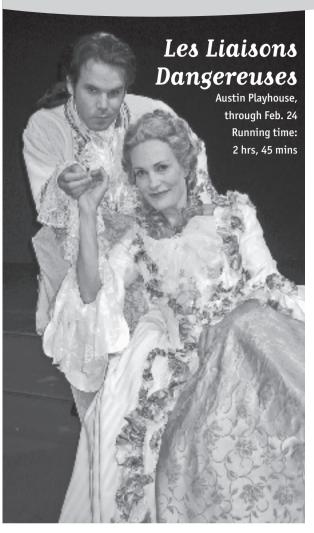
SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Films and Videos by Scott Stark @ Austin Studios, 7pm Groundhog Day @ Alamo South, 7pm

Thursday 🕄 🗓

BISHOP E.T. DIXON BLACK HISTORY MONTH LECTURE Cain Hope Felder, renowned theologian, writer, and editor of The Journal of Religious Thought, kicks off Black History Month this afternoon as Huston-Tillotson's distinguished Dixon lecturer. The New Testament language professor and recipient of the Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Award will be discussing Africa, African-Americans, and the Bible, 2pm, Agard-Lovinggood Auditorium, Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 505-3146. Free. rrjones@htu.edu, www.htu.edu.

AAIM ANNUAL MEETING In case you missed award-winning scholar Cain Hope Felder speaking as Huston-Tillotson's Bishop F.T. Dixon lecturer. this afternoon, you can still catch him tonight,

arts listings



Christopher Hampton's Les Liaisons Dangereuses, adapted from the novel of the same title, is a brilliantly written play - a tragedy masquerading as a comedy of manners. The language is delicious to hear, and the characters' machinations are fun to watch. Underneath its shiny surface, this world is savage. In the end, every single character is destroyed in one dark way or another. Austin Playhouse's lively production makes for a satisfying night at the theatre. The gorgeous costumes, the harpsichord intervals, and the smart set feed together into a world that exposes the cruelty of a mannered culture. Although some of the script's nuances are lost, all the broad strokes are in place.

Set in Paris in the 1780s, the play centers around the relationship between the Marquise de Merteuil and the Vicomte to Valmont, two born plotters. When we meet them, they are

devising their next schemes. Merteuil hopes to get revenge on a former lover, while Valmont aspires to ruin a virtuous woman. Over the course of the play, their plots weave together, and they are both partners and opponents. One brilliant aspect of the script is the way it makes the audience complicit in the schemers' crimes. In one scene, a young virgin is essentially raped by Valmont, leaving us horrified by him and by the scenario. In the very

next scene, however, Merteuil convinces the girl (and the audience) that this is a good thing, that in the end she will find great freedom in the arts of lovemaking and deceit. We find ourselves accepting things that should not be accepted. Such is often the case when the hero and heroine of a play are also the villains. They take pleasure in the destruction of lives, scoring each new victory against their previous conquests. Ultimately, Valmont and Merteuil are not above the effects of their own games. In discovering his own capacity to love. Valmont sets in motion his eventual (and bizarrely sudden) death. Like a cockroach. Merteuil is one of the few creatures left standing after everything has been destroyed, but one gets the sense that she has not made herself happy.

The direction by Don and Lara Toner creates a cohesive world. The elaborate costumes by Buffy Manners match the set, which is sparse but well-employed. The few pieces of furniture and a changing backdrop serve to create many different settings. The result is a monochromatic mural of manners - little splashes of color here and there, but mostly one big cage. The cast is strong, and though there was some fumbling of the language on opening night, overall the actors live very comfortably and believably in this other world. Babs George plays Merteuil, and the production rests happily on her shoulders. She is so vibrant and ruthless, even in silence, that it is hard to take your eyes off her. As Valmont, Gray Haddock is improbably charming. His wig is a mess, and he is not confident in his posturing, but what Haddock lacks in physical prowess, he makes up for in verbal skill, being at total ease with the language. As the virtuous Tourvel, Janet Hurley Kimlicko is powerful in her piety. The minor roles in this play are well-cast and well-fulfilled. Jessie Tilton, who plays Cecile, the bubbly doomed virgin, is lovely in both her joy and her sadness. Danceny, played by David Gallagher, is breathlessly eager to be Cecile's lover. In minor roles, Amber Dupuy is deft with the language, Ben Wolfe provides great comic relief, and Mary Agen Cox is an anchor of sobriety in this volatile world of whims.

The only shortcomings are in the nuances of the intricate script. Haddock nails the rakish aspects of Valmont, but the character lacks sincerity, and Valmont's sincerity is a hinge for some major plot twists. Similarly, Hurley Kimlicko's Tourvel is so extreme in her virtue as to be sexless, making it hard to buy her free fall into sin. However, Hampton's script is strong enough to provide the total picture. There are some jaw-droppingly eloquent lines. In a fierce monologue about the role to which women are condemned in society, Merteuil says, "I learned how to look cheerful while under the table I stuck a fork into the back of my hand." When breaking the heart of a victim, Valmont says, "I just can't bring myself to regret leaving you." There's nothing like a well-phrased dagger to the heart. Austin Playhouse's Les Liaisons Dangereuses provides a pleasurable escape from our world of straight talk and minimal etiquette. But what one finds is that etiquette is a most dangerous weapon. - Hannah Kenah

Theatre

OPENING

AMERICA: LOVE OUT OF CONTEXT The Austin Project Performance Company presents a word-andmovement-based work that "challenges audiences to question what it means to be an American." Fri., Jan. 25, 8pm. UT's Winship Building, #2.180. 803-4332. Donations accepted.

www.americaloveoutofcontext.blogspot.com.

PORGY AND BESS The classic musical by the Gershwins, reinvented along the lines of Ray Charles, Ella Fitzgerald, and Louis Armstrong and directed by Dave Steakley? It's likely to be such a hot and jazzy time, Zach Scott Theatre might just spontaneously combust. David Jennings and Marva Hicks lead a big cast of talents in this roof-raising revival. (See "Jazzin' up Catfish Row," p.36, for more.) Jan. 25-Feb. 3. Wed.-Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2 & 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre Center, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. www.zachscott.com.

CATHERINE OF SIENA: A WOMAN FOR OUR TIMES Dominican nun Sister Nancy Murray performs her acclaimed one-act play about the life of St. Catherine of Siena. Fri., Jan. 25, 7pm. UT Catholic Center, 2010 University Ave. 476-7351. Free. www.utcatholic.org.

DOOMSDAY WRESTLING: THE PINK MENACE

Didn't get enough of hilarious faux wrestling from last year's Assumption? These crazy brawlers might even go that masterpiece one better, coming up from Houston to wreak massive havoc between the ring ropes to devastate all comers with such scientific maneuvers as the Atomic Knee Drop, the Flying Leg Scissors, perhaps even the dreaded Cobra Clutch of Ivan "the Russian Bear" Koloff. Pimped by avant-music powerhouse Church of the Friendly Ghost, this'll be an unbeatable night of mirth and mayhem. Sat., Jan. 26, 9pm. Salvage

Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$15 (\$12, in advance). www.doomsdaywrestling.com.

HENRY V The Velvet Rut Theatre Company, under the direction of Japhy Fernandes (who also plays the title role), provides a, we reckon, unique look at Shakespeare's classic of war and leadership. Jan. 31-Feb. 23. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Velvet Rut, 1612 E. Seventh, 236-1092. Donations accepted

THE SHAPE OF THINGS City Theatre presents this dark comedy by Neil LaBute that shakes up the lives of a trio of friends and explores modern love. jealousy, and (of course: It's LaBute) manipulation. Directed by Skip Johnson. Jan. 31-Feb. 10. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5:30pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 524-2870. \$15-25 (\$12, students; pay what you can, Thursdays). www.citytheatreaustin.org.

CLOSING

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. 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.

ONGOING

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. Through Feb. 2. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. 474-8497. \$15-30. www.main.org/diffstages

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. Feb. 10 & 17, 7pm. Continental Club gallery, 1315 S. Congress. Free.

LES LIAISONS DANGEREUSES Austin Playhouse presents Christopher Hampton's stage adaptation of the sexy French novel by Choderlos de Laclos. Co-directed by Don and Lara Toner, featuring Babs George as La Marquise de Merteuil, Gray G. Haddock as Valmont, and Janet Hurley Kimlicko as Tourvel. (See review above.) Through 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.

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 Caligula 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.

SHAKESPEARE IN HOLLYWOOD It's 1934, and Shakespeare's most famous fairies, Oberon and Puck, have magically materialized on the Warner Bros. Hollywood set of Max Reinhardt's A Midsummer Night's Dream. Instantly smitten by the glitz and glamour of show biz, the two are ushered onto the silver screen to play themselves ... and hilarity ensues. Written by Ken Ludwig, directed by Lynn Beaver. Through Feb. 9. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Sam Bass Community Theatre, 600 N. Lee, Round Rock, 512/244-0440. www.sambasstheatre.com

DINNER THEATRE

A CRUISE SHIP CRIME Gary Payne and his madcap Capital City Mystery Players present this 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.

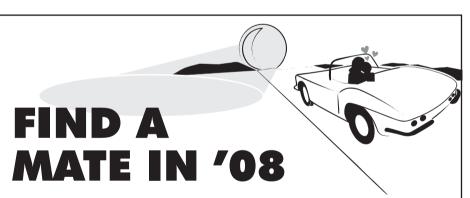
THEATRE CALL BOARD

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

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 1year-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 o: Girls Girls Girls: LAFF, PO Box 301026, Austin, TX 78703. Deadline: Feb. 15.







Start your new year right by turning onto Lovers Lane, the Chronicle's online community for hooking up with real people from the Austin area. On Lovers Lane you can read profiles, look at pictures, and listen to voice greetings from people right here in Austin – absolutely free. You can also place your own profile, upload pictures, and record a voice greeting for free. You could be meeting new, interestingt people right now. Check out Lovers Lane at austinchronicle.com/loverslane. Plus, if you place a profile with a picture before 5pm Monday, Feb. 4, you could win a \$150 gift certificate to TABU!

Place a profile with a picture on LOVERS LANE and you could win a GIFT CERTIFICATE to TABU!!!





austinchronicle.com/loverslane



AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART

Roy Lichtenstein Prints 1956-97

HE COULD TURN WORDS INTO POP ICONS...



laguna gloria Grounded

SATURDAY, JANUARY 26, 1 PMJoin exhibition artist Marjorie Moore for a tour of her work in *Laguna Gloria Grounded* to learn how the site inspired her works. Tour starts in the Villa.

AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART

Laguna Gloria • 3809 W. 35th St.
Austin, TX 78703

512.458.8191 • www.amoa.org

Downtown • 823 Congress Ave.
Suite 100 • Austin, TX 78701

512.495.9224 • www.amoa.org

DRISCOLL VILLA

Tuesday—Sunday 10—4

Sunday 11—5

Tuesday—Saturday 10—6

Thursday 10—8

512.495.9224 • www.amoa.org

Sunday Noon—5

Roy Lichtenstein, Reverie (from 11 Pop Artists, Volume II), 1965, Screenprint, edition 81/200, 30 1/8 X 24 inches, Collection of the Jordan Schnitzer Family Foundation, 2001.88d, © 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 Estebes and Riley Estebes de Silva, A Look...for Love Foundation, Institute of Museum and Library Services, Kate Ludeman and Eddie Erlandson, Mattsson-McHale Foundation, The Moody Foundation, Nordstrom, Bettye and Bill Nowlin, donors to the Education Fand 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

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FronteraFest Short Fringe Week One

Hyde Park Theatre, Jan. 19 Running Time: 2 hrs, 25 min



The 2008 FronteraFest Short Fringe kicked off last week with a sold-out show for Saturday's Best of the Week compilation. A large group of waiting-list hopefuls milled about in the Hyde Park Theatre foyer to see if they could catch the five pieces deigned the cream of the first week's crop.

"Brain Big" tells the tale of Big, a woman reading a doomed woman's hospital chart when it slowly dawns on her that she's looking at her own body at death's door. Big then proceeds to narrate her journey to her deathbed: She started out a rail-thin, "heroin-chic" model before gaining too much weight for the camera. "Brain Big" has been abridged for FronteraFest, and you can feel the script's pages rushing by you - Big's descent into obesity happens at breakneck speed, with jobs, husbands, and friends coming and going quickly. It's a bit strange that a cautionary tale of obesity is delivered by an actor who still has a model-esque frame at the end of the production, but the nature of the festival perhaps prevented more extreme measures than representational water jugs as added weight.

"The Weiner Chronicles" is a gay man's take on The Vagina Monologues. In six vignettes, Alex Garza portrays six different men concerned with - you guessed it - weiners. Garza delves into the formative experiences of homosexuality with a comic eye, bashfully explaining the pain of a gay man losing his virginity and describing how sex with a girl on her period helped complete his conversion. Garza also has one serious contemplation: an exploration of a gay man's remorse at not having a son. Full of energy and humorous insight, "The Weiner Chronicles" leaves no inch of the weiner unexamined.

The first director I ever had told me this important adage: 'Never go onstage with an animal or a baby - you'll always be upstaged." ColdTowne's Arthur Simone, however, has thrown such caution to the wind with his improv show Buddy Daddy, featuring just a man and his dog. Luckily, Simone knows how to handle both an audience and Robin Goodfellow, his adorable beagle/dachshund mix. Armed with only the suggestions "beach" and "Doublemint gum," Simone created scenes for himself and his

pooch that varied from vacationing honeymooners to soldiers in battle to a nail salon. Robin, whose disposition changes from mild discontent only when he's offered a dog treat, can slay an audience just by sitting on his bed. It's nice to have an easy escape button in Robin's precious puppy eyes, but Simone's considerable comedic talent made Buddy Daddy a hilarious hit.

Continuing the canine theme, Hank Schwemmer's "Ballet for Dog and Red-Haired Girl" tells the story of self-proclaimed "jigsaw puzzle oracle" Marlys, 15, and her dog, Dale, born on the very same day. This aged pooch, however, is played by David Yeakle (replete with a definitively doggy bandana). The play is set at 4:33 on the day John Cage died, and something of Cage's esoteric, avant-garde style certainly dwells in this piece: "Ballet" reveals itself in strange, sharp pieces, with the narration bouncing between the philosophizing, Chinese-speak ing scientist of a dog and the precocious puzzle teen. Though at times a bit too philosophical, "Ballet" captivates because it has something at stake. There's conflict, something to be lost, something urgent, and its climax didn't disappoint.

Kelli Bland's "A Genuine Plea to My Insides" capped off the night with a cute, wonderful look at irritable bowel syndrome. Bland is irrepressibly bubbly onstage, with a "gee-shucks" demeanor even when talking about the pains that ravage her bowels (e.g., mucus in her stool). Bland proffered lots of lists about her struggle with IBS - the pros and cons of Zoloft, what it's like being off Zoloft, what she's tried to relieve her pains, etc. - then journeyed inside herself for a conversation with said irritable bowel. Her white clothes bathed with blotchy pinks and reds, Bland naively asked her guts questions like, "Insides, why do you hurt so much?" Bland's truth, subtle humor, and demeanor made "Insides" a perfect balance of comedy and genuine – at times painful – exploration.

The first week of Short Fringe brought packed houses, captivating shows, and the promise that the rest of the fest will be just as magical. Reserve your seats in advance, because it's a hot ticket to some hot shows. - Avimaan Syam

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. Comedy 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. 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. 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 – no longer than 25 minutes each – from locals and intrepid out-of-towners. The five-week juggernaut of short here are full-length works, too, in the Long Fringe that starts next week. Brilliant monologues? Plays in progress? Comedy 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.

SHORT FRINGE AT HYDE PARK THEATRE, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY

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 Jason Newman, and Unuck Watkins.
"Sublet," by Deborah Goldstein and Andrea
Middleton. "Dale Duncan," by Chris Sykes.

Fri., Jan. 25: "The Startling Story of My
Not Suicide as Told by the Creepy Suicide
Story Guy," by Paul B. Joiner. "That Diana
Look" monologues by Maggie Gallant.
"Thlank! the Musical!" by Girls Girls "[blank] the Musical!" by Girls Girls
Girls. "The Wager," by Janet Heimlich. "A
Breathing Machine for Carmella Beautain," by Rebecca Wadlinger.

Sat., Jan. 26: Best of the Week

Tue., Jan. 29: "A Life for Love and Pleasure: Remembering Mata Hari, by Miriam Robinson Gould. "The Artist Behind Closed Doors," by Jessica Arnold. "Pushkin Ploshit!," by Shelia Gordon. Parallelogramophonograph comedy improv. "Talk to Me Like the Rain," by Tennessee Williams.

Wed., Jan. 30: "Parents Are People, by Sarah Saltwick. "Based on the Lives of True American Heroes," by Jesse Donaldson. "Group Therapy," by Espie
Randolph. "A Necklace for Each of My
Lovers," by Meghan Dwyer. "Play It by Ear," by Leticia Rodriguez.

Thu., Jan. 31: "Plum," by Cris Edwards. Inu., Jan. 31: "Plum," by Cris Edwards.

I Snood Bear improv by Wesley Bain and Christina de Roos. "Grading on a Curve," by A.V. Phibes. "Stewardess," by Don Corr.

The Wussy Boy Chronicles Episode Four:

A New Hope." by Rid Poppa E A New Hope," by Big Poppa E.

916 Springdale, 479-PLAY

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 ... Thu., Jan. 31, 9:15pm; Sat., Feb. 2, 6:15pm; Sun., Feb. 3, noon.

Luna Tart Died (of a Broken Heart) by Laura **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 ness of the Fest musical. 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, Sat., Jan. 26, 8:30pm; Mon., Jan. 28, 8:45pm;

Lost/Found by Surface Tension Dance Group. (90 Lost/Found by Surface Iension 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. 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 - between him, a co-worker, and his crazy love triangle – petween nim, a co-worker, and fils computer. Thu., Jan. 24, 7pm; Sun., Jan. 27, noon; Tue., Jan. 29, 8:45pm; Sun., Feb. 3, 3:30pm.

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 ing and surreal one acts by Duncan Coe and Nigel O'Hearn. Sat., Jan. 26, 2:15pm; Thu., Jan. 31, 7pm;

The Mommy Confessions by Rhonda F. Kulhanek. (90 min.) A one-woman show of 12 characters strugging to survive their maternal lives, including a memaw raising her grandkids, a former beauty queen

Jack and the King by the Striking Players. (60 min.) Jack and the raing by the Striking Players. (ou mill.)
Austin Alexander's political satire questions authority
while making fun of it. Directed by Sesar Sandoval. while making run of it. Directed by Sesar Sandoval. Sat., Jan. 26, 4:30pm; Mon., Jan. 28, 7pm; Fri., Feb. 1, 11:30pm; Sun., Feb. 3, 7:45pm.

Prepare for Arrival and Cross Check by Steve Barney. (60 min.) This new work is based on the real-life experiences of flight attendants; atrocious passenger behavior, heartless airline management, postsenger penavior, neartiess airline management, post-9/11 flying, and more. Fri., Jan. 25, 9pm; Sun., Jan. 27, 6:30pm; Tue., Jan. 29, 7pm; Sun., Feb. 3, 1:45pm.

I Google Myself by Capital T Theatre. (90 min.) Jason Schafer's comedic thriller features three different men with the same name – a stalker, a gay porn star, and with the same name – a staiker, a gay point star, and a stoner mechanic – brought together by an internet search engine. Fri., Jan. 25, 10:45pm; Sun., Jan. 27, 4:15pm; Wed., Jan. 30, 9:15pm; Fri., Feb. 1, 7pm.

Paper Weight by UT doctoral and Master's of Fine Arts students. (90 min.) Michelle Dvoskin, Kristin Leahey, Elizabeth McKetta, Priscilla Sample, and Meg Sulivan portray diverse women (Virginia Woolf, Joan Nestle, Zelda Fitzgerald, Margo Jones, and Margaret Nestle, Zelda Fitzgerald, Margo Jones, and Margaret Rourke-White) in separate solo performances. Thu. Bourke-White) in separate solo performances. Thu, Jan. 24, 9pm; Sat., Jan. 26, 6:15pm; Wed., Jan. 30, 7pm; Sat., Feb. 2, noon.

BRING YOUR OWN VENUE AT THE HIDEOUT, 617 Congress, 479-PLAY.

Shoeless, or the Advantages of Not Knowing Shoeless, or the Advantages of Not Moswill Exactly Where You Are Going by Devin Moss and Exactly Where You are Going by Donald Barthelme. (75 Bree Perlman, from a story by Donald Barthelme. The Mosking America's favorite game show The Bree Perlman, from a story by Donald Barthelme. (15 min.) Who Am 1? is America's favorite game show. The stakes are too horrible to even talk about. The prize is a ridiculous compensation considering the infamy. Dreams shattered. Identities destroyed. Now, that's prepared the property set that the property set entertainment! Sat., Jan. 26, 8pm; Thu. Sat., Jan. 31-Feb. 2, 8pm. www.hydeparktheatre.org.

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100. 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com

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. And Joy Gohring opens. Jan. 24-26. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$5.50-44.95.

Bengt Washburn His first name is pronounced "bent," OK, and he's a former winner of the San Francisco Comedy Competition, and he tours the hell out of these United States. He's soon to hit Cap City, with opener **Paul Oddo**, because you can never have too many unusual names onstage at one time, am I right? Jan. 29-Feb. 2. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm. \$5.50-44.95

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803 Airport.

see.hear.speak. festival. Yes, the ColdTowne Comedy Complex shifts into a weekend's worth of overdrive with this third annual gathering of talent. Particularly? See our "But Wait – There's More" section for details!

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esthersfollies.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, with the incredible and – 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, ah ha ha, but he's making up for it by presenting a riotous group of comedians in a show of **Improvised Shakespeare** – said to be one hell of a Bardic hoot night. 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.

John Rabon is the man behind the Velv's popular Spite Club nights, and he's got a soulful of spite himself, spraying out in curious patterns across the dark, little stage, curses and calumny, witticisms as warped as a phildickian fortune cookie, might be just your cup of wormwood this weekend. Who opens? **Bryan Gutmann** and Shane Hebert open, actually. Fri.-Sat., Jan. 25-26, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.

Open Mic Night, God Help Us All This week's host: Shane Hebert. Thursdays, 10pm.

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

SEE.HEAR.SPEAK. FESTIVAL. ColdTowne Theater's third annual three-day festival celebrates comedy in alternative formats. It's fast approaching, with some of the nation's top talent, including internationally renowned improv artists Jill Bernard and Asaf Ronen, Second City's Tom Booker, and Austin's best performers. Bunch of afterparties. too, for post-show carousing.

The see section (Thu., Jan. 24) is a combo of video and comedy: Goldbergs, Studio8.net, McNichol & May at 8pm. The Trainees, the Cola Sisters, the P! Company at 10pm.

The **hear** section (*Fri., Jan. 25*) features a combo of live music and live comedy: **Chuck Watkins, Metal** With Madeline, Jill Bernard's Drum Machine, Le Sexy, the Fuzzy Carrot Nipples at 8pm. Aw Shit, Phil Aulie, Little Stolen Moments, Fred & Joel Show, Tom Booker at 10pm. Afterparty at Mohawk (912 Red River), featuring Alexanders Dark Band, Terp 2 It, and Best Fwends at 11pm.

The speak section (Sat., Jan. 26) features one-person showcases: Bryan Roberts, Bruto T. Clown (Jericho), Gentleman Brock, Keith Mannina, Ratgirl, Jastroch, Chris Trew, Jill Bernard at 8pm. Gentleman Brock, Buddy Daddy, chlmp, Jastroch, Jill Bernard at 10pm. ColdTowne Theater, 4803 Airport, 524-2807. \$10 per bloc of shows. www.seehearspeakfest.com

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.

DOOMSDAY WRESTLING: THE PINK MENACE

Imagine that pro wrestling, already over the top vis-a-vis costumes and faux-bellicose posturing and gymnastic shenanigans, was stylistically amplified ad absurdum to such hilarious effect that the Houston Press proclaimed it the "Best Comedy Show of 2007." Right. Now give your imagination a break, grappling fan, and head ringside to witness daunting displays of damage-inflicting derring-do, of incredible intestinal fortitude, inside the squared circle! Thrills, spills, spandex! For one night only! Sat., Jan. 26, 9pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. \$15 (\$12, in advance). www.doomsdaywrestling.com.

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. as well as entry-level females possessing outstanding dance talent and vibrant stage presence. Call for appointment. Through Jan. 31. 251-8122. www.prfdance.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

DANCE CAROUSEL Once again, as part of this year's FronteraFest Long Fringe, audiences can marvel at 40 dances in 40 minutes as area cho reographers 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. Call for reservations. 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

METAMORPHOSIS DANCE ENSEMBLE: JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH Roald Dahl's dazzling world intertwines imagination and reality, now through original dance (and enchanted bugs!). Melanie Kregel and Erin Mayo have choreographed an amusing, moving version of this childhood (and adulthood) favorite. Jan. 25-27. Fri., 7:30pm; Sat., 2:30 & 7:30pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 474-8497. \$12 (\$10, children). www.texasperforms.com.

1,001 NIGHTS

TROUPE MIRAGE Austin's longest running Middle Eastern dance show. This week's guests are Sharla and Troupe Eshta. Thu., Jan. 24, 7:30pm. Texas Union, UT campus, 24th & Guadalupe. Free. www.troupemirage.com.

TWO LEFT FEET

PHERTO RICAN FOLKLORIC DANCE & CHITHRAL **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.prfdance.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.

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.

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH TWYLA GRACE

Twyla of Twyla & The Twilight Star Ensemble/Review teaches ongoing classes in belly dance. Call or write her for more information. Mon. & Wed., 8:30-9:30pm, 12687 Research Boulevard @ Oakknoll. 971-0188. www.twylabellydance.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. 8 issue is Monday, Jan. 28. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

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

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

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical. dance-classical@austinchronicle.com.

Ric Williams, litera. litera@austinchronicle.com. | Benné Rockett, visual arts. art@austinchronicle.com.

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

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES Learn traditional and classical Egyptian techniques in this fun and fastpaced class. Contact Drakon for details 512/750-7037. \$13 per class; \$66 for six classes. 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 Bharata Natvam (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.

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ARD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ-ed music weekly, yearround. Saturdays, 8-11pm; minilesson, 7:30pm. Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research. 989-3939. 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 hallroom dances of Scotland, lads and lassies: lively jigs and reels and elegant strathspeys; no partner needed but couples welcome. Thursdays, 7-8:30pm. Ouicksilver 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.

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Call for times; private lessons available. 2801 W 45th. 382-1366. \$10 per class. 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

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

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.

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.

NIA CLASSES offer 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 F. 41st, 922-1581. \$10 each class. www.ci.austin.tx.us.

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.

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

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 (classes), 9:30pm (open dance). Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 453-3889. Prices vary. www.fouronthefloor.com.

AUSTIN SWING SYNDICATE A couple hundred swingers hit the dance floor once a week for DJspun 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.

Classical Music

OPENING

THE GLENN MILLER ORCHESTRA travels all over the United States and abroad performing concerts. keeping the big-band sound alive. This gig benefits the Leander High School Band. *Thu., Jan. 24*, 2:30pm. Leander High School, 3301 S. Bagdad Rd., Leander. \$25. www.glennmillerorchestra.com.

A. MOZART FEST: KIDZKONZERT The series brings the same music and musicians you'll hear at the "adult" concerts. Reservations required. Fri., Jan. 25, 9:45am. First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity, 371-7217. Free for children and chaperones. www.amozartfest.org.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY: SUSAN DUNN. SOPRANO The American soprano and international opera performer makes her appearance at Southwestern. Sat., Jan. 26, 7pm. Alma Thomas Theater, 1001 E. University Ave., Georgetown, 512/863-1379. Free. www.ssfa.southwestern.edu

AUSTIN CLASSICAL GUITAR SOCIETY: BERTA ROJAS The Paraguayan Rojas has graced the stages of Carnegie Hall and the Kennedy Center and has been praised as a "guitarist extraordinaire" along the way. Sat., Jan. 26, 8pm. Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center, 300-2247. \$25-50. www.austinclassicalguitar.org

A. MOZART FEST: MOZART BIRTHDAY CONCERT Highly acclaimed pianist Anton Nel and celebrated soprano Janeene Williams are soloists with the AMF Chamber Orchestra in Mozart's Piano Concerto K. 238 in B-Flat, Piano Concerto K.451 in D Major, and Concert Aria K. 505. Sun., Jan. 27, 3pm. First Baptist Church, 901 Trinity, 371-7217. \$25-35 (\$12, students). www.amozartfest.org.

SALON CONCERTS: KEEPSAKE Kodaly's Sonata for Solo Cello, the premiere of a new work by Kathryn Mishell, Poulenc's Sonata for Oboe and Piano, and Richard Strauss' Piano Quartet, performed by Mishell, piano, lan Davidson, oboe, Elise Winters, violin, Robert Rudié, violin, and Douglas Harvey, cello. Sun., Jan. 27, 4:30pm; Mon., Jan. 28, 7:30pm. A private home (directions given with reservation), \$35, Rush Hour Concert: Tue., Jan. 29, 6pm. Armstrong Community Music School, 901 Barton Springs Rd., 342-2785. Free. www.salonconcerts.org.

PKWPRODUCTIONS' MUSIC AND A MOVIE: AMADEUS P. Kellach Waddle and the musicians of PKWproductions reprise their live musical performance to accompany Milos Forman's film, this time with new classical selections for the composer's birthday. Sun., Jan. 27, 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 13729 Research, 219-8135. \$16 (\$14, in advance). www.drafthouse.com.

CONSPIRARE: CHORAL CONVERSATION AT THE CROSSINGS Dinner and open rehearsal of the upcoming concert I Dream a World bring audience and artists even closer together for a shared meal and a feast of song. Mon., Jan. 28, 6pm.
The Crossings, 13500 FM 2769, 476-5775. \$25. www.conspirare.org.

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC: BACH CANTATA PROJECT This month features Gleich wie der Regen und Schnee vom Himmel fällt, BWV 18 and Brandenburg Concerto No. 6. Tue., Jan. 29, noon. The Blanton Museum of Art, MLK & Congress, 471-5401. \$7 (\$5, seniors; \$3, students; free, members, current UT ID-holders, ages 11 and younger). www.music.utexas.edu.

CONSPIRARE: I DREAM A WORLD This beautiful concert program is Conspirare's effort for the Eighth World Symposium on Choral Music in Copenhagen in July, preceded by tour concerts in Stockholm, Oslo, and Bergen. Conspirare is the only American choir performing at the Copenhagen Symposium, and you can hear why in a concert showcasing American choral works that represent our country's cultural and musical diversity. Thus Jan. 31, 8pm. University Presbyterian Church, 2203 San Antonio St. Fri., Feb. 1, 8pm; Sun., Feb. 3, 2:30pm. St. Martin's Lutheran Church. 606 W. 15th. 476-5775. \$30 (\$15, students). www.conspirare.org.

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 appoint ment. *Through Jan.* 31. 251-8122. www.prfdance.org.

"Maximalist" Else Madsen Gallery, through Feb. 16

Meg Stone's charcoal drawings are elegant Rorschach tests. She consumes large sheets of heavy cotton paper with fuzzy, rubbed-in, soft gray scales, leaving just a bit of the pure white background in its virginal state. Then she lets go with



a dark line, and I mean these loose lines do the rumba, cutting the rug up and down the composition. Finally, she shades in some of the spaces, creating both foreground silhouettes and inter-

esting negative spaces. These drawings, while they are very abstract, carefully layered, and developed thoroughly, are rhythmically and spatially complex. Just because they are black-and-white charcoals does not mean they are simple or minimal. I can find monkeys, bits of faces, and hints of realistic objects in them. That's why they are in the "Maximalist" show at the Else Madsen Gallery in the Brazos Lofts. Curated by participating artist Michael Abelman, "Maximalist" also includes the funny collages of Shawna Mouser.

These are altogether some of the best titled works I've seen.

Good titles are like a good bonus prize at the bottom of the Cracker Jack box – not what got you interested but a bonus chuckle. *Curl Up and Lie* is the name of Michael Abelman's painting of a winding river

as viewed from an airplane. His topographical maps are made by pouring latex to form bumpy mountain ranges. He achieves a natural-looking aggregation of materials, then adds some straight lines and dots to represent cities and roads. They can be as thick as 3 inches of paint, and with the cities and funny titles, they are rich and substantial landscapes.

Rounding out the show are the collages of Mouser. She uses magazine images and creates surreal moments with her original combinations. She lets the collages breathe compositionally; they are not overworked. Her use of scale is quite clever with dramatic shifts. The narratives are lighthearted, like the idyllic traveler who is about to go on a journey either to outer space or to New York City. As Picasso said, "Art is the lie that makes us realize the truth," so perhaps Mouser is correct in equating the probability of surviving in either place. She is able to convince you that the environment she portrays could exist. Good art creates believable stories in small spaces. That's what "Maximalist" does; this art transforms the Downtown office lobby into an intimate gallery and good afternoon stop. - Rachel Koper



BIG MEDIUM: THE WORLD IS MAKING US LOOK BAD is a collaborative project by William Hundley, Paul Moncus, Stacey Farrar, and Peter VonDiest, 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. Through Feb. 23. 5305 Bolm. www.bolmstudios.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.

CRL: 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. Through Feb. 9. 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099.

D BERMAN GALLERY: EXCHANGE This exhibition features longtime friends Catherine Lee and Bodo Korsig showing work together for the first time. *Through Feb. 23. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877.* www.dbermangallery.com.

DAVIS GALLERY: SANDRA LANGSTON Half a lifetime in Texas and half in southern Italy make for some 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.

RARE EARTH: A CERAMIC PERSPECTIVE features new works by Ben Appl, Eric Satrum, Christa Mares, Don Madden, Ceci Israel-Bradford, Marianne McGrath, Shawn Roberts, Peat Ruck, and Moses Tsai. Through Feb. 14. 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. www.ci.austin.tx.us.

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.

GALLERY LOMBARDI: IT'S A BEAUTIFUL WORLD This show features art by Andrew Pommier, Andy Mueller, Angela Boatwright, Blaine Fontana, Blek le Rat, and more. Through Feb. 23. 602 W. Seventh Ste. A, 481-1088. www.gallerylombardi.com.

BROCCA GALLERY New works by sculptor and painter Augusto Brocca. *1103 E. Sixth.* 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.

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 GALLERY: CHICANO CLASSIC Caroline Martines' bold and striking color combi-

Caroline Martines' bold and striking color combinations characterize her impassioned depictions of barrio characters with Latin American religious iconography. *Through Feb. 14. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438.* www.diversearts.org.

NEW EAST ARTS 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.

OKAY MOUNTAIN: GOLD RUSH This fresh-as-babyflesh 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.shorelinesgallervaustin.com.

CARNAVAL BRASILEIRO POSTER RETROSPECTIVE Celebrating 29 years of Carnaval Brasileiro in Austin: A stunning array of colorful posters, costumes, and drums. *Through Feb.* 16. 1516-B S. *Lamar*, 440-8318. \$5. www.sambaparty.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. Through Feb. 16. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.







Visual Arts

EVENTS

AFG: A **PORTRAIT OF ALLISON** Austin Figurative Gallery presents this fifth annual exhibition of portraits by fifth and sixth grade Allison Elementary photography students. Candid and surprising. (See "Portrait of Allison," p.35, for more.) Sat., Jan. 26, 6-10pm. 301 Chicon Unit F, 296-6624. Free. **1throughthelookingglass@gmail.com**.

AFG: ELLEN BARTEL/KERRY SMITH Bartel's Butoh dance is paired with Smith's paintings. Fri., Jan. 25, 7-11pm. 301 Chicon Unit F, 296-6624. www.austinfigurativegallery.com.

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART 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.

AIPP: BRAZOS STREETSCAPE PROJECT
MEETING This will include brief presentations by
the city's Public Works project manager overseeing
construction. And AIPP staff will outline the procedures for applying online. (Application deadline:
Feb. 22.) Meeting: Wed., Jan. 30, 7-8pm.
201 E. Second. www.ci.austin.tx.us/aipp.

OPENING

ARTHOUSE: SUNDOWN SCHOOLHOUSE FOR INNER AUSTIN AGRICULTURE Arthouse turns itself into a community resource center, schoolhouse, working greenhouse, and eco-progressive laboratory for artistic experimentation and features Fritz Haeg's "Attack on the Front Lawn." (See "'Fritz Haeg: Attack on the Front Lawn," p.35, for more.) How to Eat Austin workshop: Sat., Jan. 26, 3pm. Exhibition: Jan. 25-March 16. 700 Congress, 453-5312. www.arthousetexas.org.

ART ON 5TH: HOT & COLD "The Best of Canadian Contemporary Art" returns to Austin with more than 300 works on canvas and paper. Featured art-

ists include Cerard Castonguay, Sharon Ruttonsha, Pica Birt, and Natalie Savard. Jan. 26-28. Sat., 10am-6pm; Sun., noon-5pm; Mon., 10am-6pm. 1501 W. Fifth, 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.

4 WALLS FINE ART: JESSE BURKE AND GEORGE SCHROEDER Burke, an instructor at the Rhode Island School of Design, brings his photography and installations to this smart gallery, while San Antonion Schroeder presents a series of abstract sculptures based on jarring sound. Reception: Sat., Jan. 26, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through March 15. 115 E. Fifth #1, 560-8847. www.4wallsfineart.com.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: MADS LYNNERUP
"If You See Anything Interesting Please Let
Someone Know Immediately" is the first solo
exhibition of this New York-based artist. Reception:
Sat., Jan. 26, 6-8pm. Exhibition: Through March 1.
300 West #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.

GALLERY @ CONCORDIA: DAVID KROFT The Concordia University art professor will showcase work spanning more than 30 years of his career, comprising sculpture, paintings, drawings, and a large installation. Reception: Sat., Jan. 26, 5:30pm. Exhibition: Through Feb. 23. 3400 N. I-35, 486-2001.

CLOSING

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.

ONGOING

austinchronicle.com

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. 12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eyecontactart.com.

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERSOriginal 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.cl.austin.tx.us.

GALLERY POLLOCK: BILL D. FRANCIS The UT professor emeritus presents his finest Prismacolor 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.

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. Through Feb. 16. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171. www.pablotaboadastudio.com.

ARTSPOKEN: START Six resident artists showcase their work. *Through Feb. 2. 1507 W. Koenig*, 589-2905. www.artspoken.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. 1510½ 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.

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SPACES

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics, 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. 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.

ARTHUR SIMONE AT CREEKSIDE LOUNGE

Hunting Art Prize finalist Simone showcases his large and colorful abstract-expressionist canvases. Through February. 606 E. Seventh, 480-5988. www.arthursimone.com

CYPRESS GRILL: CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY 4404 W. William Cannon Ste. L, 358-7474. www.creativeartssociety.org.

THE GREEN MUSE: J. LOWRY DOILE 519 W. Oltorf, 912-7789.

HYDE PARK GRILL: BILL OAKEY Through Feb. 9. 4206 Duval St 458-3168 Free

JERRY'S ARTARAMA: THE FIGURATIVE SNARKO! Through Jan. 31. 420-9359, 420-9359. Free.

LAMBERTS: JOAN MCGUIRE New abstract works on paper, 401 W. Second, 494-1500. www.lambertsaustin.com.

LOVEJOYS: BART FARAR Highly recommended. 604 Neches, 477-1268.

VIN BISTRO: KEVA RICHARDSON Through Feb.

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

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.

AVAA AND MULTICULTURAL ARTISTS

PARTNERSHIP seek artists vendors for the Chinese Lunar New Year Holiday Bazaar. All proceeds go directly to the artists, 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.

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, 2008. 301 Chicon Unit F, 296-6624. www.austinfigurativegallery.com

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

KATHY PATRICK created the world's only beauty salon/bookstore, and she shares how she put leopard skin on Dostoevsky in her The Pulpwood Queens' Tiara-Wearing, Book-Sharing Guide to Life. Wed., Jan. 30, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

DAVE ISAY brings the story of StoryCorps to our fair city with Listening Is an Act of Love. Central Texans Rick Kincaid and Danny Terry join him. Tue., Jan. 29, 7:30pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

ROB SHEFFIELD of Rolling Stone shares his touching and tragic memoir, Love Is a Mix Tape. Sun Jan. 27, 5pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

RAMON MONCIVAIS guides us Beneath the Shadow of the Capitol, detailing the discrimination against Latinos in the Thirties, Forties, and Fifties. Sun., Jan. 27, 11am-4pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St., 478-2222. www.ci.austin.tx.us.

JILL CONNER BROWN backs her Sweet Potato RV into the lot for The Sweet Potato Queens' Guide to Raising Children for Fun and Profit, Sat., Jan. 26. 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

JENNIFER ZIEGLER invites you to wear your geekiest, so you can proudly show us all How Not to Be Popular. Yes, it's a signing and a costume contest. Sat., Jan. 26, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

EAT, PRAY, LOVE Richard Vogt talks about the book, his friendship with author Elizabeth Gilbert, his own spiritual journey, and what it was like being on Oprah's show. Thu., Jan. 24, 7-9pm. Unity Center, 9603 Dessau. 836-6372. \$10. www.richardfromtexas.com

DAN SANDERS The CEO of United Supermarkets talks about the successes and failures of one of the oldest family-owned corporations in America, in his Built to Serve. Thu., Jan. 24, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

SOUL LOUNGE features live poetry readings and music from Kemistry every week. Through Feb. 13. Light Bar, 408 Congress, 552-6633. Free. www.lightbaraustin.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.

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.austinshakespeare.org.

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.,

THE SPIRITUALITY GROUP divines all that dematters. Call for this month's title selection. Thu., Jan. 24, 1pm. Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY CLUB circles the National Book Award winner, Echo Maker, by Richard Powers. Mon., Jan. 28, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com

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.

THE FANDOM ASSOCIATION OF CENTRAL TEXAS sponsors a speculative-fiction reading group on the second and fourth Thursday of each month. The first book for discussion is The Devil in the City by Liz Williams. Thu., Jan. 24, 7-9pm. Pleasant Hill Branch Library, 211 E. William Cannon, 707-2694.

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

STORIES FROM THE HEART IV The fourth National Women's Memoir Conference (Feb. 1-3) is sponsored by the Story Circle Network and features Nancy Slonim Aronie, Susan Wittig Albert, Susan Lincoln, and other fabulous women. Check their website for details. www.storycircle.org/ Conference/frmregister.php.

MIND & SPIRIT SPEAKER SERIES features Lama Surya Das, Buddhist meditation teacher, scholar, and author of the newly released The Big Ouestions: How to Find Your Own Answers to Life's Essential Mysteries. Tue., Jan. 29, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

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).

ACC STUDENT LITERARY GATHERINGS start up their spring series with Elisabeth McKetta, a poet and Ph.D. student at UT, who teaches literature at ACC and co-edits *Farfelu*. Open mic follows and all are welcome. Hosted by John Herndon. Mon., Jan. 28, 7pm. Java Lounge at Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 828-9368. www.austiniava.com.

LA TAZZA FRESCA is hosted by Kathleen Romana, with featured poets and musicians. Thu., Jan. 24, 7-9pm. La Tazza Fresca, 519 W. 37th, 371-5383. latazzafresca@earthlink.net.

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 poets 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.

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.therefinedsavage.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.

LATINITAS MAGAZINE: NATIONAL WRITING CONTEST FOR GIRLS What is it like to be a Latina in your hometown? What does it mean to be a Latina to you? As a Latina, are you doing something in your community to make a difference, if so, what? Describe the biggest challenge facing the young Latinas today. Write in first person or Associated Press style. Wordcount: 800-1000. Ages: 14-21. Deadline: Feb. 10. E-mail or send to: Latinitas, P.O. Box 4284, Austin, TX 78765. latinitasawards@yahoo.com.

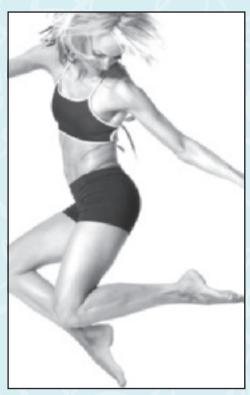
MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! or what red offering of the sun curls a sorrow of what cannot be grasped or released: a mouth softens but light remembers a skin that knew already what falls inside a sewn heaven - how what turns ashamed in the face of a stone – water widens here – a tide of swans clouding this river caught hour – a ghost of hands casting nets - you slipping into the smoke unwanted by its fire. Namaste. Vaya con dios.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

Passing eons enhance the strength of our ancestors to reach across time to touch us. Their ghosts straddle the moon, ride it into the night sky. Their glitter falls to earth, lights our trails so we can walk forward into our own destinies.

 Barbara Youngblood Carr, from "They are with us Always"



FREE Intro to Nia Workshop Jan 26th, 1:00 - 2:30pm

Nia is a joyful fitness practice that blends movements from the dance arts, the martial arts and the healing arts. This beginner workshop is for those new to Nia.

Call JoyMoves at 328-4440 or email info@joymoves.com to pre-register (40 participants max)

2501 S. Capital of Texas Hwy, Austin Texas - www.JoyMoves.com

Workshop is only for Austin area residents who are new to Nia at JoyMoves

tilm listings

How She Move

D: Ian Iqbal Rashid; with Rutina Wesley, Dwain Murphy, Tre Armstrong, Kevin Duhaney. (PG-13, 98 min.)

Minus any telltale punctuation, one may not initially know



how to read the title - is it a question? a warning? a declaration of intent? - but once the feet start flying in this Canadian film about step dancing, any numskull can

finish the sentence: She move something fierce. But we'll get to that. In an awkward opening narration, Raya (Wesley) lays it out for us: Her family's savings have been wiped out in an unsuccessful attempt to get her older sister clean, forcing Raya to leave her tony boarding school and reioin her Jamaican-

born parents back in the projects. Raya isn't happy to be home, and neither is her old crowd: Turns out she lit out of the neighborhood fast and burned a few bridges along the way. Some people, at least, remember her fondly, like Bishop (Murphy), who runs an underdog step crew (the film introduces him midperformance, his step keeping time to the apropos refrain "I Love My Boots"; should the film's current title not translate internationally, I suggest I Love My Boots as a more-than-adequate substitute). Raya shrugs off his advances; at first glance, she seems a serious, maybe humorless, girl who looks far younger than her years. Looks are deceiving - when a rival girl challenges her to a step battle, Raya drops her jacket and goes to town. Sure, she gets schooled, but so it goes in any competition film - you gotta start at the bottom and climb your way up. How She Move hits most every beat the genre has to offer, even borrowing a few moves along the way (the ripping-off of a rival's routine also figured prominently in Bring It On). In short, there aren't many surprises here, and even if there were, they'd be low-lit and fuzzy (How She



Move, which screened at last year's Sundance, wears its low budget on its sleeve; the upshot is a cast of unknowns who are naturals). Following the genre's natural trajectory, this one culminates in Raya and Bishop teaming up for the annual Stepmonster Competition in Detroit, where the competition flies fast and furious in a montage that accents step's astonishing meld of artistry and brute physicality (although any highlight reel must begin and end with a glorious slow pan of denim-clad booty). This kind of a dance film lives and dies by the routines, and this one wins: Mixing elements of gymnastics, karate, and break with the almighty step - an exceedingly polite term for what is really an awesome stomp - the dance sequences'll root out the beat in even the sorriest Bandstand bystander ... although, manifest in this white-girl wallflower, the beat resembled nothing so much as restless legs syndrome. We can't all move something - Kimberley Jones

*** Barton Creek Square, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

New Reviews

MAD MONEY

D: Callie Khouri; with Diane Keaton, Katie Holmes, Queen Latifah, Ted Danson, Adam Rothenberg, Roger Cross. (PG-13, 104 min.)

Move over, Gordon Gecko: The new poster boy for American greed in the movies isn't a silver-tongued corporate hustler with pomaded hair and a closet full of \$10,000 suits. In fact, the new poster boy for American greed in the movies isn't a boy at all. I know you won't believe me when I tell you, but you've been replaced by Diane Keaton. That's right: Little Annie Hall has grown up and traded in her quirky vests and aw-shucks Midwestern naivete for some good old-fashioned late-capitalist avarice. For Keaton's upper-middle-aged, upper-middle-class suburban housewifeturned-bank-robber Bridget Cardigan, greed isn't good because it's good for America or good for the species; greed is good because it's good for her. How's that for evolution? In Mad Money, Thelma & Louise

screenwriter Khouri once again sets her sights on scorned women getting their revenge on a callous society, but the goal here isn't freedom; it's opportunity, vindication, good times, and the promise of bottomless bags filled with cash money. Bridget is a wealthy woman whose world comes crashing down after her husband, Don (Danson), loses his job and they're suddenly faced with the prospect of bankruptcy. To make ends meet, she takes a job as a janitor at a local federal reserve, where she realizes that the bank's endless supply of soon-to-be-shredded bills presents the perfect opportunity for a brash. enterprising woman dangling from the lowest rungs of the employment ladder. Enlisting the aid of two of her fellow danglers - one a single mother named Nina (Latifah) looking to give her kids a better life, the other an attractive, young space cadet named Jackie (Holmes) looking for more quirky trinkets for her trailer home Bridget concocts a heist that succeeds in relieving the bank of millions of dollars while changing the three thieves' lives for good. If Mad Money had stopped there,

.....

there'd be nothing much to talk about. Just another lightweight comedy about women dabbling in the fleeting pleasures of self-indulgence before retreating behind life lessons about the emptiness of material gain and the true and lasting joys of spiritual fulfillment. But Mad Money is less a movie than it is an advertisement for unfettered capitalism, with a hero who wants, desires, covets, and takes without shame or apology. Nina may be trying to help her kids, and Jackie may be trying to find herself, but Bridget's mantra is "more, more, more" - more jewels, more cars, more flat-screen TVs - and she's not above lying, cheating, stealing, or even pimping to get what she wants. Just when I thought there was no way a movie like this could possibly show me anything new, Money goes and makes Ivan Boesky out of Annie Hall, paints redemption green, and paves the road to heaven with gold. Color me surprised. Josh Rosenblatt

** Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

MEET THE SPARTANS

D: Jason Friedberg, Aaron Seltzer; with Sean Maguire, Carmen Electra, Ken Davitian, Kevin Sorbo, Method Man. (PG-13, 84 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. We're tempted to say that one upshot to the writers' strike is that fewer new movies means less fodder for this sort of lightning-round turnaround riff/regurgitation. The working title says it all: Not Another Scary Epic Teen Date Movie. And, honestly, any jokes about 300 pretty much write themselves. - Kimberley Jones Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

RAMBO

D: Sylvester Stallone; with Stallone, Julie Benz, Matthew Marsden, Graham McTavish, Reynaldo Gallegos. (R, 99 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Stallone's running the show here as star, writer, and director in the fourth outing for former Green Beret John Rambo. This time out, Rambo's tasked with saving Christian missionaries in Burma. - Kimberley Jones 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, Westgate

TEETH

D: Mitchell Lichtenstein; with Jess Weixler, Hale Appleman, Vivienne Benesch, Lenny von Dohlen, John Hensley. (R, 87 min.)

Mitchell Lichtenstein, son of pop art godhead Roy, takes the thrusting, violenceimplicit, and pointedly sexualized imagery of his father's famed Whaam! canvas several seriocomic steps further into the realm of cinematic literalism: Teeth, shot in and around Austin, leaves marks both figuratively and literally. In the process, it also explodes the dual myths of sexual freedom and freedom from sex while making castration anxiety and teen-female empowerment fun - or at least weird - again. Weixler embodies abstemious good-girl Dawn with just the right amount of repressed naivete to make things semi-believable when she discovers, to her horror, that her naughty bits are bitey. She's the living embodiment of the vagina dentata (literally, "toothed vagina") myth, and as such her incipient lust-crush over new-geek-at-school Appleman leads from blue lagoon to black and beyond. As if hormones weren't hell enough. Dawn is also saddled with a vile stepbrother whose most fervent wish is to deflower his virginal relation. Played to the death-metal hilt by Nip/Tuck's Hensley - who could also double as a young Jello Biafra in I Was a Teenage Dead Kennedy - this evil sib almost steals the show, until his pet rottweiler beats him at his own game. As an ultradark comedy pitched somewhere between the transgressive spot gags of Charles Addams and Sam Gross (with a healthy dose of John Waters salt-of-the-earth lasciviousness sprinkled throughout), Teeth is all over the tonal map, veering from surrealistic ABC After School Special-ness to crimson-drenched Grand

Guignol atrocity exhibitionism, often in the same scene. In any other film I'd say that was a flaw, or at the very least the sign of a conflicted script or muddled directorial viewpoint, but Teeth's whirling moral compass actually provides the perfect metaphor for the teenage sexual urge in postpubescent overdrive. Dawn's dimpled, wholesome, all-American exterior conceals the lurking erotic fear and body-loathing within to an extent that would make Shivers-era David Cronenberg proud. Reflecting the jungle laws of its high school setting, Lichtenstein's gleeful and polymorphously perverse take on the eternal quandry that is teen sexuality pits the revealed against the reviled, loved vs. loathed, and girl vs. boy(s). Tellingly, however, Lichtenstein opts out of showing Dawn's brave new snatch, although plenty of severed male members litter the screen. Turnabout is fair play, to be sure, but ultimately virtually everyone in Teeth ends up using sex as a weapon, edged or otherwise, to the detriment of all concerned. Just say "Ow." - Marc Savlov ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Tinseltown

UNTRACEABLE

D: Gregory Hoblit; with Diane Lane, Billy Burke, Colin Hanks, Joseph Cross. (R, 100 min.)

Let's cut to the chase here and now, since this tepid, borderline-offensive cyberserial-killer thriller takes what feels like ages to rehash both better and worse examples of the current, vapid clamor for so-called "torture porn." Untraceable strives to gussy up its narrative cheat sheet (stolen from the still-warm bodies of Saw, Se7en, and Feardotcom, among others) with an outraged tone, but the blatant, transparent hypocrisy inherent in the story is what's really annoying. The always-reliable Lane is cast as FBI Cyber Crimes Agent Jennifer Marsh, a doting mom and widow working out of Portland, Ore., who with trusty hack-happy partner Griffin Dowd (Hanks) nightly trolls the dingy back alleys of the Internet for the usual collection of predators, frauds, and scam artists. Things take a turn for the obvious when she's tipped off to the existence of a live-streaming site called KillWithMe.com that allows visitors to participate virtually in a realtime execution: The more people log on to the site, the faster the victim dies. Agent Marsh, who should know better, is initially shocked at the exponentially rising hits the site attracts and at one point even goes so far as to drop a none-too-subtle reference to murdered Wall Street Journal reporter

Openings

How She Move (PG-13)

Meet the Spartans (PG-13)

Rambo (R)

Teeth (R)

Untraceable (R)

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

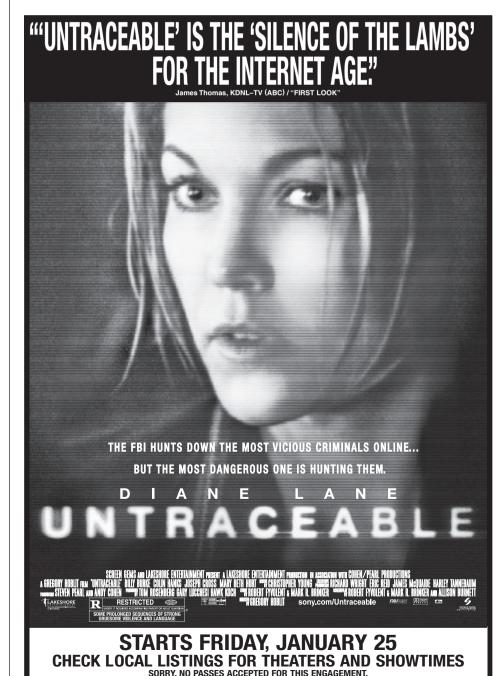
Daniel Pearl into an ill-conceived harangue on the bloodthirsty, voyeuristic tendencies of your average American. (Her Portland PD buddy muses aloud, "When did the world go insane?") Apart from the fact that mankind, and in particular, America – Google Earth anyone? - has always been fascinated with voyeurism, not to mention the viewpoints of Eros and Thanatos and the intersection thereof, Untraceable renders the audience complicit in the film's violent shenanigans by virtue of watching the gore onscreen. It's a weird, schizophrenic tack for a film about a deranged serial killer to take, and it leaves you feeling as if you'd just been scolded for going to the movies in the first place. God forbid anyone should ever want to watch footage of a Baghdad MASH unit to survey the real - as opposed to reel - hyperviolence of Our Insane Marc Savlov World.

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate









Showtimes FRIDAY, JANUARY 25 - THURSDAY, JANUARY 31

Weird Wednesday: Daughter of Death: Wed. 12mid

*There Will Be Blood: Fri. 11:00am, 12:00, 2:20, 3:30, 5:45, 7:00, 9:00, 10:30, 11:55pm; Sat. 11:00am, 12:00, 2:20, 3:30, 5:45, 7:00, 9:00 10:30pm; Sun, 11:00am, 12:00, 2:20, 3:30, 5:45, 7:00, 9:00, 10:30, 11:55pm; Mon, 3:30, 5:00, 7:00, 8:30; Tue, 3:30, 5:00, 8:30; Wed, 3:30, 5:00, 7:00, 8:30, 10:30; Thu (1/31), 5:00, 6:00, 8:30 Terror Thursday: Without Warning: Thu (1/31), 12mid

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research,

Movies & Music: Amadeus: Director's Cut: Sun. 7:00pm AFF: Blood Car: Thu (1/31) 7:30pm

The Bucket List: Fri-Sat, 3:15, 10:15; Sun-Wed, 12:00, 3:15, 7:10, 10:15; Thu (1/31), 12:00, 3:15 *Cloverfield: 12:30, 3:35, 7:35, 10:25

Tromatic Thursday: *The Digital Prophet:* Thu (1/31), 10:00pm *First Sunday:* Fri-Wed, 3:10, 10:10; Thu (1/31), 3:10pm IAm Legend: Fri-Tue, 12:35, 7:20; Wed-Thu (1/31), 12:35pm

TV Party: Lost: Thu (1/31), 8:00pm
Feast: Married to the Mob Feast: Wed, 7:30pm

*Rambo: 12:40, 3:30, 7:40, 10:40

*Rambo: 12:40, 3:30, 7:40, 10:40

*There Will Be Blood: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 11:35, 3:00, 3:05, 7:00, 7:05, 10:30, 10:35pm; Sun, 11:30am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:30pm; Mon, 11:30am, 11:35, 3:00, 3:05, 7:00, 7:05, 10:30, 10:35pm; Tue-Thu (1/31), 11:30am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:30pm *27 Dresses: 12:10, 3:25, 7:15, 10:00

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. *Cassandra's Dream: Fri-Sun, 1:25, 4:05, 7:00, 9:40; Mon, 4:05, 7:00 9:40; Tue, 1:25, 4:05, 7:00, 9:40; Wed, 4:05, 9:40; Thu (1/31), 4:05,

Kids Club: D.A.R.Y.L.: Sat, 12:00pm

Feast: Groundhog Day: Wed, 7:00pm 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-Thu (1/31), 3:50, 6:30, 9:00, 11:25

Mo Country for Old Men: Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 2:00, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40pm; Mon, 4:50, 7:45, 10:40pm; Wed-Thu (1/31), 4:50, 7:45, 10:40pm; Wed-Thu (1/31), 4:50, 7:45, 10:40

The Orphanage: Fri-Sun, 11:35am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:10pm; Mon, 4:55, 7:35, 10:10; Tue, 11:35am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:35, 10:10pm; Wed-Thu (1/31), 4:55, 7:35, 10:10

(1/31), 4-33, 1-33, 10-10
Sweeney Told: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25pm; Mon, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25; Tue, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:40, 7:40, 10:25pm; Wed, 4:15, 10:25; Thu (1/31), 4:40, 7:40, 10:25
Feeth: Fri-Sat, 11:20am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30, 11:55pm; Sun, 11:20am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30, 11:50pm; Mon, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30; Tue, 11:20am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:30pm; Wed-Thu (1/31), 4:20, 7:05, 9:30

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.

Master Pancake: The Breakfast Club: Sat, 10:00, 12mid

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, 4:05, 7:10, 9:45; Thu (1/31), 4:05, 7:10

Charlie Wilson's War: Fri, 3:55, 7:00, 9:35; Sat, 3:55, 7:00; Sun, 3:55, 9:35; Mon, 7:00, 9:35; Tue, 3:55, 9:35; Wed, 7:00pr (1/31), 9:35pm

(A) 53.0 (1971)

Justin Timberlake's Birthday Party Sing-Along: Wed, 10:00pm

**Rambo: Fin, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00, 11:50; Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00; Mon, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00; Tue, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:25, 10:00; Wed-Thu (1/31), 4:55, 7:25, 10:00

The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid

Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story: Fri-Sun, 1:30pm; Mon, 4:20pm; Tue, 1:30pm; Wed-Thu (1/31), 4:20pm

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742, Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays **Atonement:** 12:30, 3:30, 7:10, 9:50

Austin Jewish Film Festival: Fri-Thu (1/31) The Diving Bell and the Butterfly: Fri-Mon, 12:40, 3:15, 7:30, 10:05; Tue, 12:40, 3:15, 10:05; Wed, 12:40, 3:15; Thu (1/31), 12:40, 3:15, 10:05

Juno: 12:10. 2:40. 5:00. 7:20. 9:40

No Country for Old Men: 12:50, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30 The Savages: 12:20, 2:50, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10

There Will Be Blood: 11:45am, 1:00, 3:00, 4:15, 6:30, 8:00, 10:00pm

▶ 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.

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

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 12:25, 2:45, 5:05, 7:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:45, 5:05, 7:25

The Rucket List: Fri-Sat 10:25am 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:05pm Sun, 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:05; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:20, 4:50, 7:20, 10:05

Charlie Wilson's War: Fri-Sat, 3:30, 8:40; Sun-Mon, 2:25, 7:30; Tue, 2:25, 8:00; Wed-Thu (1/31), 2:25, 7:30 **Cloverfield: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:05, 2:10, 4:15, 6:20, 8:20, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:10, 4:15, 6:20, 8:20, 10:25

How She Move: Fri-Sun, 4:10, 35am, 12:55, 3:15, 5:35, 7:55, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:10, 4:15, 6:20, 8:20, 10:25

**IAM Legend: Fri-Sat, 6:05, 10:40; Sun-Thu (1/31), 7:50, 10:25

Juno: Fri-Sat, 11:35am, 1:45, 4:00, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45pm; Sun-Thu (1/31), 1:45, 4:00, 6:15, 8:30, 10:45

*Mad Money: Fir-Sat, 10:00am, 12:10, 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50pm; Sun-Thu (1/31), 2:35, 5:00, 7:25, 9:50
*Meet the Spartans: Fir-Sun, 11:40am, 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8:00, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:45, 3:50, 5:55, 8:00, 10:00

National Treasure: Book of Secrets: Fri-Sat, 11:05am, 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:30pm; Sun-Thu (1/31), 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:30 No Country for Old Men: Fri-Sun, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 9:45pm

The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie: Fri-Sat, 10:05am, 12:00, 2:00, 4:00pm; Sun, 11:25am, 1:30, 3:35, 5:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:30, 3:35, 5:40

*Rambo: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:15, 3:35, 5:55, 8:30, 10:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:15, 3:35, 5:55, 8:30, 10:55

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street: Fri-Sat, 12:35, 6:05; Sun-Mon, 4:50, 10:20; Tue, 5:20, 10:20; Wed-Thu (1/31), 4:50, 10:20 *There Will Be Blood: Fri-Sun, 12:10, 3:40, 7:00, 10:20; Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:40, 7:00, 10:20

**27 Dresses: Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:00, 3:20, 5:50, 8:25, 10:55
***Untraceable: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:05, 3:15, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 F. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO. Alvin and the Chipmunks: Fri, 2:40, 4:55, 7:20; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 2:40, 4:55, 7:20; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:40, 4:55, 7:20

*Atonement: Fri. 3:45, 7:05, 10:10: Sat-Sun. 12:50, 3:45, 7:05, 10:10:

Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:45, 7:05, 10:10 The Bucket List: Fri, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 9:55 Charlie Wilson's War: 9:50pm

Charlie Wilson's war: 9:30pm *Cloverfield: Fri, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30 **Juno:** Fri, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25; Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25 ***Mad Money:** Fri, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

*Meet the Spartans: Fit, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:20; Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:20
**National Treasure: Book of Secrets: Fit, 4:15, 7:25, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:15, 7:25, 10:30; Mon-Thu (1/31), 4:15, 7:25, 10:30

**The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggleTales Movie: Fri, 1:50, 4:00; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 1:50, 4:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:50, 4:00
**Rambo: Fri, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45,

10:15; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 *27 Dresses: Fri, 3:30, 6:30, 9:10; Sat-Sun, 12:40, 3:30, 6:30, 9:10; Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:30, 6:30, 9:10

*Untraceable: Fri, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 12800 Hwy. 71, 800/FANDANGO.

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Fri, 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:10, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40
Atonement: Fri, 3:40, 6:35, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 12:25, 3:40, 6:35, 9:45;

Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:40, 6:35, 9:45 **The Bucket List:** Fri, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25

Charlie Wilson's War: Fri, 2:20, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35, Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:20, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:20, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:20, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35 *Cloverfield: Fri, 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 1:55, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 7:05, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:55, 4:25, 7:05, 9:30

I Am Legend: 10:00pm *Juno*: Fri, 2:05, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:05, 4:45, 7:20,

*Mad Money: Fri, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 12:05, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30

*Meet the Spartans: Fri, 2:00, 4:20, 6:55, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:55, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:00, 4:20, 6:55, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:00, 4:20, 6:55, 9:20 **Mational Treasure: Book of Secrets: Fri, 3:15, 6:25, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 3:15, 6:25, 9:35; Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:15, 6:25, 9:35

The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie: Fri, 2:15, 4:55, 7:25; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 4:55, 7:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:15,

4:55, 7:25 **Rambo: Fri, 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:55am, 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:30, 5:05, 7:30, 10:05
**27 Dresses: Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:35, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 1:50, 4:30,

7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:50, 4:30, 7:35, 10:15 *Untraceable: Fri, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55

The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep: Fri, 3:30, 6:15, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 9:15; Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:30, 6:15, 9:15

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm.

American Gangster: Fri, 2:25, 7:00, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 2:25, 7:00, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:25, 7:00, 10:20

*August Rush: Fri, 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:05, 4:50,

7:35, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:25 **Bee Movie:** Fri, 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:10, 4:30, 6:50, 9:10

*Beowulf: Fri, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00am; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10:00

The Game Plan: Fri, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:45

Mr. Magorium's Wonder Emporium: Frl, 1:30, 4:10, 7:20, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 1:30, 4:10, 7:20, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:30, 4:10,

*Lions for Lambs: 10:15pm

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CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.

Alvin and the Chipmunks: Fri, 1:15, 3:40, 6:30; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:15, 3:40, 6:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:15, 3:40, 6:30
Atonemat: Fri, 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:50, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50

The Bucket List: Fri, 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:10, 4:40, 7:30, 10:00
*Cloverfield: Fri, 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 10:05am, 12:20, 2:40,

5:10, 7:50, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:40, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10 First Sunday: Fri, 1:30, 4:05, 7:25, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 1:30, 4:05, 7:25, 9:55pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:30, 4:05, 7:25, 9:55

*How She Move: Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40
**IAm Legend: 7:45, 10:20

Tam Legent: '74, 10.20 Juno: Fi, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:00, 4:35, 7:05, 9:30

*Mad Money: Fi, 12:45, 3:30, 6:40, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 10:10am, 12:45, 3:30, 6:40, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:45, 3:30, 6:40, 9:15

*Meet the Spartans: Fi, 1:00, 4:15, 7:10, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:00, 4:15, 7:10, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:00, 4:15, 7:10, 9:20

National Treasure: Book of Secrets: Fri, 1:20, 4:20, 7:35, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 1:20, 4:20, 7:35, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:20, 4:20, 7:35, 10:30

One Missed Call: 9:10nm

The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie: Fri, 2:50, 5:00; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 12:30, 2:50, 5:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:50, 5:00 *Rambo: Fri, 2:20, 5:15, 8:00, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:15, 8:00,

**Tarinus Fri, 2.20, 3.19, 8.00, 10.29, Sat-Sun, 11.40am, 2.20, 5.19, 8.0 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 2:20, 5:15, 8:00, 10:25 **77 Dresses: Fri, 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:10, 4:00, 7:00, 9:45

*Untraceable: Fri, 1:40, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:40, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO

Alvin and the Chipmunks: 1:00, 4:00, 6:30 *Atonement: 1:30, 4:30, 7:25, 10:20 The Bucket List: 1:10, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05 *Cloverfield: 12:50, 4:25, 7:40, 10:15 First Sunday: 12:45, 4:10, 7:00, 10:05
*How She Move: 12:40, 3:30, 6:45, 9:40

IAm Legend: 9:35pm Juno: 1:15, 3:55, 7:05, 9:50 *Mad Money: 12:35 3:40 7:10 9:55 *Meet the Spartans: 1:25, 3:35, 6:40, 10:00

National Treasure: Book of Secrets: 12:55, 4:10, 7:20, 10:25

*Rambo: 1:20, 4:15, 7:30, 10:30 *There Will Be Blood: 12:40, 4:05, 8:00 *27 Dresses: 1:05, 4:05, 6:50, 9:45 *Untraceable: 12:30, 3:45, 6:35, 10:10

DOBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM. Into the Wild: Fri, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40; Mon-Thu (1/31), 6:50, 9:40

Juno: Fri, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10;

Mon-Thu (1/31), 7:20, 10:10

No Country for Old Men: Fri, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu (1/31), 7:00, 9:50

The Orphanage: Fri, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00; Mon-Thu (1/31), 7:10, 10:00

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Fiskville, 467-7305. No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult.

after 7 pm 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 (1/31), 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, 11:45pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25 Cloverfield: Fri, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10, 11:20pm; Sun, 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, 9:10, 11:20pm; Sun, 10:25am, 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:05, 9:10 pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 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; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:40, 9:55

How She Move: Fri. 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20, 11:30; Sat. 10:25am How She Move: 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 (1/31), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20

Mad Money: Fri, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 11:50; Sat, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 11:50pm; Sun, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 11:50pm; Sun, 10:15am, 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:0, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 1:20, 3:20, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20

Rambo: Fri, 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10, 11:40; Sat, 10:20am, 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10, 11:40pm; Sun, 10:20am, 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10, 11:40pm; Sun, 10:20am, 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7:00, 9:10 **27 Dresses:** Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Thu (1/31), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45

Untraceable: 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, 11:45pm; Sun, 10:00am, 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:25

GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center, 416-5700 x3808 The Bucket List: Fri-Mon, 12:05, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:25; Tue, 12:05, 5:10, 7:40; Wed, 2:30, 5:10, 10:25; Thu (1/31), 12:05, 5:10, 7:40

The Bucket List (open captioned): Tue, 2:30, 10:25; Wed, 12:05, 7:40; Thu (1/31), 2:30, 10:25

Charlie Wilson's War: Fri, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:20; Sat, 12:10, 5:05, 7:35,

10:20; Sun, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35; Mon, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:20; Tue-Thu (1/31), 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:35, 10:20 Charlie Wilson's War (open captioned): Fri, 12:10pm; Sat, 2:35pm; Sun, 12:10, 10:20; Mon, 12:10pm

*Cloverfield: 12:00, 2:25, 4:35, 7:00, 9:20

*Cloverfield (in DLP digital): 12:30, 2:55, 5:25, 8:00, 10:10 Enchanted: 11:45am, 2:15, 4:45pm

The Great Debaters: 12:20, 3:05, 7:05, 9:50
How She Move: 11:55am, 2:10, 4:30, 7:10, 9:55pm

IAm Legend: 11:45am, 4:50, 10:00pm Mad Money: 12:50, 3:25, 6:50, 9:30 **Meet the Spartans:** 12:35, 2:45, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30 **Michael Clayton:** 2:10, 7:15

Rambo: 12:25, 2:50, 5:20, 7:55, 10:35

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street: 7:20, 10:05 27 Dresses: 11:50am, 12:45, 2:20, 3:15, 4:55, 6:55, 7:25, 9:35, 10:10pm

Untraceable: 12:15, 2:40, 5:15, 7:40, 10:15

National Treasure: Book of Secrets: 12:40, 3:35, 6:45, 9:40

IMAX THEATRE Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress), 936-IMAX

African Adventure 3D: Safari in the Okavango: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 4:00; Sun. 4:00pm: Mon-Thu (1/31), 12:00, 4:00

Sea Monsters 3D: A Prehistoric Adventure: Fri, 11:00am, 2:00, 5:00pm; Sat, 11:00am, 2:00pm; Sun, 2:00pm; Mon-Thu (1/31), 11:00am, 2:00pm

Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 1:00pm; Sun, 1:00pm Mon-Thu (1/31), 10:00am, 1:00pm **U2 3D:** Fri-Sat, 6:00, 7:45, 9:30; Sun-Thu (1/31), 6:00, 7:45

Wildfire: Feel the Heat: Fri, 3:00pm; Sat-Thu (1/31), 3:00, 5:00 LAKELINE STARPORT Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620.

335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday. Alvin and the Chinmunks: 12:20 2:40 5:00

The Bucket List: 12:25, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:25 *Cloverfield: 11:50am. 2:00. 4:30. 7:10. 9:30pm Juno: 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20 Mad Money: 7:45, 10:15

Meet the Spartans: 12:10, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:50
National Treasure: Book of Secrets: 12:50, 4:00, 6:50, 9:40

Rambo: 11:45am, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00pm **27 Dresses:** 12:00, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10 Untraceable: 12:40, 3:10, 7:20, 9:55

METROPOLITAN South I-35 at Stassney, 447-0101. **Alvin and the Chipmunks:** 11:40am, 2:05, 4:30, 7:00, 9:25pm

*Cloverfield: 11:45am, 12:30, 2:00, 2:50, 4:40, 5:20, 7:15, 8:15, 9:35,

First Sunday: 11:55am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20pm **The Golden Compass:** 12:40, 4:15, 7:20, 10:20 **I Am Legend:** 11:50am, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:25pm Into the Wild: 11:55am 3:15 6:50 10:10nm

Mad Money: 11:35am, 12:50, 2:10, 4:20, 4:50, 7:05, 7:40, 9:40, 10:15pm Meet the Snartans: 12:00 2:20 5:00 7:30 9:50 One Missed Call: 12:10, 2:40, 5:30, 8:00, 10:45

The Ornhanage: 12:15, 2:40, 5:30, 8:00, 10:45 There Will Be Blood: 11:30am, 3:00, 6:30, 10:05p Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story: 11:30am, 2:35, 5:25, 8:05, 10:40pm MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within

the Millennium Youth Entertainment Complex. Adults, \$6; children, \$4. Call theatre for showtimes Friday, Jan. 25, through Thursday, Jan. 31. TINSELTOWN NORTH North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville).

Aliens vs. Predator: Requiem: 10:25pm

Alvin and the Chipmunks: 11:50am, 2:50, 5:25, 7:50pm Atonement: 1:30, 4:25, 7:35, 10:20

The Bucket List: 12:05, 1:50, 4:30, 5:25, 7:05, 9:35, 10:40 *Cloverfield: 11:45am, 12:30, 2:05, 2:55, 4:35, 5:20, 7:00, 7:50, 9:25, 10:10pm

First Sunday: 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:40, 10:20
*How She Move: 11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45pm

I Am Legend: 11:55am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05pm Juno: 12:05, 2:40, 5:00, 7:35, 10:10

*Mad Money: 12:00, 2:40, 5:15, 7:40, 10:30 *Meet the Spartans: 11:50am, 2:05, 4:35, 6:55, 9:20pm

*Michael Clayton: 2:35, 8:00 National Treasure: Book of Secrets (in DLP digital): 12:20, 3:25, 6:30,

One Missed Call: 7:15, 9:40 The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie: 11:55am, 2:20,

*Rambo: 12:15, 2:00, 2:45, 4:30, 5:15, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15

*There Will Be Blood: 11:40am, 3:15, 6:45, 10:05pm *27 Dresses: 11:40am, 1:40, 2:30, 4:25, 5:10, 7:10, 7:55, 9:55, 10:35pm

*Untraceable: 11:45am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:45, 10:25pm

TINSELTOWN SOUTH South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800. \$10 "special event" ticket prices apply to Indian films.

**Atonement: Fri, 3:55, 7:05, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 3:55, 7:05, 10:15; Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:55, 7:05, 10:15

The Bucket List: Fri, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:45; Mon-Thu (1/31), 4:30, 7:10, 9:45

*How She Move: Fri, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 2:10, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; Mon-Thu (1/31), 4:50, 7:30, 10:10

*Michael Clayton: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:05, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00; Mon-Thu (1/31), 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

National Treasure: Book of Secrets: 3:40, 7:05, 10:00 Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street: Fri, 4:25, 7:25, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:25, 7:25, 10:15; Mon-Thu (1/31), 4:25, 7:25, 10:15

*Tecth: Fri, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:55; Mon-Thu (1/31), 4:35, 7:15, 9:55

Y2 *Dresses: Fri, 3:45, 4:30, 6:45, 7:20, 9:40, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 3:45, 4:30, 6:45, 7:20, 9:40, 10:30; Mon-Thu (1/31), 3:45, 4:30, 6:45, 7:20, 9:40, 10:30

*Untraceable: Fri, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50; Mon-Thu (1/31), 4:10, 7:00, 9:50 WESTGATE 11 South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717.

Discounts daily before 6pm. **Atonement:** 12:40, 4:00, 7:00, 10:05 **The Bucket List:** 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:40 ***Cloverfield:** 12:00, 2:15, 4:40, 7:10, 9:35

Juno: 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10 Mad Money: 7:00, 9:30 Meet the Spartans: 12:20, 2:50, 5:05, 7:30, 9:45

National Treasure: Book of Secrets: 12:35, 4:05, 7:05, 10:05 The Pirates Who Don't Do Anything: A VeggieTales Movie: 11:55am, 2:10,

Rambo: 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30 There Will Be Blood: 11:40am, 3:05, 6:30, 10:00pm 27 Dresses: 11:45am, 2:25, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25pn Untraceable: 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 9:55pm

FOR UPDATED SHOWTIMES, SEE

austinchronicle.com/film.

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First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at 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 dreadlocked 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 ★★ Tinseltown North

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 update/ 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-modelphotographer-chick-thing Dave's all gooey 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 Saylov

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, Josh 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





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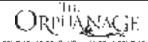


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ATONEMENT

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 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, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria. CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown

AUGUST RUSH

North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

D: Kirsten Sheridan; with Freddie Highmore, Keri Russell, Jonathan Rhys Meyers, Terrence Howard, Robin Williams, William Sadler, Leon G. Thomas III, Jamia Simone Nash.

August Rush is a rather prosaic, oddly anxious, contemporary take on Dickens' Oliver Twist, with Williams - in nasty-man twee mode, a newish 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,

U2 3D

U2 3D (2008) D: Mark Pellington and Catherine Owens. (G, 85 min.) Filmed in Argentina during U2's Vertigo tour, U2 3D is a landmark film for its creative use of the medium. For once 3-D is being used not for wowwy effects and startling nature photography but in a way that complements and enhances the performance. It helps that U2 is equal to the magnitude of the 3-D format. On the IMAX screen, these Irish rockers really rattle and hum. (*) Friday-Saturday, 6, 7:45, 9:30pm; Sunday-Thursday (1/31), 6, 7:45pm.

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) Mariorie Baumgarten

*** Movies 8



BFOWULF

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 motioncontrol 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 crackerjack 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 Shrekiness 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 Sayloy

*** 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., Verda Bridges. (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

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.)

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-theirluck brothers (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. 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, but there's a fine line between "hands-off" and total disengagement, and Allen has tumbled (Buddha-like) right over it. (01/18/2008) - Josh Rosenblatt

★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

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.)

Accents 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 con-gressman 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 for 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, Gateway





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CLOVERFIELD

D: Matt Reeves; with Michael Stahl-David, Mike Vogel, Odette Yustman, Lizzy Caplan, Jessica Lucas, T.J. Miller. (PG-13, 85 min.)

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 and It Came From Beneath the Sea. 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. (01/18/2008) *** 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

THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY

D: Julian Schnabel; with Mathieu Amalric, Emmanuelle Seigner, Marie-Josée Croze, Anne Consigny, Patrick Chesnais, 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 ★★★ Gateway

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. He's now Public Enemy Number Fun, although First Sunday is only fun if you're in dire need of a modernist urban take on the strain of comedy

Films and Videos by Scott Stark

Films and Videos by Scott Stark AFS Avant Cinema: Getting Nowhere Slow. A collection of shorts by experimental media artist Scott Stark

kicks off a new AFS directive to highlight on a bimonthly basis the avant-garde works of local filmmakers. Stark, who will conduct a Q&A afterward, will screen seven of his shorts, including "More Than Meets the Eye: Remaking Jane Fonda," in which Stark re-enacts Fonda's exercise tapes in public places. See www.austinfilm.org for more. @Austin Studios, Wednesday, 7pm; \$6 general, \$4 AFS members and students.

Abbott and 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 for Durell's ex (Hall). The robbery, needless to say, goes awry with robbers, preachers, and parishioners getting plenty of "values" dialogue but almost no laughs. (01/18/2008) - Marc Savlov

Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, 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 your hand. The reason the Rock is crying is because he's playing a self-centered super-star 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). - Josh Rosenblatt (09/28/2007)

*** 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 antiorganized-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 Naziinspired. 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, gyptians (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

THE GREAT DEBATERS

D: Denzel Washington; with Denzel 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

★★★ Gateway

I AM LEGEND

D: Francis Lawrence; with Will Smith, Alice Braga, Charlie Tahan, Salli Richardson, Willow Smith, Dash Mihok, Darrell Foster, April Grace, Joanna Numata. (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 Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

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 3

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 screen-writer 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 deadpan 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) Kimberlev Jones

*** Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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 nervy 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

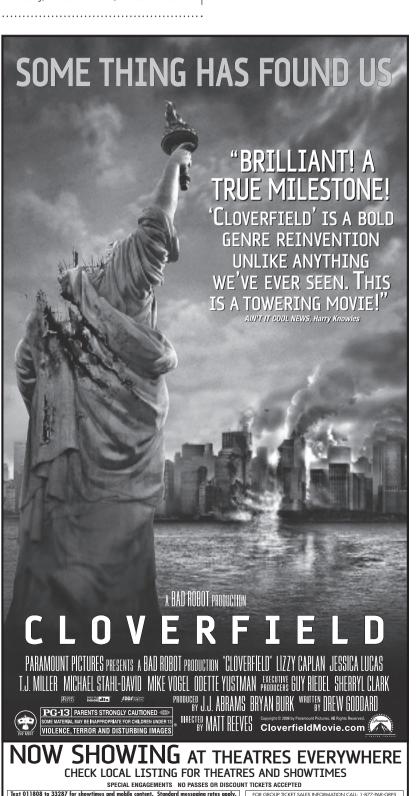
MICHAEL CLAYTON

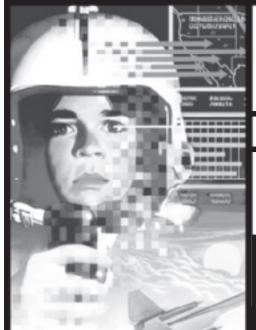
D: Tony Gilroy; with George Clooney, Tom Wilkinson, Tilda Swinton, Sydney Pollack, Michael O'Keefe. (R, 119 min.)

This meticulous legal thriller - a smart and thoroughly entertaining film – thoughtfully asks the question of where a lawyer's ethical responsibility to zealously represent a client ends and the societal interest in achieving justice begins. In Michael Clayton the truth is a slippery thing, particularly when billions of dollars are at stake in a classaction lawsuit. When the brilliant lead attorney for the corporate defendant suffers a public meltdown during a deposition, his high-powered law firm brings in the titular character to "fix" the situation. Michael Clayton (Clooney) is the firm's highly paid "janitor," a man who cleans up messes before they become something unmanageable. The irony is that Clayton is unable to clean up his own mess of a life. Director/screenwriter Gilroy has crafted a streamlined screenplay that is both sleek and provocative. The acting is superb across the board. (10/12/2007) - Steve Davis

★★★★ Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South







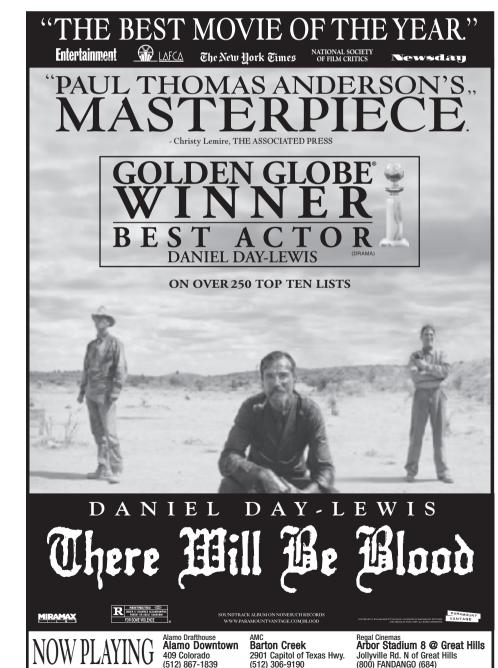
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MR. MAGORIUM'S WONDER EMPORIUM

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 jigging 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 vet 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-hop-ping 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 conspiracy-theory gobbledygook. Cool car chase, - Kimberley Jones though. (12/28/2007)

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

NO COUNTRY FOR OLD MEN

D: Joel Coen, Ethan Coen; with Tommy Lee Jones, Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin, Kelly Macdonald, Woody Harrelson, Garret Dillahunt, Barry Corbin, Tess Harper, Stephen Root. (R, 122 min.)

It seems at first like an odd pairing: the Coen brothers, they of the dark-humored film genre conflations, 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

ONE MISSED CALL

D: Eric Valette; with Ed Burns, Shannyn Sossamon, Ana Claudia Talancón, Ray Wise, Azura Skye. (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 predemised 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 unmullable. 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)

CM Round Rock, 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

THE PERFECT HOLIDAY

D: Lance Rivera; with Morris Chestnut, Gabrielle Union, Faizon Love, Terrence Howard, Queen Latifah, Charlie Murphy, Katt Williams, Rachel True. (PG, 96 min.)

Far from perfect and about as much fun as a holiday in Cambodia, this is lightweight yuletide fluffery, offensive neither in tone nor spirit but entirely unnecessary. Ben (Chestnut) is a singersongwriter moonlighting as a department-store Santa; his possible paramour, single mom Nancy (Union), is pregnant with implausibility, having already spawned too-cute hood rat Emily (Khail Bryant) with previous alpha male gajillionaire J-Jizzy (Murphy). The moment of introduction into a Christmastime story of a character tagged with the debatably profane name of "J-Jizzy" is usually when I opt out, but Murphy, all dumbass rap snaps and oily hip-hop overkill, turns out to be the savior of the film, if not humanity. Ben and Nancy, smart and sweet and fated to be together yet living with the perpetual torment of "normal" names, don't stand a chance against Murphy's superfly Jizz-bomb, who steals the show without even breaking a dookie rope, yo. (12/14/2007) Marc Saylov

★★ Movies 8

THE PIRATES WHO DON'T DO ANYTHING: A VEGGIETALES MOVIE

D: Mike Nawrocki; with the voices of Nawrocki, Phil Vischer, Cam Clarke, Laura Gerow. (G, 85 min.)

Yo-ho-ho and a bottle of ... V8? That's what you get when you cross VeggieTales characters with a pirate yarn. I have to say that before now, I wasn't personally familiar with this popular series' animated, direct-to-video, faith-based, vegetable characters, and I also somehow missed their 2002 big-screen debut, Jonah: A VeggieTales Movie. As I wasn't expecting much, I must say that Pirates doesn't disappoint. Yet in spite of its flat, computer-generated animation and a G-rated joke-a-thon, Pirates is an understandable kiddie attraction. The action and patter is nonstop, and there's just enough message about the ability to overcome one's fears, laziness, and self-disparage ment to make it suitable for the young 'uns without insulting their intelligence. Those unfamiliar with the characters, however, may find their absence of appendages alarming. They hop everywhere because they have no feet, and their lack of arms makes their sword-brandishing a surreal sight. - Mariorie Baumgarten (01/18/2008)

** Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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 nonmasochists 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," 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,

Gateway, Tinseltown South

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.)

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 in, hands down, the most gripping film performance of the year), a gold-prospector-turnedwildcatter-turned-oil tycoon. 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. 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. (01/18/2008) - Marjorie Baumgarten **** Alamo Ritz, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Southpark Meadows,

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.)

Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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

27 DRESSES

D: Anne Fletcher; with Katherine Heigl, James Marsden, Edward Burns, Judy Greer, Malin Akerman, Melora Hardin. (PG-13, 107 min.)

Those 27 dresses mark the time Jane (Heigl) has spent, as one character puts it, in the taffeta ghetto of bridesmaidery. When Jane's boss and secret object of her affection (Burns, forever toady) falls in love with her sister (Akerman), Jane is stuck planning their wedding while simultaneously dodging the dogged attentions of Kevin (Marsden), a cynical journalist covering the wedding beat. Heigl anchors the film with a spazz-tastic charm, but the real starmaking turn here belongs to Marsden, as a mixeddrink of frat boy and existential downer (or is it tall drink of water?). The jokes only hit about half the time - the best bits have an off-the-cuff feel - and the film is pocked with the kind of rom-com clichés that are practically written in stone, including 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. (01/18/2008) - 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

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-and-riseagain 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 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.)

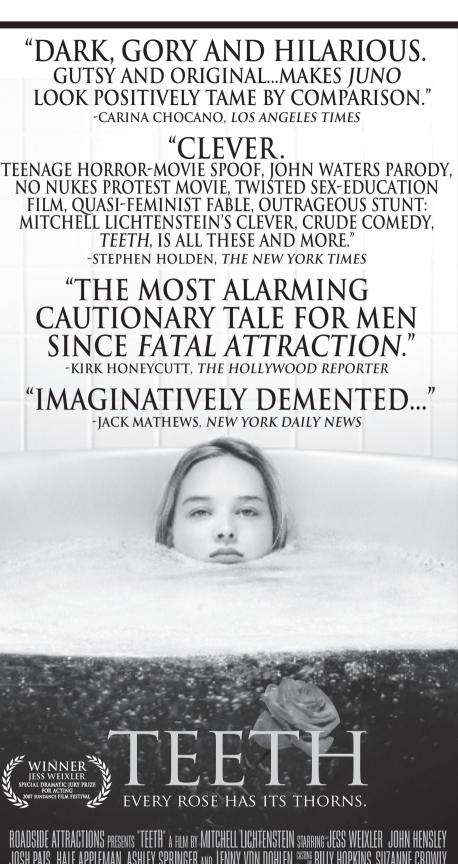
A family film in the best sense, Water Horse plays like a cross between a World War II-era Boy's Own adventure and Baby: Secret of the Lost Legend, minus the soppy treacle of the latter but with just the right amount of RAF fighter flybys to qualify it as a rather ripping yarn, indeed. Set on the coast 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 Shreky 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 Saylov

*** Hill Country Galleria

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Special Screenings

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.



Austin Jewish Film Festival The sixth annual festival offers an international selection of films, many of which will screen with the directors in attendance. Screenings take place daily at the Arbor, Monday and Wednesday in Garrison 102 on the UT campus, and on Tuesday at Texas Hillel and City Lights Theatre in Georgetown. For a complete schedule and descriptions see www.austiniff.org and p.51 of this week's Screens section. (*) Fri.-Thu. (1/31) @ Arbor

THURSDAY 24

The 90s One-Hit Wonders Sing-Along: Vol. 2 @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm.

Cybernator Tromatic Thursday. In a not too distant future - one that sounds suspiciously like James Cameron's future – cyborg assassins run amok. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm: free.

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.) @Alamo

Spirit of the Marathon (2008)

D: Jon Dunham. (NR, 120 min.) The 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. @Tinseltown North, Metropolitan, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, 7:30pm; \$8.50, \$6.25 seniors/children.

Tales From the Quadead Zone (1987)

D: Chester Novell Turner; with Shirley Latanya Jones. (NR, 62 min.) Terror Thursday. Reanimated adulterizing clowns, transparent children, and hungry white people are just some of the antagonists in this homemade horror anthology. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid: free.

SPACES

Crime Novel (2005) D: Michele Placido; with Kim Rossi Stuart, Anna Mouglalis, Pierfrancesco Favino, Claudio Santamaria. (NR, 152 min.) II Circolo Italiano. Italian gangland drama is set in the Seventies. @MEZ BO.306 100 (basement of Mezes on the UT campus), 8pm; free.

Shoot 'Em Up (2007) D: Michael Davis; with Clive Owen, Paul Giamatti, Monica Bellucci, Stephen McHattie, Daniel Pilon. (R, 87 min.) There's not a lot to this action-movie satire other than a seemingly endless fusillade of projectiles. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free,

SATURDAY 26

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 Drafthouse Village, 10pm, 12mid.

D.A.R.Y.L. (1985) D: Simon Wincer; with Mary Beth Hurt. Michael McKean. Kathryn Walker. Colleen Camp, Josef Sommer. (PG, 99 min.) Kids Club. A young boy with strange powers is found wander ing without any memory of who he is. @Alamo Drafthouse South, noon: free,

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. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SUNDAY 20

Amadeus: Director's Cut (2002)

D: Milos Forman; with F. Murray Abraham, Tom Hulce, Elizabeth Berridge, Simon Callow, Jeffrey Jones. (R, 180 min.) PKW Productions. Forman's 1984 tour de force will screen in honor of the anniversary of Mozart's 252nd birthday, and P. Kellach Waddle and his ensemble of musicians will present music never performed before at any previous Amadeus show. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake . Creek, 7pm.

SPACES

Blades of Glory (2007) D: Josh Gordon and Will Speck; with Will Ferrell, Jon Heder, Will Arnett, Amy Poehler, Jenna Fischer, William Fichtner, Craig T. Nelson, Nick Swardson, Rob Corddry. (PG-13, 93 min.) Moonlight Cinema - Waterloo Video. Dinner specials. Jerm Pollet hosts. (*) @Belmont, 8pm; free.

TUESDAY 29

La Zandunga (1938) D: Fernando De Fuentes; with Lupe Vélez, Rafael Falcón, Arturo de Córdova, Joaquín Pardavé. (NR, 107 min.) Austin Film Society: 3 Mexicanas en Hollywood. In the first of her two Mexican films, Vélez stars as a young woman courted by three suitors: one who will fight to win her, another who will extort her father to win her hand, and the one whom she loves but is an outsider and therefore unacceptable. See austinchronicle.com/gyrobase/ Issue/story?oid=oid:575556 for more on the series. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm; \$4, AFS members free.

SPACES

Napoleon Dynamite (2004) D: Jared Hess; with Jon Heder, Efren Ramirez, Jon Gries, Aaron Ruell, Tina Majorino, Diedrich Bader, Sandy Martin. (PG, 86 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

WEDNESDAY 630

Daughter of Death (1983) D: Paul Nicholas and Maurice Smith; with Sybil Danning, Anthony Franciosa, Isabelle Mejias. **Weird Wednesday.** This erotic thriller stars Austrian-American B-movie queen Sybil Danning as a stepmother under attack. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid: free,

Groundhog Day (1993) D: Harold Ramis; with Bill Murray, Andie MacDowell, Chris Elliott, Stephen Tobolowsky. (PG, 103 min.) Food and Film Events. In a screening benefiting the Austin Family Institute, whiz chef John Bullington will riff on this Bill Murray classic – about a cranky weatherman forced to relive the same day over and over again, in the process regaining his humanity – by cooking up a multicourse menu using the same ingredients over and over again. Genius, no? (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm; see www.originalalamo.com for more.

Justin Timberlake's Birthday Party Sing-Along The sexy? It's cool. J.T.'s already bringing it. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm.

Married to the Mob Feast (1988)

D: Jonathan Demme; with Mercedes Ruehl, Matthew Modine, Michelle Pfeiffer, Dean Stockwell. (R, 103 min.) See www.drafthouse.com for the menu. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm.

SPACES

Films and Videos by Scott Stark AFS Avant Cinema: Getting Nowhere Slow. See p.84.

Monsters, Inc. (2001) D: Lee Unkrich, David Silverman and Peter Docter; with the voices of Billy Crystal, John Goodman, James Coburn, Jennifer Tilly, Steve Buscemi, Bonnie Hunt, (G. 92 min.) Goodman and Crystal supply the voices as goodhearted monsters on a mission to scare the bejesus out of tots. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 6:30pm; free.

THURSDAY 30

Blood Car (2007) D: Alex Orr; with Mike Brune, Anna Chlumsky, Katie Rowlett, Matt Hutchinson. (NR, 75 min.) Austin Film Festival. In this dark comedy, Archie's wheatgrass-powered car decides it likes the color red better than green when it decides its alternative fuel of choice is blood. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, \$4, AFF members free.

The Digital Prophet (1995) D: Christopher Romero; with Blake Bahner, Jeffrey Combs, Annie Biggs. **Tromatic Thursday**. A pair of detectives track an Internet killer. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek,

Lost (2007) TV @ the Alamo. No commercials, back-to-back screenings of last week's episode followed by the newest. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 8pm; @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek.

Offscreen

FRIDAY 26

Lori 16mm Varga Concert/Cinema

Theater, 9pm; \$5 suggested donation.

(2008) D: Lori 16mm Varga. Varga's film instal-

lation is hand-cut and hand-painted and set to four Austin music acts: Bright Duplex, Balmorhea,

Gary Barft*ts, and A New Low. @Salvage Vanguard

Tying the Knot (2004) D: Jim de Sève. (NR,

81 min.) Community Movie and Discussion Night.

gay marriage in the United States. @Wells Branch Community Library, 7pm; free.

Documentary looks at the current debate over

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Screen It Like You Mean It Austin Studios has a state-of-the-art screening room, and, lucky you, they've opened it up on a rental basis to the public, which means you can finally toss out that old Sony Watchman you've been thrusting in potential distributors' mugs for the past three years. Community and indie rates are available for the room, which sports an 18-footby-7-foot screen, 28 fixed theatre seats, and a surround-sound system and supports Super-35, 35mm, 16mm, VHS, and DVD formats. Handicap accessible, restrooms - the works. They also have a "break room" suitable for presentations, meetings, and general cinematic tomfoolery. 322-0145. www.austinstudios.org

Spring Classes From the Austin School of Film Lighting for Film and Video Workshop and DV and HD Camera Basics Workshop are coming up and, hallelujah, they're being taught by Spencer Parsons. Register now; see the Austin Film School website for details and other upcoming classes available. www.austinfilmschool.org.

SXSW Volunteers Needed Wanna see what happens behind the scenes at the Music, Film, or Interactive Festivals; earn a chance to see shows; and generally be *involved* in the glory and the grime? Volunteer! Jobs range from festival production to conference activities including registration, information, trade show, technical support, and more. Day and night positions are available. Volunteers must be able to work a minimum of 30 hours or four nights during the event, depending on their crew type. Sign up today. See website for details. www.sxsw.com/volunteer.

Texas All-Star Nobelity Dinner is a fundraiser at the Four Seasons, to benefit One Peace at a Time, the sequel to Nobelity. Guest of honor is Nobel laureate Steve Weinberg; your dinner hosts are Owen Wilson, Ricardo Chavira of Desperate Housewives, Kinky Friedman, Martie Maguire of the Dixie Chicks, the Greater Tuna stars, Mike Judge, Harry Anderson, Shawn Colvin, Joe Ely, Jimmie Dale Gilmore, Lawrence Wright, and more. Cocktail reception precedes the dinner. Much live music and entertainment throughout. Sun., Jan. 27, 6-9pm. Four Seasons Hotel, 98 San Jacinto, 478-4500. \$10,000 for a table of 10.

The Network Austin Mixer Mingle with local film and media talents at these casual events, rubbing like-minded elbows and getting a load of who's filming who and what's up in the industry. The featured speaker this week is the multitalented and highly acclaimed force of nature known as CK McFarland. Wed., Jan. 30, 7pm. Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747. www.networkaustinmixer.com

TheFilmSchool Application Deadline Thu., Jan. 31. 206/709-2555. \$2995 (scholarships are available). www.thefilmschool.com

Without Warning (1980) D: Greydon Clark; with Jack Palance, Martin Landau, Cameron Mitchell, David Caruso. (NR, 89 min.) **Terror** Thursday. Or: Alien vs. Hillbillies. From the director of cult fave Satan's Cheerleaders. @Alamo Ritz,

SPACES

Eagle vs Shark (2007) D: Taika Waititi; with Jemaine Clement, Loren Horsley, Brian Sergent, Craig Hall, Rachel House, Cohen Holloway, Joel Tobeck, Morag Hills. (R, 88 min.) Flight of the Conchords' Clement stars in this Kiwi romantic comedy for misfits. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm; free.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. The deadline for the Feb. 8 issue is Monday, Jan. 28. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork.

Send submissions to the Chronicle, PO Box 49066. Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com

Contact Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen) calendar@austinchronicle.com

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see

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.

U2 3D (2008) See p.82.

Wildfire: Feel the Heat (1999)

D: Mike Slee; narrated by Andre Braugher. (NR, 40 min.) Crews put out really big fires around

The first laugh-out-loud comedy of the new year!" James Thomas, "First Look"/KDNL-TV (ABC)

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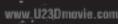
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music listings

Sharon Jones is the 5-foot, 51-year-old reigning queen of soul whose dynamic stage presence comes as close as anyone to rivaling the late James Brown. She and the eightpiece Dap-Kings are the crown jewel of the fiercely independent Brooklyn-based Daptone Records, which has been spearheading a soul revival for a decade plus. Thankfully, mainstream audiences are beginning to catch on.

"I hear all this stuff about Amy Winehouse and Mark [Ronson] and all these people bringing back the funk, bringing back the soul," Jones says. "Nobody's bringing it back because we never left it! I'm just glad we're being recognized right now."

Ironically, that recognition can be partly attributed to Winehouse, who nabbed the Dap-Kings for her platinum-plus Back to Black album and subsequent tour. Watching a skinny white girl reach paparazzi-level popularity with her band was no shock for Jones. She's been dismissed by record suits since the late 1970s.

"I didn't have the look," she explains. "I was too dark, too short, too fat, and once you got past a certain age. I was too old."

Jones spent much of the last 20 years as a corrections officer, begrudgingly performing Jennifer Lopez covers at wedding receptions. Only a few short years separate her stint as a wedding singer and headlining a sold-out Apollo Theater, where she and the Dap-Kings celebrated the release of their third and most recent album, 2007's 100 Days, 100 Nights.

Thanks in part to last year's South by Southwest performance at Antone's, Jones landed a small role as a juke-joint singer in the new Denzel Washington film The Great Debaters. For now, however, nothing makes her happier than rocking with the Dap-Kings.

"I don't care about what other people think anymore; I just have to make me happy. We're putting out some good music right now, and when we get onstage, that's - Thomas Fawcett

NYC gypsies Ivan Milev Band open.

.....



Friday: The Greyboy Allstars, Waterloo Records, 5pm Saturday: **Broken Teeth**, Encore Records Video & Apparel, 7pm; Sharon Tate's Baby, Prom Nite, Dumb, MonkeyWrench Books, 7pm Tuesday: This Will Destroy You, Waterloo Records, 5pm



Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings

ANTONE'S, SATURDAY 26

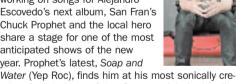
John Hammond

CACTUS CAFE, FRIDAY 25

With a career spanning more than 40 years, John Hammond has earned his blues stripes. Whether fronting a tight band or performing solo with just a guitar and harmonica, Hammond's collected an astonishing repertoire of classic blues songs encompassing the entire history of the genre. He'll no doubt draw from the many styles that characterize his most recent album, Push Comes to Shove (Back Porch). Jay Trachtenberg

Chuck Prophet CONTINENTAL CLUB, FRIDAY 25

After spending most of 2007 working on songs for Alejandro Chuck Prophet and the local hero anticipated shows of the new



ative, though some of that finesse might be lost live, replaced with grit and volume. Houston's Lisa Novak teams up with L.L. Cooper and Rich Hopkins to open. Escovedo headlines. Visit austinchronicle.com/earache for more with Prophet.

Terp 2 It MOHAWK, FRIDAY 25

Following the second night of ColdTowne Theater's three-day comedy festival (see "see.hear.speak.three," p.35), shoot on down Red River for a grab bag of inspired musical curiosities. Local rapper Terp 2 It harnesses hip-hop hilarity from debut The Freshest Dude. By contrast, Alexander's Dark Band skews positively pastoral with wind, strings, and quirk-laden wordplay. Cover enthusiasts the Promise Breakers and Mr. Susan add to the mirth. - Greg Beets

Rattletree COPA, SATURDAY 26

Who knew four guys banging on marimbas could be so entertaining? Led by local musicologist Joel Laviolette, this sixpiece Austin percussion ensemble is highlighted by four handmade marimbas, including the absurdly large bass marimba, which requires either a stepladder or a musically inclined Yao Ming. The trance-inducing Zimbabwean chants and Afro-pop stylings can make audiences spellbound. Beware of flailing limbs.

- Thomas Fawcett

Pharoahe Monch

PARISH, SUNDAY 27

New York's Pharoahe Monch built a reputation as a progressively conscious lyricist among his contemporaries while remaining a stranger to radio play. Though he helped ghostwrite part of



T-Bird & the Breaks ANTONE'S, MONDAY 28

The bassist and backup singers may look too young to vote, but newcomers T-Bird & the Breaks are old souls bringing serious R&B heat. The local 10-piece indulges the requisite Wilson Pickett and Sly & the Family Stone covers but is at its best pounding out originals by dynamic frontman Tim Crane, a slick-haired, gravel-voiced shouter in the mold of blue-eyed Texas soul sensation Roy Head.

Chase Hoffberger CAROUSEL LOUNGE, THURSDAY 31 Trumpet-infused quartet Bee vs. Moth

bounces around jazz, post-punk, and ska, igniting the senses with a mix of Elfmanesque melodies and brainy exploration. There's plenty of instrumental gold to be mined on last year's animated Soundhorn. Former Bad Liver Ralph White's rough-hewn take on Americana triangulates between Appalachia, Acadiana, and Africa first. - Greg Beets

Gram Rabbit PARISH, TUESDAY 29

fronting bombshell Jesika von Rabbit, Gram

vision. Developing their psychedelic desert

trance since aptly titled 2004 debut, Music

RadioAngel & the RobotBeat (Royal Order)

guns the goth swell.

Bee vs. Moth

to Start a Cult To (Stinky Records), last year's

sounds like Shirley Manson reigning over VNV

Nation. Local fivepiece Death Is Not a Joyride

- Doug Freeman

Rabbit seems like the spawn of an absurdist

Given the Joshua Tree, Calif., quartet's leporidian fascination, playful industrial beats, and

The Bangles LA ZONA ROSA, THURSDAY 31

If you can't hear "Walk Like an Egyptian" without flashing back to the time you permed your bangs, you're not alone. The Bangles were the quintessential 1980s girl group, pop and jangly rock that birthed insta-hits like "Manic Monday" and "Eternal Flame." The touring trio guitarist/singer Susanna Hoffs, bassist Vicki Peterson, and drummer Debbi Peterson, minus original bassist Michael Steele - has a handful of other gems from the Reagan years up to 2003's Doll Revolution. Say farewell to locals Tammany Hall Machine first. - Audra Schroeder







Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER



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Cactus Cafe, Saturday 26 The Brit folkie purrs "Year of the Cat.'

ROBIN TROWER

La Zona Rosa, Sunday 27 The former Procol Harum axeman majors in "guitar face."

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Red 7, Tuesday 29 Teenage kicks, electro-pop.

- Thomas Fawcett

Scott 'n' Slash slither back into

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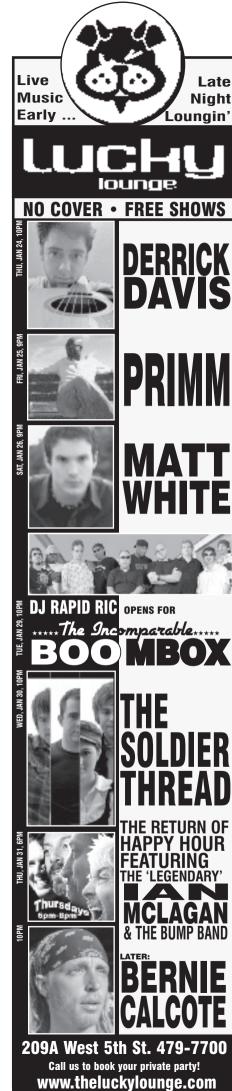
Reynolds channels Duke Ellington's shuffle and glow.

VELVET REVOLVER

Stubb's, Thursday 31

Beerland, Thursday 31









CACTUS CAFÉ 8:30pm JO 7_{Dm} ⁷pm sign-ur hosted by * ABI TAPIA & GRAHAM WEBEI 8:30pm 8:30pm in 8:30pm B 0 8:30pm 8:30pm C 0 ij R ලේ 7:30pm feb www.utexas.edu/student/txunion/ae/cactus 2 2 2 KI DOLL 2 2 HEND IX 'N 2 2 NIGI 2 2 2 **IUBB** The Cactus is located inside the Texas Union. Happy Hour is 4-7pm, Monday-Friday. Tickets @ the door & all shows @ 9pm unless otherwise noted.

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REVEREND IONNY FLASH E AT ANCHOR EDDIE DINERO

WEENESDAY-JANUARY 30 THURSDAY-JANUARY 31 ANNUAL BIRTHDAY BASH

🎎 SLICK DICKENS A SILENT HEART GO ACTION TEAM 6 FEARS WITH ROCKETS

FRIDAY-FEBRUARY 1 SATURDAY-FEBRUARY 2 SIXES AND EIGHTS NEW DISASTER

BLUE HERO FOR SAKE OF THE RUIKS KITSCH LOUDER THAN LUNACY

NO AT SABERTH CROM, RECAN, SALATSKIN PRISON, DOLLE MORRESON 03-08 THERES FOR THE WARRIEST, LEADONNE, SHAMBERE 00-00 INSITE MARKLINE PRESENTS SEAN CLAES BIRTONY BASA FEATURING LANGUAGE BOOM DIVE-EYED DOLL IS-14 LA COURS FEATURING POIL LEWIS & STEPRIEN BILEY

02-15 THE AUSTIN MUSIC FOUNDATION PRESENTS for private parties and info call: 512-474-1084 705 RED RIVER ST

Thursday . Jan. 24 SPECIAL EVENT

Indie, Electro, Britpop, New Wave, & Postpunk WITH DJs FILTHY RICH & SIREN SUMMER

Friday • Jan. 25 📶 YEMUSIC

CYANIGHT ®

a night of live psy world, dubtek, breakbeat, electro, dubstep & more

Production Unit Xero/ Dubnautica 1230W

Happy Panjoma ****

In-Fin It week

DJ KLAK spinning throughout the night

with

Saturday • Jan. 26 THAVEN goth, industrial, synthpop, & eurodance HAVEN WITH DJS VOID & THE GOTHFATHER

Sunday • Jan. 27 REGRESSION

RETRO 80's RETRO 80'S RETRO 80' REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Tuesday - Jan. 29/9025 NIGHT So Last Century... 90's Night

WITH DJs BOBA FETT & MINIMUS Wednesday Jan. 30 / MID WAVE

UNDERGROUND Tetro & OLD SCHOOL goth

WITH DJS PUMPKIN SPICE & EDMINISTER

UPCOMING EVENT

Fri. Feb. 1 • A TRIBUTE TO HANDSOME JOEL - live music from Dixie Witch, Brewtality, Inc. & more

Thu. Feb. 7 • Live! Lucid Dementia, Tungsten Coil, subNatural, gfire

Fri. Feb. 8 • KINGS N' THINGS

Sat. Feb. 9 • Livel DE/VISION

21+ only • doors @ 9:30 PM unless specified more detailed information available at: www.clysiumonlinc.net • (512) 478-2979 www.myspace.com/elysiumaustin



upcoming tribute concerts all musicians are ages 7-17

THE WHO

FRI & SAT, JAN 25 & 26, 7 PM

GUITAR GODS

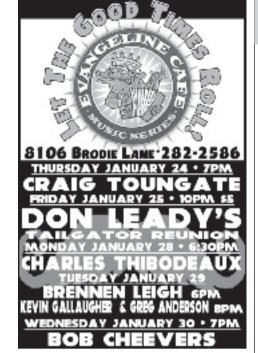
FEB 1, 7 PM & FEB 2, 7:30 PM

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www.schoolofrock.com







3601 S. Congress, Suite D 200, Penn Field, South Anstin, (Behind Expose), 512-707-9637, Rutumaya.net for details

7 PM B Miller Band Kalu James, Soul Kitchen

7:30 PM Matt Delrossi 8:30 PM Josh Halverson

9:30 PM Vermicious Canids TUESDAYS ARE OPEN MIKE - NO COVER! 6 PM Poetry Open Mic

9 PM Music Open Mic

SCUBAN DANCE NIGHT
FREE Salsa Lesson 7-20 Day Live Salsa 9 PM with CIENFUEGOS

Fresh Organic Coffee! FREE YOGA - Check Online Calendar

austinchronicle.com

club listings

Thu 24

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle

311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30) ANTONE'S Carla Cameron CD Release (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Boomer

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Homer Henderson

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Wynn Taylor, Hosea Hargrove
BEAUTY BAR Pataphysics, La

BEERLAND Expensive Shit, Pepperonis, Dumb, Styrofoam Duck, Megazilla

THE BELMONT Dysfunkshun Junkshun (8:00) **BENNIGAN'S** Andy Fiegal (7:00)

BLIND PIG PUB Ben Burgess **BROKEN SPOKE** Jesse Dayton THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau

CACTUS CAFE Malcolm

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Jackson

CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, Radiostar (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Lost & Nameless Orchestra (6:30) CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Paris 49 (10:00); In the Club: Izzy Cox, Dash Rip Rock, Barfield (6:30)

COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8.00)

COTTON CLUB Texas All-Stars

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's

Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER
GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio

EGO'S Robert Banta, 2 Hoots

ELEPHANT ROOM Joe Cordi & Giant City, Ron Westray (6:00)

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO CLUBS AND BANDS: Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue, published on Thursday, Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159; or e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com

roadshows

JANUARY

THU 24

Styrofoam Duck, Beerland Malcolm Holcomb, Cactus

Dash Rip Rock, Continental

Miley Cyrus, Frank Erwin

The Wayhigh Men, Goodman Country, Headhunters Trampled by Turtles,

Harry Bodine, North by

Little Richard, Paramount Theatre

U.S. Bombs, Orange, Red 7 Exeter, Red Eyed Fly Flamin' Hellcats, Riley's

FRI 25

Drug Rug, Beauty Bar Possessed by Paul James, Beerland

John Hammond, Cactus Cafe Chuck Prophet, Lisa Novak, L.L. Cooper, Rich Hopkins, **Continental Club**

Sole, Capillary Action, Emo's

The Slackers, Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans Flamingo Cantina

Moist Boys, Bent Eye Bolt,

Greyboy All-Stars, Leon Mobley, Da Lion, La Zona

Movies, the Parish Ese, the Malpractice, Red 7 Whorehound, Room 710

DJ Jester the Filipino Fist,

Chief Alfred Doucet, Ruta Mava Harry Bodine, Saxon Pub

The Lonely H, Stubb's Beth Bladen, Thunderbird Coffee House

Paleo, Trophy's Greyboy All-Stars, Waterloo Records

Lamberts

Matt Wilson, Meow

Rogue Wave, Midnight

Sharon Jones & the Dap-Kings, Ivan Milev Band, Antone's

Hacienda, Beerland Al Stewart, Cactus Cafe Beth Bladen, Ego's Drug Rug, Emo's Scott Drake, End of an Ear

The Slackers, Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans, Flamingo Cantina

Keller Williams, WMD's, La Zona Rosa Vex. Red 7

Warm Winter, El Gato, Red Eyed Fly

Harry Belafonte, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Riverbend Centre

Within Chaos, Stubb's Joker, Stubb's Moist Boys, Triple Crown Novice, Trophy's

SUN 27

Terri Fann, B.B. Rovers Wheatfield, Cactus Cafe Joker, Jovita's Robin Trower, La Zona Rosa Pharoahe Monch, Orgone, DJ Eleven, the Parish Strength Behind Tears,

Red 7 Smokin' Toads, Room 710 **MON 28**

Nanosmash, the Parlor

TUE 29

Rex Foster, Cactus Cafe Gram Rabbit, the Parish Geisert 8, Red 7

Frenetica, Flamingo Cantina The Soldier Thread, Lucky Lounge

Laromlab, Cowboy Robot, Mohawk

Jennifer Nicely, Momo's Ursula 1000, the Parish Make Your Own Maps, Red 7

Blue Light Special, Sam's Town Point

THU 31

Total Vengeance, Beauty Bar **Nicky Click**, Chain Drive White Williams, Emo's The Spores, Flamingo Cantina The Bangles, La Zona Rosa

Matt Wilson, Meow Dog Men Poets, Merkaba Lounge & Grill

Velvet Revolver. Stubb's Sassy Goose, Trophy's

for your benefit

PLAN of Central Texas Benefit w/ Eddy Hobizal, Tina Marsh, Spazio

Evening Under the Oaks, French Legation Museum Benefit w/ Johnny Goudie, French **Legation Museum**

Kirk Watson's Register to Rock w/ Noise in Action, Joker, Shockraid, Fire Ants, A.J. Vincent, Max & Henry, Blues Mafia, the Daze, Stubb's

> See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

Proper Gander Benefit w/ Delicious Foods, Fambly, Indian Jewelry, Attic Ted, **Scoot Inn and**

Nolapalooza: The Porch 7th Ward Cultural Organization Benefit w/ Little Elmore Reed, Belleville Outfit, Warren Hood, Mercury Hall

Grounded in Music Fundraiser w/ Vallejo, **Gibson Guitar Showroom**

Shotgun Party Caritas Benefit, Continental

THU 31

Ron Paul Liberty Ball w/ the Story Of, Golden Bear, Ruta Maya

SAT CENTRAL BOOKING PRESENTS
THE PARTY

TUE AUSTINIST'S INDIEROKE
5 NO COVER + HAPPY HOUR ALL NIGHT LONG!

AM SYNDICALE
1 ATTACK FORMATION, THE BLACK,
FEB BIG SOY

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FRI 25 > Sunjay Devarajan, Jane Bond



. Every Saturday Colin Gilmore SOULKITCHEN

EVERY MON > T Jarrod Bonta

EVERY TUES > Nueva Cosa

EVERY WED > Happy Hr. Michael Fracasso, Kevin Carro

Barton Springs • 480.8646 Every THU > Aunt Rubie's Sweet Jazz Babies

Every FRI > Hilary York, SOULKITCHEN •••• Saturday 26



Adam Carroll Stayton Bonner

MON 28 > Nueva Cosa, Los Jackalopes

Every TUE > Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory

WED 30 > Marshall Jones & the Frontier Phrenologists Shape Parker and the Downhill Band



Floyd Domino. Marvin Dykhuis & special guests!!

Tues. 1/29/08 @ 8pm

Will Sexton & Bill Carter,

WED. 1/30/08 @ 8PM

INSIDE SHOW

NO COVER

SHINYRIBS

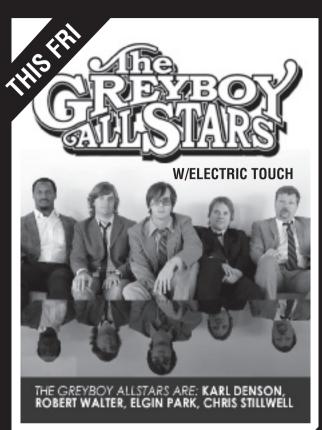
WITH KEVIN RUSSELL OF THE GOURDS



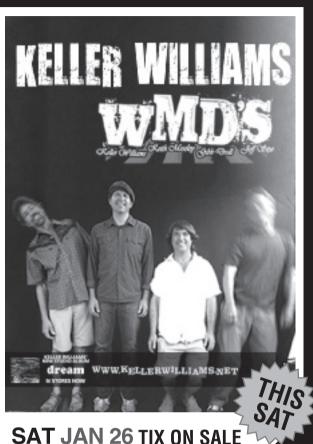
THIS WEEKEND AT ***

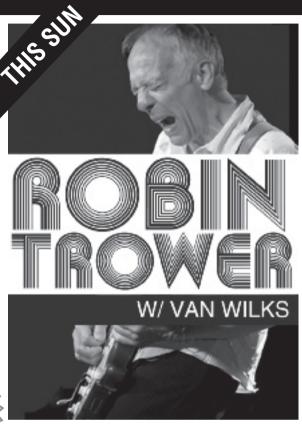
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Thursday 01.24.08

Wednesday 01.30.08

Thursday 01.31.08

and Mr. Brown & Dublids

Guerrilles olLiliput

02.01: Sierra Leone's Refugee Al-Store

02.02: Brokebread's Going Away Show

02.07 - Rage vs. the Doc, Zenith Fuzzbomb, The Bains, and

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FRIDAY JANUARY 25 SUZANNA CHOFFEL

SOUL GROOVES

SATURDAY JANUARY 26 **DONNA HIGHTOWER**

SUNDAY JANUARY 27

McLAIN JONES

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 1 CIENFUEGOS

CUBAN

FRI & SAT 6:30 - 9pm SUNDAYS 12:30 - 3 pm

@ CENTRAL PARK:

Feb 2 - WARREN HOOD

Feb 3 - PORTERDAVIS

Feb 8 - TROY CAMPBELL

Feb 9 - TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS

Call 512-206-1000 for details **CENTRAL PARK**

40th & N. Lamar CAFÉ OPEN 7AM - 9PM SUNDAY - THURSDAY 7AM - 10PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY FREE MUSIC, GREAT FOOD, COVERED PATIO & KIDS PLAYSCAPE

@WESTGATE

THURSDAY JANUARY 24 LOST & NAMELESS ORCHESTRA

IRISH, APPALACHIAN

SUNDAY JANUARY 27 CIENFUEGOS

CUBAN

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 30 JEFF LOFTON

JAZZ

THURSDAY JANUARY 31 JIM STRINGER & AM BAND

AMERICANA

WED & THURS 6:30 - 9pm 12:30 - 3 pm SUNDAYS

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Feb 6 - TEXAS EASTSIDE KINGS

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WESTGATE 4477 South Lamar CAFÉ OPEN 7AM - 9PM SUNDAY - THURSDAY

7AM - 10PM FRIDAY & SATURDAY FREE MUSIC & GREAT FOOD

Matt the Electrician & Southpaw Jones (8:00)

FRANK ERWIN CENTER Miley

Enrique Rumiche & the Peruvasaurus Rexes (9:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL Erin Ivey,

Crystal Jukebox (7:00)

JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band

THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic

Ewing, River Hymn
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan

Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)

MEOW Kenny Luna (9:00)

Trés, Jets Under Fire **MOHAWK** Adeline, Trampled by

Fingered Charlie, Rodney Pyeatt (8:00)

THE OAKS Singer-Songwriter Series w/ Sharon & Lew Andre Mathews, Regan Brown & David Leibson

Marcus Rubio
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Dickie

Swine Horde, the Network,

RED EYED FLY Exeter, Driver F, Goodnight Goddess

RED FEZ Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30)

RILEY'S TAVERN Flamin'

THE ROCK ROOM Karaoke w/

Stride, Nancy Silva Project, Adrian & the Sickness, One-Eyed Doll

Benefit w/ Eddy Hobizal, Tina Marsh (7:00) STUBB'S Alpha Rev T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00) THE THIRSTY NICKEL Dave

EMO'S Lounge: Swiss; Inside: Walkingwithaghost, Secular End, Prom Nite, the Stones

EVANGELINE CAFE Craig

Toungate (7:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Squidley,
Drive It Like You Stole It, Damp
Heat, Supersonic Uke

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE

Cyrus (8:00)

GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Roy &

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (9:00) HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan

HEADHUNTERS Goodman Country, Sabbath Crow, the Wayhigh Men, Grinding Wheel THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE

HILL'S CAFE High Speed Hay Ride (7:00)

Tenlons Fort, Nick Krauss & His Austin Torpedoes (9:00) **HOMER'S BAR & GRILL** Karaoke

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA

(7:00) **LOUIE'S 106** Mac Bynum (6:30) **LUCKY LOUNGE** Derrick Davis

(10:00) **LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Grant

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL

MOMO'S Wendy Colonna, 11-

NORTH BY NORTHWEST Harry

ONE 2 ONE BAR A.J. 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,

Lee Erwin (8:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR &

GRILL Stop the Truck
RED 7 Inside: Career Criminal,
Orange, the Johns, U.S.
Bombs; Outside: The Cabaret,

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)

ROOM 710 Amanda Lepre, Full

RUTA MAYA Meagan Tubb & Shady People (7:00), Dented Mindz, Pain Killaz, Dove House Click (9:30)

SAXON PUB Tara Graham, Carolyn Wonderland, George Devore, Uncle Lucius (6:00) SHEMANIGANS Karaoke w/

SPAZIO PLAN of Central Texas

TRIPLE CROWN Phil Stevens, Melba Toast, Elephant Nightmare, the Murdocks THE WATER TANK TOO Steven

Franks (9:00) **Z'TEJAS** Brewer Nation (6:00)

Fri 25

311 CLUB Stephanie Bradley, Joe Valentine (8:30) **ANTONE'S** Dedringers, the

Gourds (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE The

Studebakers
AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET **DOWNTOWN** Beth Ferguson

(10:00am) **B.B. ROVERS** Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench (7:00) B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Alan

BEAUTY BAR Drug Rug, Diagonals, Awesome Cool Dudes

BEERLAND Ghostwriter, Big Foot Chester, Possessed by Paul James, Chili Cold Blood

THE BELMONT Jack Roe Combo (9.00)BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega BOOMERZ Electric Ocean,

Supercrash 'BOUT TIME DJ Element
BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow CACTUS CAFE John Hammond

CAFE CAFFEINE Brent Adair, Neal Mehta
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

w/ Nicole

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Greatest

American Heroes
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Blaze (6:30)
CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR

Electric Mountain Rotten Apple Gang, Wino Vino (9:00) CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:
Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio; In the
Club: The Blues Specialists
(6:30), Rich Hopkins, L.L. Cooper, Lisa Novak, Chuck Prophet, Alejandro Escovedo (9:30)

COOL RIVER CAFE The Grooves **COTTON CLUB** Dave Jorgenson DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE
Denia Ridley (8:00)

EGO'S Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Dr. Todd **EL RINCON PFLUGERVILLE**

Mariachis (7:00) **EL RINCON ROUND ROCK** The

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani (6:30)

ELYSIUM DubNautica, DJ Klak, In-Fin It, Happy Panjoma, Production Unit Xero EMO'S Daniel Francis Doyle, Capillary Action, Telephone Jim Jesus, Sole

EVANGELINE CAFE Don Leady's Tailgator Reunion (10:00)



FLAMINGO CANTINA Channel One, Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans, the Slackers (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE

FRENCH LEGATION MUSEUM Evening Under the Oaks, French Legation Museum Benefit w/ Johnny Goudie

(8:00)(8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN
SALOON Teri Joyce & the
Tagalongs (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Ezra Charles

(8:00) **HANOVER'S** Bent Eye Bolt, Pure Luck, Moist Boys, Freebleeder (8:30)

HEADHUNTERS Expiration Unknown, Exile, Blood Moon Howlers, 13th Victim, Belligerent 86

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Adam Buhrman (6:15) HILL'S CAFE Greg Schroder

HOLE IN THE WALL James Bullard, Perfect Pants (10:00) HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke

JOVITA'S Billy Dee, Dale Watson

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim LA ZONA ROSA Da Lion, Leon

Mobley, Greyboy All-Stars **LAMBERTS** Kat's Meow (6:30). Noise Revivial Orchestra w/ DJ Jester the Filipino Fist (10:30) LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR Jeremy Miller

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LUCKY LOUNGE Primm (9:00) LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Bernie Calcote, Quickly Now

MAGGIE MAE'S Sex & the City

w/ D-Madness (6:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)

MEOW Matt Wilson (9:00)

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL LC MOHAWK Mr. Susan, Promisebreakers, Alexander's Dark Band, Terp 2 It

MOMO'S Michael Hill, Amy Cook, Jeremy Nail, Dave Madden, Suzanna Choffel

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB 8 Ball Down
NORTH BY NORTHWEST James

Thomas & Bill Carter (6:30) **NUTTY BROWN CAFE** Bruce Newman's Nutty Karaoke **THE OAKS** Brennen Leigh (8:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Jon Napier THE PARISH Midnight Movies,

Rogue Wave THE PARLOR Sweater Vest Hooligans, Hoodrats
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Mary

Cutrufello & the Havoline
Supremes (8:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR &
GRILL Rare Dog, Guy Forsyth
RABBIT'S LOUNGE Moving Blues
(9:00)

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED 7 Outside: Don't Tread on Me Sound Ordinance Protest w/ the Anchor, Rend, Like Dogs, the Stones We Throw, the Bread; Inside: The Malpractice, Ese, Johnny Hootrock

RED EYED FLY Axle Wolf, Rubber Monster, Hi Watt Crucifixers, Gentlemen's Social Club, Adrenaline Factor

RED FEZ Bruce James, DJ Inverse (8:00)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00) RILEY'S TAVERN Joel Hofmann Band CD Release

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield
ROOM 710 Tia Carrera, Splithoof,
Death Hell Battle Tank,
Whorehound, Oklahomos

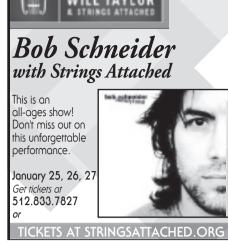
RUTA MAYA Paul Green School of Rock Music (7:00), Pre-Mardi Gras Party w/ Big Chief Kevin & the Flaming Arrows, Chief Alfred Doucet, Nelson Saga & Arma del Alma (9:00)

SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER Church of the Friendly Ghost Night w/ A New Low, Gary Barftits, Bright Duplex, Balmorhea (8:00)

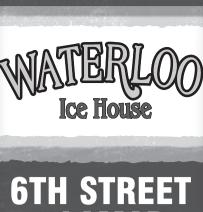
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OCATIONS:









& LAMAR 472-5400

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Will Dunlap Fri 1/25 **Bob Cheeves** Sat 1/26 Will Dunlap Tue 1/29 Wed 1/30 Ptarmigan

All shows are 7-9pm









THURSDAY FEB 07 SUREFIRE MEDIA PRESENTS MANY BIRTHDAYS • THE CARROTS

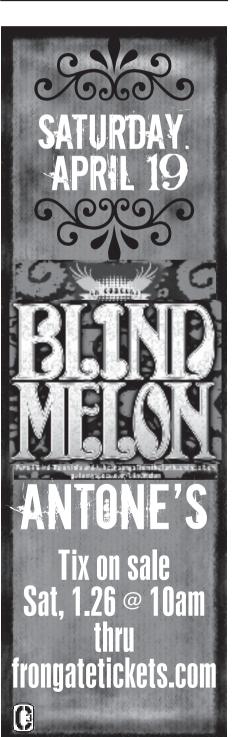
FRIDAY FEB 15

ALVIN YOUNGBLOOD HART KEEP THE DEVIL DOWN TOUR ON BALE NOW - FRONTCATETICKETS.COM **CREC DULLI & MARK LANEGAM** ON SALE NOW - FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

THURSDAY FEB 21

Phil Stevens 6pm Elephant Nightmare, Melba Toast, The Murdocks 9pm Zydeco Blanco 6pm Green Mountain Grass, Sick Spack 10pm Pocket FishRmen, Crown Dregs, Moist Boys 10pm Su 27 Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 8pm Cody Richardson 6pm Triple Tronica 10pm Mo 28 RC Banks 6pm Fambly, Thousand Foot Whale Claw, Gold Teeth & Gucci 9pm **Bruce Curtis Band 6pm** Spank, Dimitri's Ascent 9pm Nathan Hamilton 6pm Bloodshot Pyramid, Destroying Infinity 10pm Eric Hisaw 6pm The Belgraves, Dual Exhaust 9pm FREE SHOW!!! - Word Association Presents:

Chief (CD Release), Tee Double, SpyHop 10pm





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club listings ◀ ◀ FROM FRIDAY

SAM'S TOWN POINT Jon Emery

SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00), Harry Bodine, Lisa Hayes, Guy Forsyth (8:00)

SCOOT INN AND BIER GARTEN Big Black Smoke, Ripe, Amplified Heat

SHAKESPEARE'S PUB Whiskey Songs & Prison Songs
SHOOTERS BILLIARDS

Dysfunkshun Junkshun (9:00)

SPEAKEASY Memphis Train

STARDUST CLUB Sam Bentley STUBB'S The Alice Rose, the

Lonely H, the Century

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Jason

Marbach
THE THIRSTY NICKEL

THUNDERBIRD COFFEE HOUSE

Marla Martin, Lonesome Dave Fisher, David Lear, Beth Bladen TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL

Stanley Smith & Korey Simeone (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Zydeco Blanco, Green Mountain Grass
TROPHY'S Cartwright, Paleo, La

THE WATER-HOLE SALOON

Karaoke w/ Jonn
WATERLOO RECORDS Greyboy

Sat 26

311 CLUB George Rarey, Joe Valentine (8:30)

ANTONE'S Ivan Milev Band, Sharon Jones & the Dap Kings

ARTZ RIB HOUSE The Seiker

Band **B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's **BEAUTY BAR** Car Stereo (Wars)

BEERLAND Hacienda, the Black, Dazzling King Solomon

THE BELMONT Cienfuegos (9:00)

BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega **BOOMERZ** Weldon Henson **BOUT TIME** DJ Element (9:00) **BROKEN SPOKE** Geezinslaw Bros. w/ Sam & Son

THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau CACTUS CAFE AI Stewart (8:30) THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CAROUSEL LOUNGE The Sanguinistas, Transgressors, Lonesome Dave Fisher **CENTRAL MARKET NORTH**

CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Von Eric Williamson, Melissa Bryan

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (10:00); In the Club: James Hand (3:00), Patricia Vonne, Charanga Cakewalk (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE Jawbreaker

COPA BAR & GRILL Rattletree COTTON CLUB Kenny Orts (9:00) DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (8:00)

EGO'S The Nob Hill Billys, Diesel Kings, Beth Bladen, Hotrod Hillbillies (8:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Lara & Reves

ELYSIUM Haven w/ DJ Void, the Gothfather (10:30)

EMO'S Dans la Lune. Frank

Smith, Drug Rug, Peel
ENCORE RECORDS, VIDEO &

APPAREL Broken Teeth CD Release (7:00) END OF AN EAR Scott Drake CD

Release (6:00) FADÓ The Blaggards (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Channel One, Ryan Scroggins & the Trenchtown TXans, the FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE

Stayton Bonner, Adam Carroll (9:00), Daniel Cioper (9:00) GIDDY UPS Will Knaak, Charlie

Prichard, John X. Reed, Speedy Sparks, Rusty Trapps (8:30) GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN

SALOON Bear & the Essentials (9:00)

GRAHAM CENTRAL STATION Devola, Shrapnel, QuarterShackle (9:30) GRUENE HALL Gary Claxton, Erik

Hokkanen (1:00), Derailers (9:00) HEADHUNTERS Shit City High,

Poor Dumb Bastards, Black THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE

Tyler Jordan (9:15)
HILL'S CAFE Tres Womack (7:30)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA

Little Jimmys (11:00am)

JOVITA'S Imbibe, Cerronato,
Maneja Beto, El Tule CD
Release (3:00)

LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim
(8:00)

LA ZONA ROSA WMD's, Keller

Williams **LAMBERTS** Marshall Ford Swing

Band (6:30), Golden Arm Trio's

"Duke" (10:30) THE LOADING DOCK Blue Rail

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Matt White LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Much

Love, the Campaign, 11-Fingered Charlie MAGGIE MAE'S Rick Harvey's

Blues Happy Hour (6:00)

MEOW Kenny Luna (9:00) MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Ember, Litany for the Departed



COMING SOON - 2/26 CHRIS DUARTE

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MOHAWK DJ Orion, Kanko

MOMO'S A Place Like This, Tri-Opus, Shannfab, Spin Alley, RX MONKEYWRENCH BOOKS

Dumb, Prom Nite, Sharon Tate's Baby (6:00)

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Plavin' With Svxx

NORTH BY NORTHWEST Stephen Doster & Will Sexton

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Cody Gill THE OAKS Dickie Lee Erwin

ONE 2 ONE BAR Vallejo (10:00) THE OPERA HOUSE Aunt's Analog, Thomas Fang, Visitor Q, Not For 3 (7:00)

THE PARLOR Rogers Porn
Collection, Brownstars
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Mary

Welch y los Curanderos (8:00) **PLUSH** Table Manners Crew

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & **GRILL** Pauline Reese

RED 7 Enemy of Mankind, Ethereal Architect, Ruins of Honor Vex Vesnerian Sorrow

RED EYED FLY El Gato, Warm Winter, Built by Snow, Seaflea, War Against Sleep

RED FEZ DJ Kurv (8:00)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00) RILEY'S TAVERN Li'l Bit & the

RIVERBEND CENTRE MLK Keynote w/ Harry Belafonte, Sweet Honey in the Rock ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Kirk

ROOM 710 Hoodrats, Flash Boys,

the Ends

RUTA MAYA Paul Green School

of Rock Music (7:00), the

Boxing Lesson, Tammany Hall

Machine (9:30) SAM'S TOWN POINT Jimi Lee's

Harmonica Blues Jam (8:30) **SAXON PUB** Dana Cooper, Paul

Sanchez, Carolyn Wonderland (8:00)

STUBB'S Kirk Watson's Register to Rock w/ Noise in Action, Joker, Shockraid, Fire Ants, AJ Vincent, Max & Henry, Blues Mafia, the Daze (noon), Angerkill, Within Chaos, Dead Earth Politics, Course of Ruin CD Release (10:00) SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE Jeff

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Li'l Steph

THE THIRSTY NICKEL I Need

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL

Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30) TRIPLE CROWN Moist Boys

Crown Dregs, Pocket FishRmen TROPHY'S Novice, Dead End Lake, the Action Is, the Flood THE WATER TANK TOO Heroes

THE WATER-HOLE SALOON Curtis Grimes (10:00)



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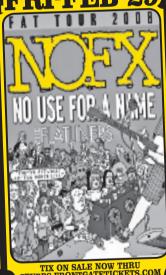




WITH THE LONELY AND THEALICEROS

SAT JAN 26 CD RELEASE ANDDEADEARTHPOLITICS

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AND HIELVETTA

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WED JAN 30

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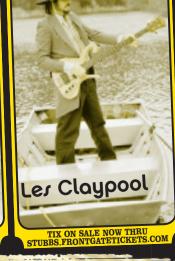
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ALVIN CROW FRI, JAN 25

GEEZINSLAW BROS. SAT, JAN 26

W/SAM & SON

DEBRA PETERS & THE ACCORDION ROUNDUP NO COVER TUE, JAN 29

WED, JAN 30 DOUG MORELAND

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FRIDAY, JAN 25

REVUE 9:30PM

RAYVON 9:30PM SATURDAY, JAN 26

MONDAY, JAN 28

S.I.N. NATHAN TERRELL TERRACE 59

TUESDAY, JAN 29

WEDNESDAY, JAN 30

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Sun 27

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Eddie Collins AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Joe Gee (9:00) B.B. ROVERS Open Mic w/

Missoula Slim, Terri Fann (7:00)

(7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish
Tune Session (8:00)

BEERLAND For Sake of the Ruins,
the Banner Year, Matches for
Memories, the Murdocks

BLIND PIG PUB Joe Vega

BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton

CACTUS CAFE Wheatfield CD

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

w/ Brian
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Cienfuegos (12:30)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:

Mike Flanigin's B-3 Trio (10:00); In the Club: Heybale!

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EGO'S Atomic Honky Tonk w/ Mallory Valentine, Horse Operas, Robert Banta

EL RINCON ROUND ROCK The

ELEPHANT ROOM Marc Devine Quartet w/ Denia Ridley (9:30) ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH Mozart's Birthday Concert w/ AMF Chamber Orchestra (3:00) FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE

Andrea Campise (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE The

Dialtones (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 Belleville Outfit

(4:00)
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE

Austin Sketch Group (1:30)
HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA

Kinktet (11:00am)

JOVITA'S Joker, Blues Mafia

LA ZONA ROSA Van Wilks, Robin

Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:30) LOUIE'S 106 Angelo Lambesis

LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Melting Social Project (9:00)

MANUEL'S Suzi Stern (11:30am)

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL DJ MOMO'S Michael Dart Marshall

Ford Swing Band, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums (6:30)

MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB

Strong Medicine (noon) **NUEVO 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 PARISH DJ Eleven, Orgone,
Pharoahe Monch
THE PARLOR Shand Walton, Jim

Keaveny
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/

RED 7 For the Most Part, Andrea Gail, Strength Behind Tears, Andrea Gail

RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00)





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- 3/T BEACH HOUSE, PAPERCUTS (LOWINGE, ON SALE HOW) - 3/8 SUVERSTEIN, THE DEVIL WEARS PRADA

+3/17 ACD NOTHERS TEMPLE (IN, ON SALE HOW) +3/27 THE DIRTHOMBS, KELLEY STOUTZ, BLACK JOE LEWIS (IN, ON SALE HOW) 4/5 CASIOTONE FOR THE PAINFULDY ALONE, CLUE TO KALD (IN) -4/27 CARIBOU, FUCK BUTTONS (OUT, ON SALE NOW)

-4/30 BONDE DO ROLE, DEATH SET (INSIDE, ON SALE HOW) -5/15-5/18 CHAOS IN TEIAS 5/17 HEW BOMB TURKS, QUADRAJETS - 5/23 CLINIC (OUT, OH SALE HOW)



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RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/

ROADHOUSE RAGS 2 Hoots & a

Holler (4:00)

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield ROOM 710 Occidentals, Smokin' Toads, Scraps of Life, Mercyy RUTA MAYA Kalu James, Soul

Kitchen, B. Miller Band (7:00) **SAXON PUB** The Resentments.

Shelley King, Leeann Atherton (7:00)

(7:00)

SCOOT INN AND BIER GARTEN
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SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

TROPHY'S Azoustin WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra

Mon 28

ANTONE'S T-Bird & the Breaks

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 THE BELMONT Chadd Thomas &

the Crazy Kings (6:30) **BLIND PIG PUB** Ben Burgess,
Upstairs: Aaron Navarro

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton

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)

THE CROSSINGS Craig Hella Johnson (6:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE
Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EGO'S Wes Nickson, Open Stage w/ Robert Banta

ELEPHANT ROOM Three Jazz Collective, Michael Mordecai's Jazz Jam (6:00) EVANGELINE CAFE Charles

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T.

Jarrod Bonta (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE

Nueva Cosa (8:00) **GÜERO'S TACO BAR** Trio Indiano

(6:30) **HANOVER'S** Kudzu Karnival THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Open Mic Poetry & Reading **HOLE IN THE WALL** Landis

Armstrong's Guilty Pleasures

HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE

THE PARLOR Nanosmash PLUSH Brownstars

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR &
GRILL Ru Coleman & Texas

Boogie

RABBIT'S LOUNGE Blue Monday

w/ Willie Sampson (8:00)

RED FEZ DJ Jeff Jupiter (10:00)

ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound

System (8:00)

RUTA MAYA Matt Delrossi, Josh

Halverson, Vermicious Canids (7:30)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Breck'S Stormy Open Blues Jam (8:30) SAXON PUB Matt the Electrician, Bob Schneider, James Bullard,

SCOOT INN AND BIER GARTEN

Jennifer Leonhardt
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &

Brandon Jenkins (7:00)

GRILL Brent Wood
SPEAKEASY Jonathan Terrell

THE THIRSTY NICKEL Patty

Tue 29

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Lee Duffy, Joe Manuel, Warren Hood, Floyd Domino, Marvin Dykhuis (8:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Cody Richardson, Triple Tronica w/ Jón Dishon

311 CLUB Soul Kitchen, Station, Diasporic (9:30) 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

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

Reverend Glasseye, Some Say

BEERLAND Clay Nightingale

THE BELMONT Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (7:00) **BLIND PIG PUB** Joe Vega

BROKEN SPOKE Debra Peters

Accordian Roundup
CACTUS CAFE Karen Mal, Rex

CEDAR STREET Kelly Doze, Ray

DNINENIAL CLUB Gallery: Ephraim Owens Experience (10:00); In the Club: Casper Rawls' Planet Casper w/ David Grissom, Warren Hood (6:30), Alejandro Escovedo, David

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery:

Garza (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the

Station Masters
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB

Suzanne Smith

Leland

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty,

Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:30)

Robbie's Open Mic (9:00) **MOMO'S** Jon Napier, Bukka Allen, Dustin Welch (7:00)

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), New Syxx Project (9:30) ELYSIUM 90's Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

EGO'S Bonnie Holmes, Suzanne

EMO'S Hey La La, Tiny Tin Hearts, Silent Land Time Machine

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Kevin Gallaugher, Greg Anderson (6:00) FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Los

Jackalopes (8:00)

FRIENDS Erin Jaimes & Her Bad
Habits (7:30), Andy Macintyre
& the Primal Groove (9:00) **GIBSON GUITAR SHOWROOM**

Grounded in Music Fundraiser w/ Vallejo (6:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN

SALOON Roots Day w/ Jarrod Bonta (9:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE SingerSlashSongwriter Open Mic Night w/ Chase Holbrook

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bill Rice HOLE IN THE WALL Clyde & Clem's Whiskey Business (10:00)

HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke

w/ Brian

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA

Mathew Lebon (7:00)

JOVITA'S The Love Band, Tim
Henderson (6:00)

LAMBERTS Jitterbug Vipers
(6:20)

(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 Scott Wiggins (10:00) MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Piano Bar w/ Mikey & Matt

MOMO'S Sahara Smith, La Tampiquena, Joanna Barbera, Dana Falconberry, Charlie Faye THE PARISH Death Is Not a

Joyride, Gram Rabbit THE PARLOR Black Jesus

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Jim Stringer & the AM Band (8:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR &

GRILL Troubadillos **RED 7** Geisert 8, Daemoon Fly, Code Rainbow

RED FEZ Bruce James Quartet, Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00) RILEY'S TAVERN Beverly Hensley, Dance Lessons w/ Li'l Bit & the Customatics

ROOM 710 Jo Hell & the Red Roosters, Taco Leg, Thunderchiefs

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00) SAM'S TOWN POINT Open

Mic w/ Dewey Lyon & the Heatherns (9:00)

SAXON PUB Julieann Banks, Sunny Sweeney, Bruce Hughes, Deadly Viper Assassins

SCOOT INN AND BIER GARTEN Hilary York, Aimee Bobruk (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae

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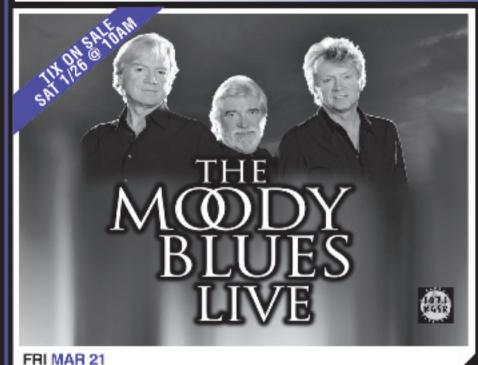
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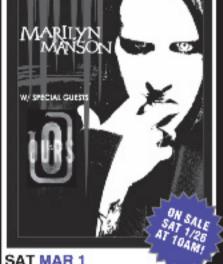


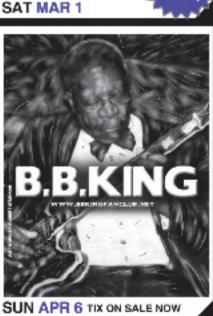


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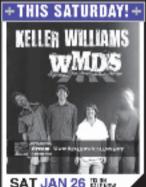


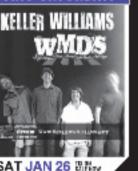




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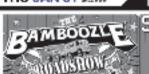




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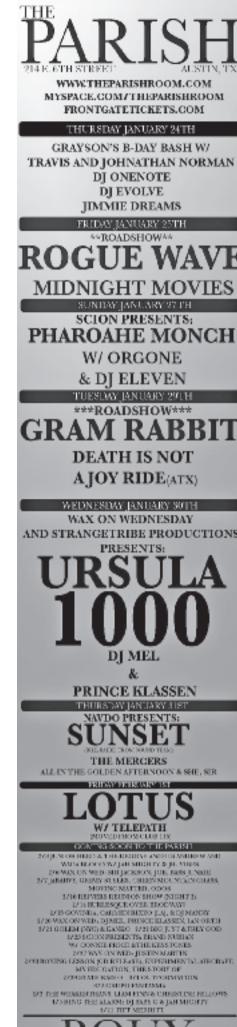


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THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Stephen Doster, Will Sexton, Bill Carter (8:00)

TRIPLE CROWN R.C. Banks. Gold Teeth & Gucci, Thou Foot Whale Claw, Fambly

TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Jason Weems, Bill Davis

WATERLOO RECORDS This Will Destroy You (5:00)

Z'TEJAS Kris Kimura Quartet

Wed 30

219 WEST Breezy (7:00) 311 CLUB Stephanie Bradley ANTONE'S Zapata!, Eric Tessmer 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/ THE BELMONT Mr. Fabulous &

Casino Royale (7:00)

BLIND PIG PUB Upstairs: Curtis

Grimes, Joe Vega

BROKEN SPOKE Doug Moreland CACTUS CAFE Plum'tucker (8:30) CAROUSEL LOUNGE Glory Story, the Sheeps

CEDAR STREET John Pointer, the Spazmatics (6:00)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Ephraim Owens (6:30) CHAIN DRIVE Matt Hogel, Druggist, the Seas **CHEATHAM STREET**

WAREHOUSE Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)

CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Jacinta (7:00) **CLUB 973** Karaoke w/ the Bigg

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Trube, Farrell & Sniz (10:00); In the Club: Shotgun Party, Jon Dee Graham, James McMurtry (6:30)

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

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

Kat Edmonson (7:00)

EGO'S Bourland CD Release

ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs

(6:00), Contemporary Jazz Works (9:30)

ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister **EMO'S** Whitman, Say Hello to the Angels, FireKills

EVANGELINE CAFE The Keller **FLAMINGO CANTINA** Frenetica

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Michael Fracasso Piano Hour. Nathan Hamilton, Kevin Carroll

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Shane Parker, Marshall Jones & the Frontier Phrenologists

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Roger Wallace (9:00) **GRUENE HALL** Zach Walther & the Cronkites (6:00)

HANOVER'S Open Mic w/ Carson Alexander HILL'S CAFE Mike Sanford (7:30)

HOLE IN THE WALL The

Lennings, Baltimore Harbor, Darwin Smith, Lonesome Heroes (9:30)

HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke w/ Brian
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA

ank Castruita (7:00)

JOVITA'S The Skeletons, Slowtrain (6:00)

LAMBERTS Erik Hokkanen's Gypsy Tribe (6:30)

.....

LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30) **LOUIE'S 106** Red Young (6:30)

MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming

MOHAWK Cowboy Robot, Laromlab

MOMO'S Travis Damron, Nathan

Singleton, Dan Dyer, Jeremy Nail, Jennifer Nicely (6:00)

MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy

THE PARISH Prince Klassen, DJ

PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz (9:00)

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE

the Source

Tubb

RED FEZ Atash (9:00)

RED 7 Make Your Own Maps,

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Matt Dunnam

ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D.

ROOM 710 D-Madness, Station,

Cienfuegos (7:30)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Blue Light

Special (8:30)

SAXON PUB Hans Frank & the

Auslanders, Paula Nelson, Monte Montgomery, Meagan

SCOOT INN AND BIER GARTEN

Austin Poetry Slam (7:00)
SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &

the Exiles (7:30)

SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons, the

Brew (9:00) **STUBB'S** Eskimo Joe. Jeff Klein

TRIPLE CROWN Bruce Curtis,

Ramsey Midwood, Slowtrain WATERLOO ICE HOUSE

Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster. Will

Sexton & Bill Carter

Thu 30

Ptarmigan (7:00)

Y BAR & GRILL Singer-Songwriter

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)

1735 Homer Henderson (9:00)

311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Wynn

ANTONE'S Del Castillo (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO.

BEAUTY BAR Ian Orth, Total

BEERLAND Grand Champeen

THE BELMONT Dysfunkshun

BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00) BLIND PIG PUB Ben Burgess

BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton

CACTUS CAFE Belleville Outfit CD Release (8:30)

CAROUSEL LOUNGÉ Bee vs.

CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew,

CHAIN DRIVE The Hot as Shits,

CONTINENTAL CLUB Gallery: Paris 49 (10:00); In the Club: Elana James, Barfield, Black

Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa

Joe Lewis & the Honey Bears

Radiostar (6:00)

(6:30)

THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau

Tavlor, Trent Turner

Anniversary Show

Junkshun (8:00)

Vengeance

TROPHY'S The Archibalds,

Night (6:30)

GRILL LC Rock SHOAL CREEK SALOON Eve &

RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons,

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Fond Kiser, Tombstone Bullies (8:00)

"Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)

Great Northern Guns, Consider

ONE 2 ONE BAR Jon Napier

Mel. Ursula 1000 THE PARLOR School Police

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL

LUCKY LOUNGE The Soldier

LUCY'S ON THE SOUARE

Cameron Road

(10:00)

COTTON CLUB Texas All-Stars

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws **EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)

EGO'S No Show Ponies, 2 Hoots & a Holler

ELEPHANT ROOM Paul White Quintet (9:30) **EMO'S** Cry Blood Apache, Rings,

White Williams EVANGELINE CAFE Craig

FLAMINGO CANTINA Rooster &

the Kid, the Spores, Ccanopyy, HMS Foolhardy FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE

Matt the Electrician & Southpaw Jones (8:00) GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Roy &

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN

SALOON Dale Watson (9:00) GRUENE HALL McKay Bros.

HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE

Evan Felts (8:00) **HILL'S CAFE** Andrea Marie & Magnolia (7:30)

HOMER'S BAR & GRILL Karaoke

JOVITA'S Cornell Hurd Band

LA ZONA ROSA Tammany Hall Machine, the Bangles LAMBERTS Glover Tango (6:30), Topaz (10:30)

THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LUCKY LOUNGE lan McLagan & the Bump Band, Bernie Calcote (6:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE lan Lee, Falcon Buddies, Alpha Rev MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00) **MEOW** Matt Wilson (9:00)

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Trés, Dog Men Poets MOHAWK The Tunnels, Toko-Ri Get High, the Steps

Momo's Danny Fast Fingers, Much Love, 11-Fingered Charlie CD Release (8:00) THE OAKS George Enslé (8:00)

OPAL DIVINE'S Attic: Green

Mountain Grass (9:00) THE PARISH the Mercers, Sunset,

the Drawing Board

THE PARLOR The Late Joys

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Weldon Henson (8:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Stop the Truck

RED 7 Bangladesh, Remember This, Death Got Killed, Inner Vision, Dead by Knight

RED FEZ Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30) RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby

Lounge: Rich DeMarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN John Deery

THE ROCK ROOM Karaoke w/ ROOM 710 Jack Kill & Stickman,

Deuce Coupe, Brass Knuckle Belt Buckle, Bridge Farmers, the Skeletons RUTA MAYA Ron Paul Liberty Ball

w/ the Story Of, Golden Bear **SAXON PUB** The Fabs, Carolyn

Wonderland, George Devore, Uncle Lucius (6:00) SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/

SHERLOCK'S BAKER ST. PUB &

GRILL Wartime Social SPEAKEASY JJ Usher (9:30)

STUBB'S Outside: Velvet Revolver; Inside Later: Graham Wilkinson, Adam Raven, Snafu Kitties

T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt &

the Trophy 500's (10:00)

THE THIRSTY NICKEL David

TRIPLE CROWN Nathan Hamilton,

Destroying Infinity, Bloodshot Pyramid

TROPHY'S Sedium, Sassy Goose, CockVanDyke

COCKVANDYKE
UNIVERSITY PRESBYTERIAN
CHURCH Conspirare w/ Craig
Hella Johnson (8:00)
WHOLE FOODS MARKET Latin at

Z'TEJAS Lucky Strikes (6:00)

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

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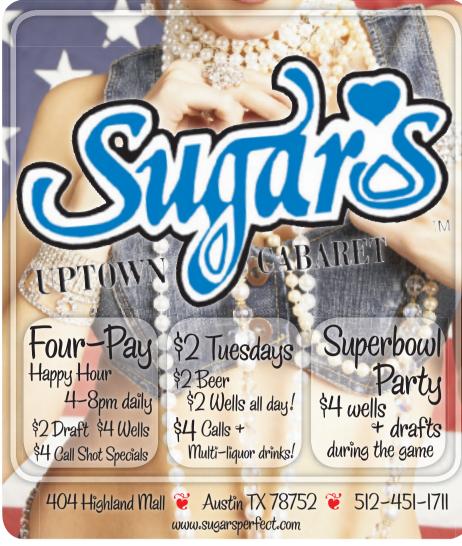
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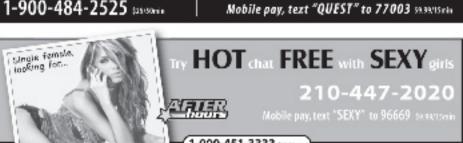












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BY LLOYD DANGLE

MANY OF YOU HAVE EX PRESSED THAT, AS A CARTOONIST, I HAVETHE RESPONSIBILITY TO SOLVE



SO I USED EVERY RESOURCE AT MY DISPOSAL, AND CONDUCTED MY OWN INVESTIGATION. THESE ARE MY CONCLUSIONS



FACT: CAREFUL AND METICULOUS PLANNING DOES NOT MATCH THE BUSH ORGANIZATION'S "M.O." IN ANY WAY.



FACT: THE STRATEGIC AIR COMMAND WASN'T

ORDERED TO STAND

800m/

DOWN; CHENEY WAS

USING IT TO SHOOT

QUAIL IN DELEWARE

FACT: INSTEAD OF READING "MY PET GOAT TO SCHOOLCHILDREN. A NERVOUS BUSH WOULD HAVE READ FROM "MY SECRET TERROR PLOT



FACT: BERNIE KERIK'S

MISTRESS'S NIPPLE

PROMOTERS, SEVERAL OF THEM WOULD HAVE CLAIMED CREDIT BY NOW. SHUT UP, KRISTOL THOUGH OF IT

FACT: NEOCONS ARE

SUCH BRAGGARTS & SELF



FACT: THE SAUDI

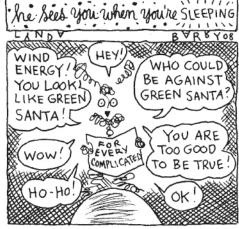




(GOTM!) 5 W11. 800 FACT: CONSIDERING THAT THE TARGETS WERE IN D.C. AND N.Y., IT'S A

VIRTUAL CERTAINTY

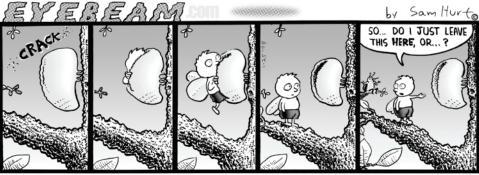












Scientists in Maryland have built the world's first entirely handcrafted chromosome – a large looping strand of DNA made from scratch in a laboratory, containing all the instructions a microbe needs to live and reproduce.



All U.S. nonmilitary engagement with the world accounts for only 1.2% of the federal budget.

Japanese researchers have developed a frog with skin so transparent that its internal organs are visible, a boon to squeamish teens and to biologists who can study how organs develop and respond to tumors or toxins.

Hugh Hefner has a zoo license. He owns peacocks and spider monkeys.

The jagged border between Texas' Travis and Williamson counties follows the divide separating the Colorado River and Brazos River watersheds.

> 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.

100 JOBS

110 Art/Design **115** Beauty/Salon/Spa 120 Entertainment/

Casting 125 General **130** Healthcare

135 Hospitality **140** Legal

145 Office/Clerical 150 Non-Profit

155 Professional

160 Research Study **165** Retail

170 Sales/Marketing 175 School/Training

180 Technical

HOUSING

210 Reader Notice **215** Apartment/ Condo/Townhome

220 Duplex/Houses 225 Vacation 230 Commercial

235 Roommates **240** Real Estate For Sale

300 **BUY/SELL**

310 Antiques/ Collectibles

315 Appliances 320 Baby/Kids Stuff 325 Clothina

330 Computers

335 Electronics

340 Free Stuff 345 Furniture

350 Garage/

370 Recreational 375 Tickets/

390 Wanted to Buy

380 Tools

385 Trades

Entertainment

Estate Sales 355 General

360 Jewelry/ Accessories

Promotion **365** Pets/Pet Supplies

PERSONALS

Lovers Lane Easy Street Shot in the Dark Messages

Please check your ad for accuracy the first time it runs. The Austin Chronicle is not responsible for copy errors after the first week of publication. The Austin Chronicle's liability for errors is limited to the cost of the space occupied by the error, with a maximum liability of republication. Corrections must be sub-

Deadlines: Tuesday, 1pm Phone: 512-454-5767

Email: classifieds@austinchronicle.com

420 Counseling

425 Health/Wellness

430 Home

440 Fitness/Training

455 Psychic/Astrology 460 Travel

NOTICES

515 Classes/Workshops

520 Discussion Groups **525** Events

540 Volunteers

545 Legal Notices

MOTOR

610 Cars 615 Trucks

625 Motorcycles

630 Recreational 635 Parts

ALL 30 individuals needed in campus area copyshop for various temporary positions including copy clerk, binding, 700 computer help, and cashier. From \$7.50/hr. Call 478-0871

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NEEDED Growing locally owned furniture store needs bilingual salespeople for full or part-time positions. Must speak English and Spanish, have some sales experience, good communication skills

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HAIRSTYLISTS / NAIL TECHS Lease \$130/wk.

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paid ongoing training, and the opportunity to work on 64

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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.

55 North IH 35,

Just don't feed the bears!!! Glacier Park, Inc. operates the 7 historic lodges in

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Open Interviews

500 North IH 35

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Feb 9&10th

9am-4pm

Hilton Garden Inn

Glacier National Park, We are actively seeking the following positions for the 2008 summer season (May-Sept):

*Tour Drivers

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*Waitstaff/Servers *Line / Pren Cooks

*Retail Associates *Niaht Audit

*Housekeeping

*Laundry *Warehouse

*Front Desk *Bartender

Internships available where applicable

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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.



CASHIER Quality Seafood needs part time cashier for Thursday, Friday, and Saturday. Flexibility required. Apply within. 5621 Airport Blvd.

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MAKE BIG \$\$\$

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week working with cognitive challenged clients in their homes in Austin and surrounding areas. \$9/hr. Flexible hrs. Call 1-800-867-0047 for Dana. Apply at 1106 Clayton Lane, Ste. 250W, Austin, TX 78723; fax resume to 512-338-1555; email resume to dmcbride@empowermentoptions.com EOE

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435 Financial

445 Legal **450** Licensed Massage

465 Miscellaneous

500

510 Activites

530 General 535 Lost & Found

620 SUV's

640 Repairs

MUSIC 710 Equipment for Sale

715 Music Instruction 720 Musicians Available

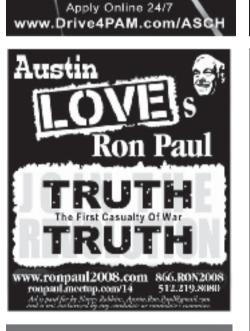
725 Musicians Wanted 730 Recording Studios

735 Rentals/Services 740 Shameless

mitted by Tuesday, 1pm. Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9am-6pm

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Glacier National Park

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
- Housekeeping.
- ♦ Waitstaff/Servers
 - ◆ Laundry
- # Warehouse
- Retail Associates
- ⊕ Front Desk
- Night Audit
- ₱ Bartenders
- ●Internships available where applicable

Meals and housing plans available

Added incentives for management/bonus potential. Visit our Web site at www.gpihr.com to apply or call (406) 892-6719



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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 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

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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.timewarnercable.jobs. Many other opportunities are available, please visit our website for a current job listing.

EOE M/F/D/V





Lineman

- Minimum Job Requirements:

 A high school diploma or GED

 A valid Texas driver's license (Class A CDL preferred; must obtain if selected)

 Must be available for call-out duty

Salary is based on experience. PEC offers a generous benefits package which includes a matching 401(k) plan, health, dental, and life insurance.

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All calls are confidential.

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▲ Qualified Participants:

- Must experience Osteoarthritis pain for 4-7 days a
- Willing to make up to 8 visits over 168 days
- Currently taking non-steroidal anti-inflammatory medications
- Qualified Participants May Receive:
 - Study-related care and study-related medication or
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Participants will receive study related

- · Inpatient hospitalization at no cost
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- Call to participate in an investigational medication study. 512-323-2622

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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
- Investigational medication
- Study-related physical exams and lab tests
- Financial compensation for time and travel

800-320-1630 www.scirex.com Click "Study Volunteers"



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Qualified Participants:

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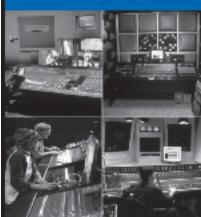
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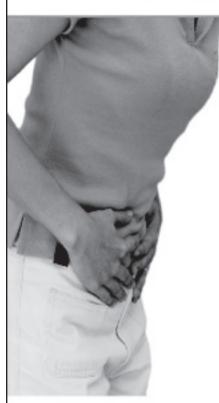
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Qualified Study Participants Must:

- · Be 18-40 years of age
- · Have regular cycles

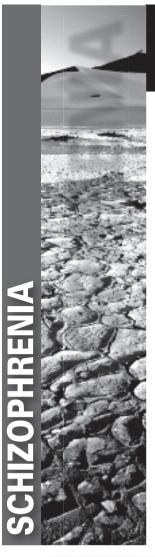
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Participants will receive study related:

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CEDRA Clinical Research is seeking participants for a 3night research study on an investigational medication.

- To qualify you must be: using a steroid nasal spray for allergies
- non-smoker between 18-65 · 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.

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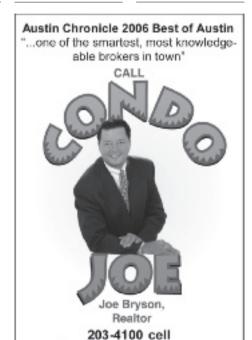
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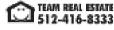
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CENTRAL 2-1 nice 4-plx 2013 Cullen Ave, remodeled, clean HVAC,W&D pets neg.\$775/mo Linda Bueltel (ag.) 423-6843

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312 W. Monroe. 2 houses on one large lot (8083.50 sq/ft). Rear house Brand new construction. Green design including Solar panels, 24 gage standing seam metal roof, ceramic tile and solid oak floors, tons of storage facilities and built in 1000.

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Bouldin

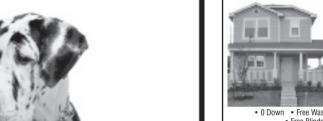
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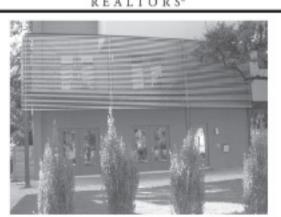


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- Henderson

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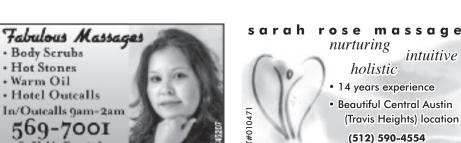






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Guadalune in the City of

Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$6,352.15 Dollars in favor

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
EITHERS FOR A FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY

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CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

455727, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Services District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Ray L. Knauss are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$6,352.15 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 28, 2002. 2002.

Being all that certain Lot 8174, Bar-K Ranches Plat 8, Plat No. 58/71, Travis County, Texas and being more paritcularly described in Volume 7667, Page 230 and Cause No. 90L-693 (Austin Co.) of the deed records of Travis County,

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007. BRUCE ELFANT. CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

QUENT 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, of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and Rosemary Lane, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate 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 £50th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on July 31, 2002. as, on July 31, 2002.
I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock
PM., 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 birder.

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES

DELINGUEN I MACES

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
455727 wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock PM., 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:

of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof.

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 COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Orde

Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53RD District Court of

Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a

459732, wherein Lake Travis Independent School District

County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 6, FM Road, Water Control Im-

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

drey Boyd and Roy Charles Boyd are defendant(s), in fa-vor 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.

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:

90 of an accept of the

.09 of an acre out of the B.K. Stewart Sur. 84 as de-scribed 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 fa-

vor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the

proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-

TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-

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

INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest

day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT.

certain cause numbered

State of Texas, Travis

Lot 21143, Highland Lake Estates, Section 21, Plat No. 55/59 as described in Volume 7624, Page 911 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

of defendants in and to the following described property,

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$3,601.51 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 ELEANT

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY/s/Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY 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 INTER-STS ON THE PROPERTY. ON THE PROPERTY SOLD LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

94-06819 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order

Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250TH District Court of the 250TH District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered 94-06819, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Inde-pendent School District, Tra-vis County Emergency Ser-vices District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Edu-cation District are plaintiffs, and Jose S. Crespo and Sil-via S. Crespo are via S. Crespo are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$8,004.18 Dollars, together \$8,004.18 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 January 29, 2002.

as, on January 29, 2002.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock
PM., 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. 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 7573, Page 418 of the deed records of Travis County,

THE ABOVE SALE to be IHE 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 FLEANT 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 FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE 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

SEL OF YOUR CHOICE

ALIAS CITATION BY PUB-LICATION **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 At-torney do not file a written answer with the clerk who isanswer with the clerk who is sued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next fol-lowing the expiration of 42 days from the date of issu-ance 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,

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 PO BOX 149325 Austin, Texas 78714-9325 By Deputy: /s/ C. Maddox Plaintiff Attorney CHRISTOPHER R DELONEY 2214 MAIN STREET DALLAS, TX 75201

CITATION BY PUBLICATION - DIVORCE CLERK OF THE COURT LISA DAVID 405 M.L.K. ST., P.O. BOX 24 GEORGETOWN, TX 78626 PETITIONER(S) ATTORNEY BARBARA LASSO ADDRESS UNAVAILABLE THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO: LUIS FERNANDO LASSO and to all whom it may con-cern, 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 written answer with the clear 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 the relief demanded in the petition may be taken against you.

The ORIGINAL PETITION The ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE of Barbara Lasso, Petitioner(s), was filed in the County Court At Law 42 Court of Williamson County, Texas, on the 26TH day of APRIL, 2007, against Luis Fernando Lasso,

AV0207 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683 011. ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE ERFE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE

WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

FEBRUARY 7. 2008 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT. 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

1.	085002960	1994	OLDS	CP	224BXK	TX	1G3WH15M7RD323858
2.	085002959	2001	TOYT	4DR	467ZWT	ТХ	4T1BG22K91U018629
3.	085002956	1988	NISS	2DR	N05VNN	ТХ	JN1PN34S4JM014011
4.	085002952	2004	KIA	VN	Y18KWH	ТХ	KNDUP131846579717
5.	085002951	1991	DODG	4DR	D14LHZ	ТХ	1B3XA46K9MF671604
6.	085002949	1990	SAAB	4DR	149MPC	ТХ	YS3CL55L4L1007240
7.	085002945	1993	TOYT	4DR	490NRR	ТХ	4T1SK11E3PU249703
8.	085002518	1999	BIGT	UT	12ZHMG	ТХ	4K8NX1627X1D44412
9.	085002514	1985	OLDS	4DR	193FMD	ТХ	1G3CX6931F1349342
10.	085002511	1977	OLDS	SW	154FMC	ТХ	3H35R7R175149
11.	085002506	1995	FORD	2DR	K90MFW	ТХ	1FALP4044SF232397
12.	085002503	1988	MAZD	2DR	B13NFZ	ТХ	1YVGD31A1J5104393
13.	085002502	1996	STRN	4DR	Y41FCG	ТХ	1G8ZH5281TZ362736
14.	085002500	1985	GMC	PK	4VRY03	ТХ	1GTGC24M4FF705310
15.	085002496	1995	MAZD	4DR	P85WRV	ТХ	JM1TA2224S1134060
16.	085001994	1998	FORD	LL	04GVG3	ТХ	1FMRU17L6WLA50485
17.	085001992	1986	CHEV	PK	N311855	FL	1GCDC14H0GF430309

BUIC 4DR D86ZLZ TX 1G4CW51C5J1658907 18.085001988 1988 19.085001782 1998 PONT 2DR 799NRP TX 1G2JB1241W7543026 20.085001779 1998 RUIC 4DR RRS544 TX 1G4HP52K0WH513779 **** TRAL ** **** 21.085001778 22.085001776 1988 CHEV VN R06VDR TX 1GNDM15Z8JB210362 23.085001775 1995 PONT 2DR Y12RWV TX 1G2WJ12M1SF231989 24.085001773 1986 BMW 4DR 735KFW TX WBAFH8407G0978336

NISS VN

CHRY 4DR

FORD 4DR

779B.ID TX 1FAPP33P8YW330919 LINC 2DR 005BMK TX 1LNBM92E9JY732619

P04VNR TX 4N2DN11W3RD837078

TX 3C3XA5631MT620153

austinchronicle.com | JANUARY 25, 2008 | THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE | 123

25 085001771 1994

28.080060736 1988

1991

2000

26.085001763

27.080080400



Respondent(s), numbered 07-915-FC2 and entitled IN THE MATTER OF THE MAR RIAGE OF BARBARA LASSO AND LUIS FERNANDO LAS-SO IN THE INTEREST OF BARBARA S. LASSO AND 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 the 20th day of December A.D. 2007.

LISA DAVID Clerk, of the County Court At Law #2, WILLIAMSON County Texas

Attest:

By: /s/ Brandi Spivey, Deputy CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ETHEL MAE MAYBERRY, Deceased, No. 87997 in Probate Court

Number One of Travis County, Texas CATHERINE MAYBERRY CARTER AND ALL alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled e tate, filed on the 14TH day of JANUARY, 2008, an Application to Determine Heirship and for Issuance of Letters of Administration in the said es

as.

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 re-

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 14th day of January, 2008.

by Luke Ellis

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

the COMMON LAW

The material in this column is for informational

purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute

for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and

TEXAS HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

- DOES IT APPLY TO ME?

exemption, but I want to move into an investment prop-

erty that I own. Can I get the homestead exemption to

As last week's "Common Law" column dis-

cussed, the Texas Homestead Exemption is designed

to prevent the seizure and forced sale of the home-

stead property from certain creditors. The homestead

exemption provides extra legal protection because

general creditors would not be able to force you to

sell your home in order to satisfy an unpaid debt. In

addition, another big advantage to obtaining a home-

stead exemption, is that it can help you save money

on your property tax bill. A homestead exemption

property you move into can qualify as your home-

stead. An individual may receive only one home-

stead exemption, and not all homes qualify for it.

The homeowner must be an individual (homestead

exemption is not offered to a corporate or business

entity). The homeowner must both own the home

and use the home as the primary residence on Jan. 1

of the year he or she wishes to seek the exemption.

qualify for a homestead exemption. For example,

someone can file for and obtain a homestead exemp-

tion for a separate structure home, condominium, urban loft, or mobile home. The key component is

that the person living in the home owns it and uses

it as his or her primary residence. Texas law limits

the homestead exemption to 10 acres inside city

limits ("urban homestead") and 100 acres in rural

areas ("rural homestead"), which is doubled to 200

acres when a family uses the property as its perma-

nent residence. Unlike many other states, however,

Texas' homestead exemption has no limit on the

Homestead Exemption can download the appli-

cation form (www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/

taxforms/50-114.pdf) and send it in to their county

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and com-

ments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission

of potential topics does not create an attorney-client

relationship, and any information submitted is subject to

Anyone interested in establishing a Texas

dollar value of the protected homestead.

appraisal office.

being included in future columns

The law is flexible on the type of home that can

But first you have to determine whether the

reduces taxes by lowering a home's taxable value.

apply to the rental home once I move into it?

I own the house I live in, and it has a homestead

circumstances, consult a licensed attorney

turned unserved.

Administration in the said es-tate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ETHEL MAE MAY. BERRY, Deceased, and their respective shares and inter-ests in such estate. ests in such estate.

Said application will be heard
and acted on by said Court
at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the
first Monday next after the
expiration of ten days from
date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas.

plication for Probate of for eign Will & for Issuance of Letters of Independent Administration with Will Annexed in the said estate and requests that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to ap-pear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contest ing such application should they desire to to do so.

day of January, 2008.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR County Clerk, Travis County, Texas

Austin, Texas 78714

D-1-GV-06-000105

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT 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 D-1-GV-06-000105, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, County Education District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and J W Howeth aka Jerry W. Howeth (In Rem Only 1988-1998 and Individually for tax years 1999-present). United State of America/Internal Revenue Service (In Rem Only) and Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin and Travis County (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$245,018.95 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment tiffs, and J W Howeth aka ing the amount of judgment

I, on the 28th day of Decem 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 10:00 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 3, Block 2, Lakeview Addition (Olt. 77, Div. D), Plat No. 2/199, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 4648, Page 867 of the deed records of Travi of the deed records of Travi scounty, Texas.

vor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

BRUCE ELFANT,

P.O. Box 149325. Austin, Texas 78714 By Deputy: /s/ O. Ruiz

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

TO ALL PERSONS INTER-ESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ETHEL MARIE RAYNOR, De-ceased, No. 87622 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 25TH day of OCTOBER, 2007, an Apceased, and their respective shares and interest in such estate.

estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texage

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be re-turned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 16th

P.O. Box 149325.

By Deputy:/s/RoxAnne Torrez

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF

recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 28, 2007.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$245,018.95 Dollars in fa-

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 known owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Haywood Lowe, Jr. and Aaron Bunton, Charlotte Toliver Blakcmore, Harry Lewis Toliver, Jr., John Fitzgerald Toliver, Gloria Louise (Bunton) Coleman, Woody Earl Bunton, Jr., City of Austin (In Rem Only), State of Texas/Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only), Texas Higher Education Coordinatand successors of the Estate Higher Education Coordinating Board (In Rem Only), "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY.

Austin Community College Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and County Educa-tion District (In Rem Only), United States of America (In United States of America (In Rem Only) and Donald R. Flournoy (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$16,180.88 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 25, 2007.

as, on September 25, 2007.
I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock
PM., 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.

Lot 2, Resubdivision of Portion of Outlot 18 1/2 Division B, Sec. 2, Plat No. vision B, Sec. 2, Plat No. 11/84, being a portion a desc. in Vol. 1337, Pg. 334, Vol. 1337, Pg. 335, being the same property as shown on the attached plat shown on the attached plat map and being the same property as referenced in Probate Cause No. 11708, Probate Cause 74878, Doc. No. 2001149840 and Doc. No. 200608962 of the Deed Records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$16,180.88 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM.
ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANTABILITY AND ITINESS 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 INCLUDING BUT NOT LIM INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE

D-1-GV-07-000424 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

QUENT TAXES
BY VIRTUE of a certain Order
of Sale issued by the clerk of
the 126th District Court of
travis County, on the 21st
day of December, 2007 in a
certain cause numbered D-1GV-07-000424, wherein City
of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District,
Lago Vista Independent State of Texas, Travis
 County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, gency Services District No. 1, Travis County Farm to Market Road and Travis County Hos-pital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Harlan K. Shank are defendant(S), in fa-vor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$15,039.34 Dollars, together with all costs of suit together with all costs of suit that being the amount of judgment recovered by the

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 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 6057, Highland Lake Estates, Section 6, Plat No. 51/76, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 6416, Page 363 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

Texas.
THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$15,039.34 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 WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR ANNIES OF WIRCHAIN!
ABILITY 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-07-000539 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of 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-07-000539, wherein Lago Vista Independent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District, County Education District, Travis County, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Travis County Hospital District Na Travis County Healthcare District, Village of Point Venture and Water Con-Point Venture and Water Control Improvement District
Point Venture are plaintiffs, Point Venture are plaintiffs, and Michael B. Lindemann and Rita D. Lindemann are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$10,311.28 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 September 28, 2007.

as, on September 20, 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 549, Point Venture, Section 3-1, Plat No. 58/48, Travis County, Texas and be ing more particularly de-scribed in Volume 8303, Page 744 of the deed records of Travis County,

THE ABOVE SALE to be THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$10,311.28 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 SOLT THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-

RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE 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 QUIESTIONS YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-000540 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

QUENT 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-16V-07-000540, wherein Lago
Vista Independent School
District Lago Vista Inde-District, Lago Vista Inde-pendent School District County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Travis County Hospital District, Village of Point Ven-ture and Water Control Improvement District Point Ven provement District Point Ven-ture are plaintiffs, and Robert E. Norquest are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$9,298.17 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of independent of the processor of the pro-ting proce judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 419TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 28, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of Decem ber, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of Febru-ary, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for 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:

or derendants, to-wit:
Lot 753, Point Venture, Section 3-2, Plat No. 61/78, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 7233, Page 2235 and Volume
10946, Page 198 of the deed records of Travis County,
Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$9,298.17 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction 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 WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-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 CHASING WHATEVER
INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS
IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-000757 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY DELIN-**QUENT TAXES**

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-000757, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista In-dependent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District County Edu-cation District, Travis County cation District, Iravis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Travis County Farm to Market Road, Travis County Hospital Dis-trict nka Travis County Healthcare District and Water

Control Improvement District No. 15 are plaintiffs, and Gay No. 15 are plaintiffs, and Gay Nell Campise aka Gay Nell Roberts and Travis County, Travis County Engreyency Services District No. 7 (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$9,643.77 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Count of Travis County, Texas, on September 25, 2007.

20, 2007. I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock PM., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of Febru-ary, 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 67, Block B, Lago Vista, Section 2, Plat No. 11/45, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly de scribed in Volume 5420, Page 718 of the deed records of Travis County,

THE ABOVE SALE to be THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$9,643.77 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 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!" BIDDEPS APE FILE. "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTERESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUP-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-000759 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered D-1-6V-07-00759, 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 and Travis County Hospital District nka Travis County Hospital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plain-Healthcare District are plair tiffs, and Esther Boender, Da vid M. Boender, Linda Sue Boender and Patricia Lynn Schulz aka Patricia a. Boend er are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$12.893.62 Dollars, to of \$12,893.62 Dollars, to-gether 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 20, 2007.

20, 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 hidder 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 5150, Highland Lake Estates, Section 5, Plat No.

51/75, Travis County, Texas and being more particular described in Volume 5175, Page 376 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the

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County Clerk. Travis County, Texas

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 PAPTICII AND BIDDOGE A PARTICULAR PURPOSI YOU BUY THE PROPERTY

ESTS ON THE PROPERTY.
YOU ARE SIMPLY PURCHASING WHATEVER
INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS
IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU
MED TO CONSUIT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order

Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of

certain cause numbered D-1-GV-06-001174, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista In-dependent School District,

dependent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hos-pital District are plaintiffs, and Black Investments, Inc. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$6,255.17 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County. Tex-

Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 6, 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 Febru-ary, 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,

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 2430, Lago Vista Estates, Section 10, Plat No. 50/19, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 12664, Page 1995 of the deed records of Travis county, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$6,255.17 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat.

proceeds applied to the sat

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD,

THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-

ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

YOU BUY THE PROPERTY
"AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-

"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
MED TO CONSULT COUN-

NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-

QUENT 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 D-1GV-06-001568, wherein Austin Community College, Austin Community College, Austin Independent School District, City of Austin, Travis
County and Travis County
Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Haywood Lowe, Sr.,

tiffs, and Haywood Lowe, Sr., and Aaron Bunton, if alive and if deceased, the un-

D-1-GV-06-001568

QUENT TAXES

isfaction thereof.

BRUCE ELFANT,

Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a

D-1-GV-06-001174

levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007. BRUCE ELFANT.

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY

Lago Vista Independent School District County Edu-cation District, Lago Vista Municipal Utilities District No. said plaintiffs, in the 126th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 11, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock

austinchronicle.com

above described judgment for \$12,893.62 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007.

BRUCE ELFANT.

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/.loe Rosser DEPLITY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-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 CHASING WHATEVER
INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS
IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU
HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

QUENT 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 D-1GV-07-000775, wherein City
of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District,
County Education District,
Travis County Emergency Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Tr county Hospital District no. 1, travis county Hospital District nka Travis County Healthcare District and Travis County are plaintiffs, and Vera Schram, if alive and if deceased, the alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and successors of the Estate of Vera Schram are defendantist), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$9,764.76 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain. recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on November 5, 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 1, Block G, Lago Vista, Section 3, Phase 2, Plat No. 30/7 as described in Vol ume 3830, Page 1372 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be IHE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$9,764.76 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

BY/s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY
ON THE PROPERTY SOLD,
THERE ARE NO WARRANTIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIES
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 AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUNSEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-000777 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT 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 D-1-GV-07-000777, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista In-dependent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District County Edu-cation District, Travis County, cation District, Travis County,
Travis County Emergency
Services District No. 1, Travis
County Hospital District nka
Travis County Healthcare
District are plaintiffs, and Miguel Ontiveros, Minfa Ontiveros,
Mark Cohen, Trustee (In
Rem Only), 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) and State of Tex-Rem Only) and State of Tex-as/Bond Forfeiture Section (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$6.038.87 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 October 22, 2007.

I, on the 28th day of Decem-ber, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock ber, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock PM, have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of Febru-ary, 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 33087, Highland Lake Estates, Section 33, Plat No. 78/265 as described in Volume 10434, Page 369 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$6,038.87 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction 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 ANITED OF MERCHANITE
ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR
A PARTICULAR PUPPOSE.
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-07-000779 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 345th District Court of the 345th District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-000779, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista In-dependent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District County Edu-cation District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1, Travis County Hospital District aka Travis County Healthcare district are plaintiffs, and Paul W. Gernhauser, Jr. are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$9,132.21 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 345th 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 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 4, Block N, Lago Vista, Section 3, Phase 4, Plat No. 32/7 as described in Volume 7886, Page 283 of the deed records of Travis

County, Texas. THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$9.132.21 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction 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. BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY

D-1-GV-07-000790 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Trathe 53rd District Court of Tra-vis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a cer-tain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-000790, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista In-dependent School District, County Education District, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emer-gency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital and Travis County Hospital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plain tiffs and John W Edwards are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the following sums: Tract One: Billing Number 56507 = \$6,022.09 Number 55507 = \$6,022.09 and Tract Two: Billing Number 56508 = \$7,100.09 Dollars, together with all costs osuit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on September 25, 2007.

20, 2007. I, on the 28th day of December, 2007, at 2:00 o'clock PM., have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of Febru-ary, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to self 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 NO.: 056507

056507

Lot 28102, Highland Lake
Estates, Section 28, Plat
No. 76/237, Travis County,
Texas, and being more apt
ticularly described in Volume 7494, Page 343 of the
Deed Records of Travis
County, Texas

TRACT TWO: BILLING NO.: 056508

056508
Lot 28103, Highland Lake
Estates, Section 28, Plat
No. 76/237, Travis County,
Texas, and being more paticularly described in Volume 7494, Page 339 of the
Deed Records of Travis
County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sum: Trac-One: Billing Number 56507 = \$6.022.09 and Tract Two: = \$6,022.09 and fract two: Billing Number \$6508 = \$7,100.09 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007. BRUCE FLEANT

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THE FROPERT SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-TRANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-"AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DERTOR HA INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE D-1-GV-07-000975

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Orde
Of Sale issued by the clerk or
the 98TH District Court of
Travis County on the 21st 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 County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Wanda R. Block and Travis County, Lago Vista Inde-pendent School District, Tra-vis County Emergency Ser-vices District No. 1, City of Lago Vista and County Edu-cation District (In Rep. Only) cation District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the follow ing sums: Tract One: Billing Number 52949 = \$8,999.78, Tract Two: Billing Number 58212 = \$11.859340 and 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

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 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 DE-SCRIBED IN VOLUME 8898. **PAGF 383**

TRACT TWO: Parcel No. 01-6886-0606-

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 VOL-UME 8873, PAGE 111

TRACT THREE: Parcel No.01-7280-0705-

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 DE-SCRIBED IN VOLUME 8873. THE ABOVE SALE to be

made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for the following sums: Tract for the following sums: Tract One: Billing Number 52949 = \$8,999.78, Tract Two: Bill-ing Number 58212 = \$11,859340 and Tract Three: Billing Number 60425 = \$13,792.97 Dollars in favor of Alantiffe treather with the 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 WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPLIED WARRANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY 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 ON THE PROPERTY SOLD CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-

D-1-GV-07-001039 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-**QUENT TAXES**

SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clark. 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 In-dependent School District. County Education District County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hos-pital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Nasrullah Yoosufani and Tando Allah-yar are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$5,614.72 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plainrecovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Tex-as, 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 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 9985, Page 913 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

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 WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PUPPOSE. 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

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of 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 In-dependent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District County Edu-cation District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency 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 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. 22 2007

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 Febru-ary, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal 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 rd sof Travis County,

THE ABOVE SALE to be 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 preceded applied to the sate. proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction 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 MERCHANTREPLIEVA AND ETHESS FOR ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-"AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATFEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE. SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-001270 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-

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 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. County Hospital District nka

l, 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

Lot 11, Block B, Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No. 36/2 as described in Vol-ume 8491, 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 WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY 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. SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-402128 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY DELIN. QUENT TAXES

QUENT 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 GV402128, 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
defendantles), in favor of said defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$3,889.25 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, 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 PM, have levied upon, and will, on the 5th day of February, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 10:00 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. I, on the 28th day of Decem-

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. 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 sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007. BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPLITY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, 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
'YAS US. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY
"AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURTHER ADVISED THAT PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY
AT THIS EXECUTION SALE
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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.

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE **REAL PROPERTY DELIN-**QUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order

GV-403538

Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a certain cause numbered GV-403538, wherein Austin Loom munity College, Austin Inde-pendent School District, Tra-vis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12 and Travis County

Healthcare District are plain tiffs, 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 Decem-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 10:00 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 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 num-ber 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 sat-isfaction 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 WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-RED 10, THE IMPELED 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.

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE RFAL PROPERTY DELIN-

QUENT TAXES QUENT 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 GV504908, 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 Compawestern Investment Compa ny, 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 be ing the amount of judgment ing amount of judgmen recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 200th District Court of Travis County, Tex-as, on July 12, 2007.

as, 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 self 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 levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 121, Cardinal Hills Unit 5, Plat No. 50/95 as de-scribed in Volume 4039, Page 1853 and Volume 8169, 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 sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007. BRUCE ELFANT,

THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE | 125 austinchronicle.com JANUARY 25, 2008



by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

A STINKY PROBLEM

Dear Tom and Ray:

I own a 2001 Jaguar Silverstone XKR. When I use the windshield washers, the smell is a cross between very bad breath and cow manure. I've emptied the tank several times and flushed it with Clorox, but it still puts out such an odor that if I'm at a stoplight and use the washers, the guy behind me passes me and gives me a look like I ate a gallon of beans and couldn't make it to the toilet. My mechanic is befuddled. He told me to take it to a gastro doctor. What to do, short of replacing the whole system at a very expensive cost?

TOM: Max, we have no idea.

RAY: But we're printing your letter because this is the second complaint like yours we've heard recently. We heard the same complaint on our radio show a few weeks ago, and then yours came in. So we're starting to wonder if something is going on.

TOM: Maybe Taco Bell has gotten into the windshield-washer-fluid racket?

RAY: We're aware of some windshield cleaners that have a fairly strong, and not entirely pleasant, odor for some people. But we're not aware of anything that smells like, well ... how you described it, Max.

TOM: My only guess is that some particular brand or type of fluid is dripping onto the hot exhaust manifold, and when it vaporizes, it produces an unpleasant smell. But most windshield-washer solutions are just water and alcohol, and a little bit of soap.

RAY: So if anyone has had this problem and solved it, drop us a note on our Web site (www.cartalk.com) and let us know. If we can get to the bottom of this mystery, we'll report back.

Changing your oil regularly is the cheapest insurance you can buy for your car, but how often should you change it? Find out by ordering Tom and Ray's pamphlet "Ten Ways You May Be Ruining Your Car Without Even Knowing It!" Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Ruin, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website at www.cartalk.com

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on



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LEGAL NOTICES

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD. THERE ARE NO WARRAN TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE IMPULED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY 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.

SEL OF YOUR CHOICE

IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. 1

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
Notice is hereby given that
Original Letters Testamentary
for the Estate of Thays B.
Glasgow, Deceased, were issued on January 3, 2008
under Docket No. 87748,
pending in the Probate Court
No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, to: Anne L. D'Amico.

Claims may be presented to the following:

Rick J. Kennon Slater & Kennon, LLP 4807 Spicewood Springs

Building 2, Suite 240 Austin, Texas 78759 Attorneys for the Estate

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 22nd day of January, 2008.

/s/ Rick J. Kennon Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE OF ABANDONED
VEHICLES PURSUANT OF
TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR ACT, THE FOLLOWING
VEHICLE WILL BE AUCTIONED OFF BY THE TRAVIS
COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE
UNLESS CHARGES ARE
SATISSIED. 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 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

JM1BG2241R0803770 1987 CADILLAC

1G6CD5180H4219891 1995 CHEVY

1GNCS13W6S2158063 **AUCTION February 1, 2008** ADVANCED TOWING &

RECOVERY 1810 BENCH MARK DR

AUSTIN. TX 78728 (512) 402-0024 NOTICE OF ABANDONED

VEHICLES PURSUANT OF FEXAS ABANDONED MO-

TOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTH-

SIDE WRECKER, 8200 S CONGRESS . AUSTIN. TX. 1992 CHEVY ASTRO 1GNDM15Z9NB118330

2002 TOYOTA MATRIX 2T1KR32E33C101262

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle(s) will be auctioned off by AusTex unless charges are satisfied within ten (10) days.

1. Chevrolet Silverado, TH00004, Mexico, VIN 1GCDC14H8GF409689 2. Ford Contour 5BDT486, 1FAFP6539XK167697

Recovery, LLC 306 Farley Drive Office-201 East Braker Lane

stored)

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle(s),

A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC 2963 MANOR ROAD **AUSTIN TX 78722**

2001 Volkswagen Passat 979FDQ-TN WVWPD63B81P087965

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUC-TION A public auction will be held to satisfy landlord's lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. Sates will be held February 16, 2008. A sale will be held at 9:00 AM, at 4405 HWY 71 East, Del Valle Location, Phone 512-247-9708. A sale will be held at 11:00 AM at 227 Park 35 Cove North, Buda Location, Phone 512-312-2227. A sale will be held at 1:00 PM at 10707 IH 35, North Austin Location, 35, North Austin Location, Phone 512-977-9775. All units will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Clean up and removal deposit will be required. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid. Sales include items from the following tenant's storage spaces: Abel Albarado- lawn sowing terrain sounder spaces: Abel Albarado-lawn mower, shelf, misc. boxes. John Jones-china cabinet. Daisy Morquecho-living room, toys, boxes. Setoria Williams's-living room, bedroom, misc. boxes. Cherry Raymond-boxes, misc. Jennifer Herrear-TV large, speaker. Brenda White-books, household. Michael Williams-household furniture. Stanly Sanders-cloths, baggage. Gary Reimers gumball machine, household. Samuel Fernandez-household. Juan Fernandez- household. Juan Carlos Mendoza- TV, furniture. Angelina Espinozabaseball cards, furniture,

Mathew Gonzales- house hold. Timothy Gibson- house-hold, furniture.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59, Tex-as Property Code, Texas Storage Park, which is locat-ed at 10013 Hwy, 620 N. Austin, TX 78726, will hold a public auction of property be-ing sold to satisfy a land

public auction of property be-ing sold to satisfy a land-lord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 am on February 19, 2008. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash or

Dennis Nunley: 24-Wooden Floor Joists (23'L 4'x4')

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Linda Smith - refrigerator, washer, dryer, hockey sticks, treadmill, karaoke

Linda Smith - couch, fax machine, dressers, file cab-inet, misc. furniture

Linda Smith - desk, wheel barrel, game table, misc. itams

Addison Sander - tires. lawn mower, weights, chairs, misc, items Roger Gentry - computer monitor, printer, books, clothing, misc. items

Jennifer Monsevais - mat-tress, washer, dryer, bicy-cle, 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, Wednes-day, February 6, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m. Property will be sold to highest bidder for each Soller received the cash. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property at any time prior to sale. Suc cessful hidders shall be re cessful 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 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 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 location listed below; And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following addresses to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following posed 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, Christ-Carolyn Benevolent, Christ-mas decorations, crib, red wagon, large full sports equipment bag. Unit #326 John Rueter, organ, dining room chair, crib, lamps. Unit #443 Steve Adams, enter-tainment center, office chair, washer, dryer, comforter, boxes. Unit #705 Steffan Cheatum, tv, clothes, electric guitar, computer. Unit #736 Demetra Arnold, washer, computer, toys, boxes, mat-tresses, full unit with house-hold goods. hold goods.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

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) UStore-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 units contain household items unless otherwise men-tioned. Units and locations are listed below

U-Store-It # 753 10025 Manchaca Rd Austin, Tx 78748 512-292-1760

India High-Williams - Boxes, Refrigerator, Suitcase, Totes, Desk.

Gilbert Taylor III - Clothing. Melissa Alvarado - 2001 Mit subishi Galant 4-Door VIN 4A3AA46G11E074638 Li-cense # 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. wierian 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

Eddy Martinez - Bags, Bed, Bookcase, Boxes, Dresser, Entertainment shelf, comput-er, CDs. Misc. Household

JewDon Priestley - Bed Frame, Chairs, Radio, Shelves, Records, Cassette tape Cases, Glass, Music Equipment, Exercise Equip

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 - Mat-tress, Stereo, Love Seat, Chair, Futon, Book Shelves, Rug, Dolly, Tables.

Elizabeth Kristin - Bike, Ab Lounge Exercise Machine

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY State of Texas

County of Travis

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 on a judgment rendered against KEVIN
MICHAEL WELLS of a judgment rendered against KEV MICHAEL WELLS; I did on December 17, 2007, at 2:00 p.m., levy upon as the prop-erty of KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS the following de-scribed real property:

scribed 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 Court-house, 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 DEPLITY ALAN

REDD, Deputy Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the 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 un-expired written statement is-sued to the person in the manner prescribed by Sec-tion 34.015, Tax Code, show-ing that the Travis County As-sessor, Collector has defer. sessor-Collector has deter-mined that there are no de-linquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addi-tion, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other in-

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY State of Texas

County of Travis

Cause: 206546 By virtue of

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 HHCC, INC versus ANGEL MACHELLE RALLS, JONATHAN T. MCMI-CHAEL, AND MJM INVEST-MENTS D/B/A PARK PLACE

APARTMENTS on a judgment rendered against ANGEL MA-CHELLE RALLS, JONATHAN T. MCMICHAEL, AND MJM INVESTMENTS D/B/A PARK PLACE APARTMENTS; I did on November 16, 2007, at on November 16, 2007, at 3:00 P.M., levy upon as the property of ANGEL MA-CHELLE RALLS, the following described real property:

0.327 ACRES OF LAND, BEING ALL OF LOT 17 AND A ING ALL OF LOTS 16 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 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 MA CHELLE 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

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.

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 Assessed County A sessor-Collector has deter-mined that there are no delinguent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addi-tion, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other in-

NOTICE to All Persons Having Claims Against the Estate of Lalage M. Williams, Deceased Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Lalage M. Williams, Deof Lalage M. Williams, De-ceased, were issued on Jan-uary 15, 2008, in Cause No. 87,916 in the Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Tex-as to Timothy Mitchell.

The post office address for mailing of claims is: Timothy Mitchell, Executor c/o Rash, Chapman, Schreiber & Porter, L.L.P. 2112 Rio Grande Austin, TX 78705 512/477-7543 (PHONE) 512/474-0954 (FAX)

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 January 15, 2008. By: Mark B. Schreiber Attorney for the Estate

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO RIDDERS TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:

1.Persystent Software Li-censes, Maintenance & Training, B080103-VC Opens: February 11, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.

2. Residential Plumbing Ser vices, B080110-DR

Opens: February 11, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m. AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 31, 2008 @ 11:00 A.M.

3. HVAC residential Services, B080001-DR

Opens: February 11, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m.

AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON JANUARY 30, 2008 @ 11:00 A.M.

2008 @ 11:00 A.M.
Bids should be submitted to:
Cyd Grimes, Travis County
Purchasing Agent, Ned
Granger Building, 314 West
11th, Room 400, PO. Box
1748, Austin, Texas 78767.
Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the
Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by down.

fice at no charge or by down

loading a copy from our web-site: www.co.travis.tx.us/pur-

chasing/solicitation.asp. Bid

chasing/solicitation.asp. Bid-ders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if ap-propriate. Payments may be made by check. The suc-cessful bidder shall be re-quired to furnish a Perfor-mance 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

1.Professional Architectural/

Engineering/Landscape Ar-chitect Services for the de-sign of the Northeast Metro Park

Improvements, Phase III, in Precinct 2, RFQ Q080083-LP

Opens: February 7, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.

2:00 p.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

no charge or by downloading a copy from our website:

www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp.

PUBLIC NOTICE

THE STATE OF TEXAS

THE COUNTY OF TRAVIS

THE COUNTY OF TRAVIS
TO THOSE INDEBTED TO OR
HOLDING CLAIMS AGAINST
THE ESTATE OF BETTIANN
B. EMERSON, Deceased:
The undersigned Independent Executor of the Estate of
Bettiann B. Emerson, Deceased, of Travis County,
Texas, having been granted
Letters Testamentary by the

Texas, having been granted Letters Testamentary by the County Court of Travis County, Texas, in Probate Cause #87578 January 10, 2008, hereby notifies all persons indebted to said Estate to make payment, and those having legal claims against said Estate to present them within the time prescribed by law at the address below. Dated January 14, 2008, by Donald Charles Emerson, Independent Executor of the Estate of Bettiann B. Emerson, Deceased, c/o MARI-LYN G. MILLER, Attorney at Law, P.O. Box 917, Dripping Springs, Texas 78620.

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

DIVISION OF ST. CROIX

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., CARBBEAN AUTO MART f/k/a ANTILLES AUTOMOTIVE, CARMELO ORTIZ TORRES

CIVIL NO. 296/2006

SUMMONS

awarded, if applicable

ADDRESS: 4252 Country Road 141, Leona, Texas 75850 Within the time limited by law

d/b/a HIGHBRIDGE AUTO-MOTIVE, "BILLIE DOE", De

TO: BRUCE MERRITT, Defendant

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3. Monaco MH Rambler BBJJ069, Canada, VIN 1RF62445231025698 AusTex Towing &

> Austin, TX 78753 (Address where vehicle is

the following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 30 days. Garagekeeper:

(512)670-7578

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUC-

The following property, cur-rently housed at Budget Stor-age and Parking, 12001 Man-chaca, is to be offered for sale to satisfy a landlord's lien pursuant to Texas Prop-erty Code, Chapter 59.

(see note below) you are hereby required to appear before this Court and answer to a complaint filed against ou in this action and in case you in this action and in case of your failure to appear or answer, judgment by default will be taken against you as demanded in the complaint,

Witness my hand and the Seal of the Court this 30th day of July, 2007.

DENISE ABRAMSEN

Clerk of the Court By: /s/ Sharlene Turnbul 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 de-fense with the Clerk of this fense with the Clerk of this Court, and to serve a copy thereof upon the plaintiff's at-torney within twenty (20) days after service of this summons, excluding the date of services. The defendant, if served by by publication of by personal service outside iurisdiction, is required to the jurisdiction, is required to file his answer or other de-fense 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 of sonal service outside of the jurisdiction.

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Trathe 98th District Court of Ira-vis County, on the 21st day of December, 2007 in a cer-tain cause numbered X98-08658, wherein Austin Inde-pendent School District, City of Austin, Travis County, Austin Community College and

Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Walter Langdon, Jr., Walter Lang-don, III, Paula Campbell, City don, 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 sums: Tract One: Billing

sums: Tract One: 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.

L on the 28th day of Decem 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 Febru-ary, 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

ber 81111

Lot 1 and the East 1/2 of Lot 2, Block 12, Belcher Resubdivision 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 (Olt. 32 & 33, Div. B), Plat No. 2/154 as de-scribed in Volume 614, Page 395, Volume 621, Page 414 and Probate Cause No. 44,335 and 55 671 of the deed records 55.671 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be IHE ABOVE SALE to be 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 =

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\$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 WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT 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 Com-09904, wherein Austin Com-munity College, Austin Inde-pendent School District, City of Austin, Travis County and Travis County Hospital Dis-trict are plaintiffs, and Jay Cooper, 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 be ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Tex-

as, 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, Section1, Plat No. 4/256, Travis Plat No. 4/256, ITAVIS County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 3756, Page 486; Volume 10628, Page 265 and Volume 13207, page 156 of the dead records of 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 sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 28th day of December, 2007. BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Joe Rosser DEPLITY

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD. THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED. TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE.

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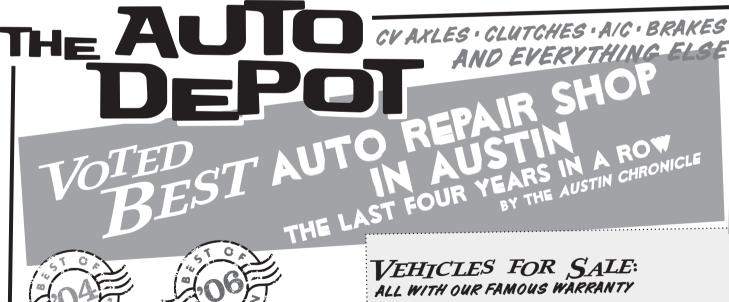
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Live the fantasies you never thought possible with a brutally attractive Dominatrix. I have years of playtime experience and an incredible arsenal of toys. Are you my next willing pet DominaShannon, 29, 101, #124643

MALE BODY LOVER

Looking for a "friend" not just a hook up. Someone who is outgoing, an out-door lover, intelligent and maybe a bit of a nerd. rockett2222, 34, 101, #124473

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, 27, 101, #124093

MISS E

I just wanted a \$150 gift card from FORBIDDEN FRUIT... Hopefully I get one... Other wise this profile is for fun. Lam from Austin but stay in Chicago now... mmcchr05, 23, 101, #124037

GODDESS OF LOVE

I enjoy intellectual conversation with company and demand respect from men Ultimately I want someone to know me. lolita, 27, 101, #123960

CUTE BI-CURIOUS 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. austingrI07, 23, 101, #123569

REWARDING DOM

Looking for a consistant submissive,not a one time experience Would like to meet them before anything sexual obviously. If you are intrested inlease feel free to contact me TomorrowsWorse, 23, 101, #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

LIRRARIAN 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, 2 **6**, #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, **101**. #124721

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, 27, 101, #124509

HAVING GOOD TIME

couple open-minded first time him 40 her 41. looking for couple 30s or 40s. **memo**, 39, **101**, **#124496**

Married Hisp. cpl seek adult encountrs. 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

LFTS GET HIM

Hello, we seek another man in the bedroom, clean cut, professional, no tattos to get me good while my man is forced to watch. hotvixen, 31, 10, #124454

BI COUPLE LOOKING

attractive, expierenced 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, 101, #124429

THREE IS COMPANY

We're an attractive African-American couple looking for another to female to join us in spreading a little iholiday cheeri Be ready to please, I guarantee you will be. Threeiscompany2, 23, 61, #124414

CRAZY ASS COUPLE

Married couple 36 female, 41 male, looking for single(s) or couple(s) that are not new to group sex. No Strings, no game just great sex! ginger, 37, 101, #124266

Looking for other hot girls to play with **OceanGirl**, 30, **101**, **#124754**

ATTRACTIVE, BI-CURIOUS FEM

Bi-curious, inexperienced, attractive, slender fem looking for a single bi-fem for friendship - & discreet, sexy encounters, dancing. Looking for height/weight proportionate, outdoorsy, fem girl adventures. Ruby, 31, 10, #124362

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. Izzy11, 31, 101, #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, 101, #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, 101, #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

ATTRACTIVE, INEXPERIENCED,

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, 7, 10, #120088

SEEKING SWITCH PARTNER

You-looking for fun first and formost 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, **3**, **4121712**

FOOT/WS SLAVE

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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 auv. Casual encounters are fine. cookster, 48, 73, 101, #121616

HUNG.CURIOUS.LOOKING

curious,top oriented guy looking for shapely pair of legs on the adventurous side.Cross dressers, submissive, nice feet and well groomed. Topgun, 44,

10, #124818 ROCK STAR

wild and wet and ready for who every who want it can get it's just like that. RICHBOI69, 20, 101, #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, 101, #124633

HARD BLACK

I'm 24, 5'9", 200, ddf, clean respectful man. Looking to explore what the world has to offer me. Need some new kink in my life. **choklat_thundr**, 24,

#123854

MR ORAL LOVER

My ideal T Girl has medium to large breasts, is submissive, likes the bottom, is passionate, and has an oral fixation. whiteknight, 47, 10, #123510

PLAYTIME

I am a playfull man looking for others to open there minds and lets have som fun. **Sowrong**, 48, **T**, **O**, **#119751**

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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, 4123387

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Experienced, kinky, submissive, bi male, into almost everything! Sane, safe, DD free, descrete, nasty, kinky and looking to play! subslut, 44, 75, 101, #122208

TXSIZELOV'IN

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 and again. BigSmileKeith, 43, 101, #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, 101, #121961

HOT, CLOSET CD

looking for a good looking, 30 to 40's y.o. woman who would like to do some rather kinky things in bed, be friends. i'm reasonably intelligent, sensitive, artistic person. **shelley**, 54, **101**, **#124543**

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, 61, #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 friend. Lynda61521, 48, 101, #119822

CROSSDRESSER ISO GIRLFRIEND

I am a very passable and kinky crossdresser. I am bisexual, but prefer women. I'm primarily looking for a girlfriend, but occassional play partners and friendships are good, too. kinky_violet, 26, 101, #120083

SEXV TS

iím a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual im 5(10) 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. ifm very classy, too, and dress very provocatively. ifm 28 years old. **nicole_anais**, 30. 4115140

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,

☎, **101**, #101055

ALCOHOL AND ASS

I love the rubik's cube. Let me twist and turn you, I bet I can solve you by the end of the night. Trust me, my solutions are never boring. MexMadHatter, 20, 6, #124852

34 FIT HETEROSEXUAL

l enjoy having sex with women only and or enjoy sharing her with another man. she will be very happy ... that is, if she can take it all, travisriver, 34

101, #124840

GIRTH

Just curious of what i might get in to on this site. Im 31 athletic 420. friendly... Black from the waist down Ask me if you wanna know something Rhino, 31, 101, #124803

BBW LOVER/LATIN STUD

I love bigger girls and I want to meet an outgoing adventurous one for some fantasy time! Latenightlatin, 25, 101, #124767

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, 21, 10, #124746

LOLITA

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. I love long hair and heavy music, but am not confined to any restrictions.

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read the rest of LOLITA's profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at austinchronicle.com/easystreet

THE LUV DOC

Austin Air Sex Championships • Sat., Jan. 26 12mid • Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz 320 E. Sixth • www.originalalamo.com

You might be tempted to question the wisdom of Alamo Drafthouse in preceding their Air Sex Championships this Saturday night with a screening of There Will Be Blood. The bill sounds a little "dark ages" - as if the air sex competitors have to hoist a stained sheet to prove they've consummated their imaginary act. That would be impressive though, Wouldn't it? If the promo video is any indication, not all air sex is virgin sex - at least not as it's pantomimed. The competitors however, are another matter entirely. It's fairly safe to say that whoever came up with the idea of air sex (well, actually it was the Japanese) didn't do so as a response to getting bored with the real thing. Apparently if you wait around long enough, even the worst air pocket becomes a reasonable substitute for a meat pocket. We'd like to think American society isn't nearly as repressed. Here in the states, air sex is traditionally relegated to hack comedy routines, excessive end zone celebrations, and obscene gestures by construction workers stranded on girders. That is, until the culturally co-optive folks down at the Drafthouse dropped air sex into their lineup. It turns out that the Japanese are only air sex dilettantes. The real pros live right here in River City. If you're swelling with pride about Austin's previously untapped talent, consider this: It's not because Austin is teeming with savvy sluts and skilled swordsmen. No, most air sexers get their training just like everyone else: Online. That's understandable. Unless you're Ron Jeremy, Traci Lords, Mick Jagger, Pamela Anderson, or Wilt Chamberlin, your real-life experience with visually robust scenarios like double penetration, bukkake, and analingus is going to be relatively limited. However, through the miracle of the internets, even the most undefiled virgin can find a treasure trove of information on the biomechanics of freaky sex - certainly enough to bluff their way through a frenzied pantomime of a muff and duff with a couple of monstrously hung weightlifters or maybe a dizzying ride in a Vietnamese spin fuck chair. Question is: Will that be enough to impress the judges? Hard to say. Then again, maybe it really isn't about the judges. After all, this is air sex, so you can pretty much start with the supposition that everyone's a loser and has nowhere to go but up, both figuratively and literally. That kind of sick, sweaty desperation always leads to bizarre and entertaining situations, and you wouldn't want to miss them, would you? Yes, the competition will be fierce, and There Will Be Blood, but only the imaginary kind which, like the air sex, won't stain your clothing.

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Women SEEKING

I enjoy eating, shopping, and dancing nunnies and industrial music. I've been asked to be in music videos. candybits86, 21, 101, #124825

HELLO:)

If you nice I am nice. If you are a bitch then I'm a bitch. I like to go to Elysium on sat nights and Huts burgers before ;). catacombk1tten, 21, 101, #124824

RACK IN AUSTIN

Really great to be back. Looking for fun people to hang out with in this brilliant city. Music? drinks? Town Lake? Literary events, let's go. reisegrrl, 36, #124646

GRACEFULLY AGING HIPPIE

Creative, active, laid-back, easy-going, good sense of humor, looking for friendship, companionship, more with the right person. monah ltx, 50, 101, #124812

HIPPIE CHICK 69

Why don't we hang-out. Who know's, I might be "The one." You'll never know if you don't get in touch. LonghornD-ropout, 22, 101, #124800

AND LOOKS TOO

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 ac venture! WhiteRaven, 45, 101, #124674

HARDWORKING, BOLD, INDEPENDENT

I generally focus on people's positive characteristics and enjoy making new friends. I would like to meet people that outdoors hrml3 51 101 #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, 101, #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, 101, #124675

CAROLINA HARDCORE ECSTASY

The large print giveth, the small print taketh away. **Albondigas**, 37, **101**, **#124635**

READY FOR ADVENTURE

Seeking adventure and companionship with a compatible mate. Gwendolink, 50. 101. #124651

SOMETHING REAL. &FUN.

Down to earth, love outdoors, travel, music friends Lam cute great smile easly to talk to. Looking for a guy that can be understanding, fun, have his own life, iulesps, 34, 101, #124628

SPRINKLE OF "SUGAH"

Attractive, strong willed, semi retired model, seeking romance, fun times and tour guide to help get settled in new town.Easygoing.drama free.lf you don't sweat the small stuff,we're off to a great start! MizSugah, 45, 101, #124629

DAYTRIPS, NITECLUBS, &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, **101**. #124627

AFFECTIONATE GUY WANTED

seeking heavyset catholic 18-25 yr old

male; must be affectionate and open-

minded. Amyjustspelleddifferent, 18,

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,

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,

I recently moved to Austin a few weeks

ago and still getting familiar with the

SEEKING FELLOW TRAVELER

out with. BK. 27. 101. #124545

OLD FASHIONED GAL

City. Looking for some people to hang

I'm funny and smart, know foreign lan-

ing maps. If you're looking for a naviga-

tor, count me out. isis isis ra ra a, 54,

Hi my name is beth. I am new to austin

escort me around town. Hope to talk to

vou soon, beth311, 47, 101, #124511

and would like to have some people

guages, but sadly, I am lousy at read-

18 vr old female from Round Rock

SCISSORTAIL FLYCATCHER

#124606

#124605

ADVENTURE

6, #124596

#124531

LOOKIN' 4

ADVENTUROUS, AMBITIOUS

Me: Adventurous, Ambitious, Dynamic, Frisky, Vivacious, Romantic You: Real. LocaVida, 48, 101, #124524

LOST IN AUSTIN

New here and looking for new friends. I love to laugh and have a pretty wild sense of humor...thick skinned only need apply! **itsonlydarla**, 41, , **10**, **#124489**

NATURAL, EARTHY. MUSIC-LOVER

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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, 27, 101, #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, 101, #124343

HITTIN THE SCENE

I love hanging out with cool people, in-telligent conversations, partying, shagging, drinking, and just chillin' out every once in a while to read a good book or watch a film. Cuz_its_like_that, 29, **6**, #124807

ADVENTURE

Easy going enjoys life, Happy, Fun, Laughter, Adventurous, Sunsets, unrises, Good Food, Good Drinks, Stiff Coffee, Ice cream, Travel, Movies, Music, Outdoors, Massages seek the same... doogsiefil. 42. 101. #124821

SEEKING 420-FRIENDLY FEMALE

Looking for companionship and help around the house (woman's touch). 420friendly and willing to smoke "his girl" out indefinitely. Owns bad-ass trampoline: girl must be trampoline-adent or at least tolerant. tcbbjjsj, 21, 101, #124813

MUSIC RRAINS ATTRACTIVE. FUNNYOPTIMISTICPESSIMIST

Hey - You with the stars in your eyes... I'm, "just a guy", well - actually - I hope I'm completely atypical - Captivatingly Intelligent, Funny-ha-ha, diabolically appealing, sexy, alluring. HerelAm, 47,

なり、**し**は、#124798

FULL MEAL DEAL

I am great. We can go out to eat every night. Together. I know we'll love each other. 12InchVeggieDelight, 25, 101, #124790

DOWNTOWN VERSATILE GUY

I live on 6th street. By day I am a space designer. By night I am a guitarist, laid back type. I have a cool loft. Lets chill here. 1pushkick, 48, 🕿, 🔯, #124774

LOOSE CANNON, BABY!

'm looking for someone that's into eating good food, smoothing, exchanging intelligent thoughts, getting into things we shouldn't be getting into, and laughing about it all afterwards. **Posi**tive Youth, 24, 101, #124765

NOOKIN PA NUB

Youngish looking/thinking 30something ready to explore the possibilities of actually moving from bachelor existence to something more surprising, warm and rewarding. Tired of playing tennis against a backboard. Wanna play? funkentelecty, 35, 101, #124710

FUNNY, KIND, CHILL

I am looking for a good relationship. I would love to tour the city and get to know you. I an an intresting person who can make you laugh. JoeCool99 20, 101, #124764

INDIE GEEK KID

looking for the Bonnie to my Clyde, Nancy to my Sid, Cher to my Sonny, the Courtney to my Kurt, the Whitney to my Bobby... ummm, you get the point. KidTrinity, 27, 10, #124760

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, 101, #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, 101, #124739

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, 21. **[0]**. **#124740**

PLEASE PICK ME!

Just moved to Austin. I like to read, hand out at coffee shops, and swim. I've been told I've got a great sense of humor. peloncito, 36, 101, #124723

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 ooking for a relationship. **raenius**, 26, #124715

LOOKING FOR MYDREAMGIRL

I'm ultimately 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 al attraction exists. transformer, 39, **6**, **#124707**

EKING

STEWED, SCREWED, TATTOOED

i'm vegan, independent, introspective, creative, love poetry, animals, tattoos, music and art. looking for a single vegan (or vegetarian) artistic, passionate girl to befriend, bewilder and bemuse. roseblood, 38, 101, #124832

CRAZY SEXY COOL

I love hiking with my dog around Austin, traveling, read and create my own brand of art. Iim looking for friends first and possibly something more. Shutterbug72, 35, 101, #124763

22 HISPANIC

Hi my name is Veronica, I am a bi sexual woman, who is currently seeking another beautiful woman, who is a bi sexual. beautifulsmile, 22, 101, #124756

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. iamclrblnd, 23, 101, #124648

FEMME 4 RELATIONSHIP

My name is Sarah... honestly looking for a relationship 20 y/o.Long,Blk hr, Drk Brwn Iz, 5'4, 110, Brwn Skn Lotz of pics I hope you do to :D. SekCBinX, 20, **6**, #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, 6, #124333

KINK FREAK

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So..l 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. **tbozali-cious**, 22, **101**, **#124160**

LOUDLOVINGLOSER

outgoing, talkative person.i adore my friends, family & pets, lover of all music & film genres.can't beat a good live shows when paired with good company, makes for the best dates rieslingowl, 20, 101, #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,

1, #124084

AWAKENED

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, 72, 101, #124075

men seeking

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. NIIU, 36, 101, #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, 101, #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, 101, #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, 101, #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 teetotallers. Me: 30yo, 6'0, 185lbs, VGL-fit, masc. **Sarkany**, 31, **6**, **#123189**

Matty_Geez -

FIVE WORDS ISN'T ENOUGH.

Gregarious, social animal with a nerd side. Semi-athletic, but not at the gym everyday. Lover of all things music, movies, video games, animals, food, booze, and bud. Partial to sunny days and swimming in the summer, warming up with a cigarrette in the cold, and candles even though that's pretty emasculating.

read the rest of MATTY_GEEZ'S profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at austinchronicle.com/loverslane

SEEKING IS THIS ON? I'm looking for some one to dream with. A gal that engages me. If you are a cynic, burnt-out, realist... I wish you well but no

thanks. kingsxjj, 43, 101, #124570 MUSIC, ART, LIFE... just email me and ill answer any questions or just talk... i love meeting new

people. MobRocker, 19, 101, #124854

FUNNY METAL GUY Work alot and dont get out much hoping to meet some cool people and have a good time. Music, comedy, old cars and dive bars. **Willy13**, 24, **10**, **#124850**

UNPREDICTABLE, FUN, EASYGOING

Spontaneous but well rounded 22 yr old interested in meeting a new girl to date. I like intelligent women who can still cut loose and have a good time. brero22, 22, 151, #124847

CONTEMPARARY, TECHNICAL, HAPPY!

A true friend to all whom I meet, I cook and clean and enjoy entertaining friends. I like outdoor activities, but not during cedar season. I like it HOT All_In, 31, 101, #124846

ROUGH EDGES

i am an honest, loyal, hard working dude that would like to meet a fun lovin woman with a good head on her shoulders. jasonsouth, 33, 101, #124835

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Maybe we pass each other at HEB and don't realize everything we have in common... give it a shot, it'd be a shame otherwise... **Hyperopic**, 32, **101**, **#124794**

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CUTE ITALIAN LEO

I am a poet, a writer, a digital graphic artist, a Romantic, a Macintosh guru and a funny auy. I love the outdoors: camping. hiking, picnicking. Oh, and I'm HIV-positive. **panepinto**, 42, **101**, **#121697**

REFRESHING AND QUIRKY

I'm a fun and free-spirited person. I love experiencing new things, meeting ne people, and living life to the fullest. If this sounds like you, we'll get along quite nicely. nightblindness, 24, 118639

SINGLE IN AUSTIN

Hopeless romantic, laid back, down to earth guy, interested in dating, new friendships, and more along the way. Ifm looking for guys with good hearts, good head over their shoulders. juan41381, 26, 101, #115939

IT'S ALL GOOD!

Looking for a boyfriend? 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, 37, 101, #115672

ATYPICAL, FLACO, EASY-GOING LIFE'S A JOURNEY

Eclectic, smart, fun, professional creative, curious, outdoors, DIY, garden, software, humor, travel, You also please be relatively fit, mature confident, diverse interests, traveled, own-to-earth, spirited, versatile. divid0 49 6 #119363

JUST

MUSIC RANDOM INTERESTING

Ima random music fan who is looking for someone who likes 420, loves traveling, likes the museums/places to visit in austin and loves food. I counter balance food with workouts. Happy-Random 22 101 #124829

PUPPYLOVE A MUST

Well I pretty much like everything . 80's, love music, and love to la puppy_love_a_must, 25, 10, #124587 Catwoman, 23, 10, #124467

A strong minded Gemini with the passion for life and the willingness to try new things. Lookinf for like mided people to connect with. Mr Skellington 39 101 #124642

JUST BEING ME

Its late, I'm tired, and my allergies are off the ricter...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, 101, #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!

COUPLE SEEKING FLIPSIDE

Two cool kids out of college 23/2 v/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, 101, #124334

messages

MOON PIC.DONT KNOW who it was for,but it made my day and reminded me of someone dear to me thanks.

WEE LOVELY - Happy 27th on the 24th sexy girl! I'm in love with the coolest chick around! -Big Stinky

REWARD FOR RETURN of black fringed cape w/ blue applique & shell buttons left in grocery bag on Cap-Metro bus 12/18.

FLUNKENSTEIN (FLANNERY) BIRTHDAY wishes galore! Love your guts, Gezbot (Lizzbeth) & Chewie

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Brezsny for January 25 - January 31

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): You're entering an astrological phase when it makes sense to expand and dramatize your ego. In light of the poetic license that affords you, I'd like to introduce you to the concept of enlightened bragging. It will allow you to tout your own brilliance at the same time that you disarm anyone who might be tempted to sneer at you for doing so. The playfully self-mocking tone of your enlightened bragging will give you an opportunity to demonstrate your high opinion of yourself without feeling guilty or defensive. Here's all you need to do to get started: Make yourself a T-shirt or bumper sticker that reads, "I am a Jenius."

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): Every now and then when the garbage I generate in a week's time exceeds what one trashcan is able to hold, I have to make a special phone call to the office of the refuse and recycling service to request that they pick up an extra can. If I'm reading your astrological omens correctly, this is one of those times for you, at least from a metaphorical perspective: You need to get rid of more than your usual amount of useless junk and residual wastes - much more, probably including a backlog of stuff you may not have even realized was garbage until now.

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): "Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year," said essayist Ralph Waldo Emerson. That's my first suggestion for you this week, Aries. Now, while you're at the energetic peak of your astrological cycle, is a good time to cultivate a knack for identifying the specific gift that each day has to offer you. You will also resonate well with the cosmic rhythms if you make use of another Emersonian gem: "Every great and commanding moment in the annals of the world is the triumph of some enthusiasm." Where does your purest enthusiasm lie? And how will you use it to fuel your ascent to a series of great and command-

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): "In the human heart new passions are forever being born," said French writer Francois de La Rochefoucauld. "The overthrow of one almost always means the rise of another." I suppose that's true. We all have longings that come and go as we evolve. But I'd also like to propose an equally valid and contradictory truth: In every human heart there are a few passions that last a lifetime. They're with us from the moment we're born, and nothing can dilute their intensity. Our destiny revolves around them. These are the passions I hope you will define with precision and nurture with alacrity during the next eight weeks.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): If you have trouble resisting the urge to stay current with news about famous actresses, you may have a mental illness. A team of psychologists has certified "Celebrity Worship Syndrome" as an actual psychiatric condition. Now please listen to me closely: It is imperative that you stifle this malady during the next 25 days, even if you have a mild case of it. Your fantasy life needs to soar into unknown frontiers where more of the details of your own personal talents will be revealed, and you can't afford to be weighed down with fantasies about rich and charismatic people you don't know.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): "Dear Brother Rob: We wanted you to know that our exceedingly sweet, holy, and pious dog, Magdalene, told us tonight that she feels you are a direct descendant of Melchior, one of those famous Bethlehem astrologers/magi mentioned as bringing gifts to the baby Jesus way back when! That's so cool! Raucous peace to you! -Gabriel and Deana." Dear Gabriel and Deana: I'm honored! Give my thanks to Magdalene. Does she have any messages for my Cancerian readers? I've been having visions that they will soon be getting gifts from the past and revelations about their heritage and updates concerning their birthrights.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): We all tend to project onto other people the unattractive aspects of ourselves that we refuse to acknowledge. We're also drawn to anyone who expresses the fully activated versions of our own sleeping potentials. Everywhere we go, then, our vision is clouded by the disowned psychic material that is floating around our unconscious minds. That's the bad news, Leo. The good news is that in the next eight weeks you will have an enhanced ability to get access to the liabilities and powers that are buried beneath the surface of your awareness As a result, your ability to see the objective truth about the world around you should

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): "The ermine is so fastidious that he will allow himself to be caught by hunters before he will take refuge in a muddy spot," wrote Leonardo da Vinci in his Bestiary. The legendary behavior of this small mammal has a resemblance to certain Virgos. Let's hope you're not one of them. To avoid getting trapped in the coming days, you will have to be willing, even eager, to get dirty. Here's your motto. The miracle is in the mess

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): A friend recently said to me, "You really try hard to avoid conflict, don't you?" That surprised me. In my own perception of myself, I'm avoid conflict, don't you?" pretty combative, at least in the privacy of my own imagination. The injustice and suffering I see in the world make me mad, and I'm constantly plotting to overthrow the ignorant forces that are at the root of that bad stuff. It's true that I almost never express naked hostility or engage in outright combat with anyone. But that's because I think that the best way for me to fight the ugliness is to whip up lavish doses of beauty and truth and love. Sorry to be talking about myself so much, Libra, but it's in a good cause: I urge you to be like me in the coming week.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): I don't usually recommend that you text-message a cohort who's sitting a few feet away from you in a meeting, or use your cell phone to call the cell phone of the person you're lying next to in bed. But this would be a good week to do things like that. It's an excellent time, you see, to experiment with how you communicate, to try alternate methods of conversing, to awaken unfamiliar responses as you engage with familiar people. You might want to write a letter in longhand to a comrade you see all the time, or sit down at a table together and exchange messages by drawing pictures rather than talking.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): In my astrological opinion, you should adopt a miscellaneous and serendipitous receptivity in the coming week; you should be extra responsive to the primal flux as its odd luck whisks you through in-between zones and fascinating grey areas. And yet I also think you should be profoundly picky about which of the thousand and one stimuli you allow to grab your full attention. In other words, make your mind wide open and allow it to wander freely, but give your favors to only the most piquant twists and tasty bits.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): To advertise its upgraded features, the search engine Ask3D.com rolled out a marketing campaign with a seductive catchphrase: "Instant Getification," as in immediately acquiring your desired results. I'm borrowing that mantra, or at least half of it, for your horoscope. Your getification levels will be way up in the coming weeks. That doesn't mean you will instantaneously and automatically obtain everything you crave without any effort. Rather, it suggests that you will have an enhanced power to summon the will and ingenuity and resourceful ness that will help you get what you want.

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a Shot in the Dark

DALLAS ORLANDO THURSDAY

We both got moved to the front seat talked about books, nature, etc. Wish had asked for your number, what about you? When: Thursday, January 17. Where: american flight. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902588

RECORD SELLING HIPSTER

You work at Waterloo and I'm hoping to catch your eye.I'm the brunette who goes out of my way to get the Onion at Waterloo in hopes to bump into you! When: Sunday, January 20. Where Outside Waterloo Records. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902587

ZTEJAS ON 6TH

Friday (1/18)at lunch. You: tall good looking man at bar. Me: tall, blondish w/tall man. We xchgd looks, I said Hey. You're the town lake biker guy right? et's chat!? When: Friday, January 18. Where: Z Tejas on 6th. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902586

PARKING LOT LOVE

Caught my eye, as you were asking me for directions. Your lustful eyes almost made me drop my hippie food. YOU: soccer lovin' greasy mechanic ME:luscious hawaiin in need of tune-up. When: Wednesday, January 9. Where: s.congress HEB parking lot. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902585

MARIE@TROPHY'S 1/12

've never been given a fax number before. Marie, should I fax you? I think I am going to fax you. Soon. When: Saturday, January 12. Where: trophy's. You: Man. Me: Man. #902584

LUKE

I couldn't manage more than two sentences; you caught me at a bad time. You are stunning. Perhaps our paths will cross again. (you: Black hair, black oat, cigarette, session/redstripe?)

When: Sunday, January 20. Where: drinking and dancing. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902583

SKUNK!

SKUNK aka bronze goddess dolce vita and a bottomless cup of coffee always leads to fun. cant wait till we go to lucy in disguise. When: Monday, January 21. Where: dolce vita. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902582

... HAMMER, AND-

Unexpectedly, we shared loving portions of ourselves. Unfortunately, our time together has passed... Fternally thankful for what we had at. (Just wanted you to know, just had to say it.) When: Saturday, October 14, 2006. Where: A faded fantasy. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902574

WACO MEETS JERSEY Sushi was great at UMI's. YOU: beautiful, tall, funny, quirky, adventurous and HOT. ME: good looking, adventurous, humble. Did mention good looking? Would love to marry you. tED **When:** Saturday, January 29, 2005. Where: UMI. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902581

BANDANA FUN TIME

You: Bandanna, camo shorts, beard, nose, homeless? chewing your tung and humming, browsing horny goat weed... Me: no pants, big hammer, nissing on the dumpster I love you but... When: Wednesday, August 20. Where: The Bread Basket on Holly. You: Man. Me: Man. #902577

LADY O'THE LAKE

Judy, I'm hoping your date was a no-show or a dud. Selfish of me, I know, but I was smitten. And still am. **When:** Friday, January 18. Where: Mozart's. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902576

CRL OK MOUNTAIN

to the back door, you thought you were just tagging along. i meant to say anytime, but sometimes i'm preoccupied. always in fact. but you have a beautiful face. When: Saturday, January 19. Where: crl ok mtn opening. You: Man. Me: Woman. 77 #902575

CONAN'S BARBARIAN

I wish I hadn't ordered to-go. You ran the register, I made the pick up. Your beard is masculine and powerful. I'm interested. I could go for another deepdish. When: Wednesday, January 16. Where: Working at Conan's Pizza. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902573

THOMPSON CENTER EMPLOYEE

You: tall boy with dimples, wearing hat. working tech for Roe v. Wade celebration. Me: short red hair, volunteering at the event. We talked about the smell of cookies baking. When: Thursday, January 17. Where: UT Thompson Center. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902572

CHOKE ON SMOKE

you:white-yuppie screaming about cigarette smoke from your over-sized vehicle me:half your age and 100 times happier than you will ever be. calm down, get laid, and breathe a little. When: Wednesday, January 16. Where: braker and 183. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902565

DOLCE WITH COWORKERS?

DolceVita, Tuesday 1/15 4pm, with 3 coworkers. Beautiful shoulder-length brunette guy, dark-eyed, brown leather iacket. I was the blonde woman across from you. Couldn't peel my eyes away. Coffee sometime? When: Tuesday. January 15. Where: Dolce Vita. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902563

EYES THEN SHOUTS

Jan. 16, Wed. at the Longbranch. You. /Tel Aviv/ tote & two friends, Joleen on the box, i was silent, black sweater, want to hear your story. When: Wednesday, January 16. Where: Longbranch inn. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902571

COOKIES NOT CHIPS

I really love the way you dressed that sandwich up girl. Umm, Light Mayonaise! We should hook up and share my footlong. Drinks on me, and free refills. When: Thursday, January 17. Where: Subway Near Arboretum. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902570

PICNIC ON QUILT

Saw you on a quilt having a picnic Reminded me of someone I met on a red blanket. Same person or someone new? Fither way I'd love a nicnic w/you. When: Sunday, January 6 Where: Shoal Creek. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902569

TERRY AT KERBEYLANE

Fri. (1/11) Kerbey Lane South Lamar Your blue eyes made breakfast that much better. Thanks for recommending your favorites to my out-of-town friends Hope this makes you smile. When: Friday, January 11. Where: Kerbey Lane. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902568

LBI JAN.9TH

asian girl with tattoos having drinks with amazon blonde, your friend was so tall. Yet she stood in the shadow of your beauty. I have egg ro fo you. When: Wednesday, January 9. Where: Ibizzle. You: Woman. Me: Man. 7 #902567

LOOKING FOR ASHLEYEP

Last I saw you, we were at Cent. Mkt. we talked and hugged. You love Elvis and were in NYC during 9/11. I miss you and now have an GG When: Sunday, April 8. Where: Central Market. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902566

YOU WERE ENGLISH

When asked if Dutch. me with three buddies. Couldn't take eyes off you. Table next to you, McCormick's downtown Tuesday. Me brown sweater, you alabaster, talking to a prospective boss? When: Tuesday, January 15. Where: McCormick & Schmick Downtown. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902562

SUNDAY FUNDAY! We're going separate ways but I'll be

thinking about you every single day. The thought of seeing you again is what keeps me going. You're loved, don't ever forget that. **When: Tuesday,** January 1. Where: Upstairs. You: Woman, Me: Man, #902561

DILLARD'S@ HIGHLAND, JAN15

You: Beautiful, buying a tie for your dad. Me: Shopping for a wallet, and kicking myself now for not asking for your number. When: Tuesday, January 15. Where: Dillard's, Highland Mall. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902560

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. couldn't take my eyes off you. Coffee? Sandwiches? Walking around London chewing gum, carrying laminated bags? 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, tshirt, 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

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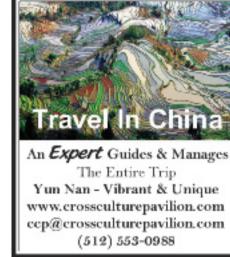
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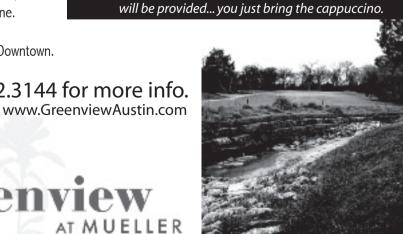
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TO LIVING SOUTHERN by Kate X Messer

With all the big-box chains taking their cue from that four-letter word for Scandinavian, it's totally easy to succumb to the design-in-a-box mentality - that IKEAfication behind so much contemporary decor that has so many Downtown lofts looking like boring Swedish theme parks. While refreshing on the outset, a little bit of stark, clean line goes a long way and can be just as overdone as the Eighties love of dusty rose and slate blue or the Nineties affinity for the overstuffed.

Hence our salute to Southern living. No, not so much the mag (although we won't deny the occasional guilty page turn), but more the mise-en-scène, the genteel feel, the eclectic shotgun wedding of tacky and taste. Southern style is not all mint juleps and bourbon & branch (a little sip can, however, prime the creative juices). It's as breezy as a streetcar, as languid as a Georgian drawl or a slow pungent draw from a Cuban cigar, as cozy as a backyard barbecue or as mannered as an afternoon tea: elaborate, excessive even, vet deliberately modest and understated just as often. Hopefully some of our suggestions herein will help slow down your interior design process, inspire you to reconsider some classic Southern home decor elements. It's time, darlin', to stop and smell the gardenias.



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by Richard Whittaker "So what did you do to get them?" This leering question is inevitably asked to anyone decorating their home with Mardi Gras beads. Wouldn't it be nicer if they asked, "Where did you get those?" With Mardi Lights made from the recycled

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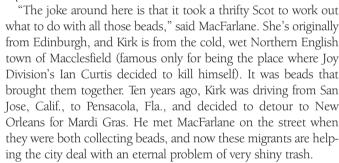
plastic baubles, designed by New Orleans-based Unique Products, they will. Based out of a little gallery and workshop in the historic

Crescent City Garden District (although eagle-eyed Austinites may recognize the lights from last October's Maker Faire at the Travis County Expo Center) recycling artists Heather MacFarlane and Mark Kirk gather the thousands of necklaces that are left to litter the streets after being thrown to the crowds from the floats during the city's monthlong parade season.

As legend has it, Mardi Gras beads must be caught. When the bead-thrower looks you in the eye, he or she is deeming you worthy of the beads and the magic

they contain. If you miss the beads, they "lose their magic" and are to stay on the ground. Plus, considering the size of cramped parade crowds and the increase in pickpockets, it's not safe to scramble for them. Needless to say, New Orleans city streets are covered with the trinkets after each parade.

Each Mardi Light takes roughly 2 pounds of beads, but they're easy enough to find. "They're literally hanging from the trees," explained MacFarlane. While tourists and partygoers will scrabble on the ground, aggressively elbow innocent bystanders, and even expose themselves for the treasured strings of doubloons and prized pendants, it's the small, cheap beads that catch the attention of these artists. They collect them, take them home, unstring the beads, and pass them through a series of kilns and ovens to melt them into flat sheets. They then shape the delicately translucent and uniquely patterned plastic into everything from wall sconces to sun jujus (the voodoo equivalent of a dream catcher).



How many beads are thrown during Mardi Gras each year? "No one really knows, because there are 10 major businesses importing them," said Mardi Gras historian Arthur Hardy, "and they don't want to tell each other." Many are left on the streets or get hung up on overhead obstacles. This means a real headache for the city, with the parade routes looking all year-round like they're bearing a strange, plastic fruit. "We're less than one month away from this year's Mardi Gras," said Mary Beth Romig, communications and public relations director for the

> New Orleans Metropolitan Convention & Visitors Bureau, "and we've still got beads hanging from trees up and down Saint Charles and from balconies in the French Quarter."

"It's all about recycling," explained MacFarlane. Since Katrina, the city has stopped all free recycling pickup services. This means residents can either pay \$15 a month for the privilege of not filling up a landfill, they can settle for mixing all their recyclables in the trash, or they can come up with innovative

uses themselves. The artists of Unique Products have taken some of New Orleans' distinctive trash and turned it into something gorgeous and maybe even lucrative. As well as the lamp shades, the company makes messenger bags out of recycled Federal Emergency Management Agency tarps and desk lamps out of detergent bottles and transforms old fiber-optic cable into garden lights shaped like - like so many ornaments in the city - a fleur-de-lis.

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ELEGANT OR FUNKY, TEA SETS SPIFF UP ANY DECOR by Terry Ornelas

When most Southerners think of tea, the first thing that comes to mind is a cold, sweaty tumbler full of iced sweet tea. That is certainly steeped in tradition, as long as the day is hot. But for many generations we've tipped our teacup to an adopted tradition from our British brethren - the

The days of big hats and white gloves are no longer de rigueur for serving tea, but there's something to be said for dressing the part if you're so inclined. Either way, no true Southern home is complete without the tools of the trade. You'll need a cream pitcher, sugar bowl, strainer, tea tray, teacups, and of course, a teapot. There are a million embellishing accessories out there you can use to accompany and accent, but this list fills your basic needs.

Now if you want to do it up right, get an unglazed earthenware or ceramic steeping pot, as well as a serving pot. The serving pot should be porcelain, as it retains heat better. You can strain the tea when changing pots. Also, an electric kettle is fantastic for boiling water quickly. Let the water sit for a moment once it's boiled so you don't risk scalding the leaves.

Locally, all the big-box shops like Crate & Barrel, Bed Bath & Beyond, Macy's, Sur la Table, etc., will carry sets and accessories. But our tea leaves tell us to buy Austin! Locally brewed Breed & Co. (with their fantastic china selections), Faraday's Kitchen Store, and the ever-popular Tea Embassy.



Pinkies High

Hands down taking the cake as Austin's premier tea experience, Tea Embassy offers a mind-boggling assortment of more than 150 teas from all over the world. They corner the local market on selections, with a wide array of green, black, oolong, white, puerh, South African rooibos, and a large selection of herbal tisanes (medicinal herbal infusions). For flavored teas, they carry combinations of unimaginable concoctions such as Love Story (chocolate and rose petals) and Genmaicha

(rice and popcorn-flavored). They even stock a margarita black tea - lime with a hint of salt - that was featured in December's Southern Living magazine. All of the flavor, none of the hangover. Add to that a selection of tea sets, and knowledge and service that would impress the queen. They don't offer afternoon tea or lunch in their shop, but they do encourage you to attend one of their catered tea events.

If you want to trade in white-glove service for fingerless knitted très chic service, check out Top Drawer Thrift, Uncommon Objects, Room Service Vintage, or any of Austin's myriad secondhand stores, and build your



own tea set out of a vintage assortment. Tea poured from a funky, made-to-order, mixmatched service can be just as fabulous as antique-fancy rose bone china. It's all in the hospitality. One lump or two, how you choose to give and take your tea can be as original as you.

As far as the perfect cup goes, there are a hundred ways to achieve it, each method insisting on its own superiority. Your best

bet: Always use fresh, cold, purified water. Tea connoisseurs far and wide cannot insist on this one enough. Don't oversteep your tea. If you insist on using bagged tea, never squeeze the bag, or you'll release too many tannins and spoil the flavor. Finally, always add milk to the cup before pouring in the tea and not the opposite. Enjoy with gorgeous nibblies of your choice, and keep your pinkie finger raised high.



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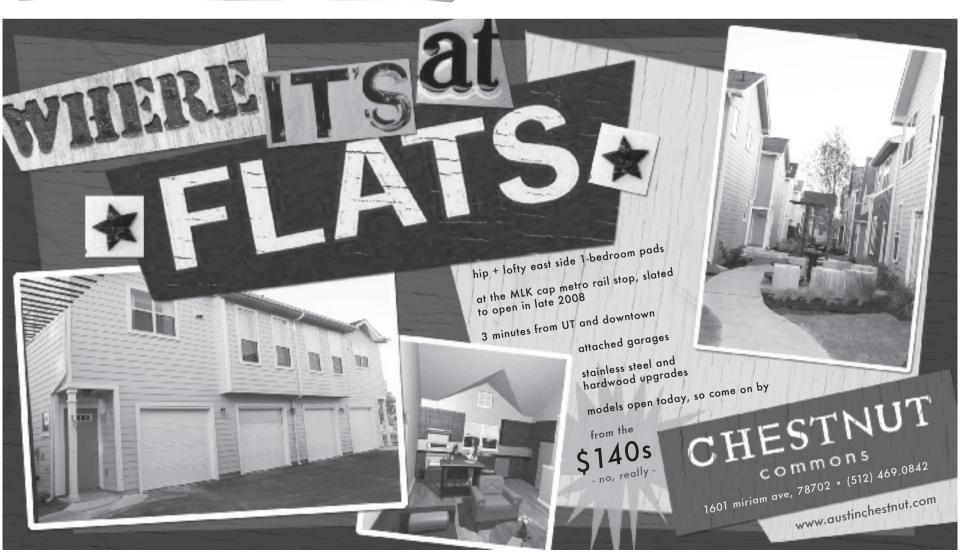
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IT'S AMAZING WHAT A FEW SMALL THINGS CAN DO **FOR AN ENVIRONMENT**

by Matt Patin

The big things - couches, armoires, end tables, and the like - are definitely the staples of any home decor, but nothing showcases how freakishly attentive to detail you are like some thoroughly researched and meticulously placed knobs and switch plates. Yes, you read correctly: knobs and switch plates.

Knob may be one of the least inspiring words in the English language. Few other words connote an object so devoid of aerodynamics, elegance, refinement, or subtlety. But there

are few things as practical as knobs in your homestead. Without them, su casa would be a wasteland of naked, inaccessible drawers and cabinetry, and doors would be limited to the kinds that swing and slide (like those Western saloon doors that keep you in constant fear of spur-wearing gunmen).

But, despite the stark utility of this essential hardware, knobs can, in fact, be very, very slightly interesting. In fact, there is a dizzying variety of knobs in the knob family, crafted from several materials that each say something different about your aesthetic tastes. (Insert private-parts joke in five, four,

three, two ... "The knobs purchased from Adult Megaplexxx, for instance, are made from silicon or glass. Snare, bass, cymbal crash. But seriously, folks, careful with those glass ones. Ouch!")

So, if knobs could talk, what would they say?

Wooden Knobs I'm oldfashioned but timeless, and I can accommodate most of your drawer and



cabinet accessibility needs. Be careful placing me in rooms that are often wet or damp, though, like kitchens or laundry rooms, as I don't want to get moldy. Oh, or bathrooms either. I'd rather not be privy to your antics in there anyway.

Plastic Knobs I'm the most versatile knob of them all. I come in limitless colors and designs, and can be placed almost anywhere. Boo-yah!

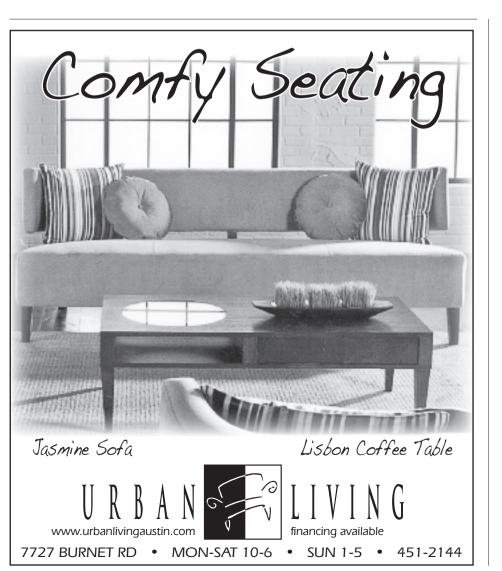
Aluminum and Stainless Steel Knobs I'm sleek, I'm sexy, I'm rust-resistant, and I love getting wet. Place me on antique-inspired chest of drawers and dressers to create some interesting juxtapositions. Plus, I'm great for accenting your kitchen or bathroom cabinets and drawers. (I'll be discreet!)

Oh, that's just the beginning. There are even more options for the fanatic knob lover. Austin's own Carina Works - who, no kidding, once created a \$30,000 diamondencrusted metal tile - manufactures and sells their sea glass series knobs starting at \$14 each. Some glass colors include periwinkle, ice, amethyst, and - perfect for those Southwestern accented homes – gunmetal. Those are some of the more affordable knobs in the Carina catalog. More expensive knobs and pulls have, errr, well, birds, bunnies, and bears wearing sunglasses on them. These are part of Carina Works' handcrafted, artsy and craftsy collection of knobs and pulls for children's rooms.

Enough about knobs already, you say? Well, all right. How about switch plates then? Nothing says "I want to turn you on!" like a light switch ensconced in a \$14.50 switch plate shaped and painted to look like a cowboy boot. That's just one of thousands of switch-plate designs for New York-based SwitchHits.com. You know the drawl: New York City?! Hold your horses. It's Hamburg, N.Y., which is almost rural enough to be Texaslike. SwitchHits.com has more than 50 categories of switch plates to browse through, including a Western section that includes 36 different designs. Take your pick: Barbwire Black, Longhorn Brown, Bull Rider, Big Ol' Cowboy, and more. Some are made of plastic and some are ceramic, but - and we speak from experience on this one - be careful when buying plates made of metal, particularly the ones that frame electrical outlets. We've paid for this mistake with an occasional electrical shortage.

Here's a mind bender: What do the giant armadillo atop Threadgill's, the Aztec and Mayan artwork at Casino el Camino, and the Paul Cézanne-inspired mural in Central Market have to do with switch plates? Stumped? They're all the products of Austin's own Blue Genie Art and its CEO and art director Rory Skagen, who just so happens to design and paint his own brand of decorative switch plates. Check them out online.

Now you know how knobs and light plates can help you dress your home to impress. So let the search begin. And to make your search more interesting – even intrepid – seek further advice from that burly, hairy mountain man in the big-box hardware store and ask him to kindly show you his favorite knob.





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Blind Items

WINDOW COVERINGS. YOU'LL NEVER SQUINT AGAIN

by Stephen Macmillan Moser

Shades of Miz Scarlett, plantation blinds (sometimes called plantation shutters) have made a huge comeback. No longer a relic of dilapidated antebellum mansions, the thick, louvered wooden blinds are the window treatments of choice, from summer cottages to Manhattan

pieds-à-terre. Gone, gone, gone are the hideous miniblinds and vertical blinds of yesteryear (and don't even mention Roman shades), replaced with the more substantial look that recalls sturdier construction, better quality, and permanence.

Unlike miniblinds, vertical blinds, drapes, or shades, plantation blinds can retain their value better than almost all other window cover-



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ings. And of course there is a range of quality from vinyl to faux wood to genuine and sometimes exotic wood. Faux wood is often recommended for damp areas such as bathrooms and pool enclosures, as well as for areas frequented by children and pets. Vinyl is great for outdoors, or indoors for the budget-conscious homeowner, and the wood, well ... the wood bespeaks hearth, home, and heritage ... and a larger budget.

Regardless of the materials, the effects of the plantation shade are many. Sometimes just used across the bottom of the window, the adjustable louvers allow you to filter, regulate, and direct the light, and they provide effective insulation when closed. And just imagine the luxury of having them motorized so that they can all open and close just the right amount all at once.

The plantation blind can work with virtually every decor; the beauty of is in its simple, clean design. Used in single or multiple panel installations, they can even be ordered to fit arched or unusually sized windows. Many prefer to use them unadorned, but they may also be hung with drapes.

From \$27 for a small single window (at Lowe's) to the sky's-the-limit pricing for custom work, virtually any style and material is available. Locally, Blinds of All Kinds offers their showroom on Highway 620 and free in-home consultations. Austin-tatious Blinds & Shutters also offers free in-home estimates and gives a single price that will include everything from measuring to installing. Family-owned Window Fashions of Texas is one of the largest factory-direct sources for plantation shutters in the nation and on their website, under Specials, has coupons for discounts and upgrades.

Choosing plantation blinds, as with choosing any home-improvement item, can be an exercise in frustration, endlessly searching stores, catalogs, and the Internet for just the right look. Often these choices are best made with professional design advice. Buy an hour of a designer's time to get a different viewpoint. But shop carefully. Plantation blinds, like good intentions, can easily go awry. There is one particular website that shows you how to cut artwork into strips and apply the strips to the blinds so that when you turn the blinds, they look like those annoying and distracting billboards that change every few seconds. Don't try this at home.

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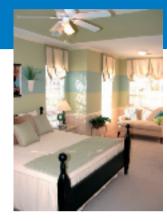
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