

THE AUSTIN

CHRONICLE

Vol. 27 No. 30
March 28, 2008



'GUN' CRAZY

IN THEIR NEW PLAY, THE RUDE MECHS FIND MADNESS IN THE METHOD BY ROBERT FAIRES • P.44

SINCLAIR BLACK AND NEW URBANISM THE SWORD SINGS AND CRIES SUMMER CAMPS 2008 BEBOP TO GLOBE-HOP: NEW FILM SERIES

Long Center

APRIL 2-12

Rude Mechanicals *The Method Gun*

This world-premiere presentation is the first opportunity to see our two-year, transcontinental exploration of *The Approach*. We promise: pendulums, "Streetcar" and physical danger. We make no claims on behalf of narrative, common sense, or safety. THIS SHOW CONTAINS NUDITY.



APRIL 7

Kathleen Battle *in Recital*

Kathleen Battle's lyric soprano voice and unique artistry have captivated audiences around the world, making her one of the most acclaimed singers of her time. This exclusive recital with piano, will be her final stop before her triumphant return to Carnegie Hall.

Presented in partnership with *The Austonian* and *Four Seasons Hotel Austin*

Enjoy a special pre-performance dinner at *TRIO* at the Four Seasons Hotel. For reservations please call 512.685.8300.

TICKETS AVAILABLE ONLINE NOW!

MAY 2, 2008

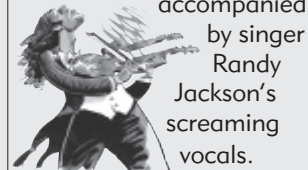
The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley

Embark on a fascinating journey as Stanley is accidentally flattened and mailed around the world where he learns about different cultures.

MAY 3, 2008

The Music of Led Zeppelin

Bridging the gulf between rock n' roll and classical music, a live orchestra performs *The Music of Led Zeppelin* – amplified by a full rock band and



accompanied by singer Randy Jackson's screaming vocals.

MAY 4, 2008

Mariachi Los Camperos de Nati Cano

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo with a special fiesta on the City Terrace culminating with a performance by the Grammy-winning ensemble.

MAY 18, 2008

Cherryholmes

Making their Austin debut, this high-energy Nashville-based real-life family was named 2005 IBMA's Entertainers of the Year.

MAY 20, 2008

3 Redneck Tenors

This musical comedy featuring classically trained veteran artists from Broadway and world opera stages is like *Greater Tuna* meets *Das Barbecu* – down home laughs with big city music!



JUNE 10-15, 2008

Love, Janis

Classics like "Me and Bobby McGee", and "Mercedes Benz" come to life in this intimate portrayal inspired by the best-selling book by Laura Joplin.

JULY 11-12, 2008

Video Games Live!

Video Games Live!™ is an immersive concert event featuring music from the most popular video games of all time. The Austin Symphony Orchestra and a local choir will perform along with exclusive video footage and music arrangements, synchronized lighting, solo performers, electronic percussionists, live action and unique interactive segments to create an explosive entertainment experience.

For tickets or information about these or any other Long Center performances, visit TheLongCenter.org or call the 3M Box Office at the Long Center at 474-LONG (5664).

FRIDAY, MARCH 28 ~ OPENING GALA SPECIAL PERFORMANCES *Single Tickets Now On Sale to the Public*

The Long Center for the Performing Arts opening concert, hosted by *Tommy Tune* features the *Austin Symphony Orchestra*, *Austin Lyric Opera* and *Ballet Austin* performing in the Michael & Susan Dell Hall. Other special guests include, *Conspirare*, *Michael Amante* and *Anton Nel*...just to name a few!

TICKET PRICE INCLUDES DINNER-BY-THE-BITE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT THELONGCENTER.ORG



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NEW THIS WEEK!

EARACHE!: Geezerville and the GUITAR WOMEN. Schadenfreude resurrects CUTE BAND ALERT! for SHAPES HAVE FANGS, plus more, more, more

PICTURE IN PICTURE: Walking 'THE WIRE' and getting 'BATTLE(STAR) READY

CHRONIQUE: Paint It Black's Dan Yemin on **HARD-CORE (SHIRTS) FOR A CURE**, plus design salves that also come in soft- and medium-core

Chronicle 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.

THE GAY PLACE: UPCOMING PRIDE & SUMMER EVENTS. Plus: The Kates scour the news for all things gay.

NEWSDESK: THE KEYS TO THE FIEFDOM. City Council Notebook, and other newsy rubbernecking

THE SCORE: The ICE BATS MAKE A PLAYOFF RUN, and more sports tidbits and whatnot from here and afar

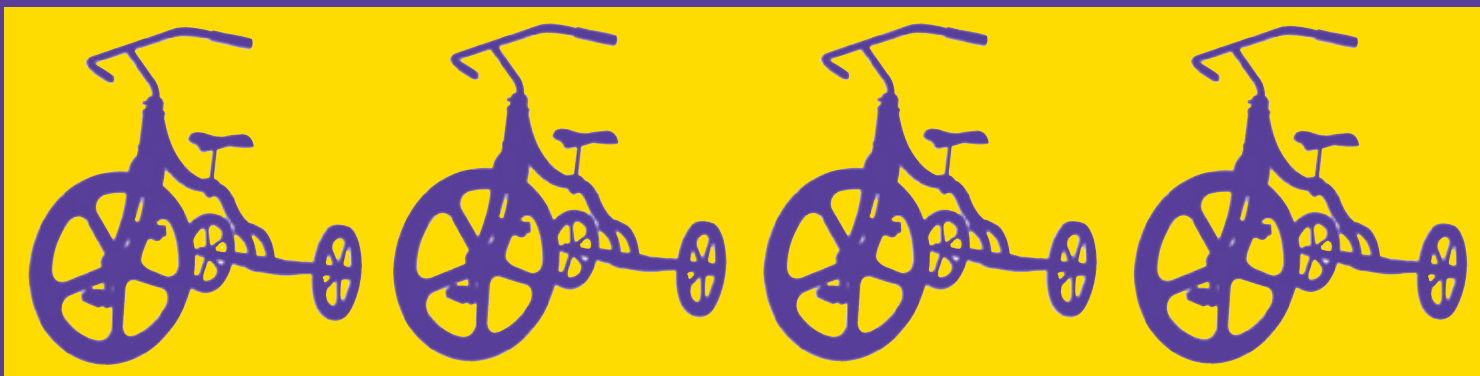
W X web extra

For this week's Web extras and more Web exclusives, go to:

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2008

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'Chronicle' Endorsements

Democratic Primary Run-offs

You may still be recovering from the March 4 primary – but there remains a bit of unfinished business. Here are our endorsements in the three Democratic contests that remain unsettled and are on the Travis Co. ballot (depending on your precinct) for the April 8 run-off. Early in-person voting runs Monday-Friday, March 31-April 4. Please vote – encouraged by the knowledge that the relative importance of your single vote increases in inverse proportion to diminishing run-off turnout.

– The Chronicle Editorial Board

Railroad Commissioner: Dale Henry

We endorsed Dale Henry in the initial primary voting, and we're happy to endorse him again, after he finished second to advance to a run-off against Mark Thompson. Either man would bring a breath of fresh air to this commission, whose current and past members are too often beholden to the oil-and-gas industry they're supposed to regulate. Both have vowed to place public safety and the environment above industry needs. Henry is our preferred candidate because of his extensive oil-and-gas experience and his familiarity with how the commission operates. That's the type of knowledge he'll need if he expects to conquer long odds and oust the incumbent Republican chairman, Michael Williams, in November.

Travis Co. District Attorney: Rosemary Lehmborg

Four assistant district attorneys filed to succeed retiring Ronnie Earle in one of the most successful and high-profile prosecutor's offices in Texas. The two left standing after the March 4 primary are Earle's experienced longtime first assistant D.A., Rosemary Lehmborg, and the relatively junior Mindy Montford, who brings the youth and enthusiasm of the next generation of legal professionals, as well as much support from traditional Democratic sources. On balance, we agree with Earle that Lehmborg is the overall most qualified person to carry on his considerable legacy. She has worked in all the units of the office and has been both a practicing prosecutor and (as first assistant) a chief administrator, with the responsibility and long experience in balancing the varying demands on the office: from prosecu-

tion to budgets to managing personnel and, beyond that, to the complicated political considerations arising from the Travis Co. D.A.'s jurisdiction over state corruption investigations and prosecutions. We are impressed by Lehmborg's experience in building the office, in developing and expanding innovative and progressive programs, and in her broad sense of the office's wide-ranging responsibilities, as well as the nuances of addressing high-profile political cases. (We do believe the office needs to be more technologically proactive in working with the defense bar, a legal and political mandate as much as a technical one.) The campaign has noticeably strengthened Lehmborg's public profile and her comprehension that the D.A.'s job is not just administrative, not just prosecutorial, but a communitywide engagement. We believe she will be a better public official because of it.

Constable, Precinct 1: Danny Thomas

In this run-off against Janie Serna, Thomas enters with not only the most votes collected in the three-way Democratic primary but with the most professional and community experience. Thomas is no stranger to elected office; he served six years on the Austin City Council (ending with an unsuccessful run for mayor), after a long career as an Austin Police officer. His community roots extend from the pulpit – as an associate pastor of First Baptist Church in East Austin – to the schools, where he serves as a mentor to students at Blackshear Elementary. Although we've had our differences with him on specific issues, Thomas' professionalism and knowledge of the community would be excellent assets in this eastern Travis Co. precinct.



TRAVIS COUNTY EARLY VOTING

April 8 Democratic Primary Run-off (Early voting March 31-April 4)

Travis County voters may vote at any early-voting location. On election day, voters must vote in their precinct.

For a list of precinct locations, call 238-VOTE, or see www.co.travis.tx.us/county_clerk/election/20080408/polls.asp. Polls are open Monday-Friday, 7am-7pm unless noted otherwise.

EARLY-VOTING LOCATIONS

CENTRAL

Travis Co. Offices, 5501 Airport Blvd.
Travis Co. Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe
Fiesta Mart, 3909 N. I-35
UT, Flawn Academic Center (Undergrad. Library) Lobby, West Mall, UT campus
Howson Public Library, 2500 Exposition (10am-7pm)
Washington Mutual Bank, 1000 E. 41st (10am-6pm)

EAST

Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center, 2608 Gonzales (10am-7pm)
Northeast Health Center, 7112 Ed Bluestein (Springdale Shopping Ctr)

NORTH

RRISD Performing Arts Center, 5800 McNeil Drive
Ben Hur Shriners Hall, 7811 Rockwood

NORTHWEST

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

NORTHEAST

MT Supermarket, 10901 N. Lamar (Bldg. (G. Chinatown Center); 10am-7pm)
County Tax Office, 15822 Foothill Farms Loop, Pflugerville

SOUTH

Travis Co. Juvenile Probation Dept. Annex, 2501 S. Congress
Randalls, 2025 W. Ben White

SOUTHEAST

Dan Ruiz Public Library, 1600 Grove (10am-7pm)
Fiesta Mart, 5510 S. I-35

SOUTHWEST

Randalls, 6600 S. MoPac
Randalls, 9911 Brodie

WEST

Randalls, 2303 RR 620 S.
Randalls, 3300 Bee Caves Rd.
Bee Cave City Hall, 4000 Galleria Pkwy.
 * Temporary building in parking lot.

MOBILE VOTING

MONDAY, MARCH 31

Del Valle ISD Admin. Bldg., 5301 Ross, 8am-6pm
Lakeside Senior Center, 85 Trinity, 8-10am
Heritage Park Center, 2806 Real, noon-2pm
Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 4-6pm

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

Manor ISD Admin. Bldg., 312 Murray, Manor, 8am-6pm
Heatherwilde Assisted Living, 401 S. Heatherwilde, Pflugerville, 8-10am
Heartland Health Ctr., 11406 Rustic Rock, noon-2pm
Heritage Pointe, 1950 Webberville Rd., 4-6pm

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2

Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, 8am-6pm
Conley-Guerrero Senior Center, 808 Nile, 8-10am
Brighton Gardens, 4401 Spicewood Springs, noon-2pm
Westminster Manor, 4100 Jackson, 4-6pm

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

Seton Main Hospital, 1201 W. 38th, 8am-noon
St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 2-6pm
RBJ Residential Tower, 21 Waller St., 8-11am
Summit at Westlake Hills, 1034 Liberty Park, 1-3pm
Loyalton of Austin, 5310 Duval Rd., 5-7pm

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

Volente Vol. Fire Dept., 15406 FM 2769, 8am-noon
NW Rural Comm. Ctr., 18649 FM 1431, Jonestown, 2-6
Englewood Estates, 2603 Jones, 8-10am
Parsons House, 1130 Camino la Costa, noon-2pm
Govalle Care Center, 3101 Govalle, 4-6pm

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Meeker's Role in BATPAC

Mr. Black,

As a board member of Better Austin Today Political Action Committee, I would like to call your attention to an incorrect statement made by Michael King ("Point Austin," News, March 21) and ask you to print a retraction.

King states that Jason Meeker "helped found" Better Austin Today. He concludes this based on Meeker's response to our candidate questionnaire, in which Meeker states: "I helped name the organization, when I proposed the name as BATPAC for Bettering Austin Today. And I hooked you up with the designer of your logo."

King did not ask any Better Austin Today board members whether Meeker helped found the organization. Meeker was not involved in starting the group and has never even attended a meeting. Before we incorporated, those of us starting the organization asked several people, including Meeker (who is a public relations professional), for input on potential names. After we incorporated, Meeker was among those we asked to recommend graphic designers for logo development. In addition, he, along with many others not involved in founding or running our organization, attended our first press conference. Otherwise, Meeker has had no involvement with Better Austin Today. Suggesting a name and a graphic designer is not tantamount to being a founder.

Our endorsement of Meeker was never a foregone conclusion, as King's statement seems to imply. Better Austin Today, comprising longtime activists as well as newcomers involved in a wide variety of civic endeavors, was created to advance a progressive, inclusive vision for our city and to provide a strong voice for the public interest to counter the profit-driven special-interest groups that currently dominate city politics. Our endorsements were made to support our shared vision for Austin, not the political aspirations of any single individual. Our endorsement is based on what we learned about Meeker during our endorsement process and what we know about Leffingwell's record. Meeker's vision for Austin and commitment to inclusiveness will serve the city much better than Lee Leffingwell's unreliable record on important issues and demonstrated preference for insider decision-making.

Hope Morrison

Better Austin Today board member

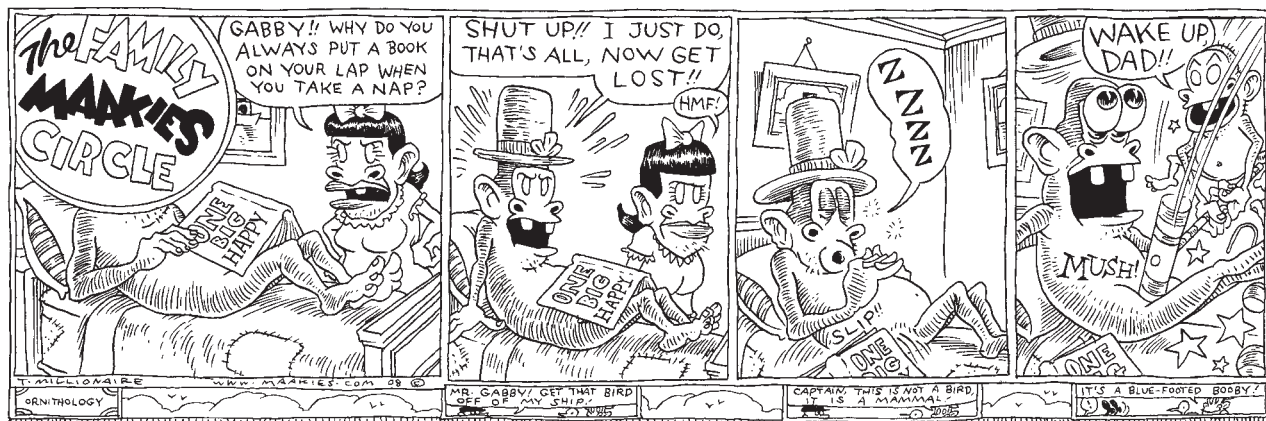
[Michael King responds: In his responses to the BATPAC questionnaire, as Hope Morrison notes, Jason Meeker claimed a special relationship with the organization and indeed that he provided its name, and Morrison (Meeker's colleague at Responsible Growth for Northcross) here indeed confirms that the founders consulted with a declared council candidate on the supposedly independent organization's name and its logo. They now quibble with my formulation that by providing that assistance, he "helped found" BATPAC. Readers can draw their own conclusion, but I find nothing to retract. I do find it amusing that a group so earnestly demanding transparency and accountability from others instantly howls with outrage when the same standards are applied to them.]

Oops!

Contrary to last week's "Austin Music Awards Encore" photo page (Music, March 21), the 2007-08 AMAs took place at the Austin Music Hall, not the Convention Center. Really, we were there. Some of us, anyway.

Due to an error in the event's press release, the "Reich, Rags, and Road Movie" Live Shot in the Thursday SXSW daily (Vol. 27, No. 28a) misidentified Soli Chamber Ensemble clarinetist Stephanie Key as Carolyn E. True.

The *Chronicle* regrets these errors.



Where Are the Dicks?

Dear *Chronicle*,

The absence of the Dicks in your Hall of Fame [Music, March 14] is like the Stooges being omitted from *The Fictional Ann Arbor Weekly's* "Top 10 Bands to Come Out of Southern Michigan." Would it have helped if Gary Floyd, Buxf Parrot, and Pat Deason had run some kind of Karl Rovia campaign and reminded Grandma to vote? Out shilling for votes wouldn't be very Dick-like, and face it, we all know that's how these contests are won. (The Skunks in the Hall of Fame?! Gee, I wonder if they have any *Chronicle* connections.) How a band who penned the punk rock anthems "Dicks Hate the Police," "Wheelchair Epidemic," and "Dead in a Motel Room" — songs that went on to inspire the likes of the Flaming Lips, Scratch Acid, and even Nirvana, for chrissakes — a band that can still pack a club with throngs of people young enough to be their grandchildren and know every word to every song, a band whose anger, attitude, and message is more relevant today than it was 25 years ago yet still fails to be included in a Texas rock & roll Hall of Fame is a fucking mystery.

Laurie Greenwell

Sexism Is Not Gender Specific

Dear Editor,

On Friday evening, March 21, at the Victory Grill, Spike Gillespie and a troupe of mostly women performed *The Dick Monologues*.

Why "Dick" and not "Penis" as like *The Vagina Monologues*?

I see this as retro-feminist sexism. I thought we'd moved past this crap, people. I find this similar to subtle racism. A rising tide should raise all ships. Progressive modern people should be past oppressing someone else for their own empowerment.

I mean hell, there weren't any guys doing *The Vagina Monologues*. I mean what do guys really know about vaginas? They don't have one!

And pardon my assumption, this being 2008 and all, but I'm guessing none of these women has a penis.

This may seem silly to some of you, but if this were guys doing a spin-off called *The Pussy Dialogues*, people would be up in arms and willing to protest.

Ricardo Acevedo

Death of the Fourth Estate

Mr. Kevin Brass,

Just a note to let you know how much I enjoyed your story ["Media Watch," News, March 21] about the decline and fall of the *Austin American-Statesman*. I dropped my subscription to the paper back in December 2004 due to a horrendously misguided presidential endorsement, but I had been developing a vague sense that the paper was declining in quality long before that. I was not able to express my dissatisfaction as articulately as you did in your article, however.

I dropped my 17-year subscription to the *Houston Chronicle* in December 2007 for many of the same reasons. As a voracious reader who cut his teeth reading newspapers on a daily basis, I am saddened to see the slow and agonizing death of many of my old friends. However, the business of media is at least as Darwinian as any other business, and the weak and nonadaptive shall certainly perish.

Keep up the good work!

Stephen Taylor

austinchronicle.com/postmarks
UPDATED DAILY

Water-Use Goals a Joke

Dear Editor,

How is it Wells Dunbar can write, with a straight face, that incumbent Council Member Lee Leffingwell has been a "strong advocate for water conservation" and point to Leffingwell's "green bona fides" as the "architect of redrafting the Save Our Springs Ordinance" ["Spring Training," News, March 21]? Leffingwell set a goal of reducing Austin water use 1% per year for 10 years. That's not a goal; that's falling out of bed.

Only it gets worse. The starting point for this "goal" is our single most wasteful day of water-use ever recorded. And the goal is not really a reduction — it's a reduction off of projected increasing "peak day" water demands. And "to be safe," city staff is only planning a half-percent-per-year reduction.

This joke would be funny if it weren't so cruel and costly. Setting such a low bar leaves Leffingwell and council racing to build the new \$400 million Water Treatment Plant No. 4, which we will pay for with at least a 15% rate hike and decades more of water waste that will drain Lake Travis. Our water waste means our neighbors to the south will feel perfectly comfortable doing the same, pumping Barton Springs dry during times of drought.

As for Leffingwell's green mala fides, the point of his SOS Ordinance amendment was to increase development in the Barton Springs Watershed (as if we don't have enough already). The amendment was rigorously opposed by the Austin Sierra Club, Save Barton Creek Association, and Save Our Springs Alliance.

Strong and bona or lame and mala? Perhaps a few facts, and let the reader decide.

Bill Bunch

Stop Hitting Me

Dear drivers of Austin,

Please stop hitting me on my bicycle with your cars. Today was the second time! I was at a stop sign in daylight and was hit from behind. Come on! Pay attention! I ride a big, red Pee-wee Herman-type bike, so keep an eye out for me, and don't hit me anymore. There's plenty of other Austin bikers that haven't been hit even once yet — you can hit them if you like, but I would appreciate you letting me commute without further incident. Thanks.

Jeff Luna

Thanks for the Support

Hello,

I have had the good fortune to be covered a couple of times in the past couple of weeks in the *Chronicle* ["SXSW 08 Music Live Shots," Music, March 21; "Saturday Sleepers," Music, March 14]. I wanted to extend my gratitude for the coverage. Please let Thomas Fawcett and all of your writers know how much it means to us indie artists to have the support of the writers and music editors. I stand in great appreciation of what you do and wanted you to know that your support of my project does not go unnoticed!

*Blessings,
Maya Azucena
Brooklyn, N.Y.*

Sickness Is Not Art

Dear Editor,

Re: *Funny Games U.S.*: Why would the *Chronicle* give four stars to a movie [Film Listings, March 14] about abject degradation of people? Sickness is not art. This the second-worst movie I have seen in my life.

Nolan Lujan

continued on p.10

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Legalize LA

You Suck; Van Halen Rules!

Dear Editor,

I'd like to second Ben Aiken's letter ["Postmarks" online, March 17] decrying the exhibition of mediocrity that took place last week during South by Southwest. My complaint reaches much further than the Conference, though. I think there is an all-out war campaign being fought against the idea of musical virtuosity. It's rare you find a group with the balls to take the unfashionable risk of sincerity that isn't saturated in self-indulgent pop-idol jockeying. Seen any truly dynamic instrumentalists lately? Not at SXSW, unless they were veterans. I personally know local musicians who, when quizzed on their goals as a band, actually say, "We want to be rock stars," not, "We want to make amazing music."

There's a wide gap to be filled by someone who wants to dignify the dialogue between artists and their audiences and to create something fresh and uplifting, instead of being the millionth gang of slobs to gorge themselves on retro-culture. Or how about some rockin' showmanship? Here's some real retro for ya. I sat front row for the Van Halen reunion tour in Philadelphia last October and actually *wept* during Eddie's solo! To be fair, I was kind of drunk, but I was also just moved by watching a battle-scarred old guard casually showcase his absolute mastery of his instrument, as David Lee Roth dutifully pranced about with a goofy grin. Not very hip, I know. But see if any of the several thousand people there – many of them under 30, like me! – gave a shit. People are starved for this stuff, and that goes to explain the recent trend of teenagers who are raiding Dad's Steely Dan records instead of going back for seconds of post-pop crap.

Look, I know it's not all bad. But I'd like to hear more young people demanding better instead of just accepting the latest as the greatest because it happens to be a product of their generation. I wonder if they're really listening. I feel like I'm too young to be this sentimental for shit that happened while I was eating glue.

Ben, look no further; you struck oil. It's mostly about the sweaters.

"Jazz isn't dead; it just smells funny."

Teighlor Darr

p.s. I miss Twang Twang Shock-a-Boom.

Great Show, Terrible Sound

Dear Editor,

It has taken awhile to recover from South by Southwest (every year it takes a little longer), but I want to congratulate everyone who made this year's SXSW another success! I saw some wonderful films and heard lots of great music, which is to be expected. What I didn't expect was the huge headache I got at Wednesday night's Austin Music Awards show.

I had heard rumors that the acoustics at the newly renovated Austin Music Hall left something to be desired. That is putting it mildly. I volunteered to work at the Awards show to earn part of my hours toward my badge and so was obligated to stay for the whole show. And it was a *great* show. (Kudos to you, Margaret!) I just wish I could have heard it.

Austin is the live music capital of the world. It is embarrassing to have such terrible sound at a place called the Austin Music Hall. I propose we change the name to the Austin Echo Hall or maybe the Austin Headache Hall, which is what it gave me. Or how about the Austin Concrete Box?

I won't be seeing any more shows there until the powers that be do something (drastic!) about the sound.

Sincerely,
Caren Floyd

The Readers Pick the Winners, but We Need Someone to Attack

Dear Editor,

Why would the Skunks be nominated as this year's punk band in *The Austin Chronicle* Music Poll Hall of Fame [March 14]? Dunno. Do they still sell albums? Do they fill venues wherever they play? Do they have a following that ranges from 15 years of age to 65 years of age and older? (Chris W. and my grandmammie.) Are they known all over the world? Are they still in active bands, and have they remained musicians through the years? (Except Jon Dee.) Were they a leading force in their genre of rock & roll that spawned endless acts to follow? The answer is *no*. How long can a few old farts hold a grudge? I guess forever!

Lonnie Layman

[Editor's response: There is no conspiracy. If everyone who wrote us about the Hall of Fame voted and got his or her friends to vote, then the band they favor would most likely win.]

New Awards Category?

Dear Editor,

Concerning the Austin Music Awards [Music, March 14]: The quality of local music is an ongoing treat, and the recognition of the best individuals and bands is a wonderful thing. However, I've always been impressed by versatility. So I propose an additional category for "Showing in Most Categories."

This year Guy Forsyth won no first-place spots but appeared in *nine* lists. Wow!

Thanks,
Tommy X Hancock

Caligiuri's Ill-Considered, Vicious Garbage

Dear Editor,

Please, enough of Jim Caligiuri.

I was very upset at Jim Caligiuri's review of my own CD last year ["Texas Platters," Music, Jan. 26, 2007], then gratified so many wrote in to protest it. That led to him trashing me again on his blog in the middle of South by Southwest ["An Attack in Geezerville," Earache! Music blog, March 14].

I won't defend my own work here, but, for example, he has now written a destructive (and way off-base) piece about Hayes Carl ["SXSW Platters," Music, March 14], a very well-respected if not legendary musical artist, not to mention Caligiuri's past trashing of Jimmy LaFave and others.

Whether this reviewer is simply a curmudgeon or genuinely clueless, he is doing real damage to legitimate artists who are trying to get work.

When an artist is Googled by a club owner, and the first thing that comes up is Caligiuri's ill-considered, vicious garbage, which he apparently spews out without even listening, half the time, to the music he's writing about – sorry, I'll calm down – my point is, this stuff lives on, on the Internet, in perpetuity!

Rather than just writing something that's in a recyclable medium (paper) the next week, the comments of Mr. Caligiuri become part of any musical artist's "permanent record" and can make the difference between getting hired or not, for everything from festivals to a gig in the next town, so he or she can buy gas to get home.

continued on p.12



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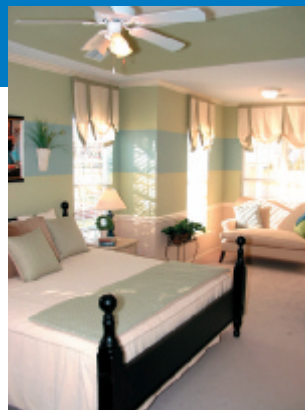
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THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

FIVE YEARS LATER

NEOCONS DISCUSS THEIR REGRETS

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I REGRET THAT MY BRILLIANT IDEAS WERE SO IMPERFECTLY EXECUTED BY MY INTELLECTUAL INFERIORS.

I REGRET THAT WE HAVE NOT YET ATTACKED IRAN. BUT HEY, WE'VE STILL GOT TEN MONTHS.

I REGRET THE OCCURRENCE OF EVENTS WHICH NO ONE COULD HAVE FORE-SEEN, AND FOR WHICH NO ONE IS TO BLAME.

I REGRET THAT PUBLIC OPINION HAS INEXPLICABLY SOURED ON THE WAR, JUST WHEN WE ARE FINALLY ABOUT TO TURN THE CORNER.

I REGRET THAT ANYONE WOULD WASTE TIME WITH SUCH A QUESTION, WHEN WE SHOULD BE TALKING ABOUT BARACK OBAMA'S SCARY BLACK PASTOR!

I REGRET THAT MAGIC PONIES DID NOT APPEAR AND MAKE EVERYTHING ALL BETTER, AS PLANNED. SERIOUSLY, THAT WAS THE PLAN.

MAGIC PONIES
THE KEY TO SWIFT AND DECISIVE VICTORY IN IRAQ
P.N.A.C. REPORT

I was under the impression that writers wrote and editors reviewed, before things go out over the infinite Net and into print. Please, assign a competent editor to put Mr. Caligiuri's reviews in a little better context, or (of course, preferably) reassign him to where he can do less direct and actual damage.

The people being trashed by Mr. Caligiuri are real, bill-paying human beings who are, in the so-called live music capital, actually trying to make a living playing music. Since we generally also have to travel out of town to do that, where we may be less known (or are trying to gain a foothold), there is major injury done by the ravings of a Jim Caligiuri.

I may or may not be as good as I think I am, but I know Mr. Caligiuri is way off in his estimation of other artists, and he has now again proven his penchant for viciousness far exceeds his value as an objective journalist (which, in any case, he clearly is not). Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely yours,
Mandy Mercier

Peace Is Not Political

Dear Editor,

I proudly marched in the Million Musician March for Peace and plan on doing it again in March 2009. I know I'm in a small minority, but not a minority of one, when I say shame on those who use the march to advance their political agendas. Peace is not political! War is political! How is war even possible without politics?

Politics, partisan politics, and bipartisan politics were represented in signs for candidates, songs for specific political candidates, and on and on. For those who look at it as a protest march, that's valid in the sense that by being for peace is by default protesting against war. But being for peace isn't just being against the war (in Iraq) or a war (in Iran) but against all war. That's what being for peace is about. It's being against killing people. People for peace span the whole spectrum of political and nonpolitical

continued on p.14

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Sat Jun 28	7:00PM	Texas
Sat Jul 26	7:00PM	Bossier-Shreveport

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beliefs, as well as religious and nonreligious belief. And so do people who are OK with war!

Seriously, I want the names of the pacifists in Congress. I know there are some. Someone please write their names on the back of a postage stamp and send them to me. War is the lifeblood of government. Truth is the enemy of politics. War is the enemy of peace.

I am very proud that so many out-of-towners – the musicians, fans, and industry folks here for South by Southwest – got to see the Austin community of musicians and peace activists at its finest. I hope it made a lasting impression.

Slim Richey

Corporate 'Green' Effort?

Dear Editor,

Anyone who is interested in seeing a rather cynical corporate "green" effort should check out the "green" parking at the Lowe's on Brody Lane. They have designated some of the most inconvenient, least desirable parking in the lot for carpool drivers – complete with green stripes delineating the spots and signs to label them. It's such a joke – NASCAR America giving the finger to environmentalists. Check it out to have a laugh.

Jack Allan

What's in a Number?

Dear Editor,

What's in a number? Four thousand. Four thousand pennies is only \$40, not even enough to fill up most gas tanks in even the most modest of cars. But the 4,000 I am speaking of are volunteers. People you do not know but none the less took up arms to protect your freedom. 2007 was the deadliest year of the war since the beginning of the war, yet it was touted as a great success. John McCain has promised 100 or 1,000 years of war, and I believe him. After all, the Iraq war was supposed to be self-financing and last no longer than six months, but we are now entering the sixth year of the short war. I was a soldier. I served for 20 years, three weeks, and three days. I still know hundreds of soldiers because I

was a drill sergeant. I know these patriots; if there were any kind of news coverage, you would know them, too. But you don't know them, do you? President Bush and the Republican Congress and Senate won the war in record time but lost the peace in record time and somehow lost control of the occupation. Before this war – I mean *occupation* – I had never written a congressman, a senator, or a newspaper until 2,000 friends had been killed. *And these are your friends.* These people, these soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines, are our friends who go to fight a war where many have come back dead, wounded, and psychologically damaged. We have killed 4,000 men and women, sons and daughters, husbands and wives, fathers and mothers. No one knows how many Iraqis we've killed in this war. I have no true idea of how many are wounded, and there are more than 1,000 suicides. Four thousand dead apparently is not enough, and more than 1,000 suicides is not enough. Is 6,000 enough, or have you personally had enough? Or does the war need to continue? *Bad things only happen when good people stand by and do nothing.* Which appears to be true, 4,000 dead people ago.

Ron Ruiz

Understanding the Second Amendment

Dear Editor,

"A well regulated militia, being necessary to the security of a free state, the right of the people to keep and bear arms, shall not be infringed." – United States Constitution.

There are those who claim that the right to bear arms only pertains to the militia. If everybody has been taught from the same history books on U.S. history as I have, this was written in 1787. We had just fought a revolution against the king of England and before that the French and Indian War. We landed on this continent and had to protect ourselves against the native population who did not like us taking over their land, which they had held for hundreds of years. We also had to put food on the table to feed our starving families by shooting wild game until such time that we could grow domesticated livestock. We also had to protect our domesticated livestock from wild animals that sought to take our food and our lives away from us. As we moved westward, we repeated the process outlined above. During a four-year diversion from moving westward, we also fought a Civil War. I just do not understand how

anyone can say that the Second Amendment only pertains to a militia and not the general public. All one has to do is look at the times it was written in. I just don't think the Constitution would have been approved if the citizens felt that the new government was going to take away their guns. Stop and think about it. Even if we do not face the same dangers or require guns for food today does not mean we do not need them to face the new dangers of today or need them to protect ourselves from our own government.

*Respectfully,
Len Eagleburger
Springfield, Mo.*

Austin's Companion Animals

Dear Editor,

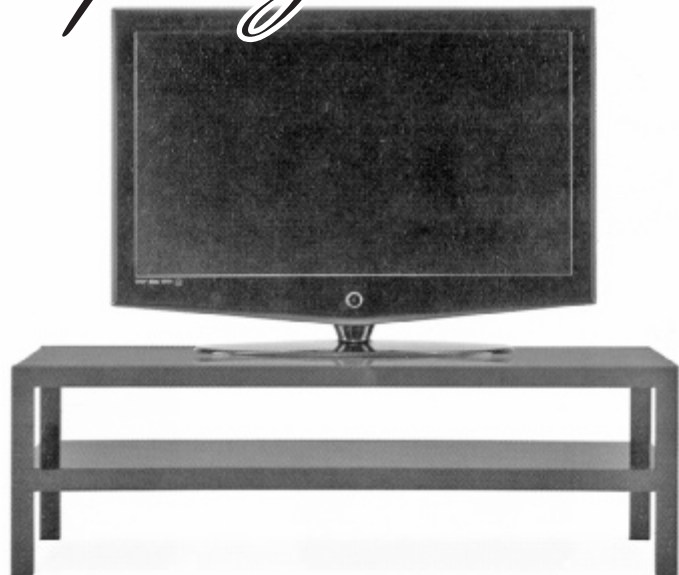
I would like to bring attention to a new ordinance that was passed by Austin's City Council recently. Co-sponsored by City Council Members Jennifer Kim and Mike Martinez, this ordinance is good news for Austin's companion animals. It requires stores and individuals that sell a high volume of puppies and kittens for profit to abide by the same guidelines that cash-strapped nonprofit and municipal shelters must follow – to spay, neuter, and microchip each animal before they go home. Those who choose not to follow this rule will have to pay a \$50 fee to the city of Austin, which will be used to care for the thousands of homeless and unwanted animals of our community.

In the city of Austin, our tax dollars are still covering the cost of the expensive, inhumane, and ineffective practice of killing an average of 1,000 healthy, lovable cats and dogs each month. This ordinance may not do anything to reduce that number, but it will go a long way toward preventing that number from rising dramatically when a certain large, corporate pet store moves into our community and begins selling hundreds of unaltered puppies and kittens each month.

This is exactly the kind of ordinance a community that cares about animals needs. It won't solve the problem, and more must certainly be done, but this is an outstanding step in the right direction, and I'm so proud of our City Council for taking that step now.

*Amy Mills
Executive director
EmanciPET*

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Poor Rich's Almanac

Three cheers for Oppel's 'Statesman'

BY MICHAEL KING

Well, we won't have Rich Oppel to kick around anymore.

I've done it plenty of times myself, but now that he's announced his retirement, come June, I'm suddenly touched with ... not nostalgia exactly, but a sense that the *Statesman* editor's official departure will indeed mark the end of a local era. I've read (and subscribed to) the Austin daily for nearly 30 years (with a decade's interregnum spent in Houston, grimly watching two competing dailies become one). And in the main, I concur with Louis Black's judgment quoted by Ben Wear last week: "In many ways, Rich really improved the paper."

That improvement might not be readily apparent to more recent Austinites, particularly if they arrived from cities with more substantial, less derivative dailies (and those are generally not Cox-combs). But in 1977, when I first began reading the *Statesman*, it was irredeemably hidebound, often knee-jerk reactionary, and even more thoroughly deferential than it is now to Downtown business interests, UT-Austin stuffed suits, the then-conservative-Democrat state leadership, and the highway-and-real-estate culture that has dominated Texas cities for two generations. Oppel and the staff he hired considerably softened that deference, and more importantly, he brought (at least at first) the resources necessary to professionalize the paper, by which I mean simply an extent and standard of reporting that hadn't been previously possible. Some of this may simply have been a response to, and a consequence of, metropolitan growth – as Austin grew bigger and wealthier, so did its daily newspaper – at least until a few years ago, when the industry, Cox Enterprises, and the *Statesman* hit the wall. (And in the last few years, as the other bureaus were cutting back, something even seemed to have goosed the paper's coverage of the Capitol – for whatever reason, it got noticeably better.)

I also agree with Editor Black that the improvement under Oppel soon "flattened out." As our media reporter, Kevin Brass, described last week, the current *Statesman* increasingly appears hard-hit by industrywide cutbacks and is struggling once again – in very inhospitable circumstances – to find its way.

Who's Doing What?

I hope it does. Daily newspaper haters (they are increasingly legion, and on bad days, I count myself among them) tend to forget that we're really reading two interwoven but still distinct entities: 1) the editorial perspective/

continued on p.18



Anti-war activists turned out Monday evening at Sixth and Lamar to draw attention to the 4,000 U.S. men and women who have died in the Iraq war.

HEADLINES

- ▶ The **U.S. war in Iraq** passed two milestones this week: the fifth year of combat since the March 2003 invasion and the 4,000th death of an American soldier. Another 29,000 U.S. soldiers have been wounded, and the Iraqi civilian deaths and casualties are in the hundreds of thousands.
- ▶ The **Travis Co. Democratic Party Convention** (state Senate districts 14 and 25) takes place this Saturday, March 29, at the Travis Co. Exposition Center. The convention begins at 10am; doors open at 7am. Party officials anticipate many thousands of delegates.
- ▶ The city of Austin had a mixed day in court Tuesday: A suit by animal and neighborhood activists against the planned move of the **Town Lake Animal Center** to the Eastside was dismissed, but the much-debated **anti-panhandling ordinance** was ruled unconstitutional. See below for more on the panhandling ordinance.

NAKED CITY

- ▶ Upholding a ruling from 2005, County Court at Law Judge David Phillips ruled last week that a **solicitation ban** in Austin's Central Business District (Downtown to UT, bordered by Cesar Chavez and 29th, Lamar and I-35, along with two separate pockets) is unconstitutional. The state of Texas appealed a 2005 ruling in the panhandling case of John Curran, who was arrested standing at Fifth and Lamar. Municipal Judge Alfred Jenkins said the solicitation ban used to cite him, passed by City Council, was "overly broad and not narrowly tailored and is therefore unconstitutional." Judge Phillips agreed, saying, "If there is more the city wishes to forbid" than the danger solicitation poses near traffic, "the ordinance must be much more narrowly drawn than this one. The court agrees with the trial court that this ordinance is unconstitutional. ... This ordinance

reaches conduct that has little or nothing to do with traffic safety and very much to do with constitutionally protected free speech." – Wells Dunbar

- ▶ While not generating the same controversy it once did, plans for **Water Treatment Plant No. 4** are still under way at its new location. Today, City Council Item 19 gives WTP4 planners Carollo Engineers \$27.6 million for "professional engineering final design phase, bidding assistance services, and a portion of construction phase" of the plant. The amount brings Carollo's total for work on the plant to more than \$42 million. A separate but related piece of business, Item 8, has the Austin Water Utility issuing \$20 million in commercial paper bonds, because, as a memo from Assistant City Manager Rudy Garza puts it, "[d]ue to the additional costs associated with the new site and the backup plant site, it is necessary for the Utility to seek additional appropriation in the Fiscal Year 2007-08 Capital Budget." This won't be the last funding request for WTP4 either: Item 19's backup states, "Staff will return to Council for approval of additional funding for Carollo Engineers for the construction phase and warranty assistance phases for WTP 4 on this new site." – W.D.
- ▶ Austin Police Chief **Art Acevedo** broke his brisk stride through City Hall Monday to field questions from the *Chronicle* about the flap over **Immigration and Customs Enforcement** setting up shop in the Travis County Jail in order to increase deportations. Would he grant activists' request for a meeting? Though Acevedo said he hasn't heard about the request yet, he said, "I'll talk to anyone." Activists believe the new policy contributes to racial profiling and compromises public safety because immigrants will avoid reporting crimes, and they've protested the ICE presence to Sheriff Greg Hamilton, to no avail. Acevedo noted that all foreign nationals jailed for criminal infractions must be reported to their consulates, amplifying Hamilton's position that his agency's only doing what it must. But when asked about the theory that the nationwide clampdown

continued on p.19



QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"So?"

– Vice President **Dick Cheney**, in response to ABC reporter Martha Raddatz pointing out that "two-thirds of Americans say [the Iraq war] is not worth fighting, and they're looking at the value gained versus the cost in American lives, certainly, and Iraqi lives."

culture (which includes but is larger than the explicit editorials) and 2) the workaday reporting, which is informed by the editorial culture (for better or worse) but which is far more indispensable and much more threatened by the economic and cultural forces that are undermining the entire news industry.

At the *Statesman*, the editorial culture is generally deadening, often even pernicious: a daily, soporific attempt to stake a reassuring claim at the dead center of the current conventional wisdom. Nowhere has that pattern been more evident or more dispiriting than in the editors' somnolent windbagging on national politics and the Iraq war. But the paper's workaday local and regional reporting (uneven and bereft of insight as it can sometimes be) is part of the city's necessary cultural grain, the basic text of Austin. Setting entirely aside grand arguments about the First Amendment and the righting of public wrongs, we need daily newspaper reporters to tell us as much as they can manage (in their shrinking space), simply about what the hell is going on around here. Despite the demographic dominance of television and the endlessly ballyhooed Internet – where the most informative sites are generally those of major newspapers or their reporting surrogates – local, daily newspapers, including the *Statesman*, remain the best, fullest source of local and regional reporting.

I take plenty of pride in our work at the *Chronicle*, but it's a simple fact that we can't cover as much ground as the *Statesman*. On big, institutional stories – the miserable state of health care in Texas prisons, the UT-Austin athletic empire – they can employ resources we just don't have. We did excellent but necessarily intermittent work on Tom DeLay and the Texans for a Republican Majority political action committee scandal; the *Statesman's* Laylan Copelin kept diligently on through the long months and is still going. Other than a couple of brief notices, we simply had to pass on the Pedernales Electric Cooperative story – the *Statesman* deserves credit for giving it the resources and attention it needed and then not letting it drop.

News Costs Money

We could all do without the latest *Statesman* thumb-sucker on rising property taxes or bipartisan cooperation or the grim foreign-policy choices faced by our poor, beleaguered U.S. war-makers. But Austin will be a poorer, less informed, and less lively community if the *Statesman* continues to shrink and a younger corps of daily reporters cannot be apprenticed to take its place here in the central human activity of information gathering and distribution. I hear people, even some young journalism students, insist that the Internet and its army of enterprising, instant-commentating bloggers can seamlessly take the place of all those dead-tree reporters, who spend hours

working the phone to get a few nuggets of verifiable information for actual publication. Nobody seems to wonder who will pay those bloggers for their fleeting and instantly replaceable opinions; and more importantly, absent working reporters who must make a living in order to do

this work, just what the hell will those bloggers have to blog about?

I better stop there, before I begin to sound like one of those baleful *Statesman* op-eds about the dismal future of literacy and civility. (That's among the reasons we don't run op-eds here, despite dozens of wannabes e-mailing us regularly to do so.) I expect soon to return to pounding the daily for incompetence and cluelessness. (Here's a thought: Did you notice this week the editors are now considering whether the unjust, illegal, and immoral war they've supported so dutifully has gone on a little too long?)

But for now, as Rich Oppel promises soon to begin his longest fishing vacation, I'll lament for a moment the diminishing health and prospects of the American newspaper and most especially our local avatar thereof. Call it my three cheers for the *Statesman* reporters and staff members. May the Fred Zipp Era bring them more light, energy, and a better return on their hard and persistent labors. ■

We need daily newspaper reporters to tell us as much as they can manage, simply about what the hell is going on around here.

BESIDE THE POINT

Dazed and Confused

BY WELLS DUNBAR

If springtime's bright, high haze wasn't distracting enough, here in the Live Oak Capital of the World, there's always enough airborne allergens to ensure your workday is spent foggily staring out of sunny windows rather than doing anything exceptionally productive. With the tree-pollen count hovering somewhere above the Amazon as of this writing, here are several items of interest pingponging through BTP's congested head, if not the Austin body politic:

- According to **Chief Financial Officer Leslie Browder**, the city's sales-tax receipts – accounting for 28% of the city's general fund, just behind property tax at 31% – were off projections by nearly 3 points (with 4.7% growth instead of the hoped-for 7.5%). While hardly cause to sell off the city's shares at Bear Stearns bargain prices, could this mean the national slowdown Austin's been relatively insulated from is creeping in? While the torrent of cash coursing through the capital city from the state and the university has long-bestowed a welcome equilibrium to local finances, it looks like the nationwide fallout may indeed touch our shores. (Will this mean I can afford to live Downtown now?) The city's proceeding with caution, as evidenced by Browder's edict that department directors "first coordinate with their assistant city manager when filling personnel vacancies and making discretionary spending decisions" – described by some council members as a step above a hiring freeze. With the city budget around the corner, we just hope this year's theme isn't "Cinching Our Belt – Then Boiling It to Make Broth."
- Financial slowdowns aside, the city's racing along with plans for the new central library, supposed centerpiece of the **Green Water Treatment Plant** redevelopment project Downtown. Well, as fast as a deliberative body can. Today, they approve the process for selecting which firm will have the honor, a

three-tier thing beginning with requests for qualifications, followed by presentations to a staff committee, then presentations to council. A discussion last week regarding the library put the \$90 million that voters allocated for the library in context – albeit a somewhat broke-ass one. None of the other main libraries compared, like Seattle's shimmering glass building, were built for \$90 million or less. Factor in the rising cost of construction materials, the fact that building won't begin for another couple of years, and that only \$65 million of the \$90 million is for construction (the rest going to planning, maintenance, etc.), and you're looking at a shortfall larger than a couple of late fees. Council sounds optimistic regarding private funding, while **Brewster McCracken** enthused that his new parking enterprise program will offset the car-park cost. (**Marc Ott** reminded him not to get ahead of himself writing checks off the "fairly new business for the city," just yet.)

If anything, with the economy going this way, the new library will be greeted by adoring, swollen ranks of the homeless.

• If the noontime RSVPs to citizens communications by council candidates **Jennifer Gale** (on "Why are our kitties and puppies meowing and yelping for a 'no kill' pet policy?") and **Ken Vasseau** ("Recycle and Austin landfills") didn't tip you, yes, we're in the full swing of **council elections**. From here on out, we'll endeavor to bring you all the candidates forums we can find, so you can see the candidates in action. Although that's not to say some new group couldn't spring up overnight – say, Neighborhood Associations for a Greater Say (NAGS, for short) – and demand all candidates pander and genuflect to their sacrosanct concerns. See "Council Candidate Forums," p.25, for this week's meetings, and try to attend a couple, if only for the fireworks – we're sure Jason "I don't think they're reading it right" Meeker and a slow-boiling Lee Leffingwell are still licking their wounds from the Austin Neighborhoods Council slugfest last night.

Reach out and touch BTP at wldunbar@austinchronicle.com.

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muffles potential informants, Acevedo said he, too, would not want to see "a chilling effect," positing the scenario that the one informant who could help police foil "another 9/11 or child abduction" might be an undocumented immigrant. For more on this, see last week's "Sheriff's Office Draws Heat for Helping ICE."
 — Patricia J. Ruland

Austin Independent School District students can now bring their **cell phones** to school, but they better not use them in the classroom. At its March 24 meeting, the AISD board of trustees voted 6-3 to allow students of all grades to bring phones, wireless devices, or MP3 players to school. The old rules, last amended in 2003, only covered high schoolers and cell phones. In an attempt to keep up with technology and after pressure from some parents, the board made the revisions. Students aren't allowed to use the devices during the instructional day, however. "It has to be in the locker or back pack, and it has to be off until the end of the school day," AISD spokesman Andy Welch said. The devices are also completely banned during testing. Any student breaking the rules will have the device confiscated, and it will only be returned to his or her parent or guardian after payment of a handling fee. Also, Welch reminded parents and students, "We're not responsible if it gets lost."
 — Richard Whittaker

Austin students are passing the **Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills reading exam** in greater numbers than ever, but they're still lagging behind Texas averages. On March 25, the district released preliminary results for the TAKS tests, administered on March 5. Pass rates for the English-language version at third (87%), fifth (79%), and eighth (90%) grades have all increased over five- and one-year measurements. However, these numbers are between 1 and 4 points lower than the state average. The gap is even broader for the Spanish-language test, with only 75% at third grade and 63% at fifth grade, compared to 82% and 70% respectively statewide. Students must pass these tests to move on to the next grade, but those who failed can retake on April 30. The district plans to provide extra in-class and afterschool tutoring before then.
 — R.W.

The **Barton Springs Pool Master Plan**, intended as a needs assessment for renovations and improvements to the crown jewel of Austin's park system, was initiated with the goal of "returning the site to its rightful glory where the water was cleaner and the experience was more enjoyable." A draft master plan is now complete and viewable online. The city is asking the public to have a gander and offer feedback by April 21. The huge 352-page document is mercifully broken into small, concise PDF files. Some of the plan's goals include rehabilitating the historic bathhouse, improving water quality and natural water flow, sprucing up the landscaping, and engineering a way to prevent nuisance algae and flooding, which in 2007 forced the pool to close a record 16 times. Other objectives seek to renovate the one-of-a-kind, spring-fed Sunken Garden southeast of the pool, improve pool-cleaning equipment, add more accessible entrances, and remove the long-accumulating gravel bar. Longer-term projects include possibly building a new south bathhouse, redesigning both Barton Creek dams, and renovating the amphitheatre-like Eliza Springs near the concessions stand. Check out the Special Considerations section for tidbits on sustainability considerations and art in the park. Find the full plan at www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/bspmasterplan.htm.
 — Daniel Mottola

BEYOND CITY LIMITS

Expect to see some form of **vouchers** lite come out of the **Texas Education Agency** in the next week or so. Education Commissioner Robert Scott is expected to use his administrative powers to create a grant program to recover high school dropouts. Public and private schools likely would be given a per-student reimbursement for recovering the students. Scott has argued that such a program should not be deemed a voucher, per se, but talk is that it will be close enough to a voucher to please multimillionaire Jim Leininger, who has poured \$8 million of his own money into recent elections in order to get vouchers passed. Local education groups promise a courtroom brawl if TEA bypasses the Legislature to approve any program that might open the door on vouchers.
 — Kimberly Reeves

When it comes to the November congressional elections, the **Libertarian Party of Texas** will definitely beat the Democrats in one way: number of candidates. The Libertarians are running in 29 of the 32 Texas congressional districts, while the Democrats could only muster 26 (the GOP has a full slate). In the Austin area, Travis Co. Libertarian Party Vice Chair Matt Finkel joins Democrat Larry Joe Doherty in challenging District 10 incumbent Republican Mike McCaul. Finkel's fellow executive committee member Jim Stutsman faces Democrat Lloyd Doggett in District 25, as well as Republican George Morovich. James Arthur Strohm is alone in trying to take down Lamar Smith in District 21 (the last Libertarian to challenge Smith, Jason Pratt in 2004, secured 2.99% of the vote).
 — R.W.

Gov. Rick Perry has criticized the **Federal Emergency Management Agency** for not doing more to help fight wildfires that have consumed almost a million acres in Texas since Jan. 1. Perry had asked that FEMA issue a Major Disaster Declaration, but instead it issued a lesser Emergency Declaration. This only pays for 75% of federal firefighting costs, does not reimburse any of the \$20.5 million already spent by state and local agencies, and does not include any long-term federal recovery programs. Calling FEMA's approach "fundamentally flawed," Perry said in a March 20 press statement that "it discourages state and local entities from taking steps to prevent the loss of

lives and property by refusing to assist in the preventive efforts." As of March 25, 151 counties have burn bans in effect, while the Texas Forest Service classifies much of the state as being at moderate to high risk of fire. The service has committed all available firefighting resources, as well as aircraft from the Texas Air National Guard.
 — R.W.

Sen. **Kirk Watson**, D-Austin, is leading a delegation of Central Texas lawmakers and business leaders urging support for a federal study of the cumulative **impacts of new coal-fired power plants** on ozone levels across the state. Right now, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality does not consider cumulative effects, specifically, how a coal-fired plant in one part of the state might impact air quality in another part. That's particularly onerous in Central Texas, which is on the cusp of nonattainment under the Clean Air Act and downwind of a newly permitted coal-fired plant. Nonattainment would bring all sorts of sanctions with it, including limitations on federal highway funds, Watson said in a news conference last week. He hopes the federal study will provide lawmakers with a new tool to use next session when shaping the state's own permitting standards for air quality. For related news, see p.25.
 — K.R.



JOHN ANDERSON

More news on the "Frankenfence" front: An additional Democratic precinct in Presidio County approved during the March 4 Texas primary a resolution opposing the feds' **planned fence-wall hybrid for the U.S.-Mexico border**. Meanwhile, about a half-dozen Republican precincts in El Paso County approved an identical resolution in favor of some kind of a wall, whether it be a partial physical divider or partial virtual divider, said David Thackston, Resolutions Committee chair for the county's GOP. (Interestingly, the city of El Paso contradicted this pro-wall sentiment sharply on March 18, when its City Council voted to deny the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers access to a road on city property, preventing work on an already standing piece of federal fence.) Texas will hold its county and district conventions on Saturday, at which point precinct delegates will vote on the resolutions. The ones that pass will go to the Democratic and Republican state conventions, where they could get incorporated into the parties' state platforms. For a rundown of other precincts that passed anti-wall resolutions during the caucuses and conventions, see "Cross-Border Crazyness," March 21, and "Frontera Residents Blast 'Frankenfence,'" March 14.
 — Cheryl Smith

Massachusetts Democratic Rep. Barney Frank is drafting legislation that would **decriminalize** adult use and possession of up to 3.5 ounces of **marijuana**. Frank announced his intention to file the legislation — the first federal pot-decrim measure filed in 24 years — during a March 21 appearance on the HBO talk show *Real Time With Bill Maher*. "It's time for the politicians to catch up with the public" on the pot issue, Frank said. Indeed, 12 states have pot-decrim laws on the books, and in a recent CNN/*Time* magazine poll, 76% of adults said they favor decriminalizing marijuana for responsible adult users. Frank's legislative proposal is based on the March 1972 recommendations of the National Commission on Marihuana and Drug Abuse (aka the Shafer Commission), which concluded the criminal law is "too harsh a tool to apply to personal possession even in the effort to discourage [pot] use," in part because it "implies an overwhelming indictment of a behavior which we believe is not appropriate," reads the commission report. "The actual and potential harm of use of the drug is not great enough to justify intrusion by the criminal law into private behavior."
 — Jordan Smith

The Southern Poverty Law Center has filed a class-action lawsuit on behalf of guest workers from India who claim they were forced to work against their wills in **Gulf Coast shipyards**, then detained like "pigs in a cage" when they tried to complain. Mary Bauer, director of the **SPLC Immigrant Justice Project**, states on the SPLC website that the case against Signal International LLC, a Mississippi and Texas fabrication company and subcontractor for global defense firm Northrop Grumman Corp., "illustrates everything that's wrong with our guest worker program." According to the SPLC, Signal imported welders, pipe-fitters, and ship-fitters after Hurricane Katrina decimated its workforce. Hundreds of Indian men took out loans and sold everything to pay recruiters \$20,000 in travel and visa fees. For all their sacrifices, however, the men were given only 10-month guest-worker visas, rather than the green cards promised them. Each worker had to pay \$1,050 to board with up to 23 other men per trailer, and housing camps were located in the middle of nowhere, fenced, and guarded. The lawsuit, filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, alleges that defendants engaged in forced labor, human-trafficking, fraud, racketeering, and civil rights violations.
 — P.J.R.

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Unveiling WebberVilla Muse!

'Chronicle' acquires secret project plans for landfill-powered film studios

BY THE 'AC' SPECIAL HAPPENINGS INVESTIGATIONS TEAM

In an abrupt reversal of earlier announcements, the city of Austin, the village of Webberville, Travis County, and the developers of the **Villa Muse** project have secretly agreed to site the proposed \$5.5 billion studio/music venue/residential complex on top of the city's proposed nearby **Webberville landfill**. The new studio complex/recycling depot will be called "**VillaVille**." "We always said that these two unrelated projects should be looked at together," said Webberville Mayor **Hector Gonzales**. "Now it will be impossible to see one without smelling the other."

The announcement of the new plan had been embargoed – not to be released to the public until Tuesday, April 1 – but the Special Happenings Investigations Team has acquired a confidential source within the project group and managed to acquire the news, the architects' renderings of the site plan, and project details. In a deal brokered by German director Uwe Boll's Boll KG production company, the Webberville Film Society & Lions' Club, and former City Manager **Toby Futrell**, in her first action as Austin's newly hired "special projects coordinator" (drawing some \$365,000 annually), representatives of the city, county, landfill operators, and studio executives sat down and overcame their differences in what was immediately branded as a "creative and really, really green" compromise. In a press release, VillaVille community spokesperson **Jennifer Gale** said, "We wanted to keep Austin Austin, Webberville Webberville, and garbage garbage, and now we have managed to bring together the best of all possible worlds."

The agreement came about after Villa Muse had sought to have the proposed studio/horizontal condo/vertical mixed-use development (with residents serving as permanent volunteer movie extras) released from the city's extraterritorial jurisdiction. The City Council initially refused, but when the WebberVilla Muse Consortium offered to incorporate a revolutionary biomass energy generation and methane collection system to power the development – everything from the studios to VillaVille's estimated 22 Starbucks locations to its manure plant and nightly gala premiere searchlights – council members relented. In addition to releasing VillaVille from the ETJ, the city agreed to offset the expected tax income with federal carbon recapture allocation points. "It's a win-win situation," said Council Member **Mike Martinez**. "We'll be taking tax dollars off the top, and the Superfund will be paying to clean up the soil below." Added Martinez, "As far as we're concerned, this thing's all yours!" Studio proponent **Brewster McCracken** eagerly added: "In sectors across the country not buoyed by

the digitally convergent creative class, the economy may be taking a dump. But in Webberville, we're building on one!"

"By placing the studio on top of a dump, this will ensure that property prices will not rise," said Villa Muse CEO **Jay Podolnick**. "While we're not getting all the tax exemptions we would have liked, at least appraisal values will stay static." Podolnick noted that possible damage to the condos due to subsidence could even lead to tax cuts for residents. "The movie moguls we want to attract from Hollywood are not paying taxes to Austin now," added Podolnick, "so why should they have to pay them when they move here?"

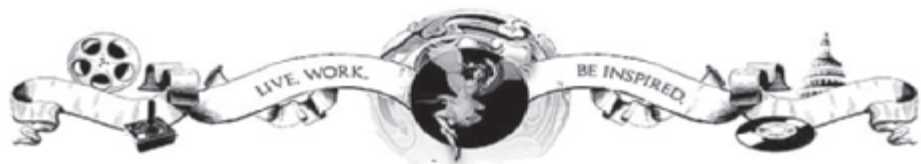
With the ingenious decision to allow construction directly on top of the waste, Villa Muse announced it would also dramatically expand the number of affordable housing units at the Las Colonias at VillaVille development. New tenants will also automatically become members of the Screen Actors Guild and receive auditions at any open casting calls. "We're hoping for our first daytime Oscar before our first foreclosure," said state Rep. **Dawna Dukes**, D-Pflugerville.

The complex already has scheduled its first confirmed movie project: a big-budget remake of 1985's *The Toxic Avenger*. In a press release, producer **Michael Bay** said that the combination of high-quality green-screen facilities and high volumes of fermenting waste was "a Hollywood synergy dream."

However, some residents of East Austin have pledged to oppose the development. "This landfill will be yet another instance of eastern Travis County being used as a dump, while the apartments are an obvious example of gentrification," said **PODER** board member **Daniel Llanes**. The group has pledged to Web-organize the studio extras into backlot flash-mobs until all of their demands are met. (As of press time, the city had not received any demands.)

Additionally, the yet-to-be-announced decision has unexpectedly had an effect on the current City Council races. Place 1 candidate and newly appointed Responsible Growth for VillaVille spokesperson **Jason Meeker** has threatened legal action against the city for proceeding with the project without first commissioning a traffic-impact study on VillaVille's farm-to-market road. Meeker is currently organizing a Rally Around the Refuse protest at the steaming dump-pile, asking protesters to surround the VillaVille site with steaming compost buckets. Meanwhile, members of the **Better Austin Today PAC** have already indicated their support of Meeker, vowing a "muck-in" at the dump to protest the "smoke-filled, back-room, insider deal we really, really, really shoulda been a part of."

– Richard Whittaker and Wells Dunbar



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A VillaVille pamphlet, bundled with mailings of *Variety* and trade magazine *Waste Management Quarterly*

Growing Pains Hit West Campus

“Go west, young man!” is not the kind of thing most West Campus housing developers want to hear. The problem is not so much the west part, as a matter of scale. They’d be more agreeable to “Go west, young men and women, in droves, and pack thyself into any one of our high-density luxury units!” A belief in a kind of student-housing manifest destiny has overcome the neighborhood, with more multistory blocks of apartments going up all the time. Trouble is, the West Campus utilities infrastructure – especially water – was never built to support such rapid development and hasn’t been updated in years. And the neighbors are starting to catch on.

“There is water running down the street all the time,” said West Campus resident **Tracie Donnelly**, who has lived in the neighborhood for six years. She’s concerned about a new Block development at 22nd and Pearl streets, completed last year, where water must be constantly pumped out of an underground parking garage, rain or shine. The developers said they hit groundwater while building the property. “I thought it would stop once it was finished,” said Donnelly, but the water continues to run.

It’s likely this won’t be the last time the issue arises. Groundwater levels are hard to predict, and many new developments will have underground parking garages. The drainage system in the Block’s underground garage is fairly typical. Groundwater flowing into the garage is collected in a French drain, a kind of ditch, and into a sump pump, an apparatus commonly found in basements and other underground spaces. The water is then deposited into a detention pond that sits at curb level and flows out into the street through a curbside pipe – where it collects because it has nowhere to go due to a lack of adequate street contouring, according to **Mike Mahone**, a real estate consultant and mediator for the neighborhood developers. He says the water flow wouldn’t be an issue if the overall infrastructure weren’t so screwed up. Groundwater is a common problem, he says; basements all over the world use this kind of pump system, and it works 99% of the time when the water has somewhere to go. The real problem, he said, “The infrastructure of this area has been neglected forever.”

A representative for West Campus housing developers and a city water official have said they are trying to work together to fix the problem. One hindrance is that the West Campus population turns over every four years, and residents are more likely to be more worried about a chem test than the water pressure in the decades-old pipes that run beneath their apartments. Few people advocate for these kinds of hyperlocal issues, resulting in the kind of neglect seen in West Campus. “If [students] voted in local elections,” said Mahone, “their tax money would be spent with their input in mind.”

Whether residents like it or not, public funds will probably have to be spent to solve problems generated by private developers, like the groundwater issue at the Block property. Utility restructuring and additions are needed throughout the area, and there’s no quick or easy fix. It will require collaboration. “In a perfect world and hopefully in the future, we’re looking at a separate effort [from devel-



JOHN ANDERSON

opers and the city],” said the city’s assistant director of watershed protection, **Nancy McClintock**. But for now, the area around the Block doesn’t even have an adequate storm sewer. McClintock said the city is looking for “creative solutions” to the Block issue, like using the water for fountains or landscaping, noting that “even if there was some kind of storm sewer system there, I don’t know if it would be sufficient.”

The housing development boom follows a controversial 2001 change in zoning laws allowing for high-density apartment buildings, led in part by Mahone, who says 35 new projects have gone up over the past four years alone. Mahone believes the increased development is good for the **University of Texas**, which benefits from easily scheduled classes and higher graduation rates when students can stay closer to campus.

Still, some longtime neighborhood residents don’t appreciate the swift influx of cookie-cutter student housing. “It’s just changed the whole vibe over here,” lamented Donnelly, who rents a 100-year-old home on San Gabriel. “This water thing is a real bummer.” Donnelly says she used to have a view of the UT Tower before the apartments near her home went in. “They disconnected me from this piece of history and then started wrecking my street,” she said. “I hate to see it neglected.”

But West Campus residents will simply have to continue to wait for improvements, even as the potential for trouble from new development grows.

If such rapid construction continues, and all signs indicate it will, especially with developer-friendly incentives in place for high-density housing, West Campus’ utility infrastructure will have to be totally updated, and that takes time. “This is ... a problem we’re going to see increasing,” McClintock admits. “It’s not trivial.” She said city officials and developers are meeting in early April to continue their search for solutions. But she warned residents it would likely be months before they started to see changes, adding, “We’re still getting our arms around this.”

– Andrea Grimes

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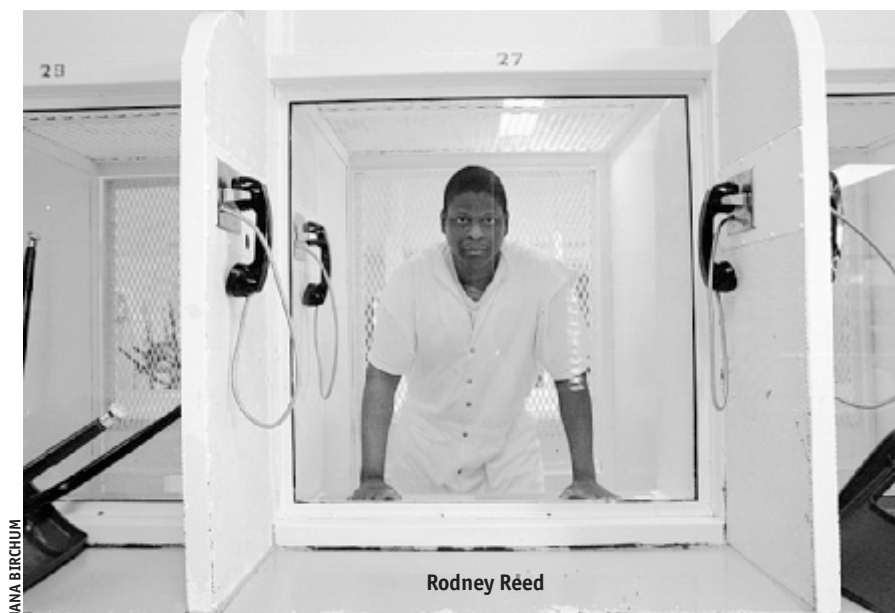


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Appeals Court Weighs Plea to 'Correct Miscarriage of Justice'

Nearly 10 years after **Rodney Reed** was convicted of murder and condemned to die, the Texas Court of Criminal Appeals now is tasked with deciding whether he should receive a new trial. Reed's lawyers – including former CCA Judge **Morris Overstreet** and former Texas Defender Service attorney **Bryce Benjet** – argue that if Reed's Bastrop jury had known of the available evidence in the case, it would not have convicted Reed of the 1996 murder of **Stacey Stites**. "If a jury had the opportunity to review all of the evidence, they would've made a different decision," Overstreet told reporters outside the CCA building on March 20. "This court can do what it needs to do to correct a miscarriage of justice."

Reed was convicted of killing 19-year-old Stites, a Giddings resident, as she drove to work for an early-morning shift at the Bastrop HEB on April 23, 1996. Stites was strangled with a belt and her body dumped alongside a country road just north of town; the red pickup truck she was driving – which belonged to her fiancé, **Jimmy Fennell**, then a Giddings Police officer – was found in the parking lot of Bastrop High School. Although DNA evidence on Stites' body eventually led investigators to Reed, who acknowledged having an affair with Stites, no other evidence tied Reed to the crime. Reed's supporters argue that Fennell is a far more likely suspect because he was upset about Reed and Stites' relationship. In fact, although the state claims that Fennell was initially a suspect, documents in the case reflect that police never seriously pursued him: They failed to process fully for evidence his pickup truck and instead returned



it to him within days of the murder. Moreover, they never searched the apartment Stites and Fennell shared, even though it was the last place Stites was known to be alive. (Questions about Fennell's credibility and possible involvement in the murder have increased since his indictment late last year on charges of aggravated sexual assault, kidnapping, and official oppression in connection with a woman he detained while on duty as a Georgetown Police officer. Reed's supporters view the current charges as eerily similar to the circumstances surrounding Stites' murder. To date, however, the courts have not been able to consider them as evidence in Reed's favor.)

With respect to Reed's appeal, the central argument turns on whether prosecutors withheld exculpatory information from Reed's trial defenders – including DNA tests from two beer cans found near Stites' body, from which Fennell's neighbor and Giddings Police Department colleague could not be excluded as a contributor. That evidence would be key to rebutting the state's contention that Fennell could not have murdered Stites because he would have no way to make the round-trip from Giddings without driving his pickup. Reed's attorneys say that it suggests that Fennell might have had help. They also claim that former Bastrop District Attorney Charles Penick knowingly withheld information about a possible witness, Martha Barnett, who told her attorney, former Lee Co. Attorney Steven Keng, she saw Stites and Fennell arguing in a parking lot the morning Stites was killed. At a 2006 hear-

ing before District Judge **Reva Towslee Corbett**, Keng testified that he offered this information to Penick but that Penick rejected it. "His response was to laugh and to tell me he didn't need any more witnesses, that he didn't want to hear it," Keng testified.

Towslee Corbett ultimately ruled that the testimony presented in Reed's favor was not credible. Further, she opined, the testimony of Barnett and Keng, along with that of Mary Blackwell – a police officer who said she'd heard Fennell boast that he would strangle Stites as punishment for infidelity – was not likely to have changed a jury's mind about Reed's guilt. Reed failed "to demonstrate that his conviction was unlawfully obtained," Towslee Corbett concluded in recommending that the CCA deny Reed's bid for a new trial. (Reed's supporters believe Towslee Corbett should have recused herself from the case because she is the daughter of former District Judge Harold Towslee, who presided over Reed's initial trial.)

Certainly, it wouldn't be unusual for Texas' highest criminal court to simply rubber-stamp the lower court's findings in the case and push it into federal court. Instead, the CCA heard oral arguments, asking the lawyers, in part, whether they are

legally able to depart from Towslee Corbett's findings. To Overstreet and Benjet, the answer is clearly yes. The AG's position, Benjet argues, is only that the growing number of witnesses contradicting the state's case are simply lying. "That the State has filtered these assertions of credibility through the signature of ... Towslee Corbett ... does not absolve [the CCA]

of its duty to independently review the record and enter the first and final judgment in the case," Benjet wrote in a brief. In other words, Benjet told the judges last week, the CCA should not "blindly defer" to the lower court's conclusions, especially where the court has "reason to question the reliability of those findings," and where Towslee Corbett's findings are "not supported" by the record. And, he said, it is clear that Towslee Corbett stepped out of line in making assertions that are not supported by the facts.

On the other side, Assistant Attorney General Tina Miranda argued that the court should defer to Towslee Corbett's findings and, further, that in deciding whether Reed should be granted a new trial, the court must consider all evidence – including extraneous allegations that Reed committed several sexual assaults, even though he was acquitted of one charge and was never tried on any additional charges. This information is likely inadmissible at trial. Miranda denied that there is any basis for Reed's contention that Fennell was a far more likely suspect or that Reed was having a consensual relationship with Stites before her death. There are simply "no reliable witnesses that can attest to that secret affair," she told the court. (For more on the case, see "Who Killed Stacey Stites?" May 24, 2002.)

Although the court has no deadline for deciding the case, court watchers anticipate a ruling within the next six months. If the court denies Reed relief, the case will again move to federal district court for consideration.

– Jordan Smith

HERNANDEZ BEATING CASE HITS FEDERAL COURT

According to Assistant City Attorney **Frederick Hawkins**, the force used by three Austin Police officers in subduing **Ramon Hernandez** back in 2005 was absolutely necessary because Hernandez "for some reason, kind of went psychotic that day," he told a six-woman federal jury during opening arguments this week in a civil rights case brought by Hernandez.

At issue is the Sept. 21, 2005, arrest of Hernandez, made by three officers – **Christopher Gray**, **William Heilman** (who resigned slightly more than a month after the incident), and **Joel Follmer** (a rookie at the time, who was ultimately terminated) – after Hernandez got into a fender-bender accident near Burnet Road and Steck Avenue during a break from work and on his way to get a breakfast taco. Soon after police arrived at the scene of the accident, Hernandez began to feel poorly – he couldn't find his driver's license (unusual for him because he is generally pretty organized, he testified Monday), and that, combined with personal problems he was having with his now-ex-wife, triggered the onset of an anxiety attack: He felt short of breath and, it seems, claustrophobic. So, Hernandez grabbed his Bible and ran.

According to Hernandez's attorney, **Amber Vasquez Bode**, her client was just looking for a quiet space to collect his thoughts and pray. Apparently that didn't translate to Heilman, who took off after Hernandez – who had scaled a fence (he couldn't explain why he did that, he told the jurors) before dropping to his knees close to a nearby transmission shop. That's where he was when Heilman found him.

According to Hawkins, Hernandez then rose and approached Heilman in a menacing manner; Hernandez disputes that, saying he rose with his hands over his head in a nonviolent gesture of compliance. According to Hawkins, Hernandez then resisted arrest – Heilman used his Taser on him three times and hit him with his baton at least once before Hernandez dropped to the ground. There, Heilman still struggled to cuff him.

According to Hernandez, he was so freaked out by Heilman's unnecessary use of physical force that he panicked, thinking Heilman was but a thought away from using his gun to shoot him. In an effort to keep that from happening, Hernandez testified Monday, he placed his hand on Heilman's holster, to cover the weapon. That was when Gray and Follmer arrived on the scene, Hawkins said, but what they saw, he said, was Heilman engaged in a "death struggle" with an out-of-control suspect trying to take the officer's gun.

What happened subsequent to the backup officers' arrival was captured on an Austin Police Department in-car video camera: With Hernandez already cuffed and lying face down in the dirt (and, it turned out, a fire-ant mound), Heilman is standing with his foot on Hernandez's neck, while Gray kneels on Hernandez's back. Hernandez wiggles on the ground – in an attempt to roll over and catch his breath, he told the jury this week – which prompts Gray to deliver a dozen or so hard blows to Hernandez's kidney area.

According to Hawkins, Hernandez's actions were menacing, and that's why the officers wouldn't let him roll over: Hernandez's feet were not handcuffed – which would, at least theoretically, have given him a chance to do battle with the officers, Hawkins explained. (Heilman and Gray were acquitted of criminal official oppression in 2006, and a charge against Follmer was subsequently dropped.)

That does not excuse the excessive violence brought by the officers, Bode said. At issue, she argued to the jury, is only what happened after Hernandez was in handcuffs: The officers "beat and Tasered my client while handcuffed, for no good reason," a clear violation of his civil rights.

Although the city was dropped as a defendant in the suit, Hawkins agreed to help attorney Tom Stribling defend the case. The trial is expected to conclude this week.

– J.S.



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Laws Draws Criticism for Racial Slur

Will Austin continue to do business with a man who has no qualms about using the “W” word, even putting it in writing?

“I don’t know yet,” Austin City Manager **Marc Ott** told the *Chronicle* Monday, in the wake of intense controversy over **Creedmoor-Maha Water Supply Corporation’s** online posting of a March 19 agenda containing an item that read, “Discuss Dempsey’s proposed old Harmony Hills tract and possible holding pen for wetbacks” — and speculation whether the city would continue to buy and sell water from the water corp. (Apparently, **Emerald Correctional Management**, a private firm out of Louisiana, has chosen Mustang Ridge for a megabuck, megabed immigrant detention center, one of many being built across the country to accommodate Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s hell-bent trajectory to deport an estimated 12 million undocumented workers as mandated by **U.S. Department of Homeland Security**.)

At a press conference last Thursday, Austin Council Member **Mike Martinez** called for the resignation of **Charles Laws, Mustang**

Ridge mayor pro tem and water company general manager, because he wouldn’t recant the comment. For his part, Laws justified his choice of words to the media by saying he’d had computer problems when composing the item and, hurried, had used a familiar expression when he should have said “illegals.”

Laws couldn’t be reached for comment, but News 8 Austin reported that Mustang Ridge Mayor **Alfred Vallejo** attributed the slur to a “generation gap,” which became a refrain hotly disputed by some activists: “It may be a legacy of a dying breed, but it’s still inbred,” **Jose Orta**, of **LULAC**, told the *Chronicle*. “We should speak out against it every time it’s used,” he added.

As soon as the slur came to the attention of city officials, according to Martinez, council members notified the Secretary of State’s office, which required the item be revised to read: “possible holding pen for _____.” But the revision did little to calm angry officials. “Laws had multiple opportunities to retract,” Martinez said. “When an elected official so close to Austin, whom we



Mike Martinez

JANA BERCHUM

have to work with on a regular basis, chooses inflammatory language and posts it on a public website, we have to ... say, ‘Not this time,’” Martinez stated at the press conference, while hinting that the contract between Creedmoor and Austin would be reviewed accordingly.

State Rep. **Eddie Rodriguez**, whose district encompasses Mustang Ridge, also spoke, saying, “I think it’s my duty, not only as a state representative but as a Mexican-

American, to do whatever I can to get this man to resign.” State Sen. **Kirk Watson** did not attend the press conference but provided a statement for distribution: “The meeting posting ... goes far beyond the ongoing debate about the state’s role regarding immigration. [His] broad-brush slur strikes fear among all people.”

Martinez told the *Chronicle* the press conference was not meant to address whether the federal government should be allowed to operate the detention center on the tract, adding, Mustang Ridge City Council is “an independent government body.” But immigrants rights activists present and those keeping tabs elsewhere made the connection, carrying signs reading, “Immigration Is an American Experience” and “Acceptance Is an American Value.” Furthermore, border resident and activist **Jay Johnson-Castro Sr.** wrote in an e-mail that the outcry over the use of the word “wetback” is good only if people see the “holding pen, the prison itself, with the same disdain,” adding that the new facility would be a “thousand-bed T. Don Hutto” — referring to the controversial detention facility in Williamson County. — Patricia J. Ruland

HAPPENINGS

For more events, see *Community Listings*, p.76.

THURSDAY 27

BEFORE & AFTER SCHIAVO Carmela Epright discusses the bioethics cases that came before Terri Schiavo, those likely to come in her wake, and how they may shape public policy in the future. 5pm. St. Edward’s University, Fleck Hall Room 305, 3001 S. Congress, 464-8871. Free.

CASA MARIANELLA BENEFIT DINNER honors Barbara Hines of UT’s Immigrant Law Clinic with the Ed Wendler Award for outstanding service to the immigrant community. 6-8pm. Mercury Hall, 615 Cardinal, 385-5571. \$50. www.casamariabella.org.

HEMAN SWEATT SYMPOSIUM ON CIVIL RIGHTS focuses on the Powerless Majority: The Black and Latino Experience in America. Former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk keynotes on Friday (7pm, Thompson Conference Center). Through Fri., March 28. UT campus. www.utexas.edu/diversity/events/hemansweatt.

FRIDAY 28

CITY OF AUSTIN FAMILIES & CHILDREN TASK FORCE Take a short survey online at www.ci.austin.tx.us/council/fctf/default.cfm to help make Austin a more friendly place for families and kids. Deadline: Fri., March 28.

ROBIN HAHNEL The American University economics professor gives two talks questioning the assumption that there is no alternative to capitalism. **TINA Be Damned: Alternatives to Corporate Capitalism:** Noon, UT campus, CMA Building Room 5.160. **Participatory Economics: Alternatives to Corporate Capitalism Case Studies From Venezuela:** 8pm, MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop. Free.

SUSTAINABLE! CONFERENCE screens *The Real Dirt on Farmer John* on Friday and continues Saturday with a day of workshops on food, the environment,

economics, and more. March 28-29. Fri., 7pm; Sat., 11:30am-5:30pm. St. Andrew’s Presbyterian, 14311 Wells Port, 251-0698. \$10 suggested donation. www.staopen.com.

SATURDAY 29

BUS RIDERS UNION-ATX finalizes a proposal for fare-free transit in Austin. 2-4pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 220-8227. www.busatx.org.

EARTH HOUR Turn off lights, appliances, and anything else that uses electricity for just one hour, and join cities all over the world in giving Earth a short respite from its steady overload of carbon dioxide. 8-9pm. www.panda.org.

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL TEXANS presents a screening of Michael Moore’s *Sicko*, followed by a health-care panel discussion. 2:30pm. First United Methodist Church, 1201 Lavaca, 478-5684. \$5 donations welcome. www.healthcareforalltexas.org.

RADICAL URBAN SUSTAINABILITY TRAINING This two-day workshop explores ways of creating autonomous, sustainable communities. Topics include bioremediation, rainwater harvesting, biofuels, post-petroleum economics, and more. Registration required. Sat.-Sun., March 29-30, or April 12-13. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. \$150-350 sliding scale. www.rhizomecollective.org/rust.html.

SUNDAY 30

HECHO A MANO This monthly fest and open house features a screening of Linda Garcia-Merchant’s documentary *Las Mujeres de la Caucusa Chicana*. Garcia-Merchant and feminist Martha Cotera will speak afterward. Noon-5pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 478-6222. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/macc.

NORML & THE DRUG WAR Join the Texas chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws for a screening of 2007’s *American Drug War: The Last White Hope*. (See Special Screenings, p.98.) 3-6pm. Spider House, 2908 Fruth, 480-9562. \$7 (\$5, NORML members). www.texasnorml.org.

WEEKLY PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM

features Texas politics expert Dave McNeely, dean of the Texas Capitol Press Corps and co-author of the new book *Bob Bullock: God Bless Texas*. 11:30am-12:30pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.austinuu.org.

MONDAY 31

INPUT NEEDED ON BICYCLE MASTER PLAN The Austin Bicycle Program is updating the Bicycle Master Plan and needs input. Mon., March 31, 5:30-8:30pm: One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd. Wed., April 2, 5:45-8:30pm: University Teaching Center, UT campus, 21st & University. 974-7142. www.ci.austin.tx.us/bicycle.

TUESDAY 01

COMMUNITY MEETING: PROPOSED EAST END DEVELOPMENT/ZONING MODIFICATIONS Give feedback on proposed changes that would affect multifamily low-income housing, mixed-use retail, and parking in the area bounded by East 11th, Lydia, Juniper, and Waller streets. 5:30-8pm. Street-Jones Building, East 11th & Waller.

ENGAGE SPEAKER SERIES: CLEAN & ALTERNATIVE ENERGY Clean Energy Incubator’s Joel Serface, Texas Clean Energy Park’s John Rosshirt, and Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project’s Jim Walker speak on Central Texas’ energy future. 7:30-9am. Chez Zee, 5406 Balcones, 499-0435. \$25. www.leadershipaustin.org.

WEDNESDAY 02

AUSTIN’S PAST & FUTURE: GREEN & GROWING Mayor Will Wynn talks about Austin’s green technology and efforts to lighten its carbon footprint, and he’s joined by architect Sinclair Black, who will be presented with the Athena Medal for Lifetime Achievement. For more, see “City Shaper,” p.28. 5:30-7pm. Austin Convention Center, Ballroom ABC, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 344-2027. Free. www.cnuxvi.org.

IN THE SPIRIT OF RESISTANCE

Enjoy vegan treats and a screening of *Quilombo Country* as part of Project Abundant Life’s new monthly film and discussion series. 7:30pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. \$5 suggested donation. relrath@gmail.com, www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

ISRAEL & THE PARADOX OF POWER

A talk from Stuart Schoffman, screenwriter, journalist, and columnist for *Jerusalem Report*. 7:30-8:30pm. UT campus, Carothers building, 2501 Whitis, 471-5787. Free.

www.utexas.edu/ugs/uhc/joynes.php.

TOWN HALL MEETING: EDWARDS AQUIFER/BARTON SPRINGS

The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District is revising its management plans to accommodate increasing water demands and would like input. 6pm. Sunset Valley City Hall, 3205 Jones Rd., Sunset Valley, 512/282-8441. www.bseacd.org/rules.html.

THURSDAY 03

THE CONSERVATIVE AGENDA & NEW URBANISM

A talk from Rep. Mike Krusee, the Free Congress Foundation’s Bill Lind, PlaceMakers’ Nathan Norris, and others — a public event with the Congress for the New Urbanism. 12:30-1:30pm. Convention Center, Meeting Room 8, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 344-2027. Free. www.cnu.org.

DAHR JAMAIL The author of *Beyond the Green Zone* discusses his experiences working as an independent journalist in occupied Iraq. 7pm. UT campus, Geology building, Room 2.324. Free. www.beyondthegreenzone.org.

ENVISION CENTRAL TEXAS OPEN SESSION

Urban planner Peter Calthorpe joins Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project’s Jim Walker to look at Envision Central Texas’ progress with the Congress for the New Urbanism. 3-5pm. Convention Center, Meeting Room 5A, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 344-2027. Free. www.cnu.org.

FAIR TRADE: A BEGINNER’S GUIDE

Join writer Jacqueline DeCarlo for a talk about the far-reaching benefits of fair-trade relationships for both producers

and consumers. 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. A-105, 472-2785. Free. www.ebookwoman.com.

POWER OF THE EYEWITNESS Join Betty Sue Flowers (of the LBJ Library and Museum) and journalists Neal Spelce and Tracy Dahlby for a discussion on the influence of cell phones, digital video, and the Internet on historical events. Reservations required: Call 936-4649. 4-6pm. Texas Spirit Theatre at the Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress, 936-8746. Free. www.thestoryoftexas.com.

ONGOING

CNU XVI: NEW URBANISM & THE BOOMING METROPOLIS

The Congress for the New Urbanism convenes its annual conference in Austin this year, bringing to town four days of gatherings, tours, debates, and workshops on everything from architecture to sustainability to transportation. See “New Urbanism and the Booming Metropolis,” p.32, and www.cnu.org/cnuxvi for details. Wed.-Sun., April 2-6. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 404-4000. \$20-915.

EARLY VOTING

Vote early for the April 8 primary run-off elections. See “Chronicle Endorsements,” p.6. Mon.-Fri., March 31-April 4.

ECT REGIONAL GROWTH MEETINGS

Envision Central Texas wants input on regional land use, housing, transportation, and environmental issues, both going forward and looking back. Mon., March 31, 6:30-8pm: Cedar Park Public Library, 550 Discovery, Cedar Park. Tue., April 1, 6:30-8pm: Round Rock Stoney Point Ninth Grade Center, 1901 Sunrise, Round Rock. Wed., April 2, 6:30-8pm: Dripping Springs ISD Administration Building, 510 W. Mercer, Dripping Springs. 916-6037. www.envisioncentraltexas.org.

RESERVE YOUR ELECTRIC LAWN MOWER

Trade in your old, gas-guzzling lawn mower for a new electric one at Home Depot next week, but reserve the new one now. Sat., April 5, 8:30am-2pm. Home Depot, 3600 S. I-35. www.cmpbs.org/electriclawnmower.

Can Austin Meet New Air Rules? Don't Hold Your Breath.

Austin will need to adjust its air-quality attitude in the near future, following the U.S. **Environmental Protection Agency's** recent decision to tighten ozone-related smog standards for the first time in a decade. **Ozone**, produced when airborne pollutants from industry and autos mix together and bake in the sun, is linked to heart attacks, aggravated asthma, and breathing problems. The new standards – changed from 84 parts per billion (84 molecules of ozone for every billion of air) to 75 ppb – would likely place Austin on equal footing with Dallas/Fort Worth, San Antonio, and Houston, all of which stand in violation of EPA's current air-quality standards. Unremediated violations carry the penalty of suspended federal road-funding.

A host of enviro and health groups, including the Sierra Club and the American Lung Association, rallied for a much tougher smog rule and says the new standards don't go far enough. To cut smog, the Lone Star Sierra Club says Texas must reduce energy consumption and waste through an accelerated transition to renewable energy and clean public transit. Additionally, the Sierrans say the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** must consider the cumulative air-quality impact of new coal plants and require them to install the best pollution-control technology; the agency refused to do both in permitting five new coal plants since 2005.

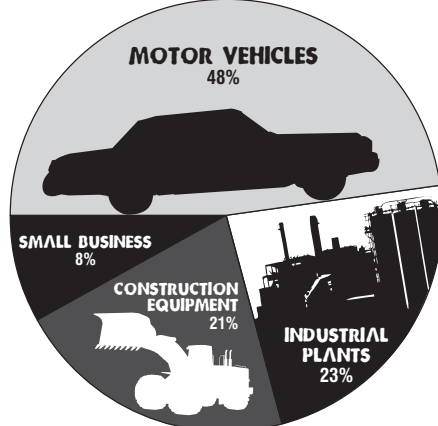
Austin's job of reducing smog becomes much more difficult when agency regulators consistently place industry's needs first, notes Mayor **Will Wynn**. "While we absolutely support ozone limits that will protect public health and the environment, the reality is that until state and federal regulators get serious, we have very little chance of meeting the new standard," Wynn said in an e-mail. "They can't continue to irresponsibly hand out permits to coal-fired power plants and cynically reject better vehicle mileage standards and expect us to be able to meet strict air quality stan-

dards when 80 to 90% of our problem is blowing in from other parts of the state."

As expected, Texas industry lobbyists are fuming over the tougher rules, as are a number of state officials. Gov. **Rick Perry**, who joined 10 other governors in signing a letter opposing cleaner standards, called the new set of rules a "moving target" that is "particularly onerous on Texas," given the state's busy ports, massive oil and gas industry, and congested crossings along its 1,200-mile border with Mexico. And Perry's newest TCEQ appointee, Buddy Garcia, has publicly added his voice to the opposition.

Austin-area Pollution Sources

Source: Capital Area Council of Governments



Bill Gill, director of the Regional Air Quality Planning Program for the **Capital Area Council of Governments**, said Austin's ozone issues are part of a broad regional problem, due in part to polluted air blown in from Northeast Texas coal plants, industry in Houston, and from out of state – 40% of which already violates the old 84 ppb standard before it arrives and mixes with hometown smog. It's unclear how the EPA will handle the rule's implementation for Austin compared to substantially smoggier Houston, Gill said.

The Austin area initiated an **Early Action Compact** in 2002 to try and stave off violations, prompting regional vehicle emissions testing, repair, and replacement programs, in addition to community outreach programs like Ozone Action Day. With the exception of a heavy-polluting cement plant in Buda, Gill blames the area's smog not so much on large smokestacks but on thousands of little ones: Sixty percent of local emissions of nitrogen oxides, a main ozone/smog ingredient, comes from diesel engines, he said, adding that the Capital Area Council of Governments would especially like to address pollution from the army of diesel trucks and heavy machinery at work Downtown and on new area roads. New 2007 EPA emissions rules for diesel engines, enforcement of the area's heavy-duty idling restrictions, and Texas' low-emissions diesel-fuel mandate will each slowly make a difference, he said (even though the TCEQ let Austin's main diesel supplier, Flint Hills Resources, opt out of the cleaner fuel rules by using credits). If the area's vehicle miles traveled continue to increase, as they have, local air-quality activist **Scott Johnson** argues its effect will outstrip the inherent benefits of cleaner engines and cleaner fuels.

As Austin approaches its ozone season, which generally starts in June, Gill said the council will be promoting programs to cut commuting-related pollution and possibly encourage telecommuting. One program, River Cities Rideshare, is an Internet-based ride-matching initiative designed to diminish individual auto commutes around Austin and San Antonio. Another program, Clean Air Partners, challenges employers to reduce their commuter pollution by 10%. Gill said the TCEQ refused to codify such emissions-reduction programs into the 2002 Early Action Compact. For more info, see www.cleandrive.com and www.cleanairpartnerstx.org.

– Daniel Mottola



LISTEN TO SOME NEW TRACKS

When you need to take a break from the music of SXSW, check out these tracks. The Hill Country Flyer departs every Saturday and Sunday from the Cedar Park Depot at 10:00 AM. Enjoy a 2½ hour layover in Burnet before returning at 4:30 PM.

The Hill Country Flyer resumes its Saturday and Sunday service in March. Plus, join us for our Spring Break Special to Bertram on March 11. This 4-hour round trip is the perfect way to spend a relaxing day over spring break!



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Council Candidate Forums

You'll laugh; they'll cry; you'll kiss your ignorance goodbye: Between now and election day, there's a welter of neighborhood and issue forums for Austin's City Council candidates. Here are the forums – the ones we know about, at least – for the next week on the council campaign trail. And let the self-debasement begin!

Austin Hotel & Lodging Association forum: Friday, March 28, 2-4pm; Omni Hotel (700 San Jacinto)

Network of Asian American Organizations forum: Monday, March 31, 6pm; Old Quarry Branch Library (7051 Village Center Dr.)

ADAPT (disability rights) forum: Wednesday, April 2, 6pm; Mary Lee Foundation Community Center (1327 Lamar Square)

Alliance for Public Transportation/Austin Area Regional Transit forum: Thursday, April 3, 6:30pm; City Council Chambers, City Hall (301 W. Second)

Housing candidate forum: Friday, April 4, 5:30pm; Scholz Garten (1607 San Jacinto)

IS SPACE THE PLACE FOR THE NEXT ARMS RACE?

During a lecture on the dangers of weaponizing outer space at **UT's** LBJ Library, the **Independent Institute's** **Mike Moore** joked that the space-related arms race the world's powers are inching toward could transform the doomsday clock into a nice little digital number. He said the United States' repeated refusal to adopt a **treaty banning weapons in outer space** has only made more likely the future star wars. But it's not going to play out like George Lucas vs. Cmdr. Worf. More likely, Moore said, is that advanced **anti-satellite weapons** will be developed by powerful countries, like China, that could bring the international economy to a halt by crippling global communications and navigation systems. Since the U.S. has more satellites in orbit than any other country and China has already demonstrated at least the potential power to knock one out of the sky, wouldn't a treaty benefit the U.S.? So why won't the U.S. be a part of this treaty to show good faith? It's not like we need any boosts to our world reputation or anything.

The other side of the story played out in the elevator as I was leaving the LBJ Library. "Oh, he's just a neoliberal," said a fellow Longhorn. "Going against the neocons. You gotta watch the watchers, man."

So there you go.

– Matt Martinez

Posted March 20, on **Newsdesk**, austinchronicle.com/newsdesk.

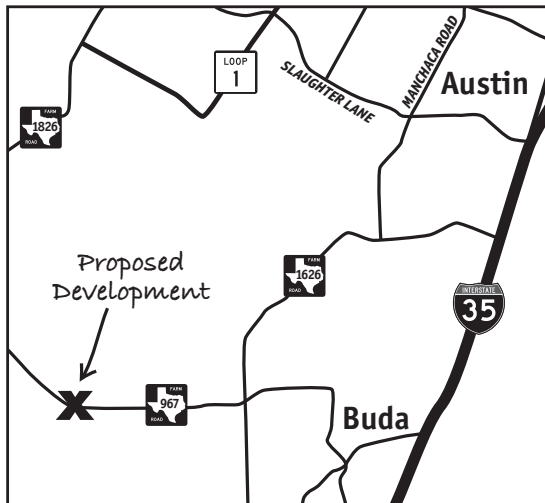
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Curious Development Afoot Over Aquifer

Growing concerns over a proposed subdivision in northern Hays Co. have prompted a state representative and other officials and citizens to seek a contested case hearing with the state aquifer charged with reviewing the developer's land application permit. The proposed development, along FM 967 in the sensitive recharge zone of the **Edwards Aquifer**, seeks authorization of 330,480 gallons of treated domestic wastewater per day via surface irrigation of more than 122 acres of public-access land. The permit application, filed in January by **Jeremiah Venture LP**, has received four requests for a contested case hearing, as well as two formal requests for a public meeting.

In a letter to the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality**, Rep. **Patrick Rose**, D-Dripping Springs, wrote, "Constituents that reside near the proposed [wastewater treatment] facility have contacted my office and expressed concerns about the possible impact to water quality." His request triggered an automatic hearing, with a date yet to be scheduled, and extended the comment period until that time. Rose did not return phone calls seeking additional comments.

At issue is the proposed disposal of wastewater for 1,377 homes planned on 607 acres of the Hudson Ranch; the concern is that disposing of the sewage by spraying irrigation will allow sewage effluent – one of the top pollutants of Barton Springs – to seep into the aquifer.



The **Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District** also points out that the developer has yet to file a water pollution abatement plan detailing where the development would get its water. District board member **Mary Stone**, whose Precinct 1 includes the area in question, is expected to meet soon with the developer's engineer and someone from the **Lower Colorado River Authority**.

The homeowners associations and water-supply corporations of the nearby Ruby Ranch and Oak Forest neighborhoods have also requested public hearings on the development. Like other area homeowners, Oak Forest resident **Clover Clamons** is concerned about the development's impact on drinking water. "We are entirely tied to a well-based system," said Clamons, a geologist. "Anything that has the potential to impact the aquifer up gradient of us has the potential of impacting our wells and our neighborhood." After reading the developer's geological assessment and proposed water-treatment permit, Clamons said she was startled by the

lack of information in the geological report as well as by "the precedent that this type of permit would set for allowing aerial discharge in the recharge zone."

Clamons says the strong reaction the development has provoked was spurred on by the developer's own tactics – the permit notice was posted in the San Marcos newspaper, rarely read by her neighbors in northern Hays County. She believes that move was intended to avoid scrutiny and has thus heightened suspicions.

– Jacob Cottingham



Al St. Cyr and the state-record setting carp he caught in then-Town Lake

COURTESY OF THE AMERICAN CARP SOCIETY

Counting Fish Tales

Time for hunters to double-check their calendars and make sure of bag limits: At its March 27 meeting, the **Texas Parks and Wildlife Commission** will consider adopting a series of changes to the state's **hunting and fishing regulations**.

The proposal with the biggest potential impact for Austinites is a rule change for common **carp** on **Lady Bird Lake**. Fishers will be restricted to one carp a day of 33 inches (75% of the world-record catch) or longer; there will be no restriction on smaller fish.

"They're trying to get some awareness of it as a trophy fishery," said Texas Parks & Wildlife Department spokesman **Steve Lightfoot**. In 2006, Denton native **Al St. Cyr** set a state record when he pulled a 38½-inch-long, 43-pound, 2-ounce carp out of the then-Town Lake (and landed a \$250,000 prize from the **American Carp Society** to boot). The new limits should protect some of these bigger fish and increase interest by adding some competitiveness. The lack of a limit on smaller fish should not dent the population, since carp's distinctive gritty taste means it's unlikely to end up on the dinner table. "It's sort of a de facto catch-and-release," said Lightfoot.

While most of the new rules are county-specific shifts to hunting seasons or minor technical changes (like restricting fishers to two rods on community fishing lakes) and would only affect individuals, there's one big commercial change: new limits on the **Gulf menhaden**. This 7-inch-long, fast-rotting, and almost inedible shrimp-eater is a backbone of the fish-meal industry. TPWD (which regulates commercial fishing in the Texas Territorial Sea, the first nine nautical miles out into the Gulf of Mexico) is considering a total catch limit of 31,500,000 pounds (15,750 tons) a year. This is based on the average annual catch between 2002 and 2006. Lightfoot called it "a proactive measure to ensure we don't get into an overfished situation." While there are no current population concerns, the commission is considering acting now to avoid the situation facing the Atlantic menhaden, where overfishing is thought to contribute to dwindling adult populations.

"If we're having to put in severe restrictions, we're failing as managers," Lightfoot said. "This is just about keeping honest people honest."

– Richard Whittaker

'STATESMAN' EDITOR RETIRING; PAPER'S NO. 2 STEPPING UP

After 13 years at the helm, **Austin American-Statesman** Editor **Rich Oppel**, 65, is retiring in June, the paper announced last week. He will be replaced by longtime *Statesman* No. 2 **Fred Zipp**, who has been running much of the day-to-day operations in recent years.

Oppel's glory years came in **Charlotte, N.C.**, where **The Charlotte Observer** won three Pulitzer Prizes during his tenure as editor. Big prizes eluded him at the *Statesman*, but most observers agree it developed as a better, more news-focused paper after his arrival. Under his watch, the *Statesman* moved into the Digital Age, launching websites routinely listed among the most highly trafficked newspaper sites in the country. Oppel also was a mainstay of newspaper journalism associations, serving on the **Pulitzer award committee** and as president of the **American Society of Newspaper Editors**; he was named Editor of the Year by the **National Press Foundation** in 1987.

But as the *Statesman* has gone through a colorful redesign in recent years, management has displayed little editorial zest. Beyond flashes of good work, the paper, like many

around the country, has steadily shrunk while sticking to the same basic formulas. Meanwhile, Oppel's presence in the paper has been increasingly rare – his column appears every few months, and Zipp handles most of the notes to readers. The *Statesman's* page-one retirement-coverage noted the duo "even had a team blog for a while," without noting the blog lasted only a few months, before both Zipp and Oppel fled from the intensity and immediacy of the Internet Age. (Oppel and Zipp did not return calls.)

Amidst much discussion of fishing in the *Statesman's* report, when asked the reason for his retirement, Oppel said, "It was time." He added that it's healthy for papers to change editors after "12, 14, 15 years," noting, "There is a need for change and refreshing the leadership." **Cox Newspapers'** choice for "change" and "refreshing" the *Statesman* is Zipp, whose résumé reads like that of the ultimate company man. He has worked for only one company for 24 years, Cox, steadily moving up through midlevel editor roles at the *Statesman* and its sister paper, the *Palm Beach Post*. He was named managing editor in 2000.

– Kevin Brass

WHO'S RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LITTLEFIELD SPILL?

If it were 1910, Maj. **George Littlefield** would be digging deep to pay to clean January's oil leak out of **Waller Creek**. But now, in 2008, the city of Austin and the **Texas Commission on Environmental Quality** are hunting through archives to work out who will foot the bill.

On Jan. 10, a water main in the back alley between the **Littlefield Building** and the **Driskill Hotel** on Sixth Street burst and flushed through an abandoned underground storage tank. About 4,000 gallons of fuel oil

were washed down to Waller Creek, where it was contained before it could contaminate Lady Bird Lake or the wetlands on its north shore. This left the city with a \$220,000 cleanup bill, and staffers have been trying to work out who has to pay for it.

Staff found council minutes from 1910 permitting Littlefield to install the tank for his new building. But that doesn't necessarily mean the current owners, Austin Littlefield LP, are liable for the cleanup costs. That decision of culpability is up to TCEQ. "We turned all the

records over to the state, and they'll be identifying the responsible party," said **Nancy McClintock**, assistant director for the city's **Watershed Protection and Development Review Department**. There's also the question of who has to pay to fix the back alley. While the tank has been purged and filled, the alley is still closed off, with waterproof sheeting covering the filled trench. Under a 1929 law, the city has an easement on the alley, but it belongs to the building owners, and McClintock says all parties are eager to reopen it.

That doesn't mean everything is necessarily clean. The recent heavy rains seem to have flushed out most of any remaining traces of the leakage. But the geology of Downtown Austin – mostly absorbent limestone – could hide some surprises holding some pockets of pollution: "In an urban area, you can have a lot of aggregate," McClintock said. So far, staffers are optimistic there will be no more environmental damage.

"We're watching Waller Creek to see if there will be any long-term impact, but we've been pleasantly surprised so far," she added.

– R.W.

THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

COME ON, CONGRESS, GET SOME GUMPTION

If the arrogant autocrats of the Bush regime had been depicted in a 1950s B-movie, it would be called *The Imperial Presidency Strikes Again*, and the movie poster would feature members of Congress cowering at the feet of an all-powerful Bush.

Sadly, the image is all too real, for the Bushites are slapping down Congress once again. At issue is the crass effort by the White House and top Justice Department officials to turn America's nonpartisan U.S. attorneys offices over to GOP political hacks willing to attack Democratic officeholders. They got caught, but the White House is even refusing to have this politicalization of justice investigated.

When Congress subpoenaed two top Bush aides who were involved to testify, they defied this perfectly legal demand. A House committee then voted to hold the two officials in contempt, but Democratic leaders were skittish about even asking Bush's attorney general to enforce the contempt citation. When they finally got up the nerve to do so, the attorney general imperiously said no, unilaterally rejecting Congress' clear constitutional power to investigate such wrongdoing.

Some in Congress meekly say their hands are tied, that they can't make a recalcitrant presidency obey the law. But that's as wrong as it is pathetic. A little-known doctrine called the power of "inherent contempt" gives Congress the incontrovertible right to enforce its own contempt citations – a right it has exercised before and that has been upheld by the Supreme Court. By "enforce," I mean Congress can send its sergeant-at-arms to arrest the White House outlaws, imprison them in a Capitol jail, and put them on trial by Congress itself.

America's founders intentionally created a muscular Congress. The question is whether today's leaders have the gumption to measure up to their own institutional power.

NO PUNISHMENT FOR EXXON MALFEASANCE?

How time flies. Think back to 1989, for example. Hillary Clinton was the obscure first lady of Arkansas, back then. Roger Clemens was pitching for the Boston Red Sox and had never even heard of steroids. And the Exxon Valdez ran aground in Alaska's Prince William Sound, causing the worst oil spill in U.S. history.

Nineteen years later, Exxon has merged into ExxonMobil, and it has prospered enormously, banking \$40 billion in profits last year alone – the richest year for any corporation in history. Back at Prince William Sound, however, the picture is not so rosy, for Exxon's malfeasance devastated the ecology, the economy, and thousands of lives there.

In an area that's dependent on fishing, the waters are still polluted with some 85 tons of Exxon's crude. Herring, which was the main catch for local fishing families, accounting for half of the yearly income for many of them, has essentially been wiped out by the spill. The economic stress has led to bankruptcies, divorces, and suicides.

Meanwhile, ExxonMobil has deployed a battalion of \$600-an-hour lawyers to stiff the locals, keeping the people's lawsuit stalled in America's corporate-biased court system. Nearly two decades ago, a jury awarded \$5 billion in punitive damages to some 33,000 victims of Exxon's spill, yet the oil giant has not paid a penny of it. In various appeals courts the corporation got the sum cut in half, and its lawyers are now asking the Supreme Court to reduce the penalty to absolute zero.

So, 19 years after its tanker dumped 11 million gallons of crude into the lives of thousands of people, ExxonMobil is pulling every legal trick to avoid a punishment that would amount to only three weeks' worth of its 2007 profits. And Exxon's top executives, living in luxury 3,000 miles away, wonder why people despise Big Oil.

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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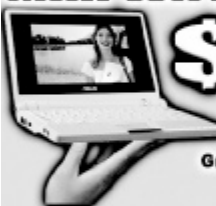
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FOX 7

J o e K e a t h

Good Day AUSTIN

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City Shaper



Beloved – and snubbed – at home, Sinclair Black to be nationally honored for lifetime achievement

BY KATHERINE GREGOR

Visionary. Brilliant. Guru. Uncompromising.

Sinclair Black has been tagged with all those accolades, and now he's getting the medal to prove it. The honor from the Congress for the New Urbanism – to be presented at its upcoming congress, CNU XVI, in Austin, April 2-6 – recognizes Black for his efforts to make Austin a better city. As New Urbanism has been locally embraced of late, we all owe a debt of thanks to Old, True Urbanist Black. Over four decades, he's remained tirelessly devoted to inspiring, cajoling, haranguing, and goading Austin to embrace better urban design. Some of his ideas have been transformative: the 2nd Street District, the Great Streets Program. Just as often, they've been celebrated – but never implemented. The history of architecture is in part a history of famous unbuilt projects, and Black certainly has his share (for examples, see "Sinclair Black: Transforming Visions," p.30). As Black noted wryly of the award, "It's for what I've tried to do, more than for what I've done."

He's done plenty. "Sinclair Black has dedicated his entire professional life to a series of grand and not particularly popular causes," observed Stefanos Polyzoides, a prominent member of the CNU board. (Last year he invited Black to collaborate on the

River North project in San Antonio; their October public charrette will result in a master plan for an area of more than 250 acres, to be redeveloped with tax increment financing.) "He educated two generations of architects *and* urbanists at the University of Texas. He advocated the revitalization of Downtown Austin and San Antonio as an architect and a developer when sprawl and urban renewal were the rage. He has contributed hundreds of beautiful projects designed in a form that belongs to the Central Texas region alone."

The Black + Vernooey style is so "quiet" – terra-cotta, limestone, natural materials, and forms scaled to blend into their settings – that most Austinites probably don't know they've spent time in a Sinclair Black building or space. They feel like they've always been part of our town: Central Market on North Lamar, the Schlotzsky's flagship store on South Lamar, the Austin Nature and Science Center, Cedar Street Courtyard, the Helm Fine Arts Center at St. Stephen's Episcopal School, the AMLI Downtown apartments.

A native of San Antonio, Black earned a bachelor's degree in architecture from UT-Austin in 1962; he soon opened a practice and joined the UT School of Architecture faculty in

"While most of the architectural world was asleep at the wheel, Sinclair consistently argued – for two generations – in favor of socially progressive, inspired, and ultimately practical solutions for remaking urban Texas." – Stefanos Polyzoides

1967. A child of the Sixties political ferment, he earned his master's degree from the University of California at Berkeley in 1970. His firm (with Andrew Vernooey) has won many design awards over the years; the American Institute of Architects made him a fellow back in 1984. But though Black has made his living as a professor and architect, it's as an (often unpaid) urbanist, a big-picture thinker for Austin, that he's now being recognized.

"He is a true prophet in his hometown," noted Polyzoides. "He has been one of very few people who, during the last 50 years, has spoken up in favor of all the right causes: preservation, conservation, reform of planning rules, reining in engineering practices, and the advocacy and practice of intelligent, complex, regionally inspired architectural design." He continued, "While most of the architectural world was asleep at the wheel, Sinclair consistently argued – for two generations – in favor of socially progressive, inspired, and ultimately practical solutions for remaking urban Texas."

Being visionary does come at a price. Other big-idea people tend to venerate Black. But on-the-ground folks – the ones who have had to look after the details required to execute his big ideas or those who didn't instantly grasp their presumed genius – tend to cite his contentious and prickly side. Even those who love Sinclair concede that he hasn't always been the most politic, persuasive, or effective advocate of his own proposed projects, when they required execution by the city of Austin. Some city staffers see Black as impatient and dismissive of plebes who don't get it, an uncompromising purist. Sinclair, in return, minces no words about the small-mindedness of "bureaucrats." Thus their long-running mutual disdain. Black's low opinion of municipal culture and his public thrashings of wrongheadedness by Public Works and other city departments – however correct and even brave – haven't helped him get work from the city. While he's given generously of his time to his community (and to groups like the Trust for Public Land), he's actually been retained precious few times by the city. Sinclair darkly suspects he's been blackballed by staff, causing him to be passed over for choice assignments like City Hall and the Downtown Master Plan.

Pariah or prophet? State Sen. Kirk Watson reminisced about seeking Black's counsel in 1997, when he was mayor-elect and hungry to learn about creating "a great Downtown." He'd heard the man he needed to talk with was Sinclair Black. They met at Cedar Street Courtyard, in the Fourth Street Warehouse District that Black and the Black + Vernooey office anchored and seeded. As Watson tells the story, he asked: "Can this be done? Can we change the way we look at urban planning and architecture in a highly charged political context?" It was like having the dunce student asking the most basic questions. Sinclair responded in his quiet, precise way: "Well, we're sitting in what can be done." Then he set about using that place to start teaching me about good urban design and the thought that goes into it. I relied on him a great deal over the years." Added Watson, "He has suffered this fool gladly, or at least with the appearance of good humor."

"Sinclair has given freely of his advice and wisdom," agreed another legislator, state Rep. Mike Krusee. "The community leaders of Austin, who have brought life and prosperity back to

continued on p.30



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CHRONICLE



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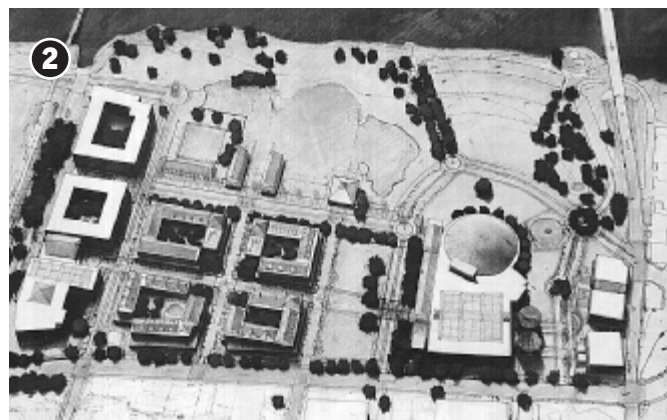
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SINCLAIR BLACK TRANSFORMING VISIONS



1



2



3



4



5



6

RENDERINGS COURTESY OF BLACK + VERNOOY

JOHN ANDERSON

JOHN ANDERSON

1 WAREHOUSE DISTRICT

When Black + Vernooy opened its office on West Fourth in 1979, it stimulated the area's transformation into the Warehouse District entertainment area that thrives today. In a 1981 *Texas Architect* article, Black laid out a plan (shown) to protect the skyline of Austin (and views of the Capitol) by concentrating new development in four- to six-story buildings Downtown. His models included Paris; Washington, D.C.; and Barcelona, all cities with dramatically more density and street life than Austin. This year, ROMA Austin's report for the Downtown Austin Plan (Phase I) suggested Downtown districts – with some allowing only mid-rise new development.

2 AUSTIN COMMON (NOT EXECUTED)

About 25 years ago, Black + Vernooy forwarded a New Urbanist vision for the city-owned land that today houses the Palmer Events Center, the Long Center, and Town Lake Park. Black's scheme would have put buildings on 15.6 acres of the 52-acre site. Outdoor entertainment, a children's park, an accessible lake, surrounding cafes and shops, and pedestrian street life would have created a "people place" with far more active uses than today's Town Lake Park. Radically for the time, the public-private concept incorporated a hotel and midrise buildings with housing over retail – yielding property-tax revenues to fund and endow parks and art. But neighborhood and parks activists hated the notion. Revisited now, it aligns nicely with current council initiatives such as the Design Standards and Mixed Use Ordinance.

3 MUNICIPAL OFFICE COMPLEX (UNBUILT)

A current trend in New Urbanism – re-energizing downtowns with traditional planning principles – was foreshadowed by this 1984 Black + Vernooy plan for a new City Hall and Municipal Office Complex. After a national design competition, the city of Austin selected Sinclair Black and his firm to execute the plan, which featured a large civic plaza surrounded by retail and city offices, connected to then-Town Lake. But the project was iced in the late-Eighties recession. When the city later revived a stand-alone City Hall project, it left behind the winning mixed-use plan – and Black as architect.

4 SINKING I-35 (NOT EXECUTED)

To remove the ugly barrier created by I-35 that divides East and West Austin, Sinclair Black developed this much-admired vision to move the interstate below grade through Downtown, for through-town traffic. Local drivers would use handsome new tree-lined boulevards at street level. Black's concept was forwarded to the Texas Department of Transportation by a Downtown Austin Alliance committee in reaction to a scary 1995 TxDOT scheme to rebuild I-35 as a three-level superhighway with massive flyovers into Downtown. Many Austinites still would love to see the interstate moved below grade – not only could it heal a civic scar, it could stimulate enormous economic development. But TxDOT shows no inclination to implement the plan. (Black said the agency promises to address it when SH 130 is completed.)

5 CENTRAL PARK MASTER PLAN/CENTRAL MARKET

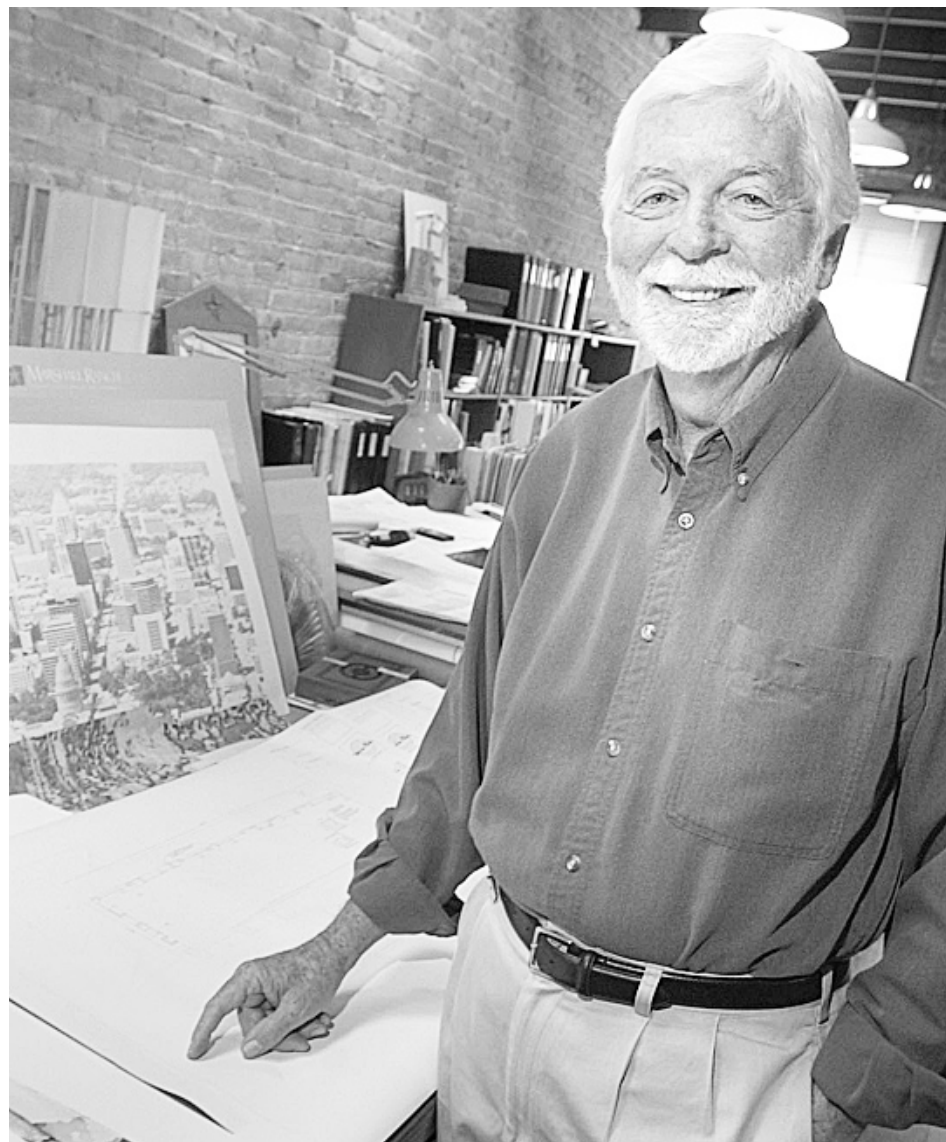
Twenty years ago, Black + Vernooy created a New Urbanist master plan for the large tract of land surrounding Central Market on North Lamar (which it also designed). But Black said the client – the Texas General Land Office – didn't comprehend the value of the plan to integrate the residential, shopping, and commercial/medical components to create community synergy. It eliminated almost all traces of the New Urbanist principles, one by one, and instead built a suburban-style project with disconnected shopping, housing, open space, and a hospital.

6 GREAT STREETS/SECOND STREET RETAIL

Initially inspired by Allan B. Jacobs' book *Great Streets*, Sinclair Black has spent about a decade promoting the value and implementation of better streetscapes for Downtown Austin. His advocacy led to the city's Great Streets Program – wide, handsome sidewalks with trees, benches, and other pedestrian amenities (increasingly, 100% developer funded). Sinclair served on the Great Streets Master Plan team, as design architect for AMLI Downtown (pictured), and in creating the 2nd Street District. Black hopes to see the comprehensive master plan fully adopted by council and implemented this year.



For additional voices from around the community and the country talking about Sinclair Black and his impact on Austin, see this story online at austinchronicle.com.



JOHN ANDERSON

The Black + Vernooey style is so “quiet” – terra-cotta, limestone, natural materials, and forms scaled to blend into their settings – that most Austinites probably don’t know they’ve spent time in a Sinclair Black building or space. They feel like they’ve always been part of our town.

Downtown, have stood on Sinclair’s shoulders. Many of them, including me, were directly mentored by Sinclair.” He added: “There is nothing quite so enjoyable as being proved wrong by Sinclair Black. And nothing as rewarding as his quiet approval.”

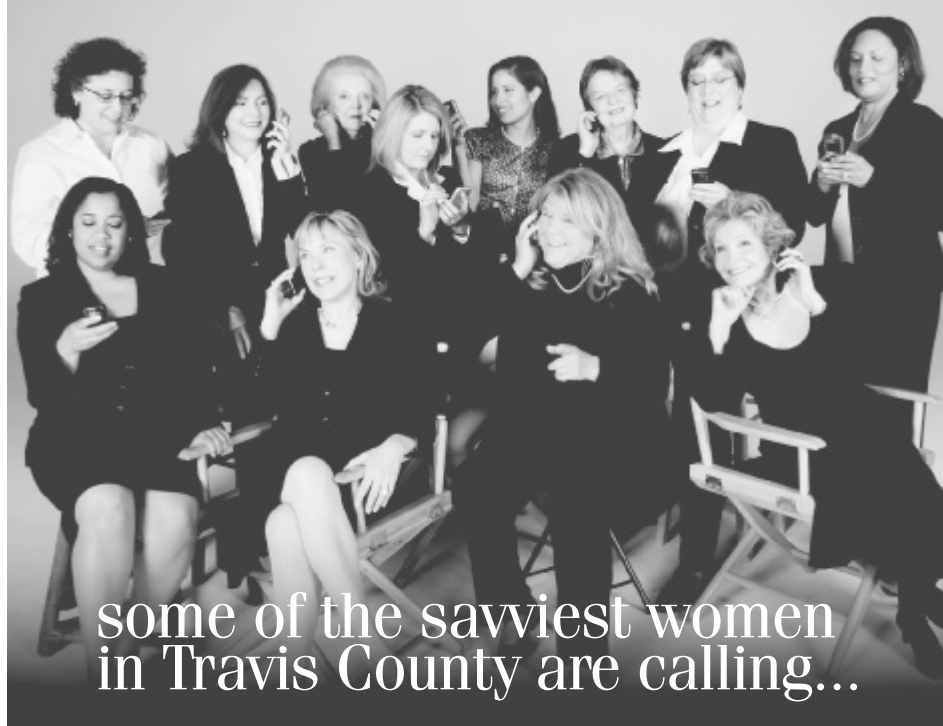
Despite pushing 70, Black is revved up to pursue a new venture, Placemaking Studio. The national urban-design collaborative will be a free-form association of respected urban designers, planners, and architects with major development experience. They’ll team to provide place-making and urban-design services to master developers, on large-scale public and private projects. Black is excited about the collaborative possibilities: “It’s opening up another avenue.”

But first, many of those top practitioners are eager to hang a shiny gold medal around his neck. As Polyzoides observed, “It is time to recognize his enormous contributions and to

remind ourselves that, in order to prosper and to become grounded in tradition, every town and city in America needs the quiet fortitude and inspiring leadership of a Sinclair Black.”

Austin architect Carl Gromatzky, a former employee and student of Black, echoed the thought: “Sinclair has always been uncompromising in his pursuit of a true urban experience for Austin. In some cases, his ideas may have been unpopular at the time, but they were always put forth with the idea of making Austin a more compact, livable city. I hope that his well-deserved receipt of this award makes Austin realize how fortunate we are that he lives and works here.”

The Athena Medal will be presented to Sinclair Black on Wednesday, April 2, during the 5:30-7pm CNU session on Austin’s Past and Future: Green and Growing. Free and open to the public, the event will be held in Ballroom ABC at the Austin Convention Center. Allan B. Jacobs, author of Great Streets, also will receive a medal.



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New Urbanism and the Booming Metropolis

Austin welcomes the Congress for the New Urbanism XVI

BY KATHERINE GREGOR

The big top of New Urbanism is coming to town – CNU XVI: New Urbanism and the Booming Metropolis – a congress that will showcase, shame, and enlighten our local development leaders April 2-6. Not unlike a certain local music-industry conference, the annual Congress for the New Urbanism carries an impact and popular appeal that reach far beyond the industry it serves. The conference has a reputation for transforming thinking and land-use patterns in cities where it's held; CNU XVI will be Austin's virgin experience. We'll be in the fishbowl – analyzed by some 1,000 leading progressive developers, real estate types, architects, town planners, and city officials from around the country and the world – as we search for solutions and celebrate and share our successes. Congress participants will receive a whole book on Austin and Texas thinking and case studies, *Emergent Urbanism*.

New Urbanism has become shorthand for all things desirable in creating better communities: traditional neighborhoods, walkable streetscapes, diverse housing choices, inviting public places, mixed-use town centers, coherent regions, favoring density over sprawl, sustainability. (For its core tenets, read the founding “Charter of the New Urbanism” at www.cnu.org/charter.) What CNU didn't start it has since embraced, with urbanist arms held wide. “We believe that community, economics, environment, and design need to be addressed simultaneously through urban design and planning,” reads the mission statement.

Founded in 1993, the Congress for New Urbanism has been tremendously influential for a movement so young – largely because it's a case of “everything old is new again.” New Urbanist developments (and, increasingly, redos of downtowns and failed suburbs) reject late-century development sprawl in favor of traditional principles of architecture and town planning. They hold an intuitive appeal, because they're familiar from all cities evolved through human history – until the automobile mucked everything up.

Local Conversations

The exciting opportunity for Austin and Central Texas is CNU's power to shape a meeting of minds as we wrestle to craft a vision for regional growth and transit. Session

topics likely to influence regional conversations include:

- Austin: America's Next Great Transit City;
- Getting on Track: Streetcars in the Boomtown;
- Visualizing Density – and Getting It Right;
- Green Buildings, Green Neighborhoods;
- Great Streets and Multi-Way Boulevard Design;
- Green Streets: Multi-Modal, Multi-Functional, and Totally Fabulous;
- Learning From the Booming Region;
- Pedestrian Oriented Streets: Human Behavior of Streets;
- Latino New Urbanism: Lessons Learned From the Southwest.

As of early last week, those issues had drawn more than 200 Central Texas CNU XVI registrants. Many local developers, real estate firms, and architects will send contingents; they include Andrews Urban/360 Condominiums, Black + Vernooy, Doucet & Associates, Endeavor Real Estate Group, ERO International, Schlosser Development Corp., and TBG Partners. On the public-sector side, the cities of Round Rock, Leander, Hutto, Bryan, Elgin, Georgetown, Victoria, and San Antonio are sending the curious and the faithful. An impressive 30-plus registrants come from the city of Austin alone.

In attendance will be department top brass (Greg Guernsey, Sue Edwards, Austan Librach); key planning, economic development, and development services staff; council members (Mayor Will Wynn, Brewster

McCracken, and a promised Mike Martinez); and consultants and board and commission members. Capital Metro, UT-Austin, Texas State University, and Texas A&M University are sending note-takers as well. Simply getting all those folks communicating in the same New Urbanist language represents a huge step toward consensus-building.

Yet other local elected officials, stakeholders, and developers that organizers hoped to attract were missing from the registrant list – even for the one-day New Urbanism 101 crash course. (See p.33 for registration info, including a special *Austin Chronicle* discounted nonmember rate for the 101 course.) Card-carrying CNU members and conference co-organizers Wynn and McCracken hadn't yet persuaded their council colleagues to trek over to the Convention Center for Austin's biggest real estate development con-



COURTESY OF THE CONGRESS FOR THE NEW URBANISM

The 2007 CNU Jury: (l-r) Stefanos Polyzoides, Moule & Polyzoides Architects and Urbanists; Andrés Duany, Duany Plater-Zyberk & Co.; Susan Van Atta, Van Atta Associates; Vince Graham, I'On Group; Hillary Brown, New Civic Works; Rick Cole, city of San Buenaventura; Kjell Forshed, Brunnberg & Forshed Architects

ference ever. Nor did the city have any official plan for how to capture the benefits of the conference, going forward. No county commissioners or staff had registered – from Travis, Williamson, or surrounding counties. State Rep. Mike Krusee (a passionate New Urbanist who serves on the national CNU board) is hoping to bring in more locals but hadn't yet collared any statehouse colleagues, on either side of the aisle.

Austin's Imprint

New Urbanism already has shaped city initiatives like the 2007 Design Standards and Mixed Use Ordinance. Many of those requirements for better design and streetscapes hearken directly back to CNU; the congress energetically advocates for restructuring public policy and land-use codes to promote better city-making. In fact, the wholesome whiff of New Urbanism wafts through nearly every positive 2007-2008 city initiative for higher design and development standards. Those include requiring public benefits of private developers (e.g., Downtown “density bonuses” and higher standards for planned unit developments), the Downtown Austin Plan, the Big Box Ordinance, the Concordia University

campus-redevelopment concord, transit-oriented development and station-area planning, and (for better, then worse) Mueller and the Domain.

The populist local appeal of New Urbanism has been evidenced most dramatically in the fight over Northcross Mall; the neighborhoods advocate a New Urbanist redevelopment, while developer Lincoln Property Co. clings to an outdated suburban model. (Lincoln is missing on the CNU list as well.) The subsequent lawsuits against Lincoln and the city (costing Austinites more than half a million dollars for lawyers on both sides), the City Council candidacy of Responsible Growth for Northcross spokesman Jason Meeker, and the new Better Austin Today Political Action Committee can all – at a stretch – be laid at the feet of citizen faith in New Urbanism.

Of course, we won't find Northcross among the session topics at CNU XVI. But though you'd never know it from the kvetching of some local activists, Austin does serve as an inspiring role model for many up-and-coming communities – much as some Austinites idolize Portland, Ore., and Vancouver. A number of presenters and panelists are influential Austinites discussing local efforts (see box). Hundreds of national and international thinkers will trek around Austin to see

LOCAL PUNDITS

Here are a few of the congress sessions that feature local panelists and presenters:

- The Conservative Agenda & New Urbanism (Mike Krusee, Terry Mitchell)
- Envision Central Texas Open Session (Jim Walker)
- New Urbanism 101 (Mike Krusee)
- The Design of Mueller Airport (Catellus Development Group)
- Park Once Strategy (Brewster McCracken)
- Smart Transit, Smart Streets, Smart TOD (Brewster McCracken)
- Eco-Balance Planning and New Urbanism (Pliny Fisk)
- Public-Private Partnerships (Laura Huffman, Matt Whelan)
- Sustainable Sites and LEED-ND (Heather Venhaus, Brian Ott)

- Affordable Housing in New Urbanism (Kelly Weiss, Elizabeth Mueller)
- Retail's Role in the New Urbanism (Tom Terkel, Kirk Rudy)
- Tall Towers: Purposeful Density or Loose Tower Disease? (Sinclair Black)
- Gentrification – Urban Evolution or Community Destruction? (John Langmore, Juan Valadez)
- Value Capture Through TOD and Form-Based Codes (Scott Polikov, Mike Sims)
- The Convenient Truth: Cities and Sustainability (Robin Rather)
- Louisiana: The New Planning Frontier (Robin Rather)

and learn: Tours feature sustainable buildings, Mueller, South Congress, Lady Bird Lake, transit lines and TODs, the Domain, and Downtown living. Beneficial for Austin will be an "urban lab" that asks smart New Urbanists to study Manor Road; they'll offer ideas for the proposed streetcar alignment and how best to complement it with new retail and transit-oriented development.

Perhaps the hundreds of Central Texans attending may even glimpse a collective era-shifting answer to the thematic question posed for New Urbanism and the Booming Metropolis: How can regions preserve their local characters and environments while creating vital new and

renewed communities? Here in character-rich Austin, that's what we'd all like to know. ■

For the full CNU XVI program schedule and online registration (by March 28), visit www.cnu.org/cnuxvi. Walk-up, on-site registration will open at 3pm on Wednesday, April 2, at the Austin Convention Center.

Note: Emergent Urbanism: Evolution in the Urban Form, Texas, edited by Black + Vernooey Architects, includes an article by Katherine Gregor on Mueller (adapted from the Chronicle) and an article co-authored with Jana McCann on the Downtown Austin Plan. Provided to all CNU registrants, it also is available through the UT-Austin School of Architecture.

Everyone's CNU Free public events

Come and discover what the New Urbanist buzz is all about! The CNU conference events listed below are open to the public. Citizen activists, students, developers and real estate professionals, elected officials, city and county staff, and nonprofits are especially encouraged to attend.

All listed events are free; all occur at the Austin Convention Center (except the screening of *The Unforeseen*). No registration required.

GENERAL INTEREST

CNU NEXTGEN: A ONE-DAY CONGRESS

Wednesday, April 2, 9:30am-5pm, Room 4

Presenters: Steve Mouzon, Peter French, Tom Low, members of Duany Plater-Zyberk

Become part of the influential next generation to apply New Urbanist ideas, develop them further, and support sustainability and new ideas within CNU. NextGen is an excellent way for students, young professionals, and newcomers (of all ages and backgrounds) to learn about New Urbanism while meeting others with similar interests who want to make a difference. NextGen will feature morning presentations. The afternoon will kick off the open-source congress: a dynamic conversation to fuel CNU's new initiatives program.

AUSTIN'S PAST AND FUTURE: GREEN AND GROWING

Athena Medal for Lifetime Achievement Award: Sinclair Black

Wednesday, April 2, 5:30-7pm, Ballroom ABC

Presenters: Will Wynn, Sinclair Black, Stefanos Polyzoides, Boone Powell, Arthur W. Andersson

This informal session showcases the city as a place of booming urbanism and cutting-edge green technology. Mayor Will Wynn will discuss the Austin Climate Protection Plan. Central Texans honored will be Sinclair Black, O'Neil Ford, and Charles Moore, for their outstanding contributions to architecture and urbanism.

ENVISION CENTRAL TEXAS OPEN SESSION

Thursday, April 3, 3-5pm, Ballroom ABC

Presenters: Peter Calthorpe, Jim Walker

Internationally recognized regional and urban planner Peter Calthorpe, consultant for the original Envision Central Texas visioning project, will assess the progress in turning the vision into a reality and identify the key next steps necessary. Learn how to translate our preferred vision for regional growth into actions that foster sustainable growth and development.

SUSTAINABLE BUILDINGS TOUR

Friday, April 4, 3:30pm

Convention Center (meet at northeast corner)

Presenters: CNU, U.S. Green Building Council, City Green

See Downtown buildings that have made Austin a national leader in green building while discussing them with sustainability leaders from Austin and around the country.

ALL-STAR SUSTAINABASH

Friday, April 4, 6-8:30pm, Speakeasy, 412 Congress

Presenters: CNU, U.S. Green Building Council, City Green

Schmooze with local and national sustainability leaders; help plot the green urban revolution! Free appetizers, drink specials.

'THE UNFORESEEN'

Wednesday-Thursday, April 2-3, Alamo South Lamar

\$8.25 admission; see www.originalalamo.com for screening times

Laura Dunn's film about the Save Our Springs movement chronicles the personalities and emotions behind Austin's struggle to balance growth and environmental protection. Executive produced by Terrence Malick and Robert Redford.

SPECIAL INTEREST

LEED FOR NEIGHBORHOOD DEVELOPMENT

Thursday, April 3, 9am-12:30pm, Room 4

Presenters: Jennifer Henry, Doug Farr, Susan Mudd, Tom Richman, Victor Dover

Current project case studies presented by the leading New Urbanists who helped create the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design for Neighborhood Development Rating System - which promotes sustainable and green neighborhoods rather than addressing individual buildings. Learn about how to use the LEED-ND Rating System.

THE CONSERVATIVE AGENDA & NEW URBANISM

Thursday, April 3, 12:30-1:30pm, Room 8

Presenters: Bill Lind, Bruce Donnelly, Nathan Norris, Peter Katz, Andres Duany, Mike Krusee

New Urbanism enjoys bipartisan support. Learn how and why conservatives can embrace its resurrection of traditional city values and the economic development it brings.

THE ORIGINAL GREEN

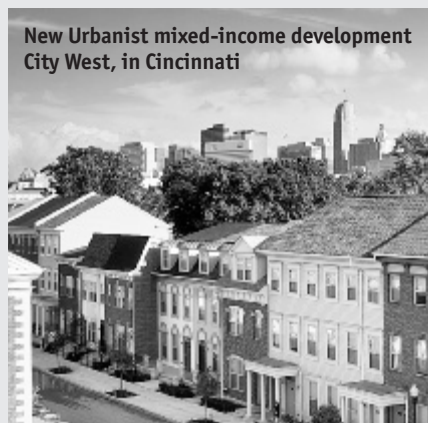
Thursday, April 3, 1-2pm, Room 4

Presenter: Steve A. Mouzon

Traditional styles of construction before the "thermostat age" were necessarily energy-efficient and sustainable. Within sustainable places, humans built sustainable buildings that were first lovable, then durable, flexible, and frugal - the "original green."

RECOMMENDED SESSIONS

For *Chronicle* readers only, there's a special discounted nonmember rate of \$225 (mention the *Chronicle* at on-site registration) available for the New Urbanism 101 program. It includes Opening Night With Henry Cisneros event. Both events take place in the Austin Convention Center.



NEW URBANISM 101: THE CRASH COURSE

Thursday, April 3, 9am-5pm, Room 6

Presenters: Andrés Duany, Jacky Grimshaw, Doug Farr, Emily Talen, Jeff Speck, Peter Swift, Mike Krusee

Cost: \$225 discounted rate (see above). Some scholarships available for Central Texas elected officials and city managers/planners; contact mikekrusee@yahoo.com.

Curious to understand just what New Urbanism really is? This session, taught by inspirational CNU founder Andrés Duany and other movement leaders, provides an in-depth primer on the movement's history, principles, and urban-planning practices. Learn about key concepts, transportation planning, and theory vs. practice. The session features a Q&A period with noted New Urbanists.

Plus:

OPENING NIGHT WITH HENRY CISNEROS

Thursday, April 3, 6-7pm, Ballroom ABC (prior reception 5-6pm, in Exhibit Hall 1)

Presenters: Henry Cisneros, with John Norquist, Hank Dittmar, Mike Krusee, Toby Futrell

Now the chief executive of an affordable-housing investment fund, Cisneros will discuss the legacy of Hope VI and the challenges and opportunities ahead for urban developers.

THE RIGHT MIX (Austin streetcar route on Manor Road)

Wednesday, April 2, 8:30am-5pm

Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Cost: \$120 (requires separate registration)

Co-sponsor: Capital Metro. Participants: Howard Blackson III, Bill Dennis, Geoff Dyer, Susan Henderson, Jennifer Hurley, Lisa Israelovitch, Glenn Kellogg, Rachel Merson, Max Reim, Rob Spanier, Peter Swift.

In the proposed streetcar line to provide circulator transit around Central Austin, a key corridor will be Manor Road. This Urban Lab will explore how principles of New Urbanism can be applied to create a more robust public realm and new opportunities for living, working, and entertaining along Manor Road. Includes tour, issues session, and breakout sessions to explore the best mix of retail and other land uses (e.g., office, civic, residential) to benefit neighborhoods and provide synergy with the streetcar.

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NEXT TO TEXAS FLOORS

Of Prophets, Pissing, and Politicians

BY MICHAEL VENTURA

"You're ignoring the intangibles!"
 "Fuck yes!"
 "Fuck you! Why?!" My very dear friend prefers not to be named. From the tone and volume of his "Why?!" through the buzz of my cell, I imagined smoke spurting out of his ears. I'm supposed to be good at intangibles, but I'm ignoring the intangibles, adamantly. Our exchange goes back and forth with this and that comradely obscenity until:

"Listen a minute, OK?" I say. He listens. "How have I survived so long doing what I do and doing what I please? Underneath it all, I'm practical. Very. No matter how impractical I am about lots of stuff, including the intangibles, I always know how much money I have, where it's coming from, where it's going. I always take care of the basics, just like you – rent, you know, that level of crap. And that's the level on which politics is important to me. That's the level on which politics interests me. Political theatre doesn't interest me. When I'm moved by a political leader, I step back; I feel the emotion, but I don't trust it. Nations get into deep shit following inspirational leaders, left or right. A people that needs such inspiration is already in deep shit."

"You're being a hardass."
 "About politics, always."
 "This is a special man, Mike. Barack Obama is a special man. We're lucky to have such a man."

"A president gets in office, looks at his – or her – priorities, looks at the available resources, and decides what can be done. Even the greatest presidents rarely accomplish more than two or three big things a term. There are three big things facing our next president: a country demanding health care, help on the economy, and an end to the war. Iraq is more complicated than any candidate is willing to talk about. The economy probably will not be manageable – but either Democrat will be better than McCain. Health care is doable. Not in the form I'd prefer, but doable. I don't trust Clinton any more than I trust Obama, but Clinton is better at doable. It's like Tina Fey says: 'She's a bitch. Bitches get stuff done.'"

"She's so goddamn divisive. She ... she ... she ...," he goes on for a while about Hillary Clinton, none of which I argue with. She is what she is.

While he's doing that, I'll backtrack a little about our conversation.

My friend and I had been talking about the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, and we were in complete agreement. White people may be threatened by the way Wright spoke, but what was wrong with what he said? Listen to Wright's "10 Facts" statement on YouTube ("The End of the Ride," www.youtube.com/watch?v=HfNEFEYIZs). He rambles on fact No. 1, notes injustice to women and others. From fact No. 2: "Racism is how this country was founded and how this country is still run." Who could claim there wasn't racism in how America was founded and how it's still run? From fact No. 3: "America is still the number one killer in the world." We're the nation fighting two wars. Nobody else is. Wright goes on about our invasions of Grenada, Panama, and Nicaragua; bombing Cambodia and Iraq; "killing women and children." "We are deeply involved in the importing of drugs, the exporting of guns, and the training of professional killers." That's been documented for 40 years ad nauseam. And notice how he's saying "we." Not "you," not "them," but "we." Including himself and his congregation in the complicity.

From fact No. 4: "We ... supported apartheid the whole 27 years [Nelson Mandela] was [in jail]." True. From fact No. 5: "We supported Zionism shamelessly while ignoring the Palestinians and branding anybody who spoke out against it as being anti-Semitic." Some would say yes, some no, and the Anti-Defamation League says Wright is not anti-Semitic (from Wikipedia's entry on Jeremiah Wright, www.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jeremiah_Wright). From fact No. 6: "We" conducted radiation experiments on our own people. I don't have the space to note how and when, but we did. From fact No. 7: "We do not care if poor black and brown children cannot read and kill each other senselessly. We abandoned the cities back in the Sixties," and he goes on like that awhile, and



PEAT DUGGINS

he's not lying. He tears into the well-heeled in his congregation and his country for wallowing in affluence while ignoring the homeless. Fact No. 8 is that the government invented AIDS – that one is loony tunes, as far as I'm concerned. Fact No. 9: "We are only able to maintain our level of living by making sure that Third World people live in grinding poverty." I've said that too.

What is "inflammatory" and "incendiary" about such talk? The Rev. Wright has been preaching like this for decades without starting one riot. Who's he really inflaming? White people who don't want to hear this stuff. He's black, and he's angry. That scares lots of white people. Especially when he ends this sermon with fact No. 10: "We are selfish, self-centered egotists who are arrogant and ignorant. We pray at church and do not try to make the kingdom that Jesus talked about a reality! And ... and ... and ... in light of these 10 facts, GOD has GOT to be sick of this SHIT!"

I don't believe in a just God, but, if one exists, who can doubt he's as pissed as the Rev. Wright?

I've re-created my conversation with my friend, giving the gist. I wasn't writing it all down. But when my friend said the following, I grabbed my pen quick: "Wright did not attack America politically; he attacked America theologically. To ignore that is to ignore a theological tradition that goes back thousands of years. The prophets of Israel attacked the Israel they loved because they wanted Israelites to get right with their God. And those prophets were usually killed for that. He says, 'God damn America,' the same way the old prophets damned Israel, because they loved God, and they loved Israel."

Obama, in his "A More Perfect Union" speech: "The profound mistake of Reverend Wright's sermons is ... that he spoke as if our society was static, as if no progress has been made ... as if this country ... is still irrevocably bound to a tragic past." True. However, I'd argue that we're all irrevocably bound to our pasts, but that fact does not irrevocably determine our futures.

So my friend is telling me what we both already know about Hillary Clinton, because

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he enjoys reciting her sins of commission and omission. (Clinton may have her own religious embarrassments, by the way; they've yet to cause controversy, but they well might. You can read about them in *Mother Jones*, "Hillary's Prayer," Sept. 1 2007.)

"So what about his speech, Mike?"

"Superb. That was the Obama of *Dreams From My Father*. Uh ... but ... but ..."

"What? Are you about to be a pain in my ass again?"

"I'd have thought more of the speech if he'd apologized for lying - you know, when the Wright story broke?" Explosions on the other end of the phone. Me: "First he lied, then he hid. First he said he didn't hear any of that stuff in church - his version of 'I didn't inhale' - and then he hunkered down and hoped it would all go away. When it didn't, he wrote the speech."

"I can't believe you'd say that." My friend is honestly shocked. "After a speech like that, I can't believe you're serious."

"That's what he did, man. Want me to read you the reports to prove it? I got 'em here; you hold on, I can find 'em and read 'em. They're not *intangible*."

"If you die first, I'm gonna piss on your grave."

We often say that to each other. I sometimes imagine him or me, whoever survives the other, trying to fulfill our pact to piss on each other's graves and feeling ridiculous because some old-mannish bladder or prostate thing makes it very difficult and feeble. There we are, he or I, in broad daylight, in a graveyard, risking arrest, and doing a poor job of fulfilling our pact. (A cutting feminist analysis of this, please! We deserve it.)

I say, "My behavior counts as much as my words. So does yours, so does his."

"So does *hers*!" my friend bellows triumphantly.

Her, of course, is Hillary. I agree. And again I talk about health care, hers is better than his, and ... on and on we go, my friend and I.

Later that evening I'm watching Obama on *Larry King*. What's this I hear? Obama says, "One of the things I think George H.W. Bush doesn't get enough credit for was his foreign-policy team and the way he helped negotiate the end of the Cold War and prosecuted the Gulf War."

I can't wait to tell my friend. ■



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GENERAL CAMPS

ADAPTIVE DAY CAMPS offer summer fun for youth with disabilities. Among the featured activities are field trips, group games, cooking, and swimming. Ages 5-21. *June 2-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 6:30am-6:30pm. Clay Madsen Recreation Center, 1600 Gattis School Rd., Round Rock, 512/218-3220. \$140/week. www.claymadsenrec.com.*

AUSTIN CHILDREN'S MUSEUM Give your kid an educational, hands-on adventure this summer with themed half- and full-day camps like Girls Explore Science, Engineer It!, Cooking With Math, Dinosaur Mania, and Robotics Inventions. Ages 4-10. *June 2-Aug. 29. Weekdays, times vary. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado; off-site camp at Davis Elementary, 5214 Duval Rd., 472-2499 x201. \$120-245/week. www.austinkids.org.*

AUSTIN NATURE & SCIENCE CENTER has planned a summer full of fun with nature photography, field biology, campouts, hiking, fishing, caving, swimming, and more, plus a Counselor in Training program for teens. Age 3 & up. *June 9-Aug. 22. Weekdays, 8am-5pm. Austin Nature & Science Center, 301 Nature Center Dr., 327-8181. \$85-200/week, \$290-400/two-week camps. www.ci.austin.tx.us/ansc.*

CAMP C.A.M.P. The Children's Association for Maximum Potential hosts this residential camp featuring a summer of swimming, horseback riding, canoeing, outdoor cooking, and crafts for kids with special needs and disabilities ... and their siblings, too! Age 5 & up. *May 19-Aug. 8. 515 Skyline Dr., Center Point, 210/671-5111. \$1,200. www.campcamp.org.*

CAMP DOUBLECREEK offers 40 acres of farmland for campers to explore. They can play on the ropes course, work on arts and crafts, take horseback riding lessons, and more. *Ages 4-14. June 2-Aug. 22. Weekdays, 7:30am-5:30pm. Doublecreek Farm, 800 Doublecreek Dr., Round Rock, 512/255-3661. \$245/week, \$25/horseback lessons. www.campdoublecreek.com.*

CAMP REPUBLIC OF TEXAS lets children experience mid-1800s life in the oldest house in Austin, where they'll learn history through cooking, music, and crafts. *Ages 6-12. June 16-20. Weekdays, 9am-noon. French Legation Museum, 802 San Marcos St., 472-8180. \$100/week, \$25/day. www.frenchlegationmuseum.org.*

CAMP SHE With a focus on girl-specific issues like body image and self-esteem, CampSHE encourages girls to express, explore, and empower themselves through athletic activities, art projects, journaling, photography, music, and more. *Ages 9-13. June 9-20 & July 7-18. Weekdays, 8:30am-4:30pm. St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 619-0954. \$400/two weeks. www.campshe.com.*

CLUB Z features sports, computer activities, cooking, air hockey, special guests, and field trips to places like Fiesta Texas, Splashtown, and IMAX theatres. *Ages 5-12. May 26-Aug. 29. Weekdays, 7am-6:30pm. Locations vary, 219-0700. \$130/week. www.zsclubhouse.com.*

EXTEND-A-CARE FOR KIDS aims to keep your kids mentally and physically active all summer with a well-rounded, diverse program including drama, cooking, soccer, reading, nature walks, and more, plus themed sessions like Alien Invasion! and How the West Was Fun! *Ages 3-12. June 9-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 7:15am-6:30pm (half-days available). Locations vary, 472-9402. \$93-155/week. www.eackids.org.*

FAMILY CLEAN CREEK CAMP Explore Austin's waterways with your kids in this family-friendly program. Campers will get to participate in a scavenger hunt, test water quality on a floating lab, explore a cave, and canoe on Lady Bird Lake. *Ages 9-12 (and parents). June 16-20, July 7-10, July 21-24. Weekdays, 9am-noon. Locations vary, 974-6571. Free (with \$20 deposit). www.ci.austin.tx.us/watershed/cleancreek_camp.htm.*

GIRLSTART SUMMER DAY CAMPS are where inquiring girls can learn about the world around them. Campers study natural disasters, make weather-news segments, learn about animals, explore the world of medicine, create websites, and delve into the mysteries of science. *Grades 4-8. June 9-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 8am-5pm. 1400 W. Anderson, 916-4775. \$325/week. www.girlstartcamp.org.*

HILL COUNTRY NATURAL SCIENCE SCHOOL Campers hit the trails for hiking and outdoor games emphasizing Wild Basin Preserve's important function as a natural, protected home for species that crawl, soar, scamper, and scuttle. *Grades 1-5. June 9-20. Weekdays, 9am-12:30pm. Wild Basin Wilderness Preserve, 805 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 327-7622. \$185/week. www.wildbasin.org.*

HOSPICE AUSTIN'S CAMP BRAVE HEART combines grief support with recreational camp fun for children who have lost a loved one. Through therapeutic exercises and outdoor activities like hiking, canoeing, and sing-alongs, campers are encouraged to explore the emotional and physical adjustments to their loss. *Ages 6-17. Aug. 11-13. John Knox Ranch, 1661 John Knox Rd., Fischer (near Wimberley), 512/342-4700. Free. www.hospiceaustin.org.*

HYDROFILES invites outdoorsy teens to experience the life of a watershed scientist by studying creek life, caving through the Edwards Aquifer, and swimming in Barton Springs. Campers must arrange for their own transportation to a different nature site each day. *Ages 15-19. June 9-12, 9am-12:30pm. 974-3540. Free (with \$25 refundable deposit). www.ci.austin.tx.us/watershed/hydro_camp.htm.*

JCC SUMMER CAMPS With a ropes course, swimming pool, nature trails, and more, this beautiful 40-acre campus is a great place for kids to have some fun in the sun. This summer's highlights include guest performers and field trips, plus instruction in chess, magic, and synchronized swimming. *Grades K-6. June 2-Aug. 22. Weekdays, times vary. Dell Jewish Community Campus, 7300 Hart, 735-8050. \$128-1,060/week. www.shalomaustin.org/camps.*

KAPERS & KIDS features different themes each week for kids' summertime pleasure. Campers will enjoy games, sports, swimming, field trips, crafts, and more. *Ages 4-12. June 2-Aug. 22. Weekdays, 7am-6pm. Kenningham Park, 1000 South Creek Dr., Round Rock, 512/218-3220. \$105/week. www.claymadsenrec.com.*

KID'S ORGANIC GARDENING CAMP Young ones with green thumbs will learn about double-digging soil and growing herbs, veggies, and fruits as they help plant a summer garden. Kids will also learn yoga, sign language, and animal care. *Ages 2-5. June 4-Aug. 23. Weekdays, 8am-5:30pm. Ronda's Montessori Garden, 4300 Mt. Vernon, 707-8635. \$45/day. www.rondasgarden.net.*

KULA YOGA CAMPS take your kids through twists and turns till they're tucked out. Pint-sized yogis will explore movement, music, and special projects. **Kid Camp** (ages 5-10): *Mon., Wed., Fri., 1-4pm; \$150. Toddler Camp* (ages 2-4): *Tue. & Thu., 9am-noon; \$100. Kula Yoga, 2415 Exposition, 542-3334. www.austinkulayoga.com/tx03.html.*

LCRA'S MCKINNEY ROUGHS NATURE PARK boasts 1,100 acres of pine forests, meadows, and hills for romping and horseplay. Kids also learn about animals, take nature hikes, raft on the Colorado River, and explore geology, hydrology, and botany. *Ages 6-12. June 16-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 9am-4pm. McKinney Roughts Nature Park, 1884 Hwy. 71 W., Cedar Creek (shuttle pickup available), 512/303-5073. \$165/week. www.lcra.org/parks/developed_parks/mckinney_roughs.html.*

ROCKY RIVER RANCH is celebrating its 55th year as a rustic, girls-only overnight camp in the heart of the Hill Country. More than 15 classes are offered, including horseback riding, water ballet, archery, and tennis, all taught in a relaxing, noncompetitive, and nurturing environment. *Ages 7-14. June 8-Aug. 8. Rocky River Ranch, 100 Flite Acres Rd., Wimberley, 800/863-2267. \$695/week (\$1,150/10 days, \$1,390/two weeks). www.rockyriverranch.com.*

SUNRISE SON-SATIONAL SUMMER CAMP Campers produce musicals for family and friends, learn about the environment, and work on charity projects to benefit other kids in this day camp teaching the value (and fun) of good deeds. *Grades K-8. June 9-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 7am-6pm. Sunrise Church, 4430 Manchaca, 444-3326. \$90/week (\$30, registration). www.sunrisechurchonline.org.*

TEXPEDITIONS takes kids on a journey through Texas history as they learn about Lone Star State heroes and legends and watch movies on the Texas-sized IMAX screen. *Ages 7-12. July 7-Aug. 1. Weekdays, 9am-4pm. Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 N. Congress, 936-4608. \$150-185/week. www.thestoryoftexas.com.*

WELLSPRING TEXAS CAMP This fitness and weight-loss camp includes relay races, personal training, aerobics, rock climbing, yoga, hiking, swimming, and nutrition education for a fun and healthy summer. *Ages 12-17. June 8-Aug. 2. San Marcos Baptist Academy, 2801 RR 12, San Marcos, 866/364-0808. \$5,950/four weeks; \$8,950/eight weeks. www.wellspringcamp.texas.com.*

WET & WILD ADVENTURE CAMP takes campers to 35 different water holes this summer, from creeks to lakes to water parks, promising to leave your child soaked to the bone and very happy. *Ages 8-15. June 9-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 7:30am-6pm. Drop-off points: Patton Elementary School (6001 Westcreek), and West Enfield Park (2008 Enfield), 983-6100. \$265/week. www.wetwildcamp.com.*

YMCA DAY CAMPS offer kids a safe and exciting way to make friends and build self-confidence, independence, and creativity as they play games, make crafts, read, swim, and take field trips. *Ages 4-15. June 2-Aug. 22. Weekdays, 7:30am-6pm. Various locations, 236-9622. \$146-202/week. www.austinyymca.org.*

ART & MUSIC CAMPS

ABRAKADOODLE Campers will learn about the techniques of master artists and develop their own personal style with lessons, games, music, and more. *Ages 3-14. June 9-Aug. 21. Locations/times vary. 380-7555. \$36-185/session. www.abrakadoodle.com/tx03.html.*

AFTERNOON PAINTING CAMP provides kids with the instruction and practice they need to learn the basic principles of painting. Students will use chalk pastels to review drawing skills and acrylic paints to create portraits, landscapes, and still lifes. *Ages 8-18. June 16-27, July 14-25, & Aug. 4-8. Weekdays, 1-4pm. Congregation Beth Israel, 3901 Shoal Creek Rd., 919-2102. \$200/week (sibling [👑](#)). www.tnscademy.org.*

ART PAD provides a professional studio where kids can learn about mosaics, mural painting, collage, and mixed media. Or they can get behind the camera for **Movie Camp**, led by videographer, producer, and editor Raina James. *Ages 6-16. June 9-Aug. 22. Weekdays, times vary. 4520 Burnet Rd., 323-0802. \$140-350/week. www.artpadstudio.com.*

AUSTIN CHAMBER MUSIC SUMMER WORKSHOP gives young musicians the chance to perform music in small ensembles, see performances from talented musicians like the Brazilian Guitar Quartet, and take classes in improvisation, composition, Dalcroze Eurhythmics, and more. *Orientation: July 9. Ages 6-10: July 14-26; weekdays, 8:45am-1pm; \$415. Ages 11-18: July 10-26; weekdays, 9am-5pm; \$845. Brentwood Christian School, 11908 N. Lamar, 454-7562. www.austinchambermusic.org.*

CAFE MONET gets kids' creative juices flowing as they learn the cultural origins of mosaics, watercolors, papier mâché, and origami. Other camps focus on clayworking techniques and the exploration of the five senses. *Age 6 & up. June 2-July 18. Weekdays, 11am-2pm. Westgate Center, 4477 S. Lamar, 892-3200. \$175/week. www.cafemonet.org.*

DOUGHERTY ARTS SCHOOL encourages the youngest campers to experiment with the visual and performing arts while older kids delve into animation media, studio arts, sculpture, Photoshop, and filmmaking. *Ages 3-12. June 16-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 9am-5pm. Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 397-1468. \$98-195/week, \$195-390/two weeks. www.doughertyartscenter.org.*

EDIE'S RETREAT Run by Edie herself, who has been teaching art in public school for 24 years, this camp lets kids experiment with many types of art, including painting, drawing, clay, mosaic, and cartooning. *Ages 7-13. June 9-13, July 7-25. Weekdays, 9am-noon, 1-4pm. Private studio, Zilker Park/Barton Hills neighborhood, 413-2617. \$165/week. www.ediesretreat.com.*

GIRLS ROCK CAMP AUSTIN Not your average kiddie rock & roll mill, this camp aims to empower girls of all means and abilities through musical instruction and performance. In a positive, all-female environment – and in the DIY spirit – campers learn to do it themselves: play instruments, form bands, write original songs, and perform live. They also learn the history of women who rock, self-defense, zine-making, and more. *Ages 10-17. July 7-11 & 21-25. Weekdays, 9am-5pm. Showcases: July 12 & 26. The Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, 2206 Prather Ln., 809-7799. \$375 (early registration [👑](#)). www.girlsrockcampaustin.org.*

MARMALADE SKIES teaches the artwork of various cultures through mosaic, paper crafts, scul-

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ture, and painting and helps campers develop their skills in room decor, mosaic art, jewelry-making, needle crafting, and more. *Grades K-8. June 9-Aug. 29. Weekdays, 10am-2pm. Marmalade Skies, 13450 Research Blvd. #229, 695-1694. \$165-185/week. www.marmaladeskiesaustin.com.*

NATURAL EAR MUSIC CAMP The focus here is on learning classic, guitar-driven rock & roll sans sheet music. Professional musicians coach bands through the rock process, and campers perform live at a local venue at the end of camp. *June 9-26, July 14-31. Weekdays, 10am-2pm (ages 7-12) or 2:30-6:30pm (ages 12-18). Natural Ear, 103 Krebs Ln. \$795/three weeks. Overnight campers get the added bonus of field trips to the clubs and eateries of Austin rock lore. Ages 11-15. June 15-27, July 20-Aug. 1. Hardin House, 2206 Rio Grande. \$2,600. 447-5910. www.naturalearmusic.com.*

PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK MUSIC Does your kid rock? If so, this camp is just what Dr. Feelgood ordered. Campers will learn a classic rock set and perform it live in a real music venue at the end of the session. All skill levels are welcome. *Ages 7-17. June 9-21, July 21-Aug. 1. Weekdays, 9:30am-3:30pm. 13803 Dragline, 670-2360. \$900/two weeks. www.schoolofrock.com.*

RED LEAF ROCKS! and hones young rockers' musicianship and teamwork skills as they form groups and prepare songs for an end-of-camp concert. All styles of teaching are incorporated, from the by-ear approach to standard musical notation. *Leather pants not included. Ages 8-18. July 7-24. Weekdays, 11am-3pm. Red Leaf School of Music, 4800 S. First, 444-GROW. \$795/three weeks. www.redleafschoolofmusic.com.*

ROCK CAMP USA offers performance-oriented instruction and lets kids pick their own material to play. Campers will form bands, rehearse, record a CD, play live at Antone's, and receive a DVD of

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the show. *Ages 5-19. June 16-Aug. 16. Weekdays, time vary. Austin School of Music: 2428-B W. Ben White, 476-7666; 13945 Hwy. 183 N., 331-7666. \$225-525/week. www.rockcampusa.com.*

SCULPTOR TO BE! guides campers through sketching and working with clay, wire, plaster, and fiber in one of the most beautiful museum settings in town. *Ages 7-11. June 16-27. Weekdays, 9am-noon. Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. \$145/week. www.umlaufsculpture.org.*

THEATRE/DANCE CAMPS

ONE WORLD THEATRE Kids can choose to take part in a full-scale production of *The Little Mermaid*, assisted by the acclaimed Missoula Children's Theatre (*June 9-14*), or they can make their own instruments, perform onstage, and learn all about the art of percussion at **Roots of Rhythm Camp** (*July 14-19*). *One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500 x132. \$150/week. www.oneworldtheatre.org.*

RAMLILA THEATRE CAMP uses yoga, music, art, storytelling, and performance to teach children the epic Indian tale *The Ramayana*. Highlights include armies of monkeys and bears battling the demon hordes! Parent participation encouraged. *Ages 5-13. Aug. 18-22, 9am-1pm. CCOA Montessori School, 603 Bouldin Ave., 736-6602. \$125.*

SO YOU THINK YOU CAN DANCE Inspired by the popular TV show of the same name, this drill team camp exposes campers to a variety of dance styles as they work with guest choreographers to perform new dance routines daily for a panel of judges. *Ages 11-17. July 7-11. Weekdays, 9am-4pm. Austin Dance Arts, 4220 S. Lamar #400, 442-2300. \$245/week. www.austindancearts.com.*

ST. EDWARD'S PERFORMING ARTS CAMPS cover everything from Shakespeare to opera to Broadway, with a beginning guitar and piano camp thrown in for good measure. *Ages 6-17. June 9-Aug. 9. Days/times vary. St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress, 448-8400. \$140-275/session. www.stedwards.edu/horizon/summercamps.htm.*

STATE THEATRE lets the youngest kids act out their favorite fairy tales while the older thespians play games, act out scenes, practice improvisation, and learn how to audition. **Teen Acting for Film & Stage** covers voice, movement, theatre and film terminology, improvisation, scene study, and techniques for auditions and interviews. *Ages 5-18. June 2-Aug. 1. Weekdays, times vary. The State Theatre, 719 Congress, 472-5470. \$125-300/session. www.austintheatre.org.*

SVT KIDS! fosters students' creativity, self-expression, and collaboration skills with various camp offerings. Highlights include **Subversive Fairy Tales**, where kids examine classic fairy tales and rework them into more relevant, modern stories, and **On-Camera Puppetry**, where they design their own puppets and bring them to life onscreen. *Ages 6-11. June 9-27, Aug. 4-8. Weekdays, 9am-4pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 474-SVT6. \$175-195/week. www.salvagevanguard.org.*

THEATRE ACTION PROJECT offers two interactive camps to stimulate kids' creativity and team-building skills. **Express Yourself!** encourages children to communicate through songwriting, drumming, singing, dancing, acting, drawing, and more (*June 23-27*). **Around the World in Five Days!** explores world cultures through stories, puppetry, music, and dance (*July 7-11*). *Ages 5-12. Weekdays, 9am-4:30pm or 9am-noon. Rawson-Saunders Campus,*

2600 Exposition, 442-8773. \$125-175/week. www.theatreactionproject.org.

ZACH SCOTT THEATRE opens its stage this summer to budding stars ready to act, sing, dance, and move. Each week offers a new theme, new activities, and a final performance. Camps range from Coconut Beach Improv to Advanced Musical Theatre Intensive. *Ages 5-18. June 9-Aug. 22. Weekdays, 9am-5pm. Zachary Scott Theatre Center, 1510 Toomey, 476-0594 x236. \$210-260/week. www.zachscott.com.*

INSTRUCTIONAL CAMPS

AQUATIC SCIENCE ADVENTURE Find out what makes Texas' water life tick! Campers participate in challenging labs and apply their new smarts during fun, aquatic field trips: scuba diving, snorkeling, plankton-collecting, and more. *Ages 9-15. June 1-Aug. 5. Texas State University, San Marcos, 512/245-2329. \$595/week (residential), \$120/two days. www.eardc.txstate.edu/camp.html.*

ACC YOUTH PROGRAMS It's pretty much community college for kids: small class size, low cost, and great teachers! ACC offers more than 100 camps, featuring instruction in everything from theatre, sports, and writing to math and Web design. *Ages 5-18. June 4-Aug. 15. Days/times/prices vary. ACC campuses, 223-7542. www.austincc.edu/camp.*

AUSTIN FILM FESTIVAL CAMP provides aspiring film buffs with a foundation in screenwriting, shooting, editing, and Claymation. Plus campers get to network with industry bigwigs in a slime-free environment. *Ages 9-17. June 9-Aug. 8. Weekdays, times vary. McCallum High School, 5600 Sunshine, 478-4795. \$195/week, \$390/two-week session. www.austinfilmfestival.com.*

BADGERDOG CREATIVE WRITING CAMP Unites award-winning writers with their youthful counterparts for a summer of writing groups, field trips, and editing workshops. Campers' work will be published as an anthology for all participants (and sold at BookPeople). *Grades 3-12. June 9-27 or July 14-Aug. 1. Weekdays, 9am-noon, 2-5pm. Locations vary, 538-1305. \$400. www.badgerdog.org.*

BITS, BYTES & BOTS Some kids are just plugged in, and no amount of fresh air is going to change that. Why not harness that energy? LEGO Mindstorm NXT robots, computer-game creation, stop-motion moviemaking, animé, and 3-D game studio: It's a veritable *Nerds Gone Wild!* *Age 6-16. June 9-Aug. 16. Weekdays, 8:30am-noon, 1-4:30pm. O. Henry Middle School, 2610 W. 10th; Summit Elementary, 12207 Brigadoon. \$285/week. www.bitsbytesbots.com.*

CAMP WIRED Designed by Austin-area teachers for the future leaders of the computer age, this camp includes instruction in game-programming; Web, graphic, and comic-book design; animation; digital film; and music composition. *Ages 7-14. June 9-Aug. 1. Weekdays, 9am-noon, 1-4pm. Locations vary, 797-2320. \$190-210/week. www.campwired.com.*

CHESS CAMP Don't leave your kids unprepared for life's random chess throwdowns! Here, they'll learn the secrets to checking any mate, and just so you're not embarrassed to play with your little Bobby Fischer, Chess Camp offers a parents-only summer class on Tuesdays. *Ages 5-16. July 21-25. 9am-4pm, 9am-noon, 1-4pm. St. Michael's Catholic Academy, 3000 Barton Creek Blvd. \$410 (\$265, half days). www.chesscamp.com.*

CREATIVE WRITING SUMMER Through games and small-group activities, writer Jim Fabris teaches campers how to weave memories and imagination into tales worth telling. *Ages 11-19. June 9-July 17. Days/times vary. Private residence, 905-9060. \$200. www.geocities.com/jamfab1.*

EAST MEETS WEST This may come as a shock to your little Japanophile, but yes, there was life in Asia before animé! Why not encourage further cultural exploration? Campers can choose from a range of Asian cultural activity weeks: origami, gardening, etiquette, geography, tai chi, tung shui, and more. *Ages 5-12. June 2-Aug. 22. Weekdays, 8am-6pm. Asian American Cultural Center, 11713 Jollyville, 336-5069. \$230/week. www.asianamericanc.org.*

ENTREPRENEUR CAMP Turn your junior Donald Trump's millions of ideas into millions of dollars! Campers learn firsthand about finances, starting and maintaining a business, and building leadership skills. Comb-over not included. *Ages 7-16. June 9-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 8:30am-3:30pm. Parkside Community School, 1704 Toomey; Unity Church of the Hills, 9905 Anderson Mill. \$275/week. www.themoneyacademy.net.*

FASHION + ART: THE POSTER DRESS Craft Mafia master and true sweetheart Tina Sparkles shines while teaching kids how to sew by machine and hand, use patterns, and decorate with screen printing. She will also lead spangly discussions regarding the intersection of fashion, art, and a global conscience. *Ages 13 & up. June 16-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 10am-4:30pm. First Samples, 120 Academy Dr. #103, 326-3393. \$300/week (plus supplies). www.firstsamples.com.*

GAMECAMP! Does this describe your little one: Calloused thumbs? Adores animation? Dreams of getting paid to play? This intensive camp preps campers for game industry careers through lectures, team-based workshops, college/career counseling, and tournaments. *Ages 10-17. June 9-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 9am-5pm. Austin Community College, 363-3795. \$500/week. www.gamecamp.org.*

GARDENHEADS Kids will learn to reap what they sow in this mossy muck trek through the world of gardening. Plant, tend, harvest, create, and (best of all) eat! Organic concoctions o' plenty. *Ages 4-8. June 9-27. Weekdays, 8:30am-noon. 524-5090. \$150/week (\$25 registration fee). www.gardenheads.net.*

GLOBAL ETHICS AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION A think-tank training camp for the kid who's ready to change the world: Campers learn contemporary cultural studies as a backdrop for conflict analysis and work with experts on real issues of mediation. *Grades 9-12. June 15-21, June 22-28. Residential and commuter options available. UT campus, 471-1950. \$355-505/session; \$635-865/two sessions (financial aid available). www.utpcr.org.*

GOLDEN VISTA EQUESTRIAN CAMP Adopt a horse for two weeks and ride, Sally, ride! This is the camp for the kid who will never outgrow asking for that pony. All levels of experience welcome. *Ages 7-18. June 2-Aug. 18. Weekdays, 8am-4:15pm (extended care available). 9513 Hwy. 183 S. (free pickups at various locations), 243-3500. \$479/two weeks. www.goldenvistaquestriancenter.com.*

GRRL ACTION activates and showcases Austin's young female voices. Campers create, publish, and perform original works inspired by life experiences with help from the Rude Mechs, who inspire self-respect and social responsibility through social engagement, creative writing, and performance art. *Ages 13-16. June 30-July 20. Weekdays, 9am-noon (performances: Sat.-Sun., July 19-20, 2pm). The Off*

Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-RUDE. \$300/three weeks. www.grrlaction.org.

HEART OF TEXAS WRITING PROJECT teaches campers how to generate ideas, organize their thoughts, and practice, practice, practice till they're thinking (and writing) like writers. *Grades 1-12. June 9-27. Weekdays, 9am-noon, 1-4pm. UT campus, 471-4381. \$125/week, \$250/two weeks. www.heartoftexaswritingproject.org.*

KENT CUMMINS MAGIC CAMP Abracadabra! Creativity and self-esteem, inspired through magic tricks, puppetry, ventriloquism, and juggling. *Ages 6-12. June 9-Aug. 18. Weekdays, 9am-3pm. 7306 Scenic Brook Dr., 288-1596. \$395/two weeks. www.magiccamp.com.*

KIDS MAKE TV CAMP puts cameras and airwaves at the mercy of campers' creative young minds. They can produce, direct, and film anything they want, from music videos to reality TV, all to be broadcast to the masses on PACT. *Ages 12 & up. June 9-18. Weekdays, times vary. Public Access Community Television, 1143 Northwestern, 478-8600 x10. \$300/week (early registration). www.kidsmaketvcamp.com.*

KIDSACTING has a part to play for every budding entertainer, whether they wanna be center stage or behind the curtain. Thespians and techies alike can sing, dance, perform stunts, or shoot the scene this summer at any of several KidsActing locales. *Ages 4-14. June 9-Aug. 22. Days/times/locations vary. 836-KIDS. \$165-495/session. www.kidsactingstudio.com/classes.html.*

LES PETITS CHEFS invites young foodies to revel in French culture and learn new words through culinary travel – each day brings a new dish, and campers receive a cookbook to commemorate the experience. *May 23-27, July 7-11, July 21-25. 10am-noon (ages 4-6), 1-3pm (ages 6-12). 2201 Shark Loop, Round Rock, 512/297-9823. \$250/week. www.txpommedapi.com.*

MAD SCIENCE Boils the basics of geology, physics, biology, astronomy, chemistry, and engineering down into one week of entertaining labs featuring everything from rockets to rainbows to robots. *Ages 4-12. June 2-Aug. 22. Weekdays, locations/times vary. 892-1143. \$100-250/week. www.madscienceaustin.com.*

MCCOMBS SCHOOL OF BUSINESS offers two amazing, free opportunities for students: **Future Executive Academy** offers high-achieving high schoolers the chance to live on campus, take workshops and field trips, and create real market plans as they explore the benefits of a business degree (*June 8-14*). **Accounting Career Awareness Program** Teen bean counters will live on campus while they meet UT faculty and like-minded future business leaders, visit local firms, and learn about interesting career options like working for the FBI (*July 13-18*). *Grades 9-12. McCombs School of Business, 2100 Speedway, 471-2103. www.mcombs.utexas.edu/summercamps.*

OAKMONT MULTICULTURAL CAMP It's a small world after all! Oakmont takes campers around the world through the art, language, music, food, and technologies of communities around the globe. *Ages 5-10. June 16-27. Weekdays, 9am-1pm. Oakmont School, 1510 Morrow, 420-9300. \$400/two weeks. www.oakmontschool.org.*

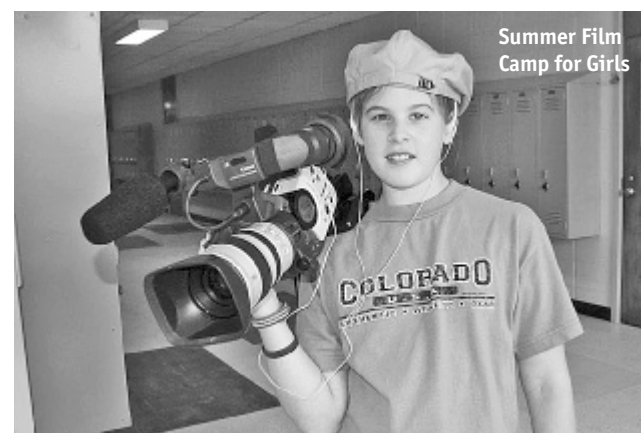
PRE-FRESHMAN ENGINEERING PROGRAM If you get a little jolt every time you solve for x, AusPREP is here to set you on your numerical path. A program for math and science lovers of all stripes, AusPREP offers algebra improvement, career counseling, and instruction in college math and engineering. *Grades 6-9. June 16-Aug. 1. Weekdays, 8:30am-3:15pm.*



Kid's Organic Gardening Camp



Austin Children's Museum



Summer Film Camp for Girls

Huston-Tillotson University, 900 Chicon, 505-3108. \$30-300/session. ausprep.htu.edu.

RTF MEDIA CAMPS Teens will learn film from the opening credits to "The End" this summer as they write, edit, direct, and shoot animated or live-action shorts with the guidance of UT's acclaimed Radio-Television-Film faculty. *Grades 7-12. June 16-Aug. 1. Days/times vary. UT campus, 471-4071. \$500/session. rtf.utexas.edu/camps.*

SPANISH SUMMER CAMP FOR GIRLS immerses campers in a bilingual, bicultural experience with games, crafts, outdoor activities, and visits from native Spanish speakers. *Grades 1-6. July 21-Aug. 1. Weekdays, 1-4pm. Private residence. \$225/week. zjmillier@austin.rr.com.*

STUNT CAMP Run, jump, play, and blow things up! Kids see how those important skills fit in as they learn the art and science behind movie action. *Age 6 & up. June 2-July 25. Days/times vary. Stunt Ranch & Fire Lake Event Center, 13317 Fitzhugh, 877-STUNT-FX. \$495/week, day camp; \$745/week, sleepover. www.stuntranch.com.*

SUMMER ACADEMY IN ARCHITECTURE immerses your future Wright, Le Corbusier, or Gaudi in the world of architecture through challenging projects, field trips, films, and lectures. **Three-week residential** (ages 15-17): *June 23-July 11, \$950. Five-week residential (18 & up): *June 9-July 11, \$1,350. UT campus, 471-9890. soa.utexas.edu/summeracademy.**

SUMMER FILM CAMP FOR GIRLS Local female filmmakers will inspire girls to join their ranks through exercises in writing, producing, acting, camera, sound, editing, postproduction, and yes, a screening for family and friends. *Ages 12-18. Day camp: July 28-Aug. 1, 9am-5pm. Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders, \$375. Overnight: June 21-29. UT campus, \$975. 628-3413. www.femmemfilm.com.*

SUMMER INSTITUTE FOR THE GIFTED gives the Mensa-bound a taste of liberal-arts campus life, immersing them in a creative, inspirational community of like-minded peers (sans the beer busts). About 70 courses to choose from, ranging from Future City Design to Splicing DNA to Performing

Arts. *Grades 4-11. July 13-Aug. 2. UT campus, 866/303-4744 x5159. \$3,995/week. www.giftedstudy.com.*

SUMMER TECHNOLOGY CAMPS teach tiny techies how to design 2-D or 3-D video games, build websites, program robots, and edit their own videos. Campers also have access to arcades, bowling, *Guitar Hero*, chess tournaments, ultimate Frisbee, beach volleyball, capture-the-flag, kickball, and basketball. *Ages 7-17. June 15-Aug. 8. Days/times vary. UT campus, 888/709-TECH. \$749/day camp, \$1,169/overnight. www.internaldrive.com.*

TEXAS BRIGADES WILDLIFE INTENSIVE LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT Teen wildlife conservationists learn the skills they'll need for leading us all toward a sustainable future in several overnight camps offered by the Texas Brigades. Campers learn habitat conservation, land and water stewardship, team-building, communication, and leadership. *Ages 13-17. July 7-31. Locations vary: Marble Falls, Coleman, Pleasanton, Albany, Nacagdoches, 800/839-9453. \$300/week. www.texasbrigades.org.*

TEXAS STUDENT MEDIA CAMPS The award-winning journalism and Radio-Television-Film students of UT's student television station are here to help kids write, shoot, record, listen, watch, and rock! *Grades 6-12. June 9-July 25. Weekdays, time vary. Texas Student Media, 2500 Whitis. \$225-400/week. www.texasstudenttv.com/tvcamp.html.*

TEXPEDITIONS Tiny Texans learn Lone Star State history, tall tales, and TV legends through interactive exhibits, IMAX movies, and more. *Ages 7-12. July 7-Aug. 1. Weekdays, 9am-4 pm. Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, 1800 Congress, 936-4608. \$150-185/week.*

WHITE LIGHTNING RANCH HORSE CAMP Ride 'em, cowpokes! Saddle up this summer, and learn how to ride, maintain, and feed horses while enjoying outdoor camp merriment in the gorgeous environs of Bastrop's Lost Pines Resort and McKinney Roughs Park. *Ages 7-14. June 2-July 25. Weekdays, 9am-1pm. Hyatt Lost Pines Resort and Spa, Highway 71, 680-0463. \$300/week, \$100/day. www.whitelightningranch.com.*

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Showcase July 12**

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Showcase July 26**

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The Cattle Baron's LIL' BUCKAROOS SUNDAY, MARCH 30TH, 2008

WHO: The American Cancer Society & The Cattle Baron's Ball invite you to join us for Lil' Buckaroos 2008.

WHAT: A fun-filled afternoon with local artists, food and one-of-a-kind horseshoe painting!

WHEN: 11am - 1pm (Ages Toddler - Teen)
1pm - 3pm (Ages 10 - Teen)

WHERE: Laguna Gloria, The Austin Museum of Art
3809 West 35th Street
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Please RSVP at www.cattlebaronsballaustin.org or call 512.919.1721



This is a free event. If you'd like to make a donation, please contact the American Cancer Society at 512.919.1961



YOUNG CHEFS ACADEMY gives young'uns a taste for world cuisine and artistic presentation through hands-on, half-day classes emphasizing critical thinking skills useful both in and out of the kitchen. Age 4 & up. June 3-Aug. 27. Days/times vary. 617 Slaughter #105, 227-5999. \$90-200/session. www.youngchefsacademy.com.

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORKSHOPS boast mentally stimulating fun with topics ranging from Fabulous Fabric Design to Surgeons-in-Training to Spanish Immersion. June 2-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 9am-noon, 1-4pm. 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #138, 329-5611. \$246/week. www.youngpeoplesworkshops.com

SPORTS CAMPS

A&M SOCCER CAMPS aim to give campers the professional strength, speed, and skills they need, with day and overnight camps available along with specialized field-play, team, and goalkeeper training. Ages 5-18. June 3-July 20. Days/times vary. College Station. \$575-625. www.texasamsoccercamp.com.

AUSTIN JUNIOR GOLF ACADEMY Golfers perfect their swing as they learn the basic skills and etiquette of the game. Ages 6-18. June 9-20. Weekdays, 8-11am. Hancock Golf Course, 811 E. 41st, 477-6963. \$90/week. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks/golf_junior.htm.

AUSTIN MARTIAL-ARTS ACADEMY KARATE CAMP helps beginners and young martial-arts masters build confidence, self-esteem, and ninja skills through age-appropriate training that includes bully management, stranger-danger awareness, and team-building exercises. Ages 5-13. June 2-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 9am-noon. Locations vary, 327-2900. \$163/week. www.austinmartialarts.com.

AUSTIN YACHT CLUB JUNIOR SAILING CAMP brings wannabe sailors on board to learn the basics (tie knots!), some cool new words (master the jib!), how to go fast (wee!), and get quite the tan (optional). Ages 4-18. 5906 Beacon, 266-1336. \$300-400 per week. www.austinyachtclub.net.



BRITISH SOCCER CAMPS enlist a team of international experts to teach the world's most popular sport through technical drills, tactical practices, coached scrimmages, and daily tournaments. Fun worth sweating for. Ages 3-18. June 2-Aug. 1. Old Settler's Park and RRCA Soccer Fields, Round Rock. \$57-145. www.challengersports.com.

LONGHORN SOCCER CAMP brings you more ball-kicking fun than ever with newly added on- and off-field activities, including a talent show, speed-kick competition, crafts, and more. Ages 6-16. **Kerrville camp:** July 13-18; \$375/day camp, \$525/overnight. **Brenham camp:** July 27-Aug. 1; \$350/day camp, \$500/overnight. Kerrville, 512/215-3320. www.longhornsoccercamp.com.

PLAYBALL MULTISPORT CAMP introduces young athletes to a different sport each day (basketball, baseball, soccer, tennis, and field hockey) with an emphasis on teamwork and positive self-esteem. Ages 6-12. June 9-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 8:30am-noon or 1-4:30pm. O. Henry Middle School, 2610 W. 10th; Summitt Elementary School, 12207 Brigadoon. \$150. www.playballaustin.com.

RIDING CAMP Riders practice Western and English styles, learn horse science and management, and enjoy fine arts, swimming, and other fun. Ages 6-16. June 2-Aug. 15. Weekdays, 9am-6pm. Bee Cave Riding Center, 15740 Hamilton Pool Rd., 632-RIDE. \$400/week. www.ridinghorses.com/summer_camp.html.

ROWING DOCK Go on a treasure hunt, swim in one of Austin's aquatic landmarks, and learn to row like the best of 'em. Grades 3-12. Through Aug. 22. Weekdays, 8am-5pm. Rowing Dock, 2418 Stratford Dr., 459-0999. \$150-275/week. www.rowingdock.com.

ST. EDWARD'S ATHLETIC CAMPS Young athletes can improve their game this summer with St. Ed's teams and coaches, who provide instruction in basketball, cheerleading, girl's soccer, softball, and volleyball. Ages 5-18. June 1-July 22. Weekdays, times vary. St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress. \$75-365 (early registration). marilyn@stedwards.edu.

SUN DRAGON KARATE CAMP FOR GIRLS emphasizes both character and physical development. Girls learn practical self-defense, play games, and participate in creative projects on Asian culture, leadership, and self-confidence. Age 6-14. June 16-20. Weekdays, 9am-1pm. Sun Dragon Martial Arts, 203 E. Riverside, 416-9735. \$175. www.sundragon.org.

TEXAS LONGHORNS SOCCER CAMP College and club coaches offer players of all levels of experience a competitive edge at the official soccer camp of UT. Offerings include a residential program, half- and full-day camps, team camp, and goalkeeper training. Ages 5-18. June 10-July 17. Days/times vary. UT campus, Myers Stadium, 471-3624. \$160-575. www.texasoccer.com.

UT RECSPORTS gives young athletes the opportunity to work with UT coaches and players on both individual and team skills in the sport of their choice: soccer (ages 5-10), lacrosse, and ultimate disc (ages 8-17). June 9-20. Weekdays, times vary. Whitaker Fields, 51st & Guadalupe. \$125/week. www.utrecsports.org.

For even more summer camp listings, see our online guide at austinchronicle.com/sc.

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ON-SALE NOW



Louis CK -- April 4
with Todd Barry

Louis is a well known Stand-Up Comedian, and his writing credits include *Saturday Night Live*, *The Chris Rock Show*, *Late Night with Conan O'Brien*, among others. His latest work was the HBO special *Shameless*.



Leo Kottke -- May 2
with Georgia Middleman

This acoustic guitarist is widely known for his idiosyncratic fingerpicking style, which draws on blues, jazz and folk music influences, and his syncopated, polyphonic melodies.



Return to Forever -- May 29 & 30

Chick Corea—Al Di Meola—Stanley Clarke—Lenny White
Together for the first time in 25 years!

Upcoming Shows...

- Wizard of Oz -- April 20
- An Evening with Garrison Keillor -- April 22
- The Spencers: Theatre of Illusion -- May 3
- SVT presents Intergalactic Nemesis -- May 9

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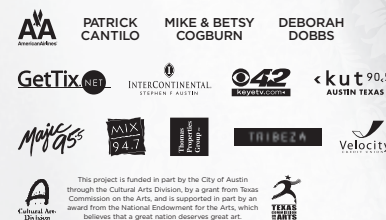
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Season Sponsors



This project is funded in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division, by a grant from Texas Commission on the Arts, and is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts, which believes that a great nation deserves great art.

Love is a Circle



Special Guest Artist
Jeffrey Van
Guitarist & Composer

Craig Hella Johnson leads the Grammy-nominated Company of Voices in a program that includes the music of Salamone Rossi, a contemporary of Monteverdi and Gastoldi, and the first musician in modern times to compose choral motets for the synagogue; John Muehleisen's setting of Elizabeth Barrett Browning's poem, "Perplexed Music"; David Asplin's cantata for peace, "For the Healing of Nations", with a text drawn from the Iroquois Constitution, Confucius, The Holy Qur'an and the biblical books of Isaiah and "Revelation; and Stephen Van's own "A Procession Winding Around Me", a setting of four Civil War poems of Walt Whitman.



Conspirare

Craig Hella Johnson & Company of Voices

Concert Series 4 Schedule

Saturday, March 29 7:30pm

St. Stephen's Episcopal Church
6000A FM 3237, Wimberley
\$25 General Admission; \$15 Youth (ages 6-17)

Sunday, March 30 7:30pm

Congregation Agudas Achim
7300 Hart Avenue, Austin
\$30 General Admission; \$15 Youth (ages 6-17)

Student "rush" tickets at \$10 each may be purchased 30 minutes prior to performance. Student ID required. Subject to availability.

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Neon Exodus
Ben Livingston's
animated mural is
glowing, going, gone

BRETT BROOKSHIRE

"It starts with a flower growing; then the house lights up. Then a rocket ship lights up over the flower, and there's a star and a planet, and the ship drops a bomb on the flower – which explodes. Then it all goes black, and the cycle begins again."

That's Ben Livingston, neon artist, talking about the large work of animated images that have brightened the front of his studio off Fifth Street for more than two decades. Soon, he'll be talking about it in the past tense: After 22 years of near-constant display, the electrified mural is coming down.

"My studio's been sold," says Livingston. "And, like the story goes too often here in A-town, yuppies are in, and art is out. I've got to be out of here by May 1, so I have to take the piece down between now and then. Megan Crigger, the manager of Austin's Art in Public Places program, would like to accept it as a donation – because she's interested in having it at Seaholm. So I'm hoping to find someone who'll buy it for that. Which may not be easy – it's been appraised at, uh, quite a bit of money."

Specifically, according to art appraisers C.L. Wysuph & Associates, \$90,000.

UT School of Music A grand score (to the tune of \$55 million)

Of the many beautiful sounds heard around the University of Texas School of Music through the years, surely one of the sweetest ever was the sound last week of \$55 million dropping into the school's coffers. The gift, from a single Austin couple, will support expansion of the school's \$33 million endowment and provide assistance for faculty and other programs, with two-thirds designated for student scholarships and related support.

The source of the record donation – the largest ever to a music school at a public university – was hardly a surprise. Ernest and Sarah Butler are well-known and active in the local cultural scene (he serves on the UT College of Fine Arts Advisory Council; she's chairwoman of the Ballet Austin board of directors and a member of the Blanton Museum Council), and they have a history of major gifts to the

Austin Symphony Orchestra, Austin Lyric Opera, Austin Museum of Art, Blanton Museum of Art, and the Long Center for the Performing Arts. Plus, they have been showing extraordinary support for UT's School of Music for a quarter of a century, funding nine endowments there, including a \$2 million endowment for the opera theatre program that led to it being renamed the Butler Opera Center. Still, the scale of this gift outstrips even their \$3.5 million donation to Ballet Austin, which helped create the company's new Downtown headquarters, the Butler Dance Education Center. It almost outstrips any other gifts to UT – to date, only the \$245 million bequest to the Geological Sciences Department from the estate of oilman John Jackson and his wife, Katherine, is larger.

Douglas Dempster, dean of the College of Fine Arts, considers the

A nice chunk of change for a bunch of gas and glass, but, of course, it's the inspiration and craftwork, not to mention the interest compounded by history, that make for true value among unique objects fashioned by human hands. The mural – an anti-war statement influenced by the art of Terry Powell, crafted by Livingston and his apprentices John Hayward and Leith Hartell, driven by Frank Roberts' jury-rigged computer program – fairly glows with such value and interest.

"I have some friends who were in town for South by Southwest Interactive, and the taxi driver who brought them over? He said he's been bringing his kids to see the piece for years. And sometimes when people come in from out of town – this guy's been driving for 14 years – they ask him to come here; it's on their list of things they want to see. I guess the image has gotten around: Ellie Rucker had it in the *Statesman* when it went up; the *Chronicle* chose it as a Best of Austin in '93; Holt Rinehart's used it in their textbooks. It has a definite history in the city; a lot of kids have grown up with it."

But now?

"I'm gonna get one of those trucks that has a sky bucket attached and just start taking it down one piece at a time," says Livingston. "My morale's kind of low right now. It's like going to work with cancer: You just go and do it. If we can't find a buyer, I don't know where it'll go – probably in some friend's garage." He shakes his head and chuckles, trying to look less despondent than he may feel. "This is definitely the unglamorous part of the art world."

– Wayne Alan Brenner



Sarah and Ernest Butler

Butlers "truly exceptional patrons of the arts who understand the transformative power of bold giving." One transformation already taking place is the renaming of the school as the Sarah and Ernest Butler School of Music. The sound of that is pretty sweet, too.

– R.F.



Kelley Estes and Breanna Stogner

'Matt & Ben' Best buds, hunting success

The title of the play is *Matt & Ben*, and yes, it's about exactly who you think it's about. But that may be the only thing you can anticipate in this comedy by Mindy Kaling and Brenda Withers. Set before the two struck Hollywood gold, it has the script *Good Will Hunting* drop literally out of the sky, already written, with their names on it, and it has both guys played by gals. In the original New York production, the authors took the title roles. For the local premiere, opening this week, Naughty Austin Artistic Director Blake Yelavich has cast two of his favorite actresses, Kelley Estes and Breanna Stogner, who, it must be noted, bear no physical resemblance to Damon and Affleck. But that's to the play's advantage, says Yelavich: "This is not a *Saturday Night Live* parody of the two, nor does it put them in a worshipped light or a two-dudes-who-just-got-lucky bitterness. It's about two people – who happen to be Matt Damon and Ben Affleck – on the verge of what we already know is a huge success for them. Kelley and Bree don't have to impersonate, just be. ... Be two aspiring young men from Boston."

How do Estes and Stogner feel playing such conspicuously well-known – and male – public figures? The *Chronicle* asked.

– Robert Faïres

Austin Chronicle: Your feelings about the real Matt and Ben before you were cast?

Breanna Stogner: I knew them to be best friends – everyone knew that about them, and everyone knew that Matt was the serious one and Ben was the more charismatic one. I've always liked Ben Affleck more, and when I tell people that, they look at me like I'm crazy.

Kelley Estes: I didn't have any personal opinions one way or the other, except that when I lived in Cambridge, I was living in the same neighborhood that Matt Damon and Ben Affleck grew up in, and when they were in town, we would end up at the same bars. I also saw a whole lot more of Casey Affleck than I would have expected.

AC: Did you do any research to help you play these guys?

BS: My research is YouTube. You can find anything on YouTube. I looked up their Oscar speech, their good movies, and their bad ones. The only other thing I did was ask a lot of people, "When I say 'Ben Affleck,' what do you think of?" There's something very likable about him, and that's hard to get across. You can't teach that. It's hard to practice it. But I'm not playing his public self. I'm playing his private self. I'm all about how best friends act when no one else is around. That's the coolest part of the show.

KE: I watched a few *Good Will Hunting* scenes on YouTube, and I had seen Matt Damon's *Inside the Actors Studio*, but that's about it. This show isn't about us pretending to be Matt and Ben as the people they actually are or were; it's an approximation. This sudden rush of fame could happen to anyone, and instant acclaim is always jarring and unexpected. Everyone has the potential to be a product. Having women play these roles helps the audience think of them in a more universal light.

Matt & Ben runs March 27-May 10, Thursday-Saturday, 8pm, at Arts on Real Theater, 2826 Real. For more information, call 472-2787 or visit www.artsonreal.com.



Copad fever: (l-r) Shawn Sides, Lana Lesley, Kirk Lynn, and Madge Darlington

BRET BROOKSHIRE

Who Is Stella Burden, and Why Are They Saying Those Terrible Things About Her?

When the Rude Mechs create a show about acting, they find madness in the Method

BY ROBERT FAIRES

They call her “the other Stella.” Meaning other than Stella Adler, the acting teacher whose approach to the craft – and specifically to that revolutionary technique known as the Method – is said to have had a profound impact on American acting in the 20th century. Stella Burden, alas, had no Brando or De Niro or Keitel among her pupils, but like her more renowned namesake, was an actress of little note who found her true calling training actors and attained guru status through a very specific philosophy and exercises. And some of those exercises were said to be dangerous, so dangerous that one of them – the so-called Method Gun – may have been responsible for her death.

If you’ve never heard of “the other Stella,” don’t sweat it. She was an obscure figure even during the decades she was teaching in this country; once she bolted for South America to found a training academy in the jungle, her history grew hazier still. In fact, so few facts about her survive that it’s almost as if she never really existed. But the biographical minutiae of Stella Burden wasn’t what drew the Rude Mechs to her; it was *what* she was – a mythic counterpart to the more stellar Stella, her soap-operatic evil twin, a dark, snarky doppelgänger like that goateed Spock in the mirror universe episode of *Star Trek* – and the way she courted death in the pursuit of her art. That’s what led them to develop a show about her, and their pursuit of her and the principles of her “approach” has led this theatre collective – no stranger to long, strange trips – on one of its longest and strangest ever, taking them from blindfolded gunfire in Texas to Andean folk dancing in Ecuador to full-frontal male nudity in upstate New York.

The Trigger

It all started with a gun. Maybe. Or maybe not. Maybe it was just a *metaphor* for a gun. Or the *idea* of one. In any case, the name of the exercise created by Stella Burden included “gun,” and with the rumors that it was connected to

her death, the Rudes naturally assumed that the gun was indeed a real bullet-discharging gun.

So when Kirk Lynn, the Rudes’ resident playwright and token male among its five co-producing artistic directors, circulated an e-mail to his fellow copads saying, “Hey, I have an idea for a play about this acting guru who creates an exercise by which she dies,” with the exercise being called the Method Gun, visions of firearms began going off in their heads.

Visions of Chris Burden, who, in 1971, had a friend shoot him in the arm as a piece of performance art.

Visions of the magician Chung Ling Soo, who was accidentally shot in the chest while performing “the bullet catch” and died onstage.

Visions of Brandon Lee and Jon-Erik Hexum, actors who died from shots with prop guns.

And, of course, visions of Chekhov’s dictum that if you put a gun onstage in the first act, you have to fire it by the third.

But how can you really shoot a gun onstage? “We’ve always been interested in Anne Bogart’s notion of things you can’t fake,” says Lynn. “But that’s one thing you *must* fake,” notes copad Lana Lesley. And if the audience *knows* it’s fake, does that take away from the truth of the moment? How would the Rudes be able to duplicate Stella Burden’s point about truth in performance in their play with a fake?

It left the group wondering where to go next, a question they would decide, naturally enough, with a gun.

The Trajectory

The story goes that Stella Burden hailed from Texas, and when she decided to get the hell out of Texas, she put a map on the side of her daddy’s barn and fired a gun at it, letting the bullet hole determine where she’d go. The Rudes decided to re-create this incident, with the idea of determining where they should go to do further research on Stella’s life and work. With a map of the world tacked to some hay bales, each of

the four local copads (Sarah Richardson copads long-distance from New York) took a turn putting on a blindfold, grabbing a .22 pistol, and taking a shot. (Video of the event is online at www.rudemechs.blogspot.com.)

Madge Darlington hit Papua New Guinea. Shawn Sides also put a bullet in the South Pacific, in the Kiribati islands.

Kirk Lynn shot Iceland. At least that was the landmass nearest the bullet hole.

Lana Lesley shot Baghdad. “She literally shot the ‘dad’ out of Baghdad,” says Darlington. “But we had a rule that we were not going to any contemporary war zones,” adds Lynn, so she was allowed a do-over.

“Then I shot Ecuador,” says Lesley, and with some five-figure grants from the Doris Duke Charitable Foundation’s Multi-Arts Production Fund and the Creative Capital Foundation, that’s where they went.

Providence seemed to be smiling on them (or perhaps working as a silent sixth copad) as this was near the South American compound where Burden allegedly spent her final years. They hoped to interview people who had met the elusive teacher, but the closest they got was the director of the Quito performing arts company Humanizarte who knew of her work. And he spoke mostly Spanish. (They’re still translating his interview a year later.) One thing, however, that the Rudes did glean from Nelson Diaz: Living in a mestizo culture, Ecuadorans don’t have the obsession with purity that European cultures do. People in different areas may practice different kinds of Andean folk dance, but no one tries to claim that they dance the one *true* Andean folk dance.

“You hear a lot of acting teachers say, ‘This is the way to do it,’” admits Lynn. It’s not *a* method; it’s *the* Method. Even Stella Burden’s version was *the* Approach. So what does that say about acting and truth and teachers of acting who say there’s *just one* way to the truth?

The Ammunition

Truth or beauty? Supposedly, that’s the question – the *only* question – that Stella Burden posed to people who wanted to study with her. No preface to the query, no discussion of the words’ meaning, no context. Just the three words loaded up and fired point blank. And the answer determined whether or not Burden took you in her class. From 1954 to 1974, she only accepted students who answered, “Truth.” Then in 1975, she reversed herself and took students who said, “Beauty.” A year later she was dead.

Kirk Lynn had encountered this question as a fellow in the Michener Center for Writers. The poet Marie Howe, who was a visiting professor, would begin her classes by asking each person, “Truth or beauty?” (“Obviously, she must have gotten that from Stella Burden,” says Lana Lesley.) Having seen how provocative the question could be, the Rudes began asking the question themselves, to arts presenters at the Under the Radar Festival in New York, to 700 artists and arts presenters at a Creative Capital artists’ retreat, to *everyone*. Interestingly, they say, the answers always seem to come out in a 50-50 split (except for the copads, “who are shockingly all ‘truth,’” says Lynn).

In March of 2007, the project was opened to the full Rudes company. Anyone who had an idea to explore, no matter how tangential it felt to the project, could lead a night of lab work. Lynn led an evening based on Susan Sontag’s essays about photography. Madge Darlington led an evening at the shooting range. Graham Reynolds led an evening in which everyone composed music. Thomas Graves led an evening about gurus, with company members taking turns teaching one another acting techniques in the style of gurus they knew.

This last lab led to a key concept in the project’s development, the 80/20 principle. “There were times when the lab went off the road, and we didn’t know exactly what was happening,” Lynn explains. “Like one of our company members yelled at Thomas and ran out of the room and got in her car and took off. We were pretty sure that she was not really angry, that she was

continued on p.46

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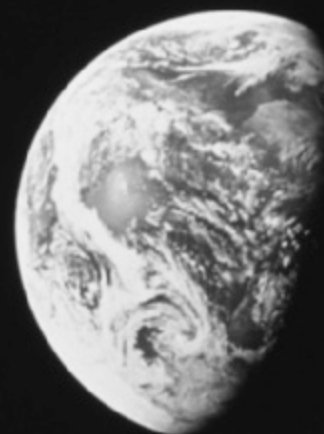
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performing anger, but we weren't certain. I was pretty sure that everything that was happening was supposed to be happening, but 20% of me was worried."

That uncertainty, says Lesley, "was a really pleasurable feeling that we wanted to exploit."

The Shooting Range

After the 2½ months of lab work, the Rudes needed some place where they could pull together the most cogent ideas that had surfaced and begin developing them into a *Method Gun* play. They got it through the Orchard Project, a program that gives arts groups time and space to develop work on a 180-acre resort property in Maplecrest, N.Y. Fourteen company members took the trip and spent a week developing scenes.

"Getting out of town and getting to isolate ourselves was fantastic," says Lynn. "All you had to do morning, noon, and night was think about *The Method Gun*, read Tennessee Williams, and go run off into the woods and make scenes and come back together. I think because there were other artists there, there was a sense of both camaraderie and challenge. Our friends from Radiohole were there, and they were out running around filming each other naked in the woods at night, and we wanted to rise to the challenge of 'How would we do nudity?'"

Thus was born *Snakes on a String*, a bit in which Lynn and Graves appeared onstage in the altogether with helium balloons attached

to the most serpentlike appendages on their anatomies. (Before they presented this segment at the Orchard Project, Graves said to Lynn, "There's nothing left to this but the humiliation.") At first blush, it might have seemed to bear no relation to Burden or the other elements circling around the nature of acting, but one wonders if Stella herself might have seen in those exposed men and their balloons some echo of that primal question: Truth or beauty?

The Test Shot

One account of Stella Burden's later years has her spending 13 months in rehearsal on *A Streetcar Named Desire*. By the time the Rudes open their workshop version of *The Method Gun* in December of 2007, they've been developing the play for at least that long, and there are still four months until the play's premiere at the Long Center for the Performing Arts. Though the workshop gets a bead on many of the ideas about Stella and acting and truth that the Rudes have been investigating for so long, they feel it hasn't hit the bull's-eye. In feedback sessions after the performances, questions were raised about the portrayal of Burden and her students. Audiences wondered why people would study with this woman. Were the Rudes making fun of her? Were they making fun of actors, of what it means to pursue a craft?

The intent of the project had not been to mock actors or the pursuit of craft. That would be the Rudes mocking themselves, mocking the

work they've done and the collective to which they've devoted all their energies for a dozen years. They have a healthy sense of humor about themselves but wouldn't ridicule that. So they went back into the rehearsal room and reworked concepts, bringing more of themselves to the piece, blurring that line between the actors who worked with Stella Burden and the Rude Mechs, finding a space where you're pretty certain of the line between characters and actors, but 20% of you may be not sure.

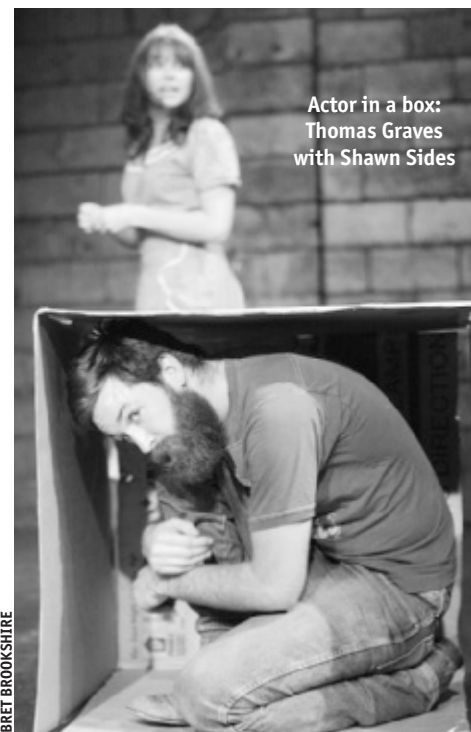
The final version of *The Method Gun* includes text by Tennessee Williams, but instead of using *The Night of the Iguana*, as in the labs, or *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, as in the workshop, the Rudes focus on *A Streetcar Named Desire*, only the most familiar characters – Blanche, Stanley, and, oh yes, Stella – never appear. The actors portray only supporting characters, sometimes reciting dialogue to figures who aren't there. A strange way to stage *Streetcar*, perhaps, but fitting for a play inspired by a woman who's not there more than she's there.

"It's so hard to piece together what actually happened to Stella Burden," says Lynn.

"There were so many rumors," notes Darlington.

"We jumped to the conclusion that the *Method Gun* involved a gun because of the name of the exercise," says Sides.

"We were probably wrong," admits Lesley. "Now we've come full circle and think that's probably not what the exercise was." And what became of Stella Burden? Maybe instead of dying, she simply disappeared.



Actor in a box: Thomas Graves with Shawn Sides

BRET BROOKSHIRE

So who was "the other Stella"? It's hard to say. Maybe she's the greatest acting teacher no one ever knew, or maybe she's just the sound of Chekhov's gun *not* being fired. ■

The *Method Gun* runs April 2-12, Tuesday-Sunday, at the Rollins Studio Theatre in the Long Center for the Performing Arts, South First at Riverside. For more information, call 474-LONG or visit www.thelongcenter.org.

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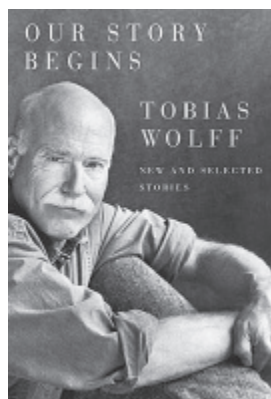
by Tobias Wolff
Knopf, 400 pp., \$26.95

Ever since the 1981 publication of his first short-story collection, *In the Garden of the North American Martyrs*, Tobias Wolff has been considered by many to be one of America's finest writers, lauded by critics for his philosophical appraisal of seemingly inconsequential moments and his devotion to conversational realism. Wolff's latest is *Our Story Begins*, which brings together works from *In the Garden* and his two other short-story collections along with several new tales. Compiled, they show their author to be a craftsman of great substance but also great limitation.

At his best, Wolff is a nuanced chronicler of small defeats and blemished self-awareness. In "Two Boys and a Girl," the author turns the story of a man and his best friend's girlfriend into a tragedy of inevitability: "He was about to betray his best friend," Wolff writes of his protagonist, Gilbert. "And he knew what he was doing. That was why this whole thing was tragic, because he knew what he was doing and could not do otherwise." Gilbert, like so many of Wolff's characters, is both blessed and cursed by his self-consciousness, a situation that transforms his everyday experiences into something extraordinary, even epic.

But these gifts for the psychological are too often hindered by Wolff's deficiencies in the realm of narrative, deficiencies that can lead to maddening gaps in

logic. His story "Hunters in the Snow," for example, about three friends airing old grievances while hunting in the woods outside Spokane, Wash., takes an unfortunate turn for the improbable when one of the men is shot. After placing their newly wounded friend in the bed of their truck, the other two hunters, Tub and Frank, calmly drive down the highway discussing the delicacies of their own deteriorating relationship. They stop not once but twice on the way to the hospital, at one point even settling into a roadside restaurant for a long meal. Meanwhile, their friend lies dying in the cold. When they find him trying to pull himself desperately over the tailgate of the truck in an attempt to find help or shelter, all they can think to say is, "It wouldn't hurt so much if you just stayed put."



These slips in logic and motivation might make sense in a novel, where they can be forgiven as strands in a larger tapestry, but in a short story, emotional and psychological truths drawn from contrived premises can't be trusted, no matter how much

depth they appear to have, no matter what they seem to say about us.

Wolff clearly knows his way around a typewriter and the disenchanted human mind, but this collection is conspicuously short on honest narrative revelation. If the goal of the short story is to shine light into some small, previously unlit passage of human experience and see it for what it is – life in miniature – then Wolff's world is still consumed by too much darkness: Subtle and articulate, his stories are also far from resplendent. – *Josh Rosenblatt*

NEWS/PRINT BY KIMBERLEY JONES

All Poetry, All the Time Edition: April's just around the bend, which means Austin's about to play host once again to the **Austin International Poetry Festival**, the world's largest nonjuried poetry festival. Spread out over 13 venues around town, with Ruta Maya (3601 S. Congress) serving as home base, the festival runs from April 10 to 13. For more info, check out the official website at www.aipf.org... Can't wait till the 10th to get your poetry fix? It's slam to the rescue – **Austin Poetry Slam**, to be exact. If you thought poetry was for namby-pambies, think again: In a show of extreme endurance (or maybe self-flagellation) slam-master **Mike Henry** will attempt "the city's first-ever 24-hour solo poetry reading" on Saturday, April 5, at 501 Stage + Screen (501 N. I-35). Then, assuming Henry has recovered in full, he'll host the Austin poetry slam championships on Tuesday, April 8, at the 2,400-seat, so-brand-spanking-new-the-paint's-still-drying Michael and Susan Dell Hall at the Long Center. The five winners of the Slam Off will represent Austin at the 2008 National Poetry Slam to be held in Madison, Wisc. Want more? Check out www.austinslam.com... Four Austin poets appear in a newly released anthology from **Red Hen Press** called **Letters to the World: Poems From the Wom-Po Mailing List**. It's a unique project – "a feminist collaboration born from The Discussion of Women's Poetry Listserv (Wom-po), a vibrant, inclusive electronic community founded in 1997 by Annie Finch." Local contributors include **Susan Bright, Judy Jensen, D'Arcy Randall, and Abe Louise Young**. Order your copy at www.redhen.org... This one isn't strictly poetry-related, but you can bet they've got some verse in the stacks: On Saturday, March 29, the **Manchaca Road Branch** (5500 Manchaca) of the **Austin Public Library** will reopen after a two-year renovation and remodel. The branch will celebrate with an open house, which kicks off at 10am. The festivities include a short reading by young-adult author **David Rice**, a live performance by the **Austin Jazz Workshop**, and a puppet show at 11am called **Why Cowboys Sing in Texas**. For more info, visit www.cityofaustin.org/library... We're pretty sure **Jack Kerouac** slept with some poets in his day, so consider this thematically related: As part of its ongoing "On the Road With the Beats" exhibit, those crazy kids at the **Harry Ransom Center** – hey, thanks for the apple pie! – will put on a marathon reading of Kerouac's trailblazing book at Spider House (2908 Fruth) this Saturday, March 29, from 10am to 10pm. Come and get your snap on.

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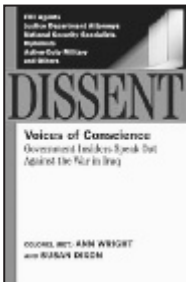
Working as a producer for *60 Minutes*, John Marks was very affected by one of his assignments. While interviewing evangelicals, one couple asked Marks if he would be left behind when judgment day came - would he be going to heaven or hell? Marks was born again as a teenager, but later abandoned his faith. *Reasons to Believe* is Marks's personal faith journey. Come to BookPeople tonight to join John Marks and Reverend Craig Detweiler in a discussion about spirituality.

DISSENT: VOICES OF CONSCIENCE

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Saturday, March 29 3 PM

Col. Ann Wright retired on March 19, 2003, the eve of the U.S. invasion of Iraq. In her letter to then Secretary of State Colin Powell, Wright expressed her belief that without UN consent, the war would be unjust and a disaster. *Dissent: Voices of Conscience* is about the many government insiders who have spoken out about Iraq. Come by today at 3 PM to learn more about the war and those who have chosen the best interests of the country before partisan politics.



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Courtesy of the artist

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AFTER A FASHION

BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER



SEARBOOK/JUICHTHIS.COM

IN THE REDD I'd met him before at a party at **Gary Cooper** and **Richard Hartgrove's** house. I had so much fun with him, I mentioned him in my next column but didn't see him again for a long time. Then I was in Dallas receiving some philanthropy award, and while I was flouncing around the **Fairmont Hotel** with **Carolyn Farb**, I see this guy at the bar whom I vaguely recognize. He introduces himself as **Cliff Redd**, executive director of Austin's **Long Center for the Performing Arts**, and reminds me that we've met before and that he'd appeared in my column. I sat down and had a drink with him and seemingly never left his side. Back in Austin, we were smitten with each other's company; I was as dazzled by him as he was by me, and we've been BFFs ever since. I remain in awe of Cliff, especially as the Long Center opens this weekend, since I know virtually all the joy, anguish, and heartbreak that he's been through in seeing this project come to fruition. This opening belongs not only to **Joe and Teresa Long**, for whom the center is named, and the city of Austin but also to Cliff Redd himself, whose slavish devotion and endless hours fretting, planning, and fundraising are just part of his job. The Longs couldn't have hired a more dedicated man than Cliff: His business sense, his humor, and his diplomacy have served them very well, and Cliff is pretty much beloved by all he meets – except for the few disgruntled who may have hidden

agendas about what else could have gone in the Long Center's location or those who believe the Long Center will compromise the drawing power of older, smaller venues in Austin. But when it's all said and done. Cliff and the Long Center have been triumphant, and Austin is better for it. As for me, I have not only a close, new palace in which to see the performing arts but a friend whom I always will hold in the highest esteem.

TIE ONE ON Men's ties: one of the few ways left that a traditional man can express himself. There are gorgeous, magnificent, quality ties to be had today, but looking back on ties of the past, we seem to have lost a certain artistry to the designs and patterns on the ties. A visit to **Vintage-Ties.com** brings back a flood of fabulous color and styling that looks fresher than anything available new. This Austin-based website offers an incredible selection of art deco pieces, hand-painted beauties, and rockabilly works of art at very reasonable prices. The selection changes regularly as ties come in from all over the world, so check with them frequently, and give yourself your own unique look.



WWW.VINTAGE-TIES.COM

A tie from vintage collector Chris Lowery's racy stock

AGENDA Thursday, April 17, 6-10pm, at the **AMLI on 2nd** (415 W. Second) is the **Austin Gay and Lesbian International Film Festival's** annual **Bloom** fundraiser. I looove this party; so many fun people gathered to help a cause that brings so much not just to the gay community but to all of Austin as well. This year features a raffle for not one but two sky-blue **LX 50 Vespas** (raffle tix are \$10 each, but if you buy a book of 10, admittance to the event is free). More info at www.agliff.org... Saturday, April 19, 9pm-12mid, at **Action Figure** (3000 E. Cesar Chavez), the **Octopus Club** presents its fabled **ArtErotica 2008** extravaganza. They have an April 1 deadline for submissions for the juried competition and an April 16 deadline for all other submissions.

The art, the costumes, the staff, the players, and the theme make this a not-to-be-missed event in my book. Complete details at www.octopusclub.org.

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

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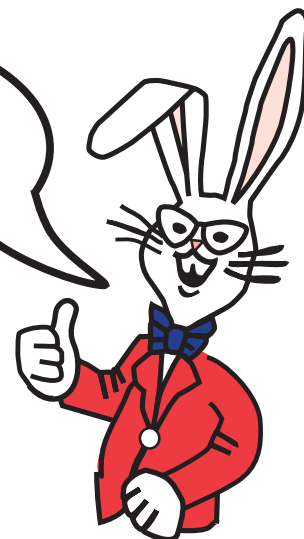
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food

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ROULETTE



GOURMET ON THE GO

When the public relations firm representing Gourmet on the Go food products made its initial pitch, I'll admit the idea of a "gourmet" canned-food product didn't interest me much. I told them they were welcome to send samples and forwarded the press release to one of the contributing Food writers. When the box of canned samples arrived, I divided them in half, planning to sample a few myself – just out of curiosity, you understand. I liked the first two so much, I immediately thought better of sharing.

Gourmet on the Go is the trade name of a line of all-natural, preservative-free, vacuum-sealed canned entrées marketed by the French company **St. Dalfour** (www.stdalfour.com) and sold locally at Whole Foods Market for \$2.99 each. There are seven varieties in all: one each with wild salmon or tuna and vegetables, one with pasta and vegetables, and four with combinations of whole grains, legumes, and vegetables. Three are suitable for vegetarians, and two are gluten-free. Each can is a meal in itself, but the manufacturer also offers serving suggestions for complementary salads and condiments. The meals are ready to eat at room temperature (with the handy attached plastic spork) or after being heated in the microwave once the vacuum lid is removed. Each can holds 6.2 ounces, and the calories range from 212 to 390 per can. My favorites are the wild salmon or tuna with vegetables and the couscous with vegetables and beans. With less than a cup in each serving, Gourmet on the Go entrées are an easy, nutritionally balanced, and satisfying meal just right for my new, smaller stomach capacity. They'll be a quick and handy backup in my pantry from now on. – V.B.W.

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

Gallo Family Vineyards (www.gallofamily.com) has announced the finalists for the third annual Gold Medal Awards for artisan food products. Of the 274 finalists, 13 are Texas companies. (Those with products available in the Austin area are noted with an asterisk.) Congratulations to **Boggy Creek Farm*** of Austin for Larry's Smoke-Dried Tomatoes, **Cocoa Puro*** of Austin for Kakáwa Cocoa Beans, **Austin Slow Burn*** for Habanero Jelly With Rosemary and Green Chile con Queso, **Wateroak Farm*** of Bryan for Brazos Supreme Ice Cream made from goat's milk, **Mozzarella Co.*** of Dallas for cheeses, **Broken Arrow Ranch*** of Ingram for meats, **Brown Paper Chocolates*** of Houston for chocolates, **Veldhuizen Family Farm*** of Dublin for cheeses, **Leaning Oaks Vineyards** of Spring Branch for condiments, **Claybury Products** of Houston for baked goods, **Fischer & Wieser** of Fredericksburg for condiments, **Artisan Baking Co.** of Fort Worth for baked goods, and **Cherith Valley Gardens** of Fort Worth for condiments and fruits/vegetables. Gold Medal Award winners will be announced at a gala event in New York City in April. We wish all the Texas finalists the best of luck!... Menus specially designed to pair with cocktails are all the rage just now, and the **Loft Bar** at **Finn & Porter** in the Hilton Downtown (500 E. Fourth, 482-8000) debuted a new menu during South by Southwest. Look for such enticing selections as Boursin Grilled Cheese (\$8) and "Top Shelf" BLT (\$11) sandwiches, an artisan cheese platter (\$15), Crispy Gulf Oyster Sliders (\$10), and Baked Blue Crab & Spinach Dip (\$14)... Years before making Austin his home, popular local chef/restaurateur **Lou Lambert** helped self-styled "cowboy chef" **Grady Spears** make a success of the **Reata restaurants** in both Alpine and Fort Worth. The old friends now have two joint ventures in Fort Worth: **Dutch's Burgers** opened to rave reviews in May 2007 across the street from the TCU campus, and the brand-new **Lambert's Fort Worth** (2731 White Settlement Rd., www.lambertsfortworth.com) debuted earlier this month immediately west of downtown Fort Worth. The new spot features some of the same menu items that have been a big hit at the Austin Lamberts Downtown Barbecue outlet but is somewhat more casual with a lower price point. It's open for lunch, dinner, and Sunday brunch and will offer late-night live music on Fridays and Saturdays. Drop in the next time you're in Cowtown... Now here's a piece of news that should give **celiac disease** sufferers pining for brownies and chocolate cake a glimmer of hope. The most popular item on the buffet at **Miles Compton's** open-house party at his new East Austin kitchen facility last week was samples of the prototype for his new **gluten-free Miles of Chocolate**. The product is still in the development and testing phase, but Compton hopes to have it in stores by September.



Laura Bayer and Christina Gustavson

JOHN ANDERSON

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Located in a brand-new trailer under spreading live oaks, Lulu B's is an absolute godsend to South Austin. Vietnamese sandwiches (*bánh mì thit*) are addictive, savory, and utterly unique. While it's hard to be a fan of colonialism in any form, the French colonization of Vietnam in the late 19th century resulted in a marvelous fusion of French cooking techniques and ingredients with those of Indochina. Vietnamese sandwiches are a sublime example of this singular cultural collision.

Marinated pork, chicken, or firm tofu is ensconced on a soft French baguette, nestled under a traditional Vietnamese garnish of daikon, carrot, cucumber, cilantro, and chile. The combination of flavors is unforgettable. Austinites who seek these sandwiches usually must go to far North Lamar to get them, if not farther.

"I couldn't find Vietnamese sandwiches when I moved here from California," explains Laura Bayer, who operates Lulu B's with her sister, Christina Gustavson. "Our mother, Thao Gustavson, has a lot of great Vietnamese recipes under her belt. With her help, we started playing around with recipes, and Lulu B's is the result!"

In addition to the sandwiches (\$4), Lulu B's offers vermicelli bowls (\$5.75), summer rolls (\$3), smoothies (\$3.50), and superb bubble tea (\$3). Vietnamese coffee, another happy accident of colonialism, made with sweetened condensed milk brought from the West, is served hot or over ice (\$2.50).

Everything is always fresh and clean at Lulu B's, and unlike many other food trailers, they keep their hours no matter the weather. – Kate Thornberry

EVENT MENU MARCH 27-APRIL 5

► The **Alamo Drafthouse Iron Chef Battle Celluloid** series continues tonight when Alamo chefs John Bullington, Trish Eichelberger, and Elijah Horgan take on challenger chef Lawrence Kocurek of Roy's restaurant. The secret ingredient is director Preston Sturges' classic zany comedy *The Lady Eve*, starring Henry Fonda and Barbara Stanwyck. Each team will present five dishes during the movie in the Alamo Kitchen Stadium (theatre No. 3 at South Lamar), and the audience along with a panel of judges (including yours truly) will decide the winner. Tickets are \$75 at www.originalalamo.com. Thursday, March 27, 7pm.

► **Stortini Ristorante Italiano** (1917 Manor Rd., 391-9500) hosts a benefit for the **Sustainable Food Center's** farm-to-school project, Sprouting Healthy Kids

(www.sustainablefoodcenter.org). The party will feature musical entertainment from the Ephraim Owens Trio. Tickets are \$25 at the door. Thursday, March 27, 7-10pm.

► The **Austin Young Women's Alliance** and the local chapter of **Les Dames d'Escoffier** are hosting the **Haute Tea Party** and silent auction to raise funds for their scholarship programs for young women. Guests are encouraged to wear their best hats and gloves to the fancy tea party to be served at Ventana on the campus of the Texas Culinary Academy (11400 Burnet Rd. #2100). An elegant tea service will be provided by the Steeping Room, and the menu will include dainty tea sandwiches, scones, lemon tarts, and petits fours. Across the hall in TCA's Bleu River Grill, children

from 6 to 12 years old will have their own festive tea party with crustless sandwiches, sweet pastries, and kids activities. Tickets are \$65 for adults and \$20 for children at www.youngwomensalliance.org. Saturday, March 29, 2-4pm.

► Hawaiian fusion chef **Roy Yamaguchi** celebrates 20 years in business at his restaurants around the country with a week of 1988 dinners featuring classic culinary creations from his extensive repertoire. The four-course menu is \$75 per person or \$55 without wine pairings. Reservations are recommended and can be made at www.roysrestaurant.com/reservations.asp for the local Roy's (340 E. Second, 391-1500). The special menu is available from March 31 through April 5. – V.B.W.



JOHN ANDERSON

Cocoa Puro's Kakáwa Cocoa Beans

Restaurant REVIEWS

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www.sagraprestaurant.net

This new Italian eatery first showed up on the local radar a few months back when word got around that the sous chef was observed shopping for produce at Boggy Creek Farm. Starting out with a commitment to feature local organic produce whenever possible augurs well for any aspiring new restaurant. That, coupled with a name that reflects an emphasis on the celebration of regional foods, encouraged me to take on this review assignment myself. "Sagra" is the Italian word for small food festivals built around the finest local ingredients, such as specific cheeses, olive oils, nuts, or meats. Owner and Executive Chef Gabriel Pellegrini chose the evocative name for his first Austin restaurant and transformed a cozy cottage in the Judges' Hill neighborhood between Downtown and UT into the setting for his cuisine. The simple, understated interior decor subtly suggests Tuscany, replacing any hint of the former tenant from the Red Planet.

As eagerly as I had anticipated dining at Sagra, our first visit was a study in missed opportunities. Some friends joined me for lunch, and we discovered many enticing items on the menu. Unfortunately, almost every dish managed to just miss the mark. Nothing was

really bad, but almost everything could have been better. For starters, the breading on the Calamari Fritti (\$8) was too thick, the dressing on the Insalate Cesare (\$6/\$9) lacked the bite of anchovy or any brightness of acidity, and the topping on the Bruschetta del Giorno (\$8) needed salt. (In fact, everything could have used a little salt.) We chose an Aglio & Salsiccia Pizza (\$10) from the list of Neopolitan-style wood-oven pizzas but found no hint of garlic and precious little sausage or fresh mozzarella in the topping, though the dough itself was tasty. When our panini arrived, my sandwich made with crisp sliced pears, piquant arugula, and tangy local goat cheese was a marvelous mélange of contrasting textures and tastes. One of my guests was not so lucky – she received an overly toasted, board-dry portobello-mushroom panini that she deemed inedible. Another friend fared better with a flavorful cup of cream of parsnip soup (\$3), made with a root vegetable rarely seen on Texas menus. The most puzzling dish was a side order of the house meatballs (\$5), three juicy orbs studded with pistachios, napped in the house marinara. The nuts provided a distinctive flavor and texture component, but the impact was marred by several bites of unappetizing gristle in the meat mixture. I would have gladly done without the novelty of the nuts in exchange for a better grade of meat. Our luncheon did finish on a high note, however. We shared a serving of warm chocolate cake (\$5) topped with a dollop of whipped cream and painted with an interesting blood-orange caramel. It was attractive to both the eye and the palate.

I had gone to Sagra with such high expectations that the disappointing first meal really had me worried. I appreciated the concept and found the place itself to be comfortable and inviting, with service that was friendly and informative without being cloying. Somehow I knew there was a good meal to be had at Sagra; I just had to find it. On our second visit, my perseverance was rewarded with a much more satisfying dinner. The Zuppa di Cozze (\$9), mussels in an aromatic white wine and garlic broth, were plump and tender, the broth perfectly seasoned for dipping toasted focaccia croutons. Fans of good mussels will want to drop in to Sagra for happy hour on Tuesdays, when these beauties are available all-you-can-eat for \$12. Each entrée around the table represented the quality I had originally expected to encounter here. The special Herb-Roasted Colorado Lamb Chops (\$24) were tender and toothsome, perfectly medium-rare on a bed of asparagus pieces and crispy roasted potatoes, dressed with a balsamic reduction. The wild-mushroom risotto (\$14) was an earthy bowl of creamy spring perfection, studded with sautéed mushrooms and asparagus. The tangle of Linguini Alla Carbonara (\$12) arrived crowned with an egg yolk – stirring the yolk into the piping hot dish gave the pasta a velvety, unctuous coating complemented with crispy bits of pancetta and fresh spring peas. The sauce on the Penne Alla Arrabiatta (\$12) delivered a spicy kick of red pepper to enhance the crumbles of the tasty house sausage.

To end the meal, we shared three desserts around the table and found that each choice had something to recommend. The biscotti



JOHN ANDERSON

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plate (\$4) presented three cookie varieties, the best of which were the orange and hazelnut traditional twice-cooked pastry sticks suitable for dipping in after-dinner coffee or Vin Santo. The Sagra version of tiramisu (\$6) is a luxurious, espresso-spiked cloud of sweetened mascarpone dusted with cocoa. But the crowning dessert achievement here has to be the poached pear (\$5). The lightly poached whole

fruit maintains a firm texture that offers just the right counterpoint to the pool of sweetened ricotta cheese below it and the creamy dollop of cheese on top. It was a light and lovely ending to a truly delightful meal. Though the kitchen still has yet to hit its stride completely with regard to executing the entire menu, I was pleased to find that Sagra does offer much to celebrate. — Virginia B. Wood



JOHN ANDERSON

DONG NAI VIETNAMESE AND CHINESE CUISINE

4211 S. Lamar, 444-1593
Monday-Saturday, 11am-10pm;
Sunday, noon-9:30pm

Last week I stopped in at a little Vietnamese restaurant, an unimposing strip-mall joint near the Target on Ben White. I ordered the tofu vermicelli bowl (\$5.75), and it was wonderful, perfect, just the way I like it: a cold bed of bean sprouts and lettuce, topped with warm rice vermicelli and hot crispy tofu, caramelized onions, fresh cilantro, carrots, ground peanuts, and a piquant sauce. As I assured my waiter (upon his inquiry) that everything was wonderful, I said, "It's prepared very much like the way they used to make it at Saigon Kitchen." My waiter, Thin Do, began smiling happily and excitedly explained to me that he and the owner/chef were both old-time Saigon Kitchen folks. They had both worked there in the late Nineties, when the South location was at its zenith.

"We have many of the same dishes here," Thin Do explained. Instantly I asked, "Do you have Beef Chunk With Lettuce and Tomato?" "Yes, yes," he said, and pointed to the Vietnamese Steak Cubes. "The name is different, but it is the same dish," he assured me. "What about Tofu With Lemongrass and Chiles?" Yes, yes, he nodded.

Can it be? Can I truly have found where all my favorite Vietnamese dishes have been hiding? As it turns out, the answer is an emphatic yes.

Dong Nai was opened three years ago by Chau Ro, a charming and indefatigable woman who apprenticed at Saigon Kitchen under owner/chef Kim Nguyen, whose culinary skill is now legendary, at least in South Austin, where she is sorely missed. "Kim taught me everything I know," Chau Ro avers. "The recipes I use are the ones she taught me."

As promised, the Lemongrass Tofu (\$6.95) is just as lovely as I remember: crispy pan-fried tofu draped with sautéed green-onion tops in a rich sauce lightened by chiles and vibrant lemongrass. The Medium-Rare Beef With Salad (\$9.95), a new dish to me, was a delight. Thinly shaved, tender beef, piled on a chilled bed of cilantro, bell peppers, lemon, cucumbers, basil, lettuce, mint, and onions, with a light dressing: an unforgettable blend of flavors.

The Squid With Black Peppercorn (\$9.95), recommended by our waitress, was a hit all around the table. The tender slices of calamari, very lightly breaded and pan-fried, were extremely flavorful, with a simple onion-and-celery-based sauce that complemented the fresh squid without obscuring its delicate nuances.

The Curry Tofu With Vegetables (\$6.95) was the only disappointment; the sauce was overpoweringly sweet, tasted far more strongly of coconut than curry, and lacked heat. When I asked Chau Ro about it, she said that she had so many complaints about the fieriness of the curry that she had made it much more bland. Not an improvement in my book. You can, however, specify that you want your curry hot, and Chau Ro will stir you up a more authentic version.

The meal ended with delicious fried bananas (\$2.95), chunks of ripe banana fried in a tempurallike batter, drizzled with a light syrup and white sesame seeds, the sesame and banana flavors blending charmingly. Also (but of course!) iced Vietnamese coffee, made with very strong French chicory-laced espresso, sweetened condensed milk, and lots of crushed ice: the perfect coffee drink for our Texas summers.

Though Dong Nai seems nondescript on the outside, don't let appearances fool you; the Vietnamese delicacies Chau Ro creates within will dazzle you. — Kate Thornberry

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AMERICAN CAFE: HICKORY STREET BAR & GRILLE Jam-packed come lunchtime. Food bar, above-average hamburgers, and a New Orleans-style breakfast menu. 800 Congress, 477-8968. www.hickorystreet.com. \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: OLD PECAN STREET CAFE For more than 25 years Pecan Street has been serving crepes and salads, Fat Chocolate cake, and wonderful coffee to a loyal clientele. 310 E. Sixth, 478-2491. \$\$\$

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

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

CAJUN/CREOLE: THE BOILING POT Fresh boiled seafood of every variety: shrimp, blue crabs, oysters on the half shell, crawfish (in season), boudin, gumbo, and red beans & rice. 700 E. Sixth, 472-0985. \$\$

DELIVERY, PIZZA: ROPPOLO'S PIZZERIA Roppolo's offers a variety of pies at their Downtown location. Whether you're a vegetarian or a carnivore, they know how to pile on the toppings. 316 E. Sixth, 476-1490. \$

PUB GRUB: DADDY'S GRILL & BAR The huge flat-screen TVs are plentiful, and the angus burgers are flame-grilled. They also have a killer veggie burger. 218 E. Sixth, 236-0778. \$

PUB GRUB: THE TAVERN Austin's most tradition-packed venue for sports viewing and a popular watering (and eating) hole for many decades. The building has been upgraded, as have the menu and food. More than 52 TVs. 922 W. 12th, 320-8377. www.austintavern.com. \$\$

SEAFOOD: MCCORMICK & SCHMICK'S This Portland, Ore.-based chain offers daily changing menus drawn from a "fresh list" of seafood flown in from around the globe. Great apple pie. 401 Congress, 236-9600. www.mccormickandschmicks.com. \$\$\$\$

TEX-MEX: RIO GRANDE MEXICAN RESTAURANT Open for lunch and dinner, this Colorado-based Mexican food chain has a full bar and valet parking. 301 San Jacinto, 476-8300. www.riograndemexican.com. \$\$

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

EAST

AMERICAN CAFE: CISCO'S BAKERY In the breakfast business for 50 years, they still serve good migas, huevos rancheros, and hot biscuits with healthy doses of Austin political history. 1511 E. Sixth, 478-2420. \$

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

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

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

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: EL POLLO REGIO The pollo asado is served with borrhacho beans, tortillas, grilled onions, tomato salsa, and lime wedges, plus a scrumptious green avocado salsa. 6615 Berkman, 933-9557. www.elpolloregio.net. \$

ITALIAN: STORTINI RISTORANTE This appealing pasta house is a welcome addition to the mix along Manor Road restaurant row. Try the Rigatoni Coniglio and the Linguini con Shrimp Scampi. 1917 Manor Rd., 391-9500. www.stortini-austin.com. \$\$

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. \$

TEX-MEX: DOS HERMANOS MEXICAN FOODS Even the employees don't know exactly who the two brothers are, but they've been cooking reliable, tasty Mexican food at this location for more than 10 years. 2730 E. Cesar Chavez, 474-9655. \$

TEX-MEX: INOCENTE'S CAFE A great place to sip an icy *agua de horchata*, enjoy good Tex-Mex cuisine, and soak up the flavor of the neighborhood. 2337 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-0218. \$\$

TEX-MEX: LA INDIA BONITA Eccentric hours, cozy-looking interior, and a terrific mural out front. 1505 E. Seventh, 220-0819. \$

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

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. \$

CHINESE: CHINA PACIFIC This quiet neighborhood restaurant has been around for quite some time and provides good, fresh, standard Chinese fare at reasonable prices. 107 RR 620 S. #107, 266-9328. www.chinapacificcaustin.com. \$\$

TEX-MEX: ROSIE'S TAMALES HOUSE With a quarter-century in Austin dishing out tamales and fajitas, they also boast homemade pralines. 13436 Hwy. 71 W., 263-5245. \$

NORTH

AMERICAN CAFE: NORTH BY NORTHWEST Start with a beer-tasting tray, and then move on to roasted garlic bulbs with goat cheese. Be sure to save room for the bone-in pork loin, a dish that will make you proud to be a carnivore. 10010 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 467-6969. www.nxnwbrew.com. \$\$

BARBECUE: BONE DADDY'S HOUSE OF SMOKE

Your waitress may resemble a runaway who's lost her clothing, but don't call the cops; just order the ribs. 11617 Research, Bldg. 1, 346-3025. www.bonedaddys.com. \$\$

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

INDIAN: CURRY IN A HURRY The authentic North Indian vegetarian menu here changes every day. Order an entrée and a side at the counter, and one minute later it arrives with rice and roti or *paratha* alongside. Snacks, *chaat*, and sweets appear on weekends. 2121 W. Parmer Ste. 114-A, 821-0000. www.gandhibazar.com. \$

ITALIAN: ANDIAMO RISTORANTE Each month a different region of Italy is highlighted on a menu of homemade pastas, soups, entrées, and desserts. The list of Italian wines is extensive. 2521 Rutland, 719-3377. \$\$\$

JAPANESE: MIDORI Given its location, you'd expect lots of lunch traffic, especially considering the bargain lunch specials. A nice array of entrée choices is available for dinner and take-out. 13435 Hwy. 183 N., 257-1411. \$\$\$

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

PIZZA: MANGIA CHICAGO STUFFED PIZZA Delectable and deceptively filling stuffed pizza at a reasonable cost. Now going cross-cultural with breakfast tacos. 12001 Burnet Rd., 832-5550. www.mangiapizza.com. \$

STEAKHOUSE: COOL RIVER CAFE Elegant steak house and grill with a ski-lodge atmosphere. Menu items have a Southwestern flair. Full bar available. 4001 Parmer, 835-0010. www.coolrivercafe.com. \$\$\$

VIETNAMESE: PHO CONG LY This location has quickly become a staple for quick, cheap, and tasty meals. Where else can you slurp down a bowl of pho and listen to ABBA? 8557 Research, 832-5595. \$

NORTH CENTRAL

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

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

INDIAN: TAJ PALACE Austin's longest-established local Indian restaurant, where the royal court cuisine of North India is served in an attractive setting. 6700 Middle Fiskville, 452-9959. \$\$

continued on p.58



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food :: RESTAURANT ROULETTE :: FROM P.56

ITALIAN: CARRABBA'S ITALIAN GRILL Order from the pasta bar, sample one of the wood-fired pizzas, or choose a grilled specialty. The menu also includes requisite manicotti, lasagna, and spaghetti options. 6406 N. I-35, 419-1220. 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 seafood. Especially popular are the oyster or shrimp diablo appetizers and Captain Dan's Crawfish Pirogue. 5700 N. I-35, 452-1417. \$\$

TEX-MEX: EL POLLO FELIZ Tender, juicy rotisserie chickens by the plate, whole bird, or party pack paired with reliable side dishes will make your wallet happy. 6801 Airport, 323-6604. \$

THAI: THAI VILLAGE Enjoy a classy but still affordable meal and very artful food presentation. 6406 N. I-35, 452-3888. www.thaivillageaustin.com. \$\$

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

SOUTH

AMERICAN CAFE, BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: AUSTIN JAVA CAFE & BAR Not just for that morning cup o' brown brew, the Austin Java Co. offers an array of sustenance, plus luscious desserts. 1608 Barton Springs Rd., 482-9450. www.austinjava.com. \$\$

AMERICAN CAFE: MAGNOLIA CAFE SOUTH The second location, this one also packs 'em in at all hours, but especially at mealtimes, if the lines at lunch are any indication. 1920 S. Congress, 445-0000. www.cafemagnolia.com. \$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: TEXAS FRENCH BREAD Still the perfect place for a scone, pastry, and cup of coffee. The sandwich menu offers light lunch fare, and, of course, it's a great place for breakfast. 1722 S. Congress, 440-1122. www.texasfrenchbread.com. \$

BARBECUE: UNCLE BILLY'S BREW & QUE The barbecue sauce is outstanding on tender sausage and ribs. After a day at Zilker Park, enjoy great service and cold beer on tap by the folks at Live Oak Brewery. 1530 Barton Springs Rd., 476-0100. www.unclebillysAustin.com. \$

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

JAPANESE: DK SUSHI After 7pm this sushi show is for 21 years and up, which gives us some idea of the party put on nightly by chef DK Lee. The menu features both Korean and Japanese favorites. 6400 S. First, 326-5807. www.dksushi.com. \$\$\$

PAN-ASIAN: 888 FUSION ASIAN CUISINE You'll find traditional dishes seldom seen elsewhere and Asian fusion creations with Thai and Chinese influence. Delicious and inexpensive. 2400 E. Oltorf Ste. 1-A, 448-4722. \$

TEX-MEX: HABANERO MEXICAN CAFE When God created fajitas, he (or she) took lessons here first. Breakfast is just as good as lunch, with low prices, big servings, and great service. Vegans, don't pout; concessions have been made for your limited diets. 501 W. Oltorf, 416-0443. \$

TEX-MEX: LITTLE MEXICO RESTAURANT One of our favorite things to do is enjoy a chile relleno or a plate of carne guisada and listen to the mariachi bands that play here weekly. 2304 S. First, 462-2188. \$\$

VIETNAMESE: LEE'S KITCHEN Right at the corner of MoPac and William Cannon, Lee's Kitchen offers wonderfully fresh ingredients and well-made dishes, gracious service, and fair prices. Don't miss their *Com Suon Bi Hoi Ga Op La*, a delicious rice dish with barbecued pork chops, shredded pork, and a sunny-side-up fried egg. 4404 W. William Cannon Ste. B, 899-8862. \$

UT

AMERICAN CAFE: CAIN & ABEL'S This longtime UT Greek hangout in West Campus is best known as a watering hole but also serves salads, soups, wraps, and breakfast tacos all day. 2313 Rio Grande, 476-3201. www.cainandabels.com. \$

BURGER JOINT, DELIVERY, PUB GRUB: PLUCKERS WING FACTORY & GRILL This may be the local Oakland Raiders headquarters, but there are none of TVs, and the wings keep coming until the wee hours. 2222 Rio Grande, 469-9464. www.pluckers.net. \$

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

CHINESE: MING'S CAFE Applying the concept of yin and yang in Chinese cooking, this casual spot offers simple, recognizable food that people like to eat. 2604 Guadalupe, 476-8888. www.myspace.com/mingsaustin. \$

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

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.boomerangpies.com. \$

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

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FILM NEWS

BY JOE O'CONNELL

TV TOWN: 'LIGHTS,' CAMERAS, 'GOLDEN HOUR'

Just as **Friday Night Lights** looks almost certain to return as part of an NBC deal with DirecTV, the CW has given the green light to **Austin Golden Hour**, a series pilot about a group of emergency medical technicians and emergency room doctors working frantically in the pivotal hour after a trauma in the capital city. My sources say we can expect a summer filming start for season three of *Friday Night Lights* here in a balmy Austin July, but NBC folks will neither confirm nor deny a deal that would have DirecTV air episodes first – probably on its channel the 101. Expect details to shake out about the time this hits print. Meanwhile, *Variety* says *Austin Golden Hour* will be in real time, similar to 24. While the show is definitely set in Austin, the big question remains how much of the pilot will actually shoot here. **Bob Hudgins** of the Texas Film Commission says he's heard rumblings of the show, which was originally set in another city, but hasn't yet been in contact with the CW. Casting notices for the show list the location as to be determined. "The three toughest locations to find are hospitals, jails, and schools because they have a mission and aren't that interested in having it interrupted," says **Gary Bond** of the Austin Film Office. That means the show's hospital will likely be a set. *American Idol* producer **Simon Fuller's** 19 Entertainment is behind the show, which appears to be based on a similar 2005 BBC series titled *The Golden Hour*.

PLATINUM DUNES HEARTS CENTRAL TEXAS

Friday the 13th is officially set to begin an eight-week shoot here April 21, from the same Platinum Dunes folks who brought you two **The Texas Chainsaw Massacre** remakes and **The Hitcher** reimagining. **Marcus Nispel**, the German video director who got his big-screen start directing 2003's *Chainsaw*, is back at the helm for this remake with **Jared Padalecki** (the CW's *Supernatural*) reportedly in negotiations to star as a guy investigating what really went down with that hockey-mask-wearing Jason at Crystal Lake. Producers **Andrew Form** and **Brad Fuller** have been enthusiastic about Central Texas as a filming location since the original *Chainsaw* redo, when I spotted them wearing Hutto Hustlin' Lady Hippos T-shirts.

AND THE REST...

Strangest rumor from the set of **Terrence Malick's** *Tree of Life*, now shooting in Smithville, Texas, with **Brad Pitt** and **Sean Penn**? How about the **Poop Bandit** who likes to leave a special surprise on the patios of some houses used for filming. He remains on the loose... Early local casting and location scouting is under way for the low-budget *Kick the Can*, an adaptation of PBS news anchor **Jim Lehrer's** picaresque Fifties novel of the same name, which is partially set in Galveston. Look for Austin to fill in for Kansas locations... *Willie and Me*, a road-trip film about a German woman aiming to see **Willie Nelson's** farewell concert that I first told you about last year, is looking close to a shooting start date. Originally, a Nashville shoot was planned, but Willie apparently said he'd never do a (even fictional) farewell show anywhere but Austin.

Send tips to filmnews@austinchronicle.com.

Back in Action Nine years after 'Boys Don't Cry,' Kimberly Peirce returns with the backdoor draft drama 'Stop-Loss'

BY CLAY SMITH

If you were asked to create the most compelling title you could imagine for a movie about the Iraq war that MTV-aged moviegoers would flock to, *Stop-Loss* might not be at the top of your list. And Kimberly Peirce, the director behind 1999's *Boys Don't Cry*, the still startling and raw movie that brought Hilary Swank to everyone's attention, probably wouldn't be the first person you'd think of to be directing it.

The wonky, clumsy title of the movie is something only the military could devise. Commonly called the "backdoor draft" by soldiers, stop-loss is the military's official term for requiring soldiers to extend their military service beyond their expected term; it's being invoked more frequently as enlistments falter during an unpopular and lengthy war. According to statistics cited at the end of *Stop-Loss*, since 9/11, 650,000 American troops have fought in Afghanistan and Iraq, and an estimated 81,000 of them have been stop-lossed.

And what is Peirce – once the darling of the indie film scene – doing making such an ambitiously commercial movie, her first since *Boys Don't Cry*? (Even Peirce acknowledges that after an early screening of the film, a studio executive approached her and said, incredulously, "You made a commercial movie!") But the answer, it turns out, has everything to do with Texas, and Austin in particular.

Stop-Loss, which was shot largely in Austin last year, features Ryan Phillippe as Army Staff Sgt. Brandon King, a small-town Texas boy revered in all the stereotypically small-town ways: for his Boy Scout manners, charm, good looks, and for being the star of his high school football team before deploying to Iraq. Leading his men through a vicious, fatal (and beautifully composed) skirmish with insurgents in Iraq, King returns home to a hero's welcome, complete with even a Texas senator singing his praises before a hushed, awed crowd of people he has known all his life.

Then the Army tells King that he's going to be shipped back to Iraq, because he's too valuable to be returned to civilian life. The soldier who

had played by all the rules is now faced with something he has apparently never experienced before: a severe moral crisis, the kind that has palpable consequences, not just for himself but all of the people he's close to. "I did what I had to do for the time I had to do it, and now I'm done," King huffs. The decision he has to make – either return to the Army or move to another country – drags him across the country in an attempt to get the senator who had once praised him to intervene on his behalf.

Despite teetering on the brink of melodrama, *Stop-Loss* is like good undercover journalism: It uses the story of one sympathetic person to expose institutional corruption. Peirce, who was in town recently for *Stop-Loss's* regional premiere at the South by Southwest Film Festival, became something of a journalist while interviewing a number of soldiers about their experiences in Iraq. "I wanted to tell the emblematic story of this generation, and I interviewed soldiers across America," Peirce says. "My little brother fought in Iraq, so my family went through the whole experience of being a military family during a deployment."

Peirce says that the most representative stories about soldiers' experiences came from Illinois and Texas. "It was fundamentally patriotic guys – captain of the football team, from a military family, from a military town. They sign up; they want to defend their country, their home, and their family; and they have this profound experience," she says. But their experience wasn't profound in the ways they may have anticipated. "When you get over there, it's not really about [country, home, and family]; it's really about camaraderie; it's about keeping the guy to your left and the guy to your right alive."

And because of the guerrilla nature of the war in Iraq, American soldiers are killing innocent people. "You don't know at a checkpoint if it's going to be an innocent person or someone with a gun," Peirce says. "You're going to go in the bedroom, in the hallway, in the kitchen, and you're going to try to make a split-second decision – is that someone with a gun? Isn't that someone with a gun? Not only are you acciden-



JOHN ANDERSON

tally going to kill innocent people, but your men are going to get killed and wounded."

During her interviews, Peirce talked to a number of Iraq war veterans from Texas, but the decision to film *Stop-Loss* in Austin and its outlying towns had little to do with the soldiers she met. She chose Austin because the city has a ready supply of experienced film crew who could work on the shoot but also because she wanted to shoot the film in a city she liked; Peirce lived in Austin seven months last year during the shoot. *Boys Don't Cry* was filmed in Dallas; Peirce has become an expert on the range of geographies Texas can offer a filmmaker. Texas residents who see the film might notice how Peirce uses the classic Texas small-town square to establish the idea that King's small town is just as much a character in the movie as King or his fellow soldiers are. But Peirce had her own reasons for wanting to shoot *Stop-Loss* in Austin: "I wanted to film it in a place that already had an organic culture," she says. ■

Stop-Loss opens in theatres on Friday. Check Film Listings, p.90, for review.

DVD WATCH

THE ICE STORM

Criterion Collection, \$39.95

The Ice Storm is that rare construction, a film in which source material, script, cinematography, and music all come together to form a cohesive whole. Based on Rick Moody's eponymous novel, *The Ice Storm* surveys the moral dissolution of American life through the Nixon era, as viewed through the refracted lens of two suburban Connecticut families. Before filming began, director Ang Lee presented each member of cast and crew with a binder filled with hundreds of magazine clippings and ephemera from 1973. Such careful attention to detail would characterize the entire production, though arguably, the picture is art directed to within an inch of its life. One year later, *Rushmore* would be released, and it's easy to imagine Wes Anderson huddled in a darkened theatre somewhere, staring at the screen and scribbling copious notes.



While it doesn't take a genius to cast stalwarts like Kevin Kline and Joan Allen, there's a striking prescience to a youth ensemble that includes Tobey Maguire, Elijah Wood, and Katie Holmes (in her first feature role). Likely the most notable performance in the entire film, however, is that of 16-year-old Christina Ricci. In a director's commentary, Ang Lee estimates that Ricci features in more close-ups than anyone else in the film, and it's easy to see why. In scene after scene, entire narratives play out across her barely flickering features, layers of hurt revealed through a stony surface disaffection. Hers is a purely intuitive performance, one in which the most successful dialogue often goes unspoken. Listening to her comments on the film, you're tempted to wonder whether Ricci's best performances haven't been those in which she's felt most personally insecure – although it's not an especially comfortable thought.

In a written essay included here, film critic Bill Krohn makes a claim that "ten years after it was made, *The Ice Storm* looks like the best made American film of the Nineties." It probably wouldn't be the first film that springs to most people's minds if such an honor were awarded, but *The Ice Storm* is a carefully crafted and intelligent film, one that grows in stature with repeated viewing.

– John Davidson

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On the Road, From San Fran to Taipei

Two new film series
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The Mad Ones The Beat Film Series

BY RAYMOND BLANTON

"The only people for me are the mad ones, the ones who are mad to live, mad to talk, mad to be saved, desirous of everything at the same time, the ones who never yawn or say a commonplace thing." — *On the Road*, Jack Kerouac

Born in the backroom venues of Harlem jazz clubs like Birdland, the beats were a product of 1940s bebop jazz. Extracting bop's noncommercial and far-out prosody, the beats investigated the abstract and dismantled tradition by borrowing from bebop's compositional style of improvisation (as well as its drug use). Improvisation, coupled with the volatile milieu of the beats' youth, stretched the possibilities of their prose and helped set off an exploratory world of literary and artistic creativity. By experimenting with the margins rather than conforming to the emerging paranoia of the Cold War, the beats utilized their slapdash exploits to generate a highly spontaneous prose and stream-of-consciousness writing, challenging the prevalent themes of alienation and isolation in postwar America.

What began as an obscure group of literary brats in NYC eventually morphed into a national counterculture movement of spokesmen who threatened the suburban respectability of 1950s mainstream America — many of whom will be showcased in the Harry Ransom Center's Beat Film Series (starting April 2). Perhaps more than anything, the eccentric thinkers of the Beat Generation were shaped by their times, having been raised in the shadows of the Depression and cultivated in war-torn America. The beats recognized the restrictiveness of their country's traditional values and sought to broaden their experiences through travel. The beats were about movement, drawing inspiration from their many global excursions, from NYC to San Francisco, Mexico City, Los Angeles, Tangier, Paris, Calcutta, and London. They provided a voice for America, both its rural landscapes as well as its bustling streets. The open road, which took on its own persona in Kerouac's *On the Road*, functions as a nostalgic metaphor for the America we've always been told about but have never known, a mythologized America. A mythology that, alongside the rebellious sentiments of the beats, was perpetuated by classic Hollywood works like *The Wild One* and *Rebel Without a Cause*.

During the month of April, the HRC will present a series of 16 films ranging from shorts to documentaries and features that showcase the influence of the Beat Generation on the movies. The series will run in conjunction with the ongoing "On the Road With the Beats" exhibit, which examines the literary and personal journeys of prominent beat figures like Allen Ginsberg, Jack Kerouac, William S. Burroughs, and Neal Cassady.

Robert Frank and Alfred Leslie's memorable short "Pull My Daisy" is one of the Beat Film Series' inaugural shorts; original-

ly a stage play, it was adapted by Kerouac and inspired by Cassidy. Other highlights in the series include Kenneth Anger's innovatively pop-cultish "Scorpio Rising," B-movie king and low-budget-filmmaking guru Roger Corman's comic-horror flick *A Bucket of Blood*, and independent-filmmaking pioneer John Cassavetes' *Shadows*. The Beat Film Series covers the gamut, examining everything from Stan Brakhage's experimental films to Shirley Clarke's abstract expressionism and every-



APRIL 2

"Motion Picture" (D: Frank Paine, 1956)

"Pull My Daisy"

(D: Robert Frank and Alfred Leslie, 1959)

"Cry of Jazz" (D: Ed Bland, 1958)

"Bridges-Go-Round" (D: Shirley Clarke, 1958)

"Anticipation of the Night"

(D: Stan Brakhage, 1958)

APRIL 9

"Desistfilm" (D: Stan Brakhage, 1954)

"Skyscraper" (D: Shirley Clarke, 1959)

Shadows (D: John Cassavetes, 1959)

APRIL 16

"The Last Clean Shirt" (D: Alfred Leslie, 1964)

"Wholly Communion"

(D: Peter Whitehead, 1965)

"Towers Open Fire" (D: Anthony Balch and

William S. Burroughs, 1962)

"The End" (D: Christopher Maclaine, 1953)

"Beat" (D: Christopher Maclaine, 1958)

APRIL 23

"Scorpio Rising" (D: Kenneth Anger, 1963)

"Kustom Kar Kommandos"

(D: Kenneth Anger, 1965)

A Bucket of Blood (D: Roger Corman, 1959)

thing in between (an in-between that includes Christopher Maclaine, Frank Paine, Anthony Balch, Peter Whitehead, and Ed Bland). The series looks at films as well as visual and performing arts, giving us a variety of angles through which to understand how the beats shaped modern cinema.

You dig? ■

All screenings take place on Wednesdays at 7pm at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz (320 E. Sixth). Discounts are available for students, members of the Ransom Center, and Austin Film Society members. Tickets for each night are \$8.25; a series pass is available for \$25. For more information, see www.hrc.utexas.edu/events/2008/beatfilm.

Ascending Dragon: Films of Greater China

BY JOSH ROSENBLATT

In the world of international arthouse cinema, minimalist Taiwanese director Tsai Ming-liang is known for his aversion to dialogue. From his debut film, *Rebels of the Neon God*, through 2006's *I Don't Want to Sleep Alone*, Tsai has been cultivating a style that features verbal interactions so brief they could be typed on the head of a pin.



APRIL 1

Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles

(D: Zhang Yimou, 2005)

APRIL 8

Lost in Beijing (D: Li Yu, 2007)

APRIL 15

Unknown Pleasures

(D: Jia Zhang-ke, 2002)

APRIL 22

Goodbye, Dragon Inn

(D: Tsai Ming-liang, 2003)

APRIL 29

Sunflower (D: Zhang Yang, 2005)

MAY 6

Springtime in a Small Town

(D: Tian Zhuangzhuang, 2002)

MAY 13

Blind Mountain (D: Li Yang, 2007)

MAY 20

Blind Shaft (D: Li Yang, 2003)

A perfect example of this predisposition is *Goodbye, Dragon Inn*, Tsai's 2003 drama about the lost souls populating the regal Fu-Ho Grand Theatre movie house in Taipei the night before it's set to close its doors forever. The first line of dialogue in that film doesn't come until nearly 40 minutes in. Up until that point, the only human voices we hear come from the actors in the movie being shown on the Fu-Ho screen, King Hu's sword-fighting favorite *Dragon Inn*. In the audience sit a few scattered souls, including a young hustler keeping an eye out for possible homosexual liaisons and two old actors wistfully watching them-

selves onscreen as younger men. Meanwhile, a crippled ticket-girl wanders wordlessly through the theatre looking for the movie projectionist she loves. These characters' quiet desperation, their impassive solemnity, their detachment and disappointment are amplified by the almost-antic action taking place onscreen, and the visual juxtaposition says as much about their emotionally fractured states as any wordy soliloquies or extended verbal tussles ever could.

Tsai is one of the most prominent sons of the revolution in Chinese film known as the Fifth Generation, a revolution that rejected the confines of social realism demanded by Mao's Cultural Revolution and sought inspiration instead from the revelatory personal film visions of the great French New Wave directors like Jean-Luc Godard and François Truffaut. Like those influential Frenchmen, the great Fifth Generation innovators — Zhang Yimou, Chen Kaige, and others — understood film not just as a source of art and entertainment but as a language we define ourselves by, as an influence so pervasive as to be essentially unnoticed. Tsai takes that sense of reflexivity one step further, arguing for a world where no individual experience is so substantial that it can't be recontextualized and given new meaning by its proximity to the projector and the screen. Which is why he is confident enough to let the dialogue of a 40-year-old action movie fill up the silences left by his own protagonists: He doesn't just believe in the emotional power of the movies; he, like so many of his contemporaries raised on Fifth Generation cinematic ideals, celebrates the notion that the lives of modern-day human beings can't be understood outside the context of the movies.

Goodbye, Dragon Inn is playing as part of the Austin Film Society's next Essential Cinema series, *Ascending Dragon: Films of Greater China*, a look at rarely seen movies by Fifth Generation directors and their artistic sons and daughters. Some of the other highlights of the series include *Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles*, Zhang Yimou's take on the fractured relationships that develop between fathers and sons; Jia Zhang-ke's *Unknown Pleasures*, which, like so many "New Wave" films from so many countries around the world, follows the lives of young people struggling to find their places in the world through the lens of American films; and *Lost in Beijing*, by Li Yu, a film that, through the expressive use of handheld cameras and slowly defocusing lenses, puts its own stamp on the aesthetic philosophy that the more personal our movies get, the more the techniques used to make those movies blur the line between cinema and reality, until we can't say which came first or which influenced which, until — like the deflated heroes of *Goodbye, Dragon Inn* — we begin relying on onscreen dialogue and alternating flashes of light and darkness to give form and meaning to our own scattered lives. ■

All screenings take place Tuesdays at 7pm at the Alamo South Lamar (1120 S. Lamar). Admission is free for AFS members, \$4 for general admission. For more information, see www.austinfilm.org.

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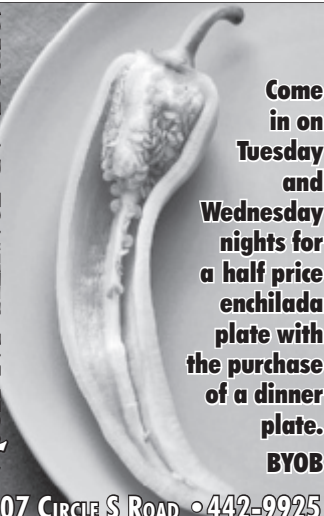
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Luisa Fregoso of Mariachi Reyna de Los Angeles

I know I just had the opportunity to witness the most talked-about and up-and-coming bands from all over the world at South by Southwest, but truth be told, I love me some mariachi. Now I'm the first to admit that when mariachi is bad, it's really bad. As in makes-your-teeth-itch bad. Sour-milk bad. But when mariachi is good, it's sublime. Good mariachi strikes at a core level of understanding that reaches beyond language and — well, I was going to say culture, but honestly, I'm not sure the feeling, that unique twist of the heart, always translates. So if you're someone who doesn't snicker at the tight, flashy outfits and the flying-saucer-sized sombreros, then you

will appreciate *Compañeras*, a new film in PBS' *Independent Lens* series about the first all-female mariachi band in the U.S., Mariachi Reyna de Los Angeles.

Filmmakers **Elizabeth Massie** (*Out of the Shadow*) and **Matthew Buzzell** (whose superb *Jimmy Scott: If You Only Knew* played at SXSW a few years back as well as on *Independent Lens*) have come together to chart the creation of Mariachi Reyna while offering remarks on what makes mariachi so compelling. While the film doesn't quite hit the mark with the latter, it makes up for this shortcoming by handsomely showcasing some enormously talented singers and musicians.

The opening sequence of *Compañeras* will take your breath away. A tight shot of a vocalist, bathed in blue light and powerfully singing a traditional mariachi tune, makes your heart soar and makes you expect more. But after a cursory history lesson on mariachi, the film settles into profiling several members of the 12-woman ensemble, focusing on some in-group bickering we're led to believe is inevitable whenever you get a bunch of women together. We're told the Mariachi Reyna (formed in 1994) do not perform as often or get paid as much as their male counterparts and that it's their own fault because they don't take the gigs as seriously as getting married and having children. Maybe they would take it more seriously if they were making real money, like their male counterparts. But dissecting that double standard doesn't seem to be the focus of this otherwise enjoyable film. Instead, *Compañeras* seems fixated on the backstage antagonisms coming to the unspoken conclusion that girls will be girls. If you can get past this disappointing commentary, *Compañeras* is quite enjoyable. In fact, it's almost worth fast-forwarding through the backstage drama just to hear the music. But if you did that, you'd miss two of the more intriguing profiles. The first features Cindy. She is the only non-Latina in the group, a classically trained violinist who came to the group by accident, only to fall in love with mariachi and eventually become leader of Mariachi Reyna. The second story is about Angelica, a 19-year-old vocalist and guitarist who gets her father to move her to Los Angeles so she can fulfill her dream of auditioning for

Mariachi Reyna. Watching Angelica audition is one of the most touching aspects of the film. Her anxiety clouding over her obvious skill is something any parent, mentor, or adult guardian will recognize with heartbreaking clarity.

While *Compañeras* has several screenings, unless you're a night owl, you're going to have to record this *Independent Lens* feature. *Compañeras* airs Wednesday, April 2, at 12mid on KLRU2. Subsequent airdates occur in May on KLRU. Check local listings for dates and times.

Happy Returns

The Tudors returns to Showtime for its second season Sunday, March 30, at 8pm. Can't wait? Watch the first episode of the new season at www.sho.com.

For those wondering when new episodes of your favorite series will air now that the writers' strike is over, make note of these dates:

April 3: *My Name Is Earl* (NBC) and *CSI* (CBS). April 7: *Samantha Who?* (ABC). April 10: *The Office*, *30 Rock*, and *Scrubs* (NBC). April 13: *Desperate Housewives* (ABC).

If you forgot what transpired before your fave shows went into reruns or you want to relive some good TV times from the past, check out **Hulu.com**. The streaming-video site finally went live on March 17 and is the current go-to site to catch new and vintage TV shows from the comfort of your computer. And it's free, for now.

As always, stay tuned.

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

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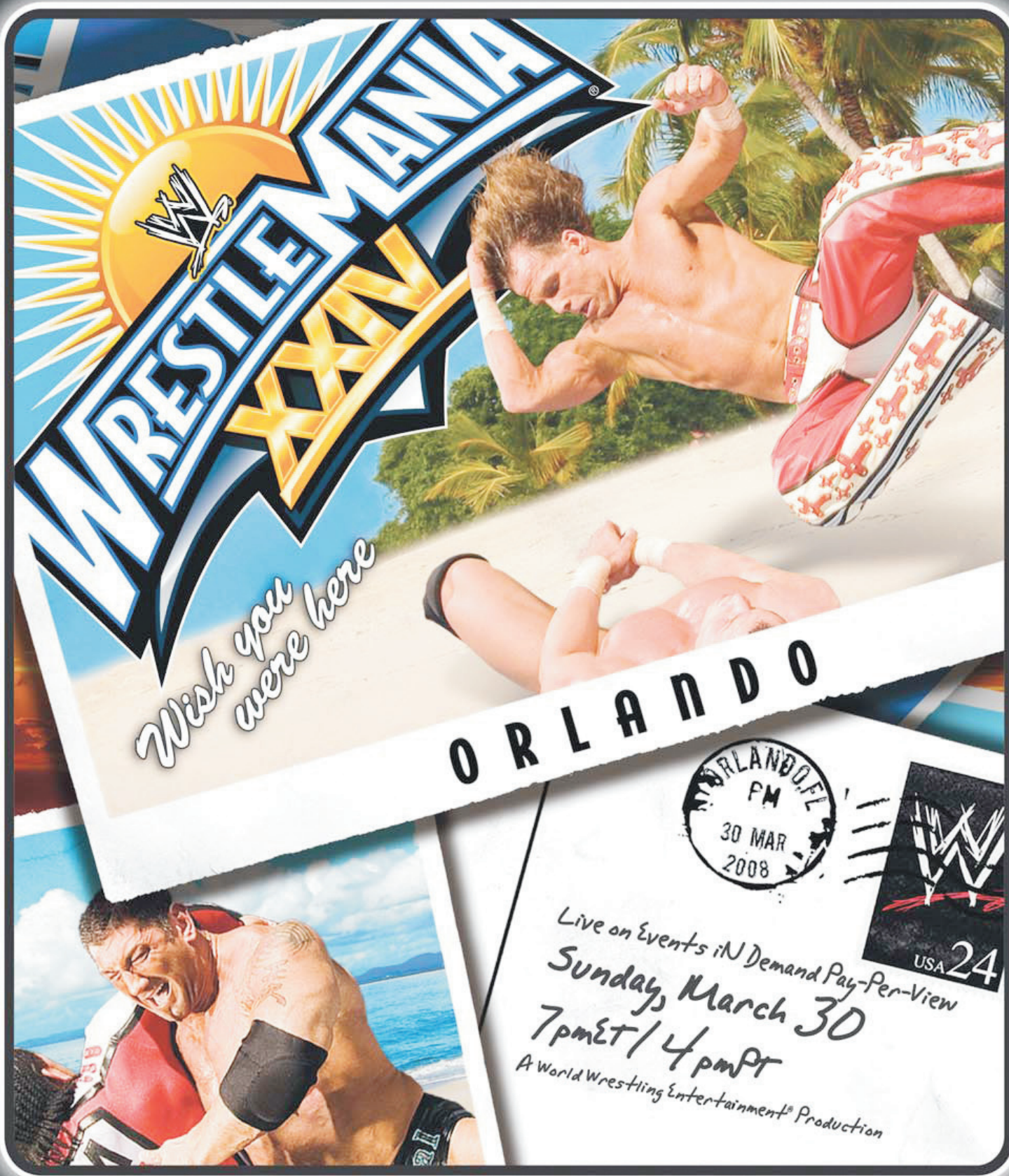
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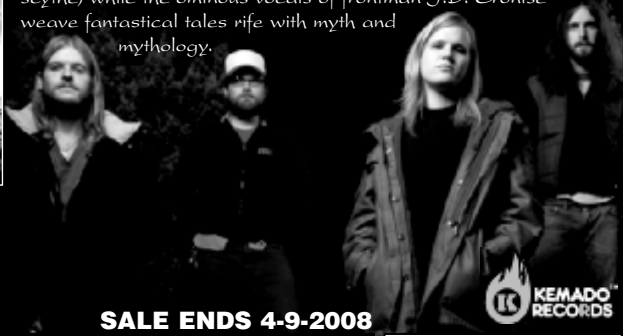
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Juanes kicked off the U.S. leg of his world tour in New York in early March bringing a message of peace and the reviews prove Austin area fans are in for a passionate show when the "La Vida World Tour" comes to The Theatre at the Frank Erwin Center on April 16.

Tickets for An Evening with **Juanes** at The Theatre at the Frank Erwin Center Wednesday, April 16 at 8pm are at all Texas Box Office Outlets (includes select H-E-B stores in Austin), charge-by-phone at 512-477-6060 or 1-800-982-2386 or order online at TexasBoxOffice.com.

to WIN *Juanes* tickets, log on to austinchronicle.com/contests

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music

68 THE SWORD 74 PHASES & STAGES 101 MUSIC LISTINGS

OFF THE RECORD music news

BY AUSTIN POWELL



Eleanor and Paul C. McGruff

FOR THOSE ABOUT TO ROCK

Now that **South by Southwest 08** has officially come to pass, OTR can finally enjoy that other March Madness. Enter **Rock City Icehouse**, a new venue and sports bar located in the **Lincoln Village** complex near the **Monarch Event Center**. With 16 flat-screen TVs, a pool table, and a green room, the establishment evokes Austin's sorely missed **Back Room**, only without the bullet holes and **Black Label Society** vibes. "We're not trying to replace it, but if it were still open, we wouldn't be here," acknowledges co-owner/co-booker **Eleanor McGruff**. Since opening on Feb. 2, the venue has already hosted hair metal hangovers **L.A. Guns** and **Skid Row** and is quickly becoming a haven for less-established artists. "We got tired of seeing our favorite bands in venues that didn't have adequate sound or lighting," says McGruff, a branded booster of **Broken Teeth**, who crash the club on Friday. "The most difficult part is getting people used to coming here, but we already have a few regulars."

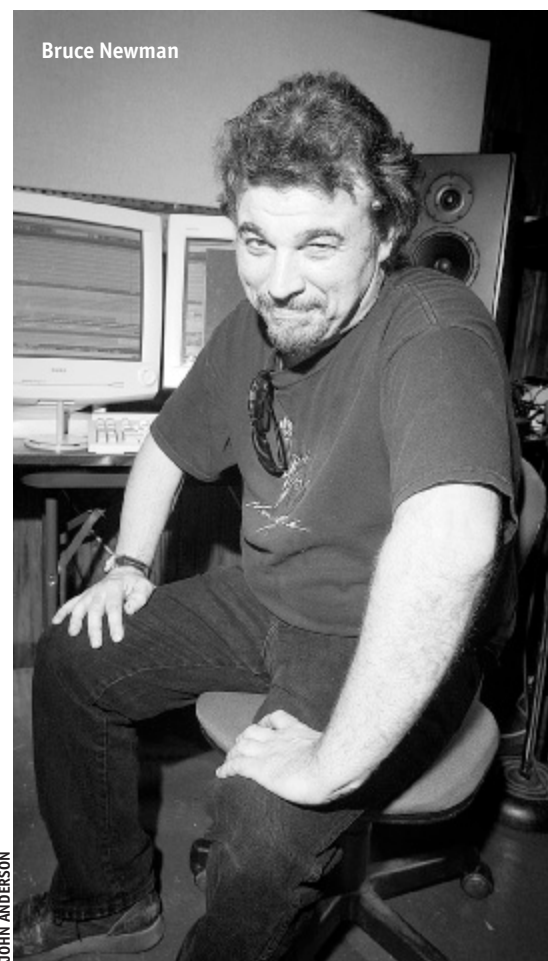


Electric Touch

THE GREATEST WHITE LIAR

With only a handful of demos to its name, Austin's **Electric Touch** has managed to score a deal with **Justice Records** and a slot at the coveted **Coachella Valley Music & Arts Festival** in April. "There's no one from **Willie Nelson's** extended family in our band, if that's what you're wondering," says bassist and vocalist **Shane Lawlor** in regard to their label's roster, which reads a lot like the Nelson family tree. Electric Touch's string of luck is better attributed to Lawlor's former group **Nic Armstrong & the IV Thieves**, who rampaged Coachella in 2005 and whose anthemic Brit-pop heavily influences the band's full-length debut, slated for release this summer. ET amps at **Flamingo Cantina** on Friday.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO PUT ON THE RED LIGHT



Bruce Newman

Sex sells, especially if you're a prostitute. **Ashley Alexandra Dupré**, the 22-year-old call girl identified as "Kristen" in a federal affidavit detailing her Feb. 13 rendezvous with **Eliot L. Spitzer**, which led to his resignation as New York's governor, has had more than 10 million views of her **MySpace** profile since the scandal broke earlier this month. Her **Paris Hilton**-esque "What We Want" tops the bestsellers list for the month of March on **Amie Street**, a digital-rights-management-free distribution site, and has received airplay from New York radio stations such as Z100 (WHTZ-FM), while the video for an unofficial **Snoop Dogg** remix has gone viral on **YouTube**. "She's a sweet Jersey girl who worked extremely hard," recalls local producer **Bruce Newman**, who worked with Dupré in 2004, in his private studio, **Barnstormers Music**, behind the **Yellow Rose** gentlemen's club. "There was no make-up, no thrills, no drama, and if I asked her to sing something 20 times, she would. She was somewhat courageous, too." While **Girls Gone Wild** has uncovered more than seven hours of footage of Dupré after being tipped off to her appearance in a 2003 spring break production, Newman is still scanning his archives for salvageable remnants of the recordings. In the weeklong session, the two co-wrote a few songs, while Dupré laid down three of Newman's originals, including the oddly appropriate ballad, "Hello Stranger" (sample lyric: "Hello stranger, stranger in the dark. There is danger, danger in my heart"). "The recordings are more like an **Amy Winehouse** thing with an Austin touch, more old-school R&B," Newman says. "It's been four years, which is an eternity in the music industry, but they still hold up." Newman has set up his own site (www.myspace.com/ashleydupresings) to preview and sell "Hello Stranger," but interest is already starting to dissipate. As of Tuesday afternoon, the song had been played fewer than 100 times on the site. "These songs really humanize her," Newman counters. "It's a whole different aspect of her talent and her personality. She won't be as easy for people to dismiss. This isn't a fad."

RAISED BY WOLVES

Much has changed for Austin's **Voxtro** since the indie-pop outfit last played a hometown gig May 2007, commemorating the release of its self-titled debut LP for **Playloder** (see "The New Rage" May 18, 2007). The group weathered some backlash in the blogosphere and toured the world once over, including a run with the **Arctic Monkeys**, while firecracker frontman **Ramesh Srivastava** recently returned from a three-month sojourn in Berlin. "It's really hard to be a new band and make it through the first cycle," says Srivastava. "If you can get past that initial bump and keep going, then you can make it, but it's exhausting." Voxtro has a few new songs recorded with local producer **Erik Wofford** and finally returns to **Emo's** on Friday. "This time around we definitely have less pressure," Srivastava relates. "I've come to think that less is more, even though touring is the only way that bands make money nowadays. It's worth the sacrifice of a little bit of money for sanity."



Voxtro

ONE HELL OF A RIDE

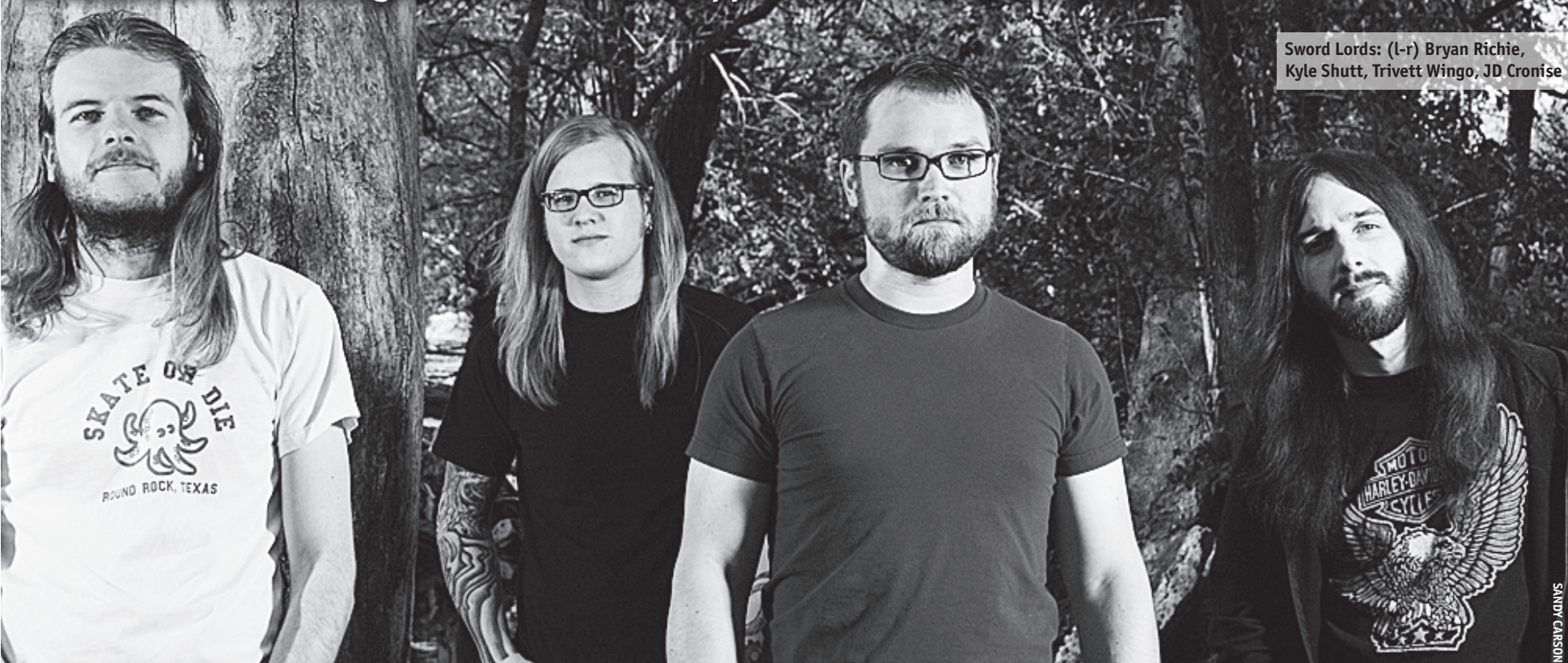
Willie Nelson's highly anticipated **Comedy Central** roast has been postponed indefinitely due to a scheduling conflict, which is probably a good thing, since video footage of daughter **Paula Nelson** kicking a fan at the **Saxon Pub** hit YouTube this week (www.youtube.com/watch?v=cAWt2y7yuKA). The elaborately staged stunt included breakaway tables and bottles and took place on March 12, in hopes of generating a bit of SXSW buzz. "It was a hell of a scene," recalls manager **Todd Gardner**. The **Red Headed Stranger**, meanwhile, is releasing the 4-CD, career-spanning collection *One Hell of a Ride* on Tuesday, in anticipation of his 75th birthday later this month, and appears alongside **David Allan Coe** as a circus ringmaster in **Toby Keith's** new film, *Beer for My Horses*.

RANDOM PLAY

- Saxophone specialist **Martin Fierro**, an El Paso native and sideman to the **Sir Douglas Quintet** and **James Cotton**, died on March 13 following a brief battle with cancer. He was 56.
- The **Octopus Project** is contributing the previously unreleased "Wet Gold" and "Moon Boil" for the March edition of UK label **Too Pure's** monthly 7-inch Singles Club. Reserve yours at www.toopure.com/singlesclub.
- Philanthropists **Dr. Ernest and Sarah Butler** are donating \$55 million to **UT's School of Music in the College of Fine Arts**, which will be renamed in their honor. The gift is the second-largest in the school's history and the most given to a music school at a public university. See Arts, p.43.
- **W.C. Clark** and **Ruben Ramos** are among the artists painting the historic town of Marble Falls this weekend for the third annual **Bluebonnet Blues & Fine Arts Festival**. In conjunction with the three-day gala, **Joe Ely** and **Joel Guzman** are taking the stage at **Lorraine's**. See www.bluebonnetblues.com for more information.

We Come From the Land of the Ice and Snow

Swordsman Trivett Wingo unsheathes 'Led Zeppelin III' BY RAOUL HERNANDEZ



Sword Lords: (l-r) Bryan Richie, Kyle Shutt, Trivett Wingo, JD Cronise

Heavy metal's manifest destiny never staked a more righteous and undeniably apropos claim than *Led Zeppelin III* Viking flagship "Immigrant Song." Robert Plant's wordless invocation, Jimmy Page's "threshing oar," John Paul Jones' battering basslines, and the marching beat-down of John Bonham conquered a subgenre still in its infancy with lexiconic imagery that forever branded its generational spawn:

*The hammer of the gods
Will drive our ships to new lands,
To fight the horde, singing and crying:
Valhalla, I am coming!*

The Sword's scrappy plundering of "Immigrant Song" found its way onto last fall's 12-inch vinyl split with Swedish sorcerers Witchcraft, the Austin overlords stripping their cover down to oaken basics with a shipyard snarl. By contrast, the local quartet's April 1 sophomore release for New York indie Kemado Records, *Gods of the Earth*, hammers the Word into the ultimate killing machine where even Page and Plant's LZ3 opener "calmed the tides of war."

Inasmuch as the Sword's steady-selling debut, *Age of Winters*, advances stoically through Napoleonic snowdrifts of riff (see "Winter's Wolves," Feb. 3, 2006), *Gods of the Earth* takes the River City crew from mono to stereo, varying tempo, song length, and tonal palette while remaining dazzlingly compact in all but the band's epic vision. From crystalline intro "The Sundering" and three-minute amputations "How Heavy This Axe" and "Fire Lances of the Ancient Hyperzephyrians" to five towering minutes of "Lords" and closing hydroelectric-damn bursts "The Black River" and "The White Sea," *Gods of the Earth* headquarters in Valhalla.

Atomizing the album live, start to finish, the Sword's exclusive day party debut of *Gods* during South by Southwest 08 at Spider House's neighboring United States Art Authority now stands as one of the local foursome's most fearsome hometown sunderings. And there have been a few such absolute crushers

since the Sword's 2004 in-store debut at North Loop music emporium Sound on Sound. Low ceilings trap high-watt chain reactions starting in the sternum.

The week prior to SXSW, Trivett Wingo (né Trivett Copley Wingo), the band's ever-lively drummer and still manager, took up the gauntlet of dialoguing a favorite album via

TW: I think "Born to Be Wild" is the first song to use "heavy metal" in the lyrics, but I seem to remember reading in the book *Hammer of the Gods* that "Immigrant Song" was the first actual song that the term was applied to in print. The term was coined to describe that song. I'm not sure how accurate that book is, though. Robert Plant refuses to read it based solely on its authorship.

Independent of the issue of print, "Immigrant Song" is arguably one of the first real metal jams. It was, of course, performed loud as fuck, had a chunky evil riff at its root, featured some admirably fast fretwork on bass, and had lyrics about Vikings. Sounds like metal.

On a side note, I don't think Led Zeppelin's metalness began with "Immigrant Song." *LZ II* is a heavy

metal album too, just predates the terminology.

AC: Has the Sword toured Scandinavia?

TW: We've toured Scandinavia from Malmö to Finland, and they eat that shit up with a spoon. Norway is probably the place we get played on the radio the most in the world.

AC: Ever visit the Viking Ship Museum in Oslo? "Immigrant Song" loops in your head in the presence of those vessels.

TW: Don't recall making it to any museums, but then again there's a lot I don't remember. Wanna talk about loops? I only have a tape deck in my car. A couple of years ago, I popped in a *Led Zeppelin III* cassette and didn't eject it for a full month.

AC: Think Zeppelin ever visited the Viking Ship Museum? I always liked that Mastodon made a group pilgrimage to Phil Lynott's grave in Dublin. Has the Sword ever done anything like that?

TW: Nothing that awesome. We did make it a point to visit as many castles as possible on our last trip to the UK. And we ate some reindeer in Helsinki (sorry, don't know what that has to do with anything). One time JD and I went to the building that's on the cover of *Physical Graffiti*, but that was years ago, before the Sword.

continued on p.70



"We ended up padding out our first European sets with 'Immigrant Song' for the reasons that A) we didn't have an hour's worth of original material yet and B) we were immigrants driving our ships to new lands to sing and cry."

e-mail. His online discourse and in-person wrap-up on the eve of a UK tour dispel the notion of metal producing only leaden IQs while reaffirming the music's cast-iron ecstasy. Why 1970's LZ3?

"*Led Zeppelin III* and 'Immigrant Song' introduced the world to the term 'heavy metal,'" wrote Trivett, 29, initially. "The fact that this song appears on an album dominated by folk and blues really speaks volumes."

Austin Chronicle: Nice choice.

Trivett Wingo: I've just been a fanatical Zeppelin fan since I first heard them in third grade. As I've grown older, *III* has become for me the greatest Led Zeppelin album. Led Zeppelin along with Black Sabbath and bands like Deep Purple are the inventors of metal. People seem to forget that heavy metal was/is just a type of rock music. *Zeppelin III* really challenges the narrow-minded and uneducated newcomers who want to redefine heavy metal in terms of newer subgenres that are more derived than seminal and authoritative.

AC: If I'm not mistaken, though, Steppenwolf's "Born to Be Wild" coined the musical term "heavy metal," which isn't in "Immigrant Song."

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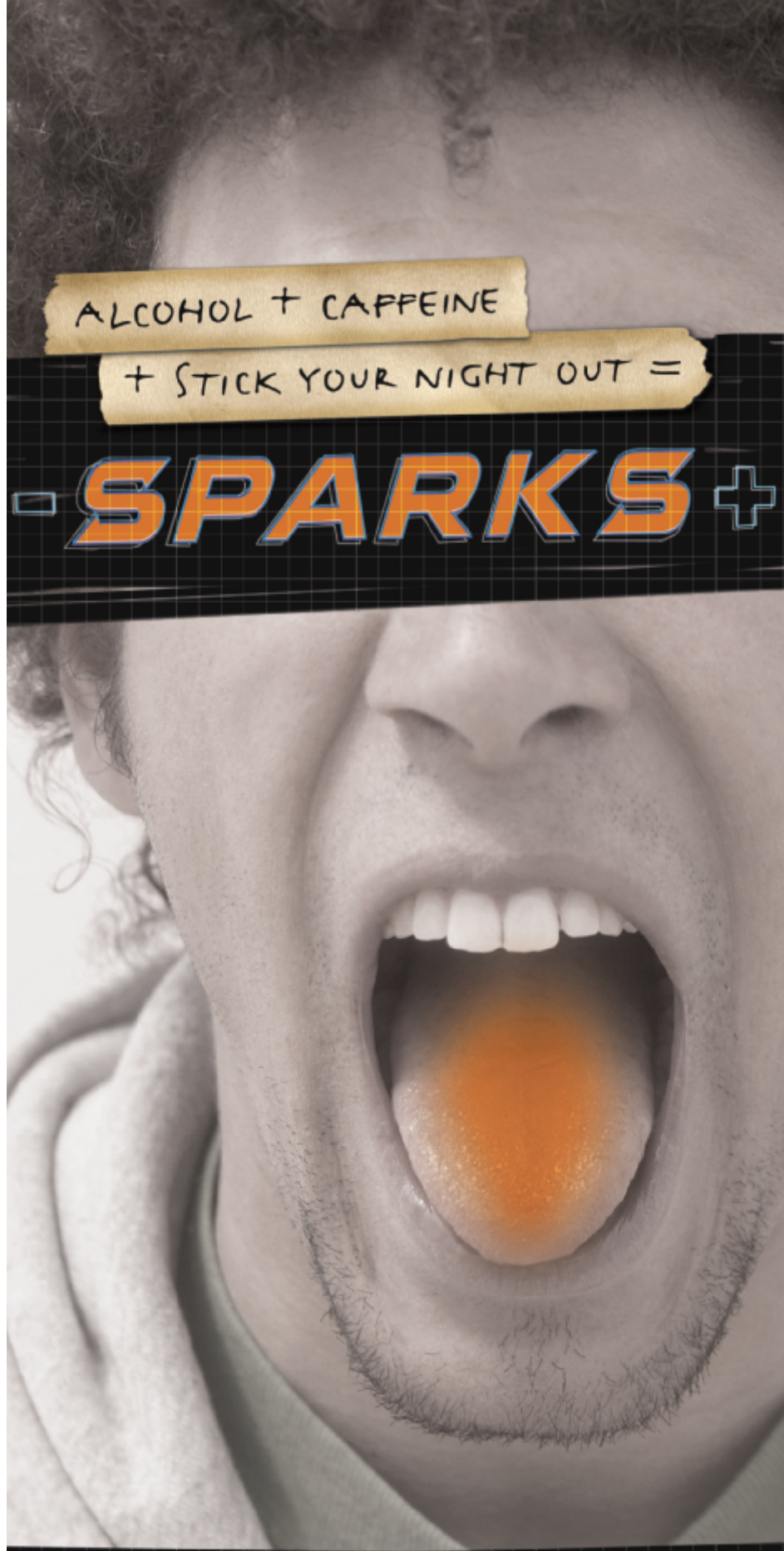


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The Sword's SXSW, Friday, March 14, United States Art Authority

AC: One of my LZ3 favorites is an outtake – “Poor Tom,” from Coda. Then there’s “Hey Hey What Can I Do,” B-side to “Immigrant Song.”

TW: Very interesting. Here’s the Led Zeppelin playlist I made for a plane trip about a month ago to shoot a video in L.A. [for Gods’ “Fire Lances of the Ancient Hyperzephyrians”]: “Bron-Yr-Aur,” “Sick Again,” “We’re Gonna Groove,” “Poor Tom,” “Travelling Riverside Blues,” “White Summer/Black Mountain Side,” “Hey Hey What Can I Do.”

I’ve gotten so burnt on the staples that these are some of the only tracks that really get me high these days. These are also just some of my favorite Zeppelin tunes regardless.

AC: Burnout is a very germane subject with Led Zeppelin.

TW: I got burned out really hard a long time ago and then have only been able to listen intermittently over the last 10 or 15 years, with the exception of becoming totally obsessed with certain records, most notably *III*, *Presence*, and *Physical Graffiti* – stuff I didn’t really devote much time to the first time around. The Sword/Funeralizer did a cover show as *Led Zeppelin II* where we faithfully re-created that album live. Not to brag, but we nailed that shit down to the bare-handed drum solo. I think I have a recording somewhere. The funny thing was that it was so spot-on that people’s minds were blown, and they assumed we had had to rehearse for months to pull that off. We actually had just

three practices, and I barely even listened to the record but a couple of times. The songs were etched into my DNA just waiting to be played.

AC: Seen any of the band live?

TW: Never have, but we’re playing Bonnaroo this year, and Robert Plant’s gonna be there with Alison Krauss. I have this dream that he would be willing to get onstage with us and sing “Immigrant Song,” which we already cover, of course. Mentioned to my booking agent trying to contact his management about this, but I don’t think it’s anything that could be seriously entertained.

AC: For your same reasoning, LZ3 was a real discovery for me, so I ended up wanting less rockers à la “Out on the Tiles” and more hootenanny fare like “Gallows Pole.”

TW: When I first got *Led Zeppelin III* back at, say, age 9 or 10, I liked “Immigrant Song” and the rock and blues stuff on side one but had no patience with “Gallows Pole,” “Tangerine,” and the mellower stuff like that. I remember trying to get into it and it just not working for me at that age. I wanted more “Whole Lotta Love,” “Living Loving Maid,” and “Heartbreaker”-type shit that you could crank up and jump on the couch to. (I used to turn my jambox up full blast, put on Zeppelin tapes, and generally bounce off the walls and go nuts to that shit, especially “Over the Hills and Far Away.”) It wasn’t until a couple of years ago – that month I listened to *III* constantly – that I started

THE SWORD

Gods of the Earth (Kemado)

“Hear the horns, pounding hooves,” prophesies JD Cronise in “Lords,” as galloping guitars conjure “visions of cities aflame.” “Die by the sword or in chains.” The omen could pass as a mission statement for Austin’s premier alchemists, who live by the code and take no prisoners on sophomore LP *Gods of the Earth*. Like the Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse, the Sword seeks and destroys, carving chronicles of serpents and sorcery without retracing the Nordic frost of 2005 debut *Age of Winters*. From the opening preface, “The Sundering,” it’s apparent that Gods transcends the Sabbath worship of its contemporaries, a clearer sense of control and



pacings underscoring the biblical tales of wrath and retribution. The intricate, intertwined guitars of Cronise and Kyle Shutt lead the ventures for “The Frost-Giant’s Daughter” and “Maiden, Mother & Crone,” while “How Heavy This Axe” and “To Take the Black,” not to mention its acoustic reprise (included as a hidden bonus), veer into a void of classic metal-

lurgy. Devastatingly brutal yet altogether timeless, the doom-laden onslaught of “Fire Lances of the Ancient Hyperzephyrians” and “Under the Boughs” pillage the remains before closing with an epic, two-part suite, the turbulent tidal rush of “The Black River” and “The White Sea,” a seven-minute instrumental odyssey that unearths a leviathan. Choose your fate.

★★★★

– Austin Powell

enjoying the whole album. Basically, the same [Funeralizer] lineup that had done LZII live also did "Out on the Tiles," though we never played it live, and not long after that, the Sword started playing "Immigrant Song." We did it as part of a medley of covers one night at the Whisky Bar, when we took a whole show to ourselves, dubbed "An Evening With the Sword." We ended up padding out our first European sets with "Immigrant Song" for the reasons that A) we didn't have an hour's worth of original material yet and B) we were immigrants driving our ships to new lands to sing and cry.

More recently I started to really enjoy "Gallows Pole," "Tangerine," and "Friends" to the point that I bought an acoustic guitar (though I've never played guitar) to try and learn acoustic Zeppelin songs, so I could understand them better. This then sparked my interest in Roy Harper, whose album *Stormcock* is a straight-up masterpiece, and Bert Jansch, from whom Jimmy Page stole "Black Mountain Side." Bert Jansch's first album really blows my mind. People go back and forth on whether "Black Mountain Side" is "stolen" from Jansch, and the gainsayers fall on the argument that his "Blackwaterside" is a traditional, and you can't steal something like that. Having personally researched this, I've realized that the lyrics and

vocal melody are the traditional part, and what makes each artist's rendition distinct is how they deliver it and what they compose on the guitar to accompany it. Page just took the guitar accompaniment Jansch wrote and then left off the vocals. Voilà! "Black Mountain Side."

To get back to "Gallows Pole," "Tangerine," etc., I think what's so inspiring about those songs is how powerful they are in the moments where there's only guitar and vocals. There's something so immediate, pure, and essential about this instrumentation. It's the tradition of troubadours and itinerant minstrel blues singers. There's something almost fable-like about traveling with a guitar and that being all you

need to put on a show. Something liberating about that. It's almost a kind of vulnerability to need electricity and a truck full of gear to do your show. I have a real admiration for bands whose songs can still have their effect without the need for power outlets.

AC: LZ3's "Bron-Y-Aur Stomp" definitely qualifies as one of those.

TW: I did just get ahold of this *The Roots of Led Zeppelin* disc that came out with MOJO a few years back and has Bukka White, Bert Jansch, Joan Baez, John Fahey, Howlin' Wolf, etc. on it. It's really rad. I rather like Joan Baez's version of "Babe I'm Gonna Leave You." ■

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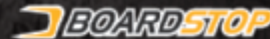


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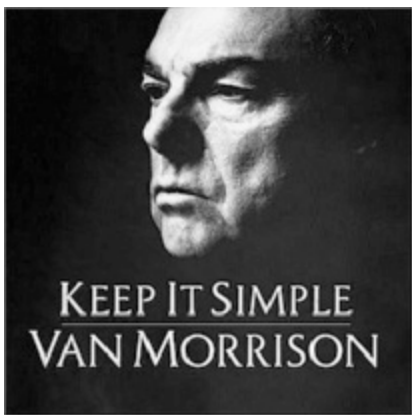


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VAN MORRISON
Keep It Simple (Lost Highway)

"No wavelength, no mileage ... nothing is what it's supposed to be," sings Van Morrison on the second track of *Keep It Simple*, a simple declaration that the Man is back in the saddle. Morrison's first collection of originals in longer than most of us can remember relies on a characteristic combo of jazz phrasing and bluesy riffs that should please die-hards and maybe bring in a few latter-day converts. Without working too hard, Morrison also bestirs a classic sense of spiritual longing with his inspiring harmonies. "Soul" is a little pat ("Soul is not the color of your skin"), but we can forgive Morrison, because for nearly four decades, the cantankerous Belfast cowboy has been redefining how his audience thinks of soul rather than "blue-eyed" soul. Early highlight "That's Entrainment" – not "entertainment" – has a supple "Tupelo Honey" feel, while the spiritual Morrison turns up on the forlorn "Lover Come Back." The organ-inflected, fiddle-backed "Song of Home" sounds like a leftover from his so-so 2006 C&W effort, *Pay the Devil*, which isn't a put-down. "Home" has a heartfelt aura that would've helped that album. This one's good to go. ★★★

– Dan Oko

cal magic. *Free Somehow*, the Georgia sextet's 10th studio work, once again proves that axiom true. It's certainly their most adventuresome, but overdone production touches from Terry Manning (ZZ Top, Al Green), who brings horns and an orchestra into the mix, blur some material. This may have something to do with most tracks not being road-tested onstage before being recorded. Of the 11 *Free* tracks, feisty opener "Boom Boom Boom," the cinematic "Her Dance Needs No Body," and Southern soul-fest "Up All Night" seem the most likely to excite in concert. *Free Somehow* is also the studio debut for near-legendary new guitarist Jimmy Herring, who unfortunately gets little space to shine. That sums up this effort: a lot of promise but a muddled result. ★★★



– Jim Caligiuri

BE YOUR OWN PET
Get Awkward (Ecstatic Peace!)

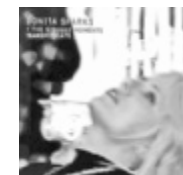
Get Awkward opens fast and hooky, a Ramones-style rah-rah-rah. Then, *Be Your Own Pet* gets growing pains. The Nashville quartet was barely out of high school for its 2006 self-titled *Ecstatic Peace!* debut, racing at hyperpunk speed through tales of bicycling and partying. On *Get Awkward*, they seem vexed by adulthood. Jemina Pearl's 20-year-old scream has matured into a soulful howl, but lines like, "Some people say I'm disgusting; I don't care; I think they're lame," just flop on the ground. Redd Kross' Steve McDonald produced again, and the band, with a new drummer, isn't so awkward. They lock tight on an opening trifecta, especially pill-pop-punk single "The Kelly Affair," retold through *Beyond the Valley of the Dolls*. By mid-disc, "Bitches Leave" and "Bummer Time" have turned lukewarm-bratty, as the remainder of the album stumbles between self-destruction, self-reflection, and breaking shit, and not in a real cohesive way. Welcome to adulthood. ★★★



– Audra Schroeder

DONITA SPARKS & THE STELLAR MOMENTS

Transmiticate (SparksFly)
Donita Sparks is no dummy. The former L7 front-woman knows there's room for more rock & roll Runaways. "Infancy of a Disaster," centerpiece of the L.A. blogger's first solo album, whiffs traces of her former onslaught's brick-heavy "Pretend We're Dead," but its fattened fuzz-tone guitar and a lockstep backbeat toll righteously Joan Jett. Shimmering 1950s soda-fountain riff-pull "Headcheck" spells out its I-o-v-e of crimson and clover, while "Curtains for Cathy," cuts in on Patti Smith's "Dancing Barefoot." *Transmiticate* often comes up codeine ("My Skin's Too Thin," "Creampuff"), material clearly a problem. There simply isn't enough "Infancy of a Disaster," and a few too many "Need to Numb," though Sparks' sarcasm on "Take a Few Steps" goes a long way. Live, the tempos pump aerobic, and Sparks' goth cheerleader charisma dazzles, so take comfort in *Transmiticate* as only the beginning of Donita Sparks' stellar moments. ★★★



– Raoul Hernandez

SHE & HIM

Volume One (Merge)

With M. Ward playing Lee Hazlewood to Zoëy Deschanel's Nancy Sinatra, the indie-folk mainstay's production plying retro-AM arrangements behind the actress' surprisingly powerful voice, the pair's debut exudes a breezy pop and twang both seductive and naive. Contemporary touchstones skip between April March and Jenny Lewis – the Hollywood pep talk of "This Is Not a Test" recalling the latter – while drifting through girl-group harmonies ("I Was Made for You"), sultry jazz ("Take It Back"), and Melaniesque innuendo ("Black Hole," "Why Do You Let Me Stay Here?"). All smack irresistibly nostalgic. Deschanel's voice inhabits so many chanteuses that she never reveals her own, save perhaps for unadorned closer "Swing Low Sweet Chariot," and at times even threatens a theatrical kitsch (especially the Hawaiian-cowpoke arrangement of the Beatles' "I Should Have Known Better"), but *Volume One* is utterly enveloping in its charm. ★★★

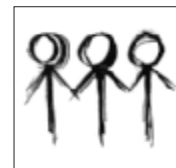


– Doug Freeman

THESE UNITED STATES

A Picture of the Three of Us at the Gate to the Garden of Eden

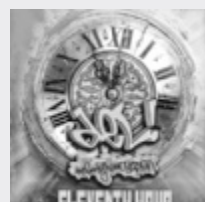
Teaming D.C.'s Jesse Elliott and David Strackany (aka Paleo), *These United States'* debut is, as the title suggests, an exploration of exile and frustration of paradise just beyond reach. Elliott's scratchy voice rolls like a more soulful M. Ward, but his easy barrage of lyrical contortions evokes Andrew Bird's songbook, rhymes and alliteration unfolding in effortless streams ("Slow crows over a gold October, you're sitting getting colder as Van Gogh sobers"). Highlight and opener "First Sight" consciously cops Postal Service pulse, but Elliott's emotion lies in the shading dodge that dances ever on the periphery of his poeticism. "The Business" works horns and garagey surf-rock against the acoustic ache of "Diving Boards Pointed at the Sky," while "Burn This Bridge" kindles a choral swell uplifting in its refusal to regret. Yet Elliott's mortality-driven vision remains ever-elusive, or, as he scats on "Jenni Anne," "Here's the plan: There is no plan." ★★★



– Doug Freeman

BEAT BOX

Is **Snoop Dogg** even a rapper anymore? The LBC mogul who once dropped *Doggystyle* has gone soft. Maybe it's the pee-wee football. Or *Girls Gone Wild*. Whatever the distraction, *Ego Trippin'* (Doggystyle/Geffen) plays as an R&B album set to spoken word, Snoop taking the easy road rhyming "hiz-erb" with "biz-ird" on the Isley Brothers-sampled "Press Play." The Doggfather delicately remembers gangsta rap's glory days ("Neva Have 2 Worry") and fades the 12-bar Johnny Cash tribute "My Medicine" into "Ridin' in My Chevy," a Houston spot more dribble than drip. It's been eight years since his last album, but **Del the Funky Homosapien's** kept busy with Gorillaz and Deltron 3030 sessions with Dan the Automator. *Eleventh Hour* (Definitive Jux) pits the verbose Bay Area, hyping his game and disrespecting others over the morose "Naked Fonk" and stagnant loops dragging "Slam Dunk" and "Back in the Chamber." Typically on the frontier of hip-hop's creative, Del stays a good distance from the borderline this time around. Legendary **Pete Rock** remembers *Mecca & the Soul Brother* ("The Best Secret"), but NY's *Finest* (Nature Sounds) can't capture the magic he cut mid-1990s with C.L. Smooth. Instead, Rock features Wu swordsmen Raekwon and Masta Killa for "The PJs," while "Questions" samples the flügelhorn in Miles Davis' "Concierto de Aranjuez." With highlight "Don't Be Mad" coming from DJ Green Lantern's stock, *Finest* is like Michael Jordan suiting up to score 15 on layups and jump shots.



– Chase Hoffberger

THE BLACK CROWES

Warpaint (Silver Arrow)

The Robinson camp revisits the swamp with bawdy blues-revival muck jams as seventh LP *Warpaint* dances to hard-hitting rhythms and Southern-fried guitars with the addition of North Mississippi Allstar Luther Dickinson. Lead-in "Goodbye Daughters of the Revolution" nods to the Crowes of old, joyful sounds paced by younger brother Chris' still-soulful croon, nothing lost in the seven years since their last lackluster release, *Lions*. Dickinson's slide riffs fit into expected Black Crowes boogie, his overdriven howl an appropriate complement to open-E stomps "God's Got It" and "Walk Believer Walk." Though no song stands out as particularly remarkable, *Warpaint* drips steady consistency. The mood only falters on the experimental and sappy "There's Gold in Them Hills," a failed shot at another "Miracle to Me." Disc highlight "Oh Josephine" fares far better as *Warpaint's* pensive ballad. ★★★



– Chase Hoffberger

WIDESPREAD PANIC

Free Somehow (Widespread)

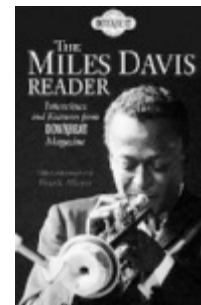
Widespread Panic is still best consumed live, where the band's songs can evolve into musi-

SHEET MUSIC

THE MILES DAVIS READER: INTERVIEWS AND FEATURES FROM DOWNBEAT MAGAZINE

edited and compiled by Frank Alkyer
Hal Leonard Books, 354 pp., \$24.95

More has been written about Miles Davis than any other jazz musician. With a career that spanned six decades and spearheaded every significant stylistic innovation during that time (mid-1940s to 1991), Davis remains the genre's – and music's – quintessential modernist. This absorbing collection, arranged chronologically into three sections, culls 60 years' worth of news items, articles, and reviews from the storied annuals of *Downbeat* magazine, the foremost jazz publication. It's all here: Davis as bebop sideman to Charlie Parker, the birth



of cool, his incomparable 1950s and 1960s quintets, collaborating with Gil Evans, modal innovations, and, of course, the sonic onslaught of jazz-rock-funk fusion. The interviews and Blindfold Tests are most revealing of the trumpeter's complexity – thoughtful, insightful, and passionate one moment, arrogant, opinionated, and abusive the next. Not only is it fascinating to trace the evolution of jazz criticism through these pages; it's also telling how perception of his music changed over time. In particular, Davis' fusion albums were often panned at the time of their release yet heralded as prescient milestones years later. Jazz lovers will find this compilation an essential read. – Jay Trachtenberg

NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPHERD



ROY TOMPKINS

William Harvey, defending a DUI charge in court in Perth, Scotland, in February, told the judge that his high blood-alcohol reading was because he has a "balloon-like" pouch in his neck (sort of like a pelican's) that collects most of the alcohol he swallows and therefore makes it seem that he is much more inebriated than he really is. (He was convicted.)

LEAD STORY

Dakota Abbott, 16, edged Samantha Phillips, 17, to become Miss Outdoors 2008 in February in Maryland's Eastern Shore region's annual beauty-contest-and-muskrat-skinning festival. The two were the only beauty contestants (out of eight) who entered both competitions. Abbott won her skinning division, but while she sang a song for the judges, Phillips won the talent trophy by skinning a muskrat onstage. "I'll be honest," she said to a *Washington Post* reporter. "I can't sing. I can't dance, and I don't play any musical instruments." But she took her 4-inch blade, sticking it just above the tail, and sliced. "You want to take your knuckles and separate the meat from the hide, just like this," she told the judges, with her hand inside the muskrat (as one of the judges recoiled in shock).

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

1) William Anderson, 51, was arrested in February after he attracted a lot of attention by parking a Hummer (with Michigan plates) outside the small-town county welfare office in Jonesville, Va., while he applied for benefits; a quick investigation revealed that the vehicle had been stolen. 2) Frederick Watson, 57, was arrested in February in DeLand, Fla., after he attracted attention by pushing a heavy safe in a shopping cart through the lobby of the Putnam Hotel. When questioned, Watson tried to convince police that he had "found" the safe (but actually, it had been stolen from a fourth-floor office).

GREAT MOMENTS IN MATURITY

• Lawyer Kathy Brewer Rentas, 49, was charged with assault in February after asking to shake hands with federal lawyer Jennifer Keane (who was prosecuting Rentas' husband for probation violation). The handshake began in business-like fashion, but according to a court security guard, Rentas squeezed the hand, then yanked it up and down hard, "almost pull[ing] Keane's arm out of its socket" and nearly sending her tumbling to the ground.

• When a 72-year-old Levis, Quebec, woman cleared her walk with a snowblower in December, sending some of the snow onto the adjacent property, the 43-year-old neighbor grabbed his blower and sent it back, and the two spent about 10 minutes blowing snow on each other before they stopped. (They "faced each other," "engines roaring," wrote the *Canadian Press*.) The neighbor then allegedly punched the woman (and her husband, who had come to help her) and was charged with assault.

CAN'T STOP MYSELF

In February, a court in Cardiff, Wales, once again released Thelma Dennis, 50, to get therapy for her addiction of making bogus emergency ("999") telephone calls, even though she has been prosecuted about 60 times in 24 years on similar charges. In an earlier case, Dennis agreed to a therapy that sent painful shocks through her body every time she dialed 999, and she remained free of problems for four years but reoffended recently by making up a bomb threat against a store.

COMPELLING EXPLANATIONS

• In the 2006 takeoff crash of a Comair commuter airliner at the regional airport in Lexington, Ky. (which the FAA blamed on pilot error), all 47 passengers were killed, and 21 lawsuits have been filed, with attorney William Johnson defending the only cockpit survivor (the first officer). *The Lexington Herald-Leader* reported in January that, in court papers filed in the lawsuits, Johnson had offered the defense that the seat-belted-in passengers should share the blame for their own deaths, in that they should have chosen other airports that might have been safer. (Shortly after the newspaper report, Johnson withdrew the defense.)

• A prominent British novelist (former winner of the prestigious Whitbread Prize) announced in January that she had won a settlement of the equivalent of more than \$200,000 from a shoe manufacturer in the town of Totnes because fumes from its factory so sapped her creativity that she was forced to write downmarket thrillers instead of literary works. Joan Brady said numbness in her hands and legs, caused by pollutants, made her settle on simpler plotlines involving violence as she worked out her aggression toward the factory owners.

IRONIES

• Instant Karma: 1) In January, a man in Citrus Heights, Calif., had a one-car accident that left him with serious head and body injuries that were perhaps exacerbated because he was not wearing a seat belt (even though the 12-pack of beer on the seat beside him was securely buckled and survived). 2) Daniel Thompson, 31, was so upset by the sex, profanity, and violence in movies today that he opened a video store in Orem, Utah, offering major Hollywood films but with the objectionable parts manually removed. Hollywood studios got a court order shutting down the store in December because of copyright infringement, and in January, Thompson was arrested after police said he paid two 14-year-old girls for sex. [*Sacramento Bee*, Jan. 8, 2008]

• Miss Fayetteville (N.C.) 2007 Jenna Walters is scheduled in court in April to answer for her November arrest in which police said she had veered recklessly through traffic in Southern Pines, N.C., in order to harass driver Angela Thomas. She pulled in front of Thomas, blocked her path, then got out, screaming and taunting the woman but then quit and drove off, only to return moments later from the other direction, bump Thomas' car and resume screaming, then left but returned yet again, bumped Thomas' car from behind, and yelled some more. In the 2006 Miss Fayetteville pageant, Walters was voted Miss Congeniality.

• Almost half of the 47 members of the United Nations' Human Rights Council are not "free democracies" (according to Freedom House rankings), and several, such as China, Cuba, Russia, and Saudi Arabia, have been widely criticized as human-rights violators. Consequently, the council has failed to address any of the most prominent rights abuses around the world (including some that were called genocide) in Sudan, North Korea, Chad, Zimbabwe, and Iran, among other places, but in January, the council voted its 12th "condemnation" of Israel (out of only 13 condemnations it has ever issued).

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this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

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

Thursday 27

24-HOUR BIKE RIDE Sign up for a bike-riding shift today to raise money for the community micro-lending programs supported by the Grameen Trust. *Thu.-Fri., March 27-28, 7pm-7pm. Whole Foods Market, 525 N. Lamar, 476-1206. www.wholeplanetfoundation.org.*

AUSTIN SKIERS HAPPY HOUR 5-7pm. *Freda's Seafood Grill, 10903 Pecan Park Blvd., 542-5411. Free. www.austinskiers.org.*

BEFORE & AFTER SCHIAVO It's been almost three years since the death of Terri Schiavo, who spent 15 years in a vegetative state before the controversial removal of her feeding tube. Today, Carmela Epright discusses the bioethics cases that came before hers, those likely to come in its wake, and how they may shape public policy in the future. *5pm. St. Edward's University, Fleck Hall Rm. 305, 3001 S. Congress, 464-8871. Free.*

CAFE DEL SOL GRAND OPENING All profits from this brand-new East Austin Tex-Mex restaurant will go toward the youth/family employment, education, and intervention programming of Austin nonprofit Southwest Key. The cafe is in the new East Austin Community Center, which features free Wi-Fi, a community meeting room, and an amphitheatre that seats 150 people - but for this week only, Cafe del Sol also features a buy-one-get-one-free taco deal to celebrate its grand opening. So stop by, say hi, and eat you some tacos! *Mon.-Fri., March 24-28, 7am-2pm. Cafe del Sol, 6002 Jain, 462-2181. www.swkey.org.*

CASA MARIANELLA BENEFIT DINNER Join the hardworking folks from Casa MariANELLA for an evening of Maudie's Tex-Mex and margaritas to honor Barbara Hines of UT's Immigrant Law Clinic. Tonight, she'll be presented with this year's Ed Wendler Award for outstanding service to the immigrant community. Proceeds from the dinner will benefit Casa's continuing work providing shelter for Austin's recently arrived immigrants and refugees.

6-8pm. *Mercury Hall, 615 Cardinal, 653-7824. \$50. www.casamarianella.org.*

CHRONIC FATIGUE SYNDROME RECOVERY & PREVENTION A talk from natural medicine expert Andre Kulisz. *6pm. ACN Conference Center, 3809 S. Second, 210/871-4514. \$25. email@kulisz.com, www.myfoodforhealth.com/registration.*

CITY OF AUSTIN FAMILIES & CHILDREN TASK FORCE wants to make Austin a more friendly place for families and kids. Wanna help? All you have to do is take the short, easy survey online at www.ci.austin.tx.us/council/ctct/default.cfm. *Deadline: March 28.*

tonight to serve you the five-course/five-wine meal that best complements the evening's cinematic selection, Preston Sturges' 1941 classic *The Lady Eve*. *7pm. Alamo Drafthouse South, 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320. \$75. www.originalalamo.com.*

MEDITATION CLASSES three times a week! *Thursdays, 7:30-9pm; Fridays, 7-9pm; Sundays, 9:30-11am. Chittamani Buddhist Center, 2919 Manchaca Rd. #102-A. \$10 suggested donation.*

RESULTS EDUCATION & ACTION MEETING ON TB It costs less than \$20 to cure most tuberculosis patients, yet thousands die yearly from the disease. Learn more and find out what you can do at tonight's meeting, hosted by RESULTS. *7-8:45pm. North Village Library, 2139 W. Anderson, 258-3872. Free. childanne@gmail.com, home.austin.rr.com/resultstexas.*

SAMBA DE ROCA Enjoy a 10-course Atlantic Rim tasting menu this evening, along with Brazilian drinks (caipirinhas and caipiroskas), samba music, and a silent auction to benefit Alacridad, the Austin nonprofit working to provide Latin American communities with computing resources and volunteers. Tonight's proceeds will help build a computer lab in rural Capim Grosso, Brazil, and in keeping with Alacridad's belief in reusing and recycling (normally applied to computer parts), all dinnerware and

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) *Beyond the Pale @ Alamo Lake Creek, 7:30pm* *Chopping Mall @ Alamo Ritz, 12mid*

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) *The Dirtbombs, Kelley Stoltz Emo's* *Aceyalone Beauty Bar* *Shooter Jennings Antone's*

Friday 28

BASTROP PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALE Come get your good deals on hardbacks, paperbacks, DVDs, CDs, and videos this weekend at this fundraiser for Bastrop's public library. And don't forget to buy a raffle ticket! *March 28-29. Fri., 10am-6pm; Sat., 10am-4pm. Bastrop Public Library, 1100 Church St., Bastrop.*

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

EXPERIENCE AUSTIN This crash-course in all things Austin features more than 20 guest speakers and introduces newcomers and old-schoolers alike to the figureheads, demographics, economic trends, educational issues, and cultural idiosyncrasies that make this town what it is. *Fri., March 28, 8am-6pm; Tuesdays, April 1-15, 4:30-8:30pm. \$785. www.leadershipaustin.org.*

JASHAN: AN INDIAN CARNIVAL Join UT's Indian Cultural Association for an evening of music, dance, food, and more showcasing all that's great about Indian culture. Expect a crowd for this popular event. *6:30-10pm. UT campus, South Mall. Free. www.jashan2008.com.*

AROUND THE WORLD WITH MUSIC Enjoy an evening of international cuisine, a live auction, and entertainment from Lannaya West African Dance company and the Oliver Rajamani Ensemble to benefit the Khabele School, recipient of the *Chronicle's* 2006 "Best of Austin" award for the Best Holistic Approach to Education. *6:30pm. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 480-8142. \$125. www.khabele.org.*

ROBIN HAHNEL The American University economics professor delivers two talks today questioning the assumption that there is no alternative to capitalism. **TINA Be Damned: Alternatives to Corporate Capitalism: Noon. UT campus, CMA Building, Rm. 5.160. Participatory Economics: Alternatives to Corporate Capitalism Case Studies From Venezuela: 8pm; Monkeywrench Books, 110 E. North Loop. Free.**

SUSTAINABLE! CONFERENCE kicks off Friday evening with a free screening of *The Real Dirt on Farmer John*, followed by a discussion led by UT professor Robert Jensen. The program continues all day Saturday with an opening presentation, The Science & Politics of a Sustainable Future, from York University environmental studies professor Justin Podur, followed by an afternoon of workshops dealing with food, the environment, economics, activism, and spirituality. *March 28-29. Fri., 7pm; Sat., 11:30am-5:30pm. St. Andrew's Presbyterian, 14311 Wells Port, 251-0698. \$10 suggested donation. www.staopen.com.*

VOICES FOR CHANGE CALL FOR ENTRIES The Muslim American Society is sponsoring a talent contest for Muslims age 15 and up interested in performance of any kind, from singing or dancing on stage to producing short movies. Applicants are welcome to audition by submitting videos of their performance either by mail or online. Winners will perform during the MAS Voices for Change tour featuring Outlandish. See www.masdfw.org for details. *Deadline: March 28.*

24-HOUR BIKE RIDE (See Thursday 3/27.)

CAFE DEL SOL GRAND OPENING (See Thursday 3/27.)

CITY OF AUSTIN FAMILIES & CHILDREN TASK FORCE (See Thursday 3/27.)

HEMAN SWEATT SYMPOSIUM (See Thursday 3/27.)

MEDITATION CLASSES (See Thursday 3/27.)

Austin Goes Dark: Citywide Watt-Killing Rampage

[SEE SATURDAY, EARTH HOUR]

EBONY FASHION FAIR hits town this week with the latest fashions from Christian Dior, Oscar de la Renta, Dolce & Gabbana, and many others. Your ticket gets you your own subscription to *Ebony* or *Jet* magazine, and proceeds will benefit Austin-area scholarship and outreach programs. *7pm. Palmer Events Center, 900 Barton Springs Rd., 404-4500. \$40 (\$35, advance; \$21, students). www.betapsiomega.org.*

HEMAN SWEATT SYMPOSIUM ON CIVIL RIGHTS continues this week with lectures and special events focusing on this year's theme, *The Powerless Majority: The Black and Latino Experience in America*. Don't miss the closing keynote address on Friday from former Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, Dallas' first African-American to hold that office (*7pm, Thompson Conference Center, Tue.-Fri., March 25-28. UT campus. www.utexas.edu/diversity/events/hemansweatt.*)

IRON CHEF AUSTIN Chef Lawrence Kocurek of Roy's competes against Alamo chefs John Bullington, Trish Eichelberger, and Elijah Horgan

leftover food from tonight's no-waste party will be composted or recycled. *6:30-8:30pm. Alacridad, 1701 Deloney. \$15. www.alacridad.org.*

SPANISH LANGUAGE FILM NIGHT features the 2005 movie *El Violin*, about the extraordinary actions of two humble musicians. Bring your *Español*, because there will be no subtitles! *8pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925.*

SUSTAINABLE FOOD CENTER BENEFIT Stop by that pretty new restaurant on Manor for some great Italian food and music from the Ephraim Owens Trio. All proceeds go to the Sustainable Food Center's Farm to School Project. *7-10pm. Stortini Ristorante, 1917 Manor Rd., 689-5475. \$25. www.sustainablefoodcenter.org.*

THE POLITICS OF CLIMATE CHANGE: A CITIZEN'S GUIDE Environmental-studies professor Justin Podur of Toronto's York University speaks today on the science, ecology, and politics of climate change. *7pm. Thompson Conference Center, Red River & Dean Keeton, 471-2933. Free.*

the young ones

TEXAS FOLKLIFE'S BIG SQUEEZE ACCORDION CONTEST invites Texans and Louisianans age 18 and younger to show off their accordion skills for the chance to win cash prizes, performance opportunities, and even recording time in the historic SugarHill Recording Studios. See www.texasfolklife.org for details. *Deadline: March 31. \$15.*

AUDITIONS FOR YOUNG SINGERS Children's entertainers Mr. Johnny and Sharon need some singing accompaniment during Mr. Johnny's Kids Nights, and little ones with big voices (ages 8-12) are welcome to audition. Call or e-mail for details. *Through April 30, 494-1411. Free. info@mrjohnny.com, www.mrjohnny.com.*

AISD MIDDLE SCHOOLS: PARENT INPUT NEEDED AISD wants parents' feedback on the Middle Level Education Plan, which aims to address achievement gaps, inconsistencies in student performance, and discipline rates in AISD middle schools. Attend this week's meeting to provide your

two cents. *Thu., March 27, 6pm. Dobie Middle School cafeteria, 1200 Rundberg.*

AUSTIN CITY BALLET, AUSTIN CITY YOUTH BALLET, AND EN AVANT DANCE present a half-dozen family-friendly dances this weekend. See Arts Listings, Dance, p.84, for details. *Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 989-3363. www.austin-conservatory-arts.com.*

PARENTS OF DYSLEXIC CHILDREN SUPPORT GROUP meets today to discuss *Bringing the Central Components of Reading to Early Childhood*. *Fri., March 28, 9am-noon. Scottish Rite Learning Center, 12871 Hwy. 183 N., 472-1231.*

PARENT EDUCATION WORKSHOP SERIES features three discussion topics today: *My Child Is Always Sick!*, a talk from the Academy of Oriental Medicine's Laura Mathews (*9am*); *The Link Between Vision and Learning*, by the Austin Eye Gym's Judy Hughes (*10am*); and *Coming Into Focus: A Clinical & Comprehensive Approach to Addressing ADD/ADHD Naturally*, from

People's Pharmacy homeopath consultant Kaya Dupuis (*11am*). *Sat., March 29, Austin Discovery School, 8509 FM 969 #200, 674-0700. Free.*

CHRISTOPHER JENNINGS The children's book author and illustrator reads and signs copies of his new book, *The Animal Band*. *Sat., March 29, 11am. Barnes & Noble Arboretum, 10000 Research #158, 418-8985.*

HENRY & MUDGE A musical adventure for kids who love their dogs, based on the bestselling books by Cynthia Rylant. *Sat., March 29, 11am & 1pm. One World Theatre, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 32-WORLD. \$14 (\$12, child). www.oneworldtheatre.org.*

THREE BABY CHICKS with the author Diane Cantrell there to read it to you! *Baby Max* has arrived! *Sat., March 29, 11:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.*

BOOKPEOPLE'S BOOKMARK CONTEST PARTY! Refreshments and celebration! Art and functionality! *Sat., March 29, noon. BookPeople, 603 N.*

Lamar, 472-5050.

DUET FESTIVAL A kid-friendly concert from the Orpheus Academy to benefit the Austin Children's Shelter. *Sun., March 30, 3-5pm. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 499-0090. \$10 (\$5, kids). www.austinchildrenshelter.org.*

NANO DAY teaches kids to appreciate the small - really, really small - things in life with hands-on activities demonstrating how nano-scale phenomena cause, say, a tablet to fizz in water or a liquid to act as a magnet. *Sun., March 30, 1-5pm. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. \$3.50-5.50. www.austinkids.org.*

WORKSHOP SERIES FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES features support groups, workshops, seminars, and resource fairs for families dealing with autism, ADHD, Down syndrome, reading disorders, hearing impairments, and more. Child care and Spanish-language interpretation available. *Tuesdays, 7pm. April 1, 15.*

Summer Camp Guide p.36

VISUAL ARTS (See Arts Listings.)
United States Art Authority: Live From Juvie Hall United States Art Authority

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)
E4 Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)
Atash @ Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7pm
The Big Lebowski 10th Anniversary Bowl-out @ Dart Bowl, 8pm
The Real Dirt on Farmer John @ St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (14311 Wells Port Dr.), 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)
The Strange Boys Beerland
The Flestones Mohawk
New Model Army Elysium
The Freddie Steady 5 Ruta Maya
Dengue Fever, Brownout Club de Ville
Possessed by Paul James CD Release Continental Club

Saturday 29

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

BAKER SANCTUARY OPEN HOUSE Enjoy educational nature hikes, self-guided tours, and more today as you take advantage of a rare chance to visit this 690-acre breeding ground for the endangered Golden-cheeked Warbler. 9am-4pm. Baker Sanctuary, 12219 Lime Creek Rd., Leander, 512/300-BIRD. www.travisaudubon.org.

BUS RIDERS UNION-ATX meets today to finalize a proposal for fare-free transit in Austin. All one- and two-digit bus routes will get you within three blocks of the meeting - Godspeed the rest of the way! 2-4pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 220-8227. www.busatx.org.

CANINE CORRAL GRAND OPENING Round Rock's first dog park opens today, and everyone's celebrating. Bring your dog out to meet new friends, scamper around in the doggie playground,

and win prizes while you talk to vendors and walk around leash-free. 10am-noon. Canine Corral, 800 Deerfoot Dr., Round Rock, 512/218-5540. Free.

CAREGIVING 101 is the first in a series of Caregiver Academies sponsored by Austin's Helping the Aging, Needy, and Disabled. Families and professional caregivers are welcome to talk to experts, learn about resources for caregivers, and attend groups on specialized topics like Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease. 10am-2pm. ACC Highland Business Center, 5930 Middle Fiskville, 223-7000. \$5. www.handaustin.org.

CONVERSATION CAFE Bring a dish that will serve six to eight people, and join the Austin Progressive Potluckers for an evening of thoughtful discussion with friends old and new. 6:30-9pm. Private residence, 502-8111. www.austinprogressivecalendar.com/potluck.htm.

EARTH HOUR is the best hour ever! It's the hour when you join the rest of Austin in joining the rest of the world in de-flipping all your switches. Turn off your lights, your appliances, and anything else that uses electricity for just one hour, and give your favorite planet a short respite from its steady overload of carbon dioxide. Last year's inaugural Earth Hour in Sydney, Australia, saved 24.86 tons of carbon dioxide. That's like taking 48,613 cars off the road! But easier! (Caveat: Do not spend your Earth Hour driving around - that's cheating.) 8-9pm. Free (and then some). www.earthhour.org.

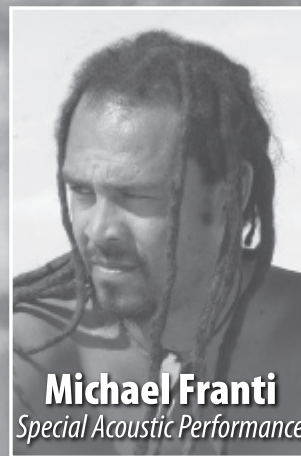
HAUTE TEA PARTY Don your fanciest hat and gloves (or ascots, gentlemen) for an afternoon of gourmet teas and tasty treats to accompany a silent auction benefiting the Young Women's Alliance Foundation and Les Dames d'Escoffier. (Young ladies and chaps ages 6-12 are welcome to join the fun at the Children's Tea Party across the way at the Blue River Grill.) 2pm. La Ventana at the Texas Culinary Academy, 11400 Burnet Rd., 339-2665. www.youngwomensalliance.org.

HEALTH CARE FOR ALL TEXANS presents a screening of Michael Moore's *Sicko* this afternoon, followed by a panel discussion featuring health-care professionals. 2:30pm. First United Methodist Church, 1201 Lavaca, 478-5684. \$5 donations welcome. www.healthcareforalltexas.org.

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INTRODUCTION TO ZEN MEDITATION features a meditation session and Buddhist discussion every week. *Saturdays, 8:30-11am. Austin Zen Center, 3014 Washington Square, 452-5777. Free. austinzencenter.org.*

★ **LANTERNFEST** This family-friendly evening of music, art, and lantern-making ends with a twisting, twinkling, twilight parade around the grounds of the old Perry Mansion. *4-9pm. Sri Atmananda, 4100 Red River, 470-8372. Free. www.samschool.org.*

MANCHACA ROAD LIBRARY REOPENS Two years of renovations have kept this South Austin library's doors shut, but today they finally reopen. Join in the celebration, which features music from the Austin Jazz Workshop, a reading from young-adult author David Rice, a puppet show, and more. *10am. Manchaca Library, 5500 Manchaca. www.cityofaustin.org/library.*

MIDLIFE & BEYOND: CONCEPTUALIZING, CREATING, STRATEGIZING INTO RETIREMENT takes a Jungian approach to your midlife years and their particular impact on your goals, quality of life, and continuing process of self-renewal. *9am-4pm. Tarrytown UMC Fellowship Hall, 2601 Exposition, 531-9594. \$120. www.ereamos.org.*

MOVE & GROOVE MORNING features free yoga or fitness instruction every week. *Saturdays, 9am. Lululemon Athletica Showroom, 3700 Kerbey Ln., 407-9874. Free. www.lululemon.com/austin.*

MUTUALISM STUDY GROUP meets monthly to discuss books and articles related to mutualism, a philosophy eschewing centralized economic and political power in favor of cooperatives and community financing systems. *Last Saturdays,*

5-6pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free.

NEIGHBORFEST Join the city of Austin's **Neighborhood Housing & Community Development** today for a family-friendly gathering with free food, prizes, entertainment for the kids, and information on Austin's energy conservation, health, and home-buyer programs. *10:30am-1:30pm. Campbell Elementary, 2613 Rogers, 974-3173. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/housing.*

OF BUDDHAS & BRAINS: AN EXPLORATION OF CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE & NEURAL INTEGRATION This all-day retreat for educators, caregivers, and others in the helping professions explores the link between neuroscience and mindfulness, with special guest Buddhist monk Khen Rinpoche Geshe Tsetan. *9:30am-5pm. St. Edward's University, Main Building, Maloney Room, 3001 S. Congress. \$160 (\$140, members; \$110, students). www.austininconnection.org.*

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. Attendance at an orientation session like tonight's (scheduled twice monthly) is a mandatory prerequisite. *Noon-2pm. Reagan High School, 7104 Berkman, 414-2523. Free. www.skillpointalliance.org.*

★ **PROJECT PRINCESS DONATION DAY** Send deserving girls to prom this year with a little help from your wardrobe – drop off dresses, shoes, accessories, restaurant gift certificates, and beauty

products today for girls who can't afford them. *1-4pm. San Jacinto & MLK. www.projectprincess.org.*

★ **RADICAL URBAN SUSTAINABILITY TRAINING** attracts forward-thinking citizens from all over the U.S. and only comes around a few times a year, so we suggest you sign up now. Hosted by the highly innovative and lightly treading folks over at the Rhizome Collective, this popular two-day workshop explores ways of creating autonomous, sustainable communities. Topics include everything from bioremediation, rainwater harvesting, worm composting, and the ever exciting humanure to bio-fuels, post-petroleum economics, and dual-power anarchism. Registration required. *Sat.-Sun., March 29-30 or April 12-13. Rhizome Collective, 300 Allen, 385-3695. \$150-350 sliding scale. www.rhizomecollective.org/rust.html.*

ROCKIN' ROUNDUP Sen. Kirk Watson emcees an evening of down-home comfort food and music from Skyrocket to benefit **Any Baby Can**, which works to provide support services for special needs and at-risk children and families. *6-11pm. Texas Disposal Systems Exotic Game Ranch and Pavilion, 11508 Carl Rd., Buda, 512/454-3743. \$150 (tables start at \$1,000). info@abcaus.org. www.abcaus.org/rockinroundup.*

SALSA AEROBICS This ladies-only class will teach you how to get fit while lookin' sexy at the same time. *Saturdays, 10:30am. EsquinaTango, 209 Pedernales, 524-2772. \$12 (\$40/month). www.esquinatangoaustin.com.*

★ **SPRING DIG-IN** Help the **Green Corn Project** build organic vegetable gardens today at homes, schools, and community centers all over Austin.

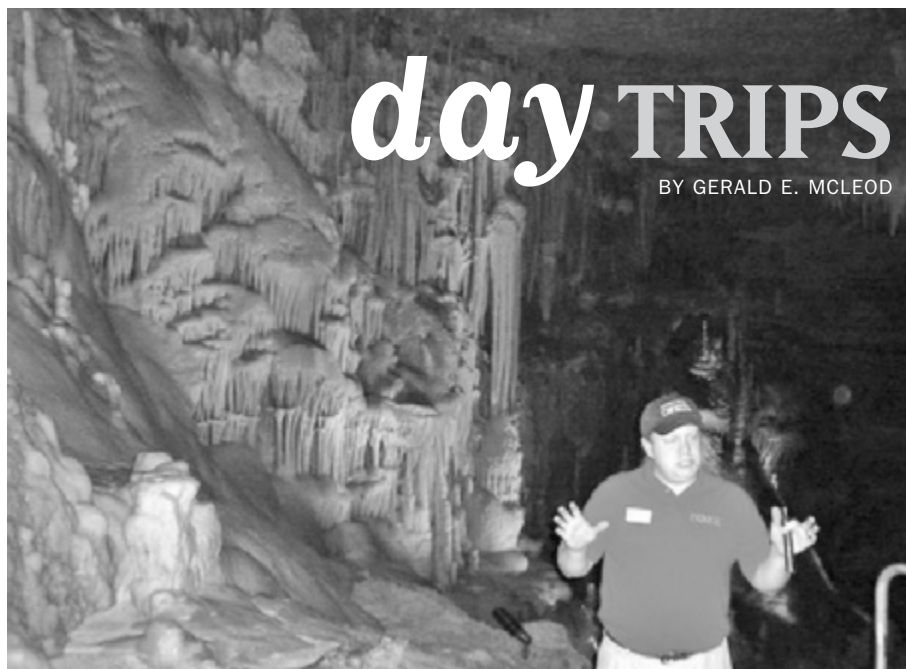
No experience is necessary, as all volunteers will be trained. See the Green Corn Project website for details. *9am-2pm. 249-3171. www.greencornproject.org.*

SPRING HERBAL INTENSIVE features workshops on organic gardening, herbal medicines, tinctures, teas, and more. Classes can be taken individually, or you can attend the entire six-session series at a discount. *March 29-May 24, 9:30am-4:30pm (mostly Saturdays, some Fridays).* Today's workshop is divided into two sections: **Introduction to Herbal Medicine and Exploring Herbs for the Nervous System.** *9:30am-4:30pm. Austin School of Herbal Studies, 8803 Bear Creek Dr., 301-5838. \$450 (or \$90 per session). www.ezherbs.net.*

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

★ **WALL OF WELCOME DEDICATION** Join the folks from the Brentwood and Crestwood neighborhoods today as they celebrate the completion of their beloved Wall of Welcome, a five-year art project spearheaded by artist Jean Graham. Stop by to see the wall, learn about neighborhood history, and enjoy a performance from 10-foot-high puppet Domino the Pig. (Please walk or bike if you can!) *10:15am-2pm. Crestview Shopping Center, 7100 Woodrow, 467-8980. Free.*

WILDFIRE, WILDLANDS & YOU Learn how to protect your home from the increasing threat of urban wildfires, and bring the kids for educational activities. *10am-2pm. Reicher Ranch, 3635 RR 620 S. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/water/wildland/location.htm.*



day TRIPS

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

Natural Bridge Caverns, Texas' largest underground gallery of shapes, colors, and geological formations, just got bigger. This year, the New Braunfels-area cave opened a new tour to a second underground chamber just as spectacular as the original cave.

Called the Illuminations Tour because of the dramatic effects produced by minimal lighting, the spelunking goes to a section known as the Hidden Passages. "This portion of the cave never had a natural entrance," says Brian Vauter, head geologist at the caverns and sometimes tour guide. "[The new section] gives me a real sense of exploration and makes me wonder what might be on the other side of the rock walls."

Four college students from St. Mary's University in San Antonio discovered the first cave entrance under a 60-foot-long limestone bridge in 1960. Over the years, Natural Bridge Caverns has become one of the premier show caves in the country. The collection of cave bacon, rock drapery, fried eggs, soda straws, and other colorful formations is one of the

most unusual in North America. Not only are the number of formations on the three-quarter-mile original tour incredible, but such variety of natural rock sculpture can be found nowhere else.

Since the opening of the main cave to the public, experts had suspected a second room might exist under the hill to the south of the main entrance. It took five tries before their drill bit broke through to empty space 160 feet below the surface. When the first explorer was lowered through a narrow shaft into a corner of the underground room, he wasn't disappointed by the enormity of what he saw.

The first room discovered opened into an underground amphitheatre that tilted into the darkness. In the glow of a flashlight, the rock looked like mounds of melted wax wet from water dripping through the cracks in the ceiling. Stalactites hung from the ceiling, and stalagmites grew from the floor of the open space that's larger than a football field.

Thirty years after it was discovered, the Hidden Passages section was opened to adventure tours for cavers who didn't mind entering through the shaft and crawling through the mud. It wasn't until 2002 that the walkway was begun, and the cavern opened to occasional tours using handheld flashlights.

When guests walk through the double doors that seal the damp underground world from the dry Texas landscape above, they walk down 185 steps into a world that is a constant 70 degrees and 99% humidity. Under the thick limestone roof, there is no natural light, Vauter says.

When the lights do come on, the rock formations radiate in a rainbow of pinks, reds, yellows, and oranges. The inky darkness on the edge of the light only serves to accent the delicate forms and massive shapes. "We don't light up everything," Vauter says. "We just use it to highlight the formations." In the entire cave, he estimates they use only about 150 lightbulbs.

The tour leads down about one-third of a mile to the Cathedral Room, where a massive pipe-organ rock formation flows over the side of the wall. This is a chamber that had seldom been opened to tours until now. While guests rest on benches and admire the natural beauty, Vauter describes what they are seeing.

This is still very much a living cave. In fact, a rock formation began growing on the steel handrail along the path. As slightly acidic rain-water percolates through the cracks and pores of the limestone, it gradually dissolves the rock and enlarges the openings. Each drip of water deposits trace amounts of minerals to build new rocks gradually.

Natural Bridge Caverns is 12 miles south of New Braunfels and eight miles west of I-35. Tours leave the visitor center every 30 minutes or so between 9am and 4pm, with extended hours during the summer months. Each tour lasts about 70 minutes and requires moderately strenuous walking on steep, wet surfaces. For more information, call 210/651-6101 or go to www.naturalbridgecaverns.com.

873rd in a series. Day Trips, Vol. 2, a book of "Day Trips" 101-200, is available for \$8.95, plus \$3.05 for shipping, handling, and tax. Mail to: Day Trips, PO Box 33284, South Austin, TX 78704.

out of town

BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

OLD TIME MUSIC & DULCIMER FESTIVAL features some of the top mountain and hammer dulcimer, banjo, mandolin, and guitar pickers performing, jamming, and leading workshops. Bring your own chair, because the house fills up quickly! *Thu.-Sat., March 27-29. Museum for East Texas Culture, 400 Micheaux at Reagan Park, Palestine, 903/723-1914. www.visitpalestine.com, www.museumpalestine.org.*

TEMPLE COLLEGE JAZZ FESTIVAL features Tony Campise, Steve Wiest, Gordon Goodwin, and hundreds of college, high school, and middle school musicians coming together for clinics, competitions, and performances. *Thu.-Sat., March 27-29. Temple College, Temple, 254/298-8555. www.templejc.edu.*

rites of spring bring everyone together for a weekend of fine art, antiques, food and wine tastings, a pie-eating contest, a cake walk, children's activities, dance performances, a talent show, and lots of music. *Fri.-Sat., March 28-29. Courthouse Square, Lockhart, 512/398-2818. www.lockhartchamber.com.*

HERBAL FORUM Join the Herb Society of America for a weekend of lectures, workshops, and a plant and book sale. *Fri.-Sat., March 28-29. International Festival-Institute, Round Top, 979/249-3129. www.festivalhill.org.*

FESTIVAL OF ARTS showcases Italian street painting, along with live performances, independent films, visual artists performances, and more. *Fri.-Sun., March 28-30. Art Center, 100 N. Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, 361/826-3410. Free. www.ccfestivalarts.org.*

CINEMAJER FILM FESTIVAL presents more than 20 films from around the world addressing pressing social issues ranging from the privatization of water to the occupation of Palestine. *Fri.-Sun., March 28-30 & April 3-5. Esperanza Peace and Justice Center, 922 San Pedro Ave., San Antonio, 210/228-0201. Free. www.esperanzacenter.org.*

GOLIAD MASSACRE-FORT DEFIANCE LIVING HISTORY PROGRAM recalls the opening shots of the Texas Revolution at the site of the only surviving example of a Spanish Colonial mission/presidio complex in Texas. *Sat.-Sun., March 29-30. Presidio la Bahia, Goliad, 361/645-3752. \$3. www.presidiolabahia.org.*

GULF COAST GREEN SYMPOSIUM & EXPO features four days of green-building advice tailored especially to those living in hot, humid climates. Days one and two are for design and construction professionals; days three and four are for the everyday consumer. *Thu.-Sun., April 3-6. Reliant Park, Houston. www.gulfcoastgreen.org.*

WORKSHOP: GOING DEEPER WITH NIA Call to register. 1-3pm. JoyMoves, 2501 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-4440. \$35. www.joymoves.com/events.

ZILKER GARDEN FESTIVAL Shop for art, plants, pottery, jewelry, and more from the 100 vendors gathered here this weekend, and enjoy live music, games for the kids, a raffle full of fun stuff, and expert-led Garden Talks on everything from begonias and bonsai to rainbow flags and rainwater harvesting. Sat-Sun., March 29-30, 10am-5pm. Zilker Botanical Garden, 2220 Barton Springs Rd., 477-8672 x12. \$5 (free, kids under 12; \$3, parking). www.zilkerpark.org.

BASTROP PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALE

DOWNTOWN GHOST TOURS (See Friday.)

SUSTAINABLE! CONFERENCE (See Friday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

Creative Research Laboratory, Sluggfest Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Darby O'Gill and the Little People @ Alamo Drafthouse South, noon

Ezra @ Texas Union Theatre, 12:15pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Les Claypool, Tim Fite Stubb's

The Alice Rose CD Release Emo's

Those Peabodys Beerland

Fu Manchu, Burning Brides, Max Cady Mohawk

Sunday 30

AUSTIN TRICHOTILLOMANIA SUPPORT GROUP

is open to anyone coping with an impulse-control disorder, including Trichotillomania (chronic hair-pulling). Every other Sunday, 5-6:30pm. Private residence (call/e-mail for details), 663-5952. Free. austintrich@yahoo.com, www.trich.org.

BILINGUAL POWER YOGA FLOW Sundays,

4:30pm; Wednesdays, 6pm. Esquina Tango, 209 Pedernales. \$8 recommended donation. namaste.austin@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY FORUM: DIGITAL TELEVISION

TRANSITION Find out what next year's congressionally mandated transition to DTV will mean for you. 2-4pm. Conley-Guerrero Senior Activity Center, 808 Nile, 974-2999. Free. www.dtv2009.gov.

GRIEFSHARE invites anyone grieving from the loss of a loved one to join these weekly meetings. Each session begins with a video on grief recovery and ends with discussion. Sundays, 7-9pm. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3501 Red River, 472-8301. Free. www.griefshare.org.

HECHO A MANO This monthly family-friendly

fest and artist/vendor open house has a slew of special events planned today, starting with the 1pm screening of **Linda Garcia-Merchant's** documentary *Las Mujeres de la Caucus Chicana*, about the women who represented Latinas at the National Women's Convention in 1977. Garcia-Merchant will speak afterward, as will feminist **Martha Cotera**, who is featured in the film. In keeping with the day's theme, the music lineup puts Latina artists front and center with performances from Leticia Vega, Bocastria, and Frenetica. Noon-5pm. Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River, 478-6222. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/macc.



Martha Cotera

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS BIRTHDAY BASH

Join HCO for an afternoon of games, music, and birthday cake in celebration of seven great years of communing with nature. It's a potluck, so bring something tasty for the barbecue pit! 2-6pm. Private residence; e-mail for details. Free. btalbot@hillcountryoutdoors.com, www.hillcountryoutdoors.com.

IRIN AJO MIMO Women of African descent at any stage of pregnancy are invited to learn ceremonial traditions, cleansing rituals, and tips for transforming the birth environment into a sacred space. 2:30-4:30pm. W.H. Passon Historical Society House, 1501 E. 12th, 317-6826. \$15. www.freewebs.com/SANKOFAASAF0.

NANCY COPLIN'S BIG SIX-0 Longtime Austin music supporter Nancy Coplin (the first chairman of the Austin Music Commission and now the music coordinator for the Austin-Bergstrom Airport) celebrates her birthday this evening with a silent-auction fundraiser for the **Health Alliance for Austin Musicians**. Musical guests include Marcia

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www.austinfarmersmarket.org

DON'T GET STUCK WITHOUT A BUNK!

CHECK OUT THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE SUMMER CAMP GUIDE, ON P.36.



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ONE WORLD THEATRE

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to WIN TICKETS to see The Flying Balalaika Brothers at One World Theatre, log on to www.austinchronicle.com/contests

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O.A.R. • GALACTIC • THE ROOTS • DIANNE REEVES • BURNING SPEAR
MICHAEL FRANTI & SPEARHEAD • OZOMATLI • CALLE 13 • CUPID
REBIRTH BRASS BAND • KENNY WAYNE SHEPHERD • TOWER OF POWER
DELBERT MCCLINTON • JOHN HAMMOND • CASSANDRA WILSON • KEB' MO'
PETE FOUNTAIN • COUNT BASIE ORCHESTRA FEAT. PATTI AUSTIN
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VERNEL BAGNERIS' JELLY ROLL & ME • TERENCE BLANCHARD WITH THE LPO
DIRTY DOZEN BRASS BAND • PRESERVATION HALL JAZZ BAND • KERMIT RUFFINS
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LENT'S OVER: IT'S TIME TO SIN AGAIN Yessssss. Just when you thought it was safe to become a homebody, this week hit the scene. Capping off your dancing, it's the hottest lesbian dance party in all of Texas: **Sin5**. So many women travel from far and near to move their rears. Steers and queers, here in Texas, and these ladies don't have horns (or maybe they do). Join **Dani Campbell**: You know, the hot fire chick from *A Shot at Love With Tila Tequila*, and shake it hard to the breakiest beats from **DJ Kurupt** and those old-school hip-hop jams from **DJ LX**. See. Be seen. Be the scene. Sat., March 29, 9pm. Sky Lounge. \$15. www.missmanagedproductions.com.

SPLASH SOUTH Houston's huge five-day **Black Pride** fest **P.R.I.D.E. 13: A Deeper Love** culminates in one of our favorite of alllll pride daddy events: the **Houston Splash East Beach Party** at Galveston's Apfel Park. There is nothing like this in all of Texas. Start planning your trip now. And watch this space (and maybe a much bigger space) for so many official **Texas Pride** listings it'll make your **** spin! Sun., May 4, 1-6pm. East Beach, Boddeker Drive, Galveston, 832/443-1016. www.houston splash.com.

GROW UP WITH OUTYOUTH Our house of support for GLBT teens has been around 18 years now. Just think of all the amazing queers molded into open and strong leaders and members of the gay community. Are you one of them? Join the newly formed **OutYouth Alumni Association**, and give back. Remember what it did for you, and help it do more ... for a long time to come. 419-1233. alums@outyouth.org, www.outyouth.org.

HAZEY, WILL YOU EVER FORGIVE US? Last week we lavished gratitude upon our favorite happening of the SXSW weekend, but we fudged the pop-sicle. **GaybiGayGay**, the all-day queer band party, happens every year due to the hard, hard work, Porta Potti go-getter-y, band bookery, and backyard badassery of the one and only: **Hazey!** (And **Silky**, of course, too) But, Hazey, we apologize for not giving specific props where they are due. So, one last time: *Thankyouthankyouthankyou*. You, dear, are an inspiration. campcampqueers@gmail.com.

GLBT LEGAL ADVOCACY CONFERENCE Join UT Law's queer student organization, **OUTLaw**, for its second annual conference, designed to discuss, brainstorm, analyze, and hash out legal questions that affect our community. Featuring four panel discussions and a moderated Q&A. Gay people. In the law. Go get it. Fri., April 4, 1-5pm. UT School

of Law, Room TNH 2.138. Free. www.utexas.edu/law/orgs/outlaw/conference.

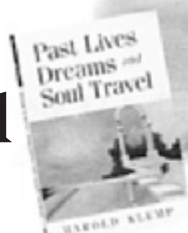
HAGGLE A BRADFORD Spank a **Stanley Roy**. It's his birthday. And also, he moved, so it's a garage sale, and also, there are some amazing bands and DJs who want to play and celebrate and call it **Sprang Bang!** Flowers budding. Details to come. Sun., April 6, 2-10pm. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017.

LOVELY LUSHE LADIES 'Tis the week of ladies nights, and here's one that does not disappoint. Enough cats around to make you purr but room to bat your tail. From the makers of **GirlzCellar** (Bobby Cook, U.S. Senate), this night is women, dance music on a Michael Jackson-esque lit-up floor, drink specials, cute chick bartenders with stiff ... pours (say hey to **Getty** on the patio and maybe **Messer**, too, if **Getty** can drag her ass out), and you. Be there. Square's out this year. If you build it, you will come. Tue., April 1, 9pm. Rain on 4th, 217 W. Fourth, 494-1150. www.rainon4th.com.

COCKPIT'S BACK AND YER GONNA BE IN TROUBLE So, they've rassled with Hump Day for months and months, trying it on like a new thong, and finally, a snug fit. **Club Inclusive**, a night for women, yes, but everyone's invited. There's a yummy chick bartender, a yummy boy bartender; there's some ladies doing that go-go thing and some guitar strummers doing that acoustic thing; there's a patio for your pooch to beg for bites of your burger and bubbles from your beer, and there's that irresistibly cheesy pop Eighties/hip-hop/electronic dance music from **DJ Miah Love**. Shots may bond you, but the dance floor will set you free. Come see what off-the-beaten-path has to offer. Wednesdays, 9pm. *The Cockpit Club*, 113 San Jacinto, 457-8010. \$1 burgers, \$1 draft beer.

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

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Ball, Shelley King, Rick Trevino, and many others. (See Club Listings, p.101.) 6pm. *Antone's*, 213 W. Fifth, 320-8424. \$15.

NORML & THE DRUG WAR Join the Texas chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws tonight for a screening of the 2007 documentary *American Drug War: The Last White Hope*. (See Special Screenings, p.98.) 3-6pm. *Spider House Patio Bar*, 2908 Fruth, 480-9562. \$7 (\$5, NORML members). www.texasnorml.org.

TEXAS NATIVE AMERICAN MUSIC Enjoy an afternoon of entertainment celebrating the Texas Music Museum's newest exhibit exploring the music and culture of Texas' Native American tribes. Today's performers include the Eagle Point Singers, Pash Falacto, and flutist Mario Garza. 1:30-5pm. *Texas Music Museum*, 1009 E. 11th, 472-8891. Free.

WEEKLY PUBLIC AFFAIRS FORUM features a presentation from Texas politics expert **Dave McNeely**, dean of the Texas Capitol Press Corps and co-author of the new book *Bob Bullock: God Bless Texas*. Sundays, 11:30am-12:30pm. *First Unitarian Universalist Church*, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.austinuu.org.

YOGA FOR HOME PRACTICE WORKSHOP will help you develop techniques that work for you when practicing yoga at home. Noon-5pm. *Yoga Rx*, 2200 S. Lamar, 554-3988. \$40. www.yoga-rx.com.

MEDITATION CLASSES (See Thursday 3/27.)

SPRING DIG-IN (See Saturday.)

ZILKER GARDEN FESTIVAL (See Saturday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

Stensrud Studio

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Hell on Wheels @ Alamo Ritz, 10pm

Las Mujeres de la Caucuz Chicana @ Mexican American Cultural Center, 1pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Nancy Coplin's Big Six-O/HAAM Benefit

Antone's

Buddy Miles Memorial Threadgill's World HQ

Monday 3 1

ADVENTURE TRAVEL SERIES: CROATIA Irina Klaić discusses Croatia's transformation into one of Europe's most popular tourist attractions. 7pm. *Milwood Branch Library*, 12500 Amherst, 974-7528. Free.

CAPITAL OF TEXAS TEAM SURVIVOR This women's group for cancer survivors organizes free workout opportunities at fitness centers all around town and is currently helping women train for the upcoming Danskin Triathlon, as well. Anyone interested in joining is welcome to attend this evening's orientation session, followed by a swim in the pool. 6pm. *Jewish Community Association of Austin*, 7300 Hart, 426-1408. Free. www.teamsurvivoratx.org.

HILL COUNTRY OUTDOORS NEW MEMBER MEETING 6:30-8:30pm. *Opal Divine's Penn Field*, 3601 S. Congress Ste. K, 707-0237. www.hillcountryoutdoors.com.

INPUT NEEDED ON BICYCLE MASTER PLAN Got something to say about Austin's bike programs and infrastructure? Say it this week at one of two meetings hosted by the city of Austin Bicycle Program, which is in the process of updating the Bicycle Master Plan. *Mon., March 31, 5:30-8:30pm: One Texas Center, 505 Barton Springs Rd. (bus routes No. 10, 29, 30, 27, 14; bike routes No. 31, 33, 47, 60, 64). Wed., April 2, 5:45-8:30pm: University Teaching Center, UT campus, 21st & University (bus routes No. 1, 20, 29; bike routes No. 46, 47, 33). 974-7142. nadia.barrera@ci.austin.tx.us, www.ci.austin.tx.us/bicycle.*

PUB QUIZ A weekly trivia night for testing wits and winning prizes. Mondays, 7:30pm. *Fadó*, 214 W. Fourth, 457-0172.

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS DIRECTOR STEPHEN HOPPER is in town this week to deliver two lectures, beginning with today's talk **Desert Dreaming: An Australian Perspective on Deserts Through Time** as part of the UT School of Biological Sciences' Jean Andrew Lecture Series. *Mon., March 31, 4-5pm; UT campus, Welch Hall, Rm. 2.304.* You can then join him Wednesday for a reception in his honor at the Lady Bird Johnson

Wildflower Center, followed by his presentation **Life on the Rocks: A Global Review of Plant Life on Granite Outcrops**. *Wed., April 2, 7-9pm; LBJ Wildflower Center, 4801 La Crosse. 232-0105. Free.*

WINEBAT BLIND WINE TASTING features six Champagnes and sparkling wines served blind, each paired with a specially chosen appetizer. 6:30pm. *Green Pastures*, 811 W. Live Oak, 961-6151. \$25 (plus tax/gratuity). www.winebat.com.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Box Elder @ *Dobie*, 7:30pm

The Killing @ *Texas Union Theatre*, 7:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Audio Inversions *Austin Museum of Art*

Tuesday 0 1

ANN RICHARDS SCHOOL LIBRARY BOOK FUNDRAISER Enjoy an evening of Latin folk music from Gina Chavez and cumbia and merengue from Cerronato to help raise much-needed funds to buy books for the Ann Richards School for Young Women Leaders. 6:30-9:30pm. *Jovita's*, 1619 S. First, 447-7825. \$10. www.annrichardsschool.org.

BUTTERFLY GARDENING Learn how to attract butterflies to your yard from National Wildlife Federation Habitat Steward Anita Knight. 7-8:30pm. *REI*, 601 N. Lamar, 482-3357. Free. www.rei.com/stores/events/103.

COMMUNITY MEETING: PROPOSED EAST END DEVELOPMENT/ZONING MODIFICATIONS Stop by to give your feedback on proposed changes that would affect, among other things, multifamily, low-income housing, mixed-use retail, and parking in the area bound by East 11th, Lydia, Juniper, and Waller streets. 5:30-8pm. *Street-Jones Building*, East 11th & Waller.

ENGAGE SPEAKER SERIES: CLEAN & ALTERNATIVE ENERGY Can Central Texas truly have it all: economic security, energy efficiency, and great quality of life? Find out in this talk from Joel Serface of Clean Energy Incubator, John Rosshirt of Texas Clean Energy Park, and Jim Walker of the Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project.

7:30-9pm. *Chez Zee American Bistro*, 5406 Balcones, 499-0435. \$25. www.leadershipaustin.org.

CENTRAL LITERACY COALITION OF FINANCIAL TEXAS is seeking both English- and Spanish-speaking volunteers to help teach basic financial management principles and techniques to adults. The nine-hour training program begins tonight, in preparation for Financial Literacy Week April 21-27. No teaching or professional financial experience is necessary. Call or e-mail to register. *April 1, 3, & 8, 5:30-8:30pm. Texas Bankers Association*, 205 W. 10th, 854-9600. jparker@ag.tamu.edu, www.flcct.org.

KILLING MISOGYNY: STRATEGIES FOR SURVIVAL Join writer Cristina Tzintzún of the Workers Defense Project/Proyecto Defensa Laboral for a discussion on "love, gender, violence, racism, and alternative forms of community accountability." 8-10pm. *MonkeyWrench Books*, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

PROTECT YOUR ACCOUNTS & YOUR IDENTITY A free seminar from fraud investigator Debra Justice. 12:30-1:30pm. A+ *Federal Credit Union*, 6420 Hwy. 290 E., 421-2818. Free. www.aplusfcu.org.

SPANISH CONVERSATION CLASS Drop in to improve your Spanish skills through talking, reading, watching movies, and other *actividades divertidas*. Tuesdays, 6:30-7:30pm. *EsquinaTango*, 209 Pedernales, 524-2772. \$12 (\$40 per month; free, first class). info@esquinatangoaustin.com, www.esquinatangoaustin.com.

TOUR OF MEDITATION PRACTICES convenes regularly to explore a new relaxation or meditation approach at each meeting. 6:15-7pm. *Human Potential Center*, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. Free. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

Artspoken Gallery, Design Center of Austin, El Taller Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles

@ *Alamo Drafthouse South*, 7pm

Trailathon Showcase @ *Alamo Ritz*, 10pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Southern Culture on the Skids
Continental Club

Ongoing Events

COATS FOR CUBS is accepting real fur – be it a coat, trim, or other type of clothing – to be used as bedding for orphaned or injured wildlife. From now till Earth Day (April 22) you may drop off your furs at Buffalo Exchange (just tell them it's for Coats for Cubs). *Buffalo Exchange*, 2904 Guadalupe, 480-9925. www.humanesociety.org/coatsforcubs.

FREE TAX SERVICES Nine area Community Tax Centers are providing free tax-preparation services to income-qualifying individuals and households this spring, and they're also offering low-fee, refund-anticipation loans. See www.communitytaxcenters.org for participating locations, hours, and details on income qualifications, or just call 211. *Foundation Communities*, 3036 S. First.

YOGA AT THE PARISH The Sixth Street club now hosts weekly yoga classes for all levels of experience. Bring your mat. *Mondays, 12:15pm, 1:15, 6, 7pm; Tuesdays, 12:15pm, 1:15, 6pm; Wednesdays, 6 & 7pm. The Parish*, 214 E. Sixth, upstairs, 479-0474. \$5. www.theparishroom.com.

INPUT REQUESTED ON CAPITAL METRO SERVICE CHANGES Capital Metro wants to hear your thoughts on the proposed summer bus route changes to be implemented June 8. Visit www.capmetro.org for information; feedback welcome via phone or e-mail. 474-1200. planning@capmetro.org.

EAST AUSTIN VOTA! CAMPAIGN seeks volunteers to man booths at community events around East Austin, registering voters in time for the May 10 municipal elections. *Southwest Key East Austin Community Center*, 6002 Jain Ln., 633-4312. carmen.llanes@gmail.com, www.swkey.org.

FEMALE PROGRAMMERS NEEDED GirlStart needs female volunteers with professional computer-programming experience to help with technical assistance and mentoring for **Project IT Girl**, an afterschool program meeting in South Austin. Call or e-mail if you're interested. *ACC South Austin*, 1820 W. Stansney, 916-4775. zakyyah@girlstart.org, www.girlstart.org.

AUSTIN RESOURCE CENTER FOR THE HOMELESS is seeking donations of snacks and prizes for participants in the ARCH Dialectical Behavior Therapy program. Items needed include chips, crackers, juice boxes, sunglasses, reading glasses, wallets, gift cards (for small amounts) from HEB and Target, backpacks, toiletry kits, water bottles, phone cards, movie tickets, journals, and earplugs. You may bring donations to ARCH/*Front Steps*, 500 E. Seventh; feel free to call the front desk (305-4100) when you arrive. 305-4174 (questions). dperkins@frontsteps.org, www.frontsteps.org.

ENVISION CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL GROWTH MEETINGS

ECT is preparing a Vision Progress Assessment and wants your perspective on regional land use, housing, transportation, and environmental issues, both going forward and looking back. What's your vision for the future of Central Texas? Have the last five years of growth met the goals of ECT's original Regional Vision? Answer these questions and more at one of several upcoming regional meetings (if you'd like to attend the Travis County-specific meetings, they're coming up April 7 and 9). This week: *Mon., March 31, 6:30-8pm: Cedar Park Public Library, 550 Discovery, Cedar Park. Tue., April 1, 6:30-8pm: Round Rock Stoney Point Ninth Grade Center, 1901 Sunrise, Round Rock. Wed., April 2, 6:30-8pm: Dripping Springs ISD, 510 W. Mercer, Dripping Springs. 916-6012. www.envisioncentraltexas.org.*

MISS BLACK TEXAS USA SCHOLARSHIP PAGEANT is looking for women ages 18-27 to compete for a \$3,000 scholarship and the 2009 title of Miss Black Texas USA. Teens ages 14-17 are also welcome to participate, competing for a \$1,500 scholarship and the Miss Black Teen Texas USA title. Call or e-mail for deadlines and application details. 713/320-5611. blackpageants@yahoo.com, www.blackpageants.com.

TRUE LIFE: ARE YOU LIVING OFF THE GRID? MTV is looking for young people, ages 16-28 (-ish), who are living off the land, generating their own electricity, or surviving without modern infrastructure in some way. Why? Because they wanna put you on TV in the *True Life* series. E-mail for details (include your name, location, number, and photo). grid@mtvn.com.

RESERVE YOUR ELECTRIC LAWNMOWER TODAY! The Central Texas Lawnmower Program's once-a-year golden opportunity is back: Trade in your old gas-guzzling lawnmower for a new electric one at Home Depot, and get a hefty rebate while you're at it. Gas-powered mowers are responsible for up to 10% of the total air pollution in urban areas, and they're no help with global warming, either, so give your conscience a break and reserve your mower now! *Sat., April 5, 8:30am-2pm. Home Depot*, 3600 S. I-35, 389-2250. www.cmpbs.org/electriclawnmower.

CNU XVI: NEW URBANISM & THE BOOMING METROPOLIS Congress for the New Urbanism convenes its annual conference in Austin this year, bringing to town four days of salon-style gatherings, tours, debates, workshops on everything from architecture to sustainability to transportation, and a New Urbanism 101 educational series for newbies. See "New Urbanism and the Booming Metropolis," p.32, and attend the whole conference, or register for individual events. See www.cnu.org/cnuvi for details. *Wed.-Sun., April 2-6. Austin Convention Center*, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 404-4000. \$20-915.

THIS WEEK ONLY

AIDS INTERNATIONAL CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL is both the longest-running grassroots HIV/AIDS-awareness event and the largest, with 93 countries taking part this year. Austin will be joining in with an evening of performance, prayer, and commitment ceremonies in Republic Square Park. Speakers, singers, poem readers, artists, and participants of all kinds, including anyone wanting to make a commitment to a loved one, are welcome to take part. Please send an e-mail by *Mon., March 31*, if you'd like to participate. *Sun., May 18, 8pm. Republic Square Park*, 422 Guadalupe, 974-6700. ozparade@aol.com, www.candlelightmemorial.org.

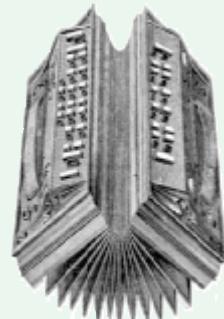
BLUEBONNET BLUES & FINE ARTS FESTIVAL brings you a family-friendly weekend of musicians workshops, down-home entertainment, and crawfish just outside of town. Highlights include performances from W.C. Clark, Anson Funderburgh, and Whitey Johnson, as well as screenings of the new short doc "Antone's: Home of the Blues." Partial proceeds will benefit local nonprofits and social services through the Highland Lakes Service League. *Fri.-Sun., March 28-30. Marble Falls*, 800/864-5175. \$5-20. www.bluebonnetblues.com.

EARLY VOTING You can cross civic duty off your checklist this week if you go ahead and vote early for the April 8 primary run-off elections. See "Endorsements," p.6, for *Chronicle* endorsements and polling locations. *Mon.-Fri., March 31-April 4. www.co.travis.tx.us*.

ESSAY CONTEST ON RACIAL HARMONY Austin-area college students are invited to submit essays on the topic **Racial Harmony: From the Personal to the Global**, with prizes to be awarded at the Louis Gregory Symposium on Race Unity on April 18. The first-place essayist will receive \$1,000. See www.austinbahal.org for details. *Deadline: April 4. Huston-Tillotson University*, 900 Chicon.

TEXAS FOLKLIFE'S BIG SQUEEZE ACCORDION CONTEST invites Texans and Louisianans to show off their accordion skills for the chance to win cash prizes and compete in the June 7 **Accordions Kings & Queens** concert in Houston (four semifinalists will also perform at the Mexican American Cultural Center on May 11). The grand prize winner at the Houston show will be chosen by a panel of music-biz experts and awarded recording time at the historic **SugarHill Recording Studios**. Open to kids ages 18 and under and adults ages 19-25. See www.texasfolklife.org for details. *Deadline: March 31. \$15.*

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.*



Every morning, I get an e-mail from the Associated Press listing its top sports stories of the day. Monday, after the second round of the NCAA Tournament, the AP featured stories about little Davidson College bumping off mighty Georgetown, about Tennessee surviving a scare from Butler, about Memphis dispatching Mississippi State, and about the University of North Carolina cruising past Arkansas. Also of note were two Serbs winning some tennis tournament, **Tiger Woods** not winning some golf tournament, and Golden State winning some NBA game.

I figured that it was me, that surely the AP had listed the Longhorns advancing to the Sweet 16, and I just wasn't seeing the headline. But no. The story wasn't there. It was the same deal on the front page of *The New York Times*' Sports section. Nothing. Nary a mention.

What gives? Where's the love?

I should say that I'm in no position to complain. I've doubted the Longhorns all season. They were tough on defense, balanced on offense. A well-coached team that got the most of its talent, taking down the likes of Tennessee, Kansas, and UCLA. Yet they lacked that je ne sais quoi that great teams are supposed to have, I thought. I kept looking for a bright shining star, a **Michael Jordan**, and he wasn't there. Instead, he was in the NBA, playing for the Seattle SuperSonics.

Throughout the season, we've all been dismissive of the idea that the Longhorns could actually be better without **Kevin Durant**. But now we know that they are. Anyway, they're at least one game better. A year ago, they were shown the door in the second round of the tournament. This year, they're still dancing. That will make it the fifth time in seven seasons that Texas has advanced to the third round of the tournament.

Maybe that explains the indifference: Everyone expects UT to get this far, but nobody figures they'll win it all.

Nobody except perhaps University of Miami coach **Frank Haith**. "Texas is a great team – one of the Top 5 teams in the country," he said. "I wouldn't be surprised if they win the national championship."

You expect Haith would say this, of course. For three seasons, he'd been an assistant at UT. And the Longhorns had just sent his Hurricanes packing. The 75-72 score of that game makes it seem closer than it really was. With **A.J. Abrams** once again on fire, turning in another 26-point game; **Damion James** ripping down 16 rebounds; and All-American **D.J. Augustin** in command of the court, they took a look at their 17-point second-half lead and naturally got a bit ahead of themselves.



D.J. Augustin

COURTESY OF UT

PLAYING THROUGH

BY THOMAS HACKETT

Can you blame them? Win three games, and they're playing for a championship. If they can get by Stanford on Friday – and they should – they'll likely face Memphis, a team that can't make a free throw. And after that, they'd face ...

Okay, now I'm starting to get ahead of myself. It's taken me awhile, but I'm starting to believe.

Sports

BY MARK FAGAN

THE MAIN EVENT

AUSTIN WRANGLERS Much has changed for the Wranglers since last season. They dropped from the Arena Football League proper to arenafootball2, Deion is out of here, and they have an all-new roster and head coach. One thing that has remained the same is the exciting play of arena-style football and a super-fan-friendly experience. Don't miss this, their home opener. Vs. Corpus Christi: Sat., March 29, 7pm. Erwin Center, 1701 Red River. \$18-125. www.austinwranglers.com.

THE HOME TEAMS

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Baseball Vs. Nebraska: Fri., March 28, 3pm; Sat., March 29, 6pm; Sun., March 30, 1pm. Vs. Rice: Tue., April 1, 6pm. Vs. Texas Southern: Wed., April 2, 6:05pm. Dusch-Falk Field, 1300 E. MLK Blvd. **Men's Tennis** Vs. Oklahoma State: Fri., March 28, 6pm. Vs. Oklahoma: Sun., March 30, 1pm. Vs. Tulsa: Thu., April 3, 6pm. Pennick-Allison Tennis Center, 1701 Trinity. **Women's Tennis** Vs. Iowa State: Fri., March 28, 1:30pm. Vs. Nebraska: Sat., March 29, noon. Pennick-Allison Tennis Center. **Rowing** Vs. Kansas: Sat., March 29, all day. Texas Rowing Center, 300 Hearn. **Women's Golf** Vs. Texas State: Sat., March 29, all day. UT Golf Club, 2200 University Club Dr. **Softball** Vs. Iowa State: Sun., March 30, noon. Vs. Baylor: Wed., April 2, 6pm. McCombs Field, 2001 Comal. **Men's and Women's Track & Field** 81st Clyde Littlefield Texas Relays: Wed.-Sat., April 2-5, all day. Myers Stadium, 707 Manor. www.texasports.com.

AUSTIN TOROS Only three games left in their regular season. If you haven't caught the Toros in action this season, what are you waiting for? Vs. Albuquerque: Wed., April 2, 7pm. Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez. \$8-23. www.nba.com/dleague/austin.

ROUND ROCK EXPRESS host the Astros' AA-affiliate Corpus Christi Hooks for a little exhibition baseball. Get a sneak peek at the Astros farm system under new General Manager **Ed Wade**. Vs. Corpus Christi: Sat., March 29, 6pm. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., 512/255-2255. \$6-12. www.roundrockexpress.com.

LONESTAR ROLLERGIRLS The Hellcats take on the Cavello Cup Champion **Holy Rollers** with live music and ice-cold beer to further entertain. Sun., March 30, 7pm (6pm doors). Austin Convention Center, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, Exhibition Hall 5. \$15, \$13 presale. www.trrd.com.

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY Tennis Vs. Temple College: Thu., March 27, 3pm. **Track** Texas Relays Qualifiers: Wed.-Sat., April 2-5, all day. southwesternpirates.cstv.com.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Tennis Vs. Barry: Thu., April 3, 1:30pm. www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm.

RECREATION & FITNESS

SOCCERZONE SOUTH AUSTIN has its grand opening this Saturday, March 29. ESPN Radio on site, and Texas Road House BBQ for lunch. The indoor complex will feature full-sized and compact fields, a Soccer Tots program, an instructive academy program, kids' leagues, and much more. 9501 Manchaca (at Slaughter), 280-2244. www.soccerzoneaustin.com.

AUSTIN 'TOP GUN' SPORTING CLAYS TOURNAMENT This father and son competition benefits **Kidsave** (www.kidsave.org) and the **City School Scholarship Fund**. Awards for the top finishers. All skill levels welcome. Barbecue lunch, too. Sat., March 29, 8:30am-6pm. Capital City Trap and Skeet Club, 8707 Lindell, 272-4707. \$125. george@austintopgun.com, www.topgun.com.

EWGA KICK OFF & LADIES GOLF FAIR The Executive Women's Golf Association is hosting this golf fair, which includes four golf clinics, vendor exhibits, a silent auction, and an Italian lunch. Sat., March 29, 8:30am. Harvey Penick Golf Campus, 5501 Ed Bluestein Blvd. \$40. www.ewga-austin.com.

LAGO VISTA APRIL FOOL'S DAY SHENANIGANS Tue., April 1, 1pm shotgun start. Lago Vista Country Club, 4616 Rimrock Dr., 512/267-1170. \$40 (\$25, members). www.lagovistagolfclub.com.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

DANSKIN TRIATHLON PRERACE SEMINAR is for ladies looking to try a tri or for experienced women wanting to hone their skills. Renowned triathlete **Sally Edwards** will lead the seminar. Wed., April 2, 6:30-8pm. REI Austin Downtown, 601 N. Lamar, 482-3357. Free. www.rei.com/stores/danskin.html.

JUNIOR 'DILLO KIDS RUN This race is a certified one-miler for kids 12 and under. There will be seven age divisions per gender. Parents are welcome to run alongside their kids. There will also be a noncompetitive Dillo Kids Half-Mile Family Fun Run & Walk for kids 6 and under and their parents. Sat., March 29, 8am. Auditorium Shores & West Riverside Drive, 445-3598. www.active.com/event_detail.cfm?CHECKSSO=0&EVENT_ID=1488391.

CAPITOL 10,000 Thirty years and running (pun intended), the Cap 10K is bigger and stronger than ever. Hardcore runners will compete alongside the keeping-it-weirdos for an event that's fun for families and freaks alike. Sun., March 30, 8:30am (wheelchairs), 8:45am (timed run), 9am (fun run and walk). Congress Avenue and Barton Springs Road, 445-3598. www.statesman.com/sports/content/cap10k/index.html.

ACC STUDENTS FOR ENVIRONMENT OUTREACH, 24 HOURS TO EMPOWER is a 24-hour bike ride being held to raise money and awareness for the **Whole Planet Foundation** and their microlending programs. Six-hour shifts, four riders per shift. Thu.-Fri., March 27-28, 7pm-7pm. Whole Foods market, Sixth & Lamar. www.wholeplanetfoundation.org.

Wednesday 02

AUSTIN SEMINARY SPRING PRESIDENT'S COLLOQUIUM presents **The Impact of Hatred in Our Lives (and in Austin)**, a talk from Roberta S. Clark of the the Anti-Defamation League and Austin's Jewish Community Relations Council. 2-4pm. Shelton Chapel, 100 E. 27th (Austin Seminary Campus), 472-6736. Free. www.austinseminary.edu.

AUSTIN'S PAST & FUTURE: GREEN & GROWING A free event as part of the **Congress for New Urbanism** conference (see Ongoing): Join Mayor **Will Wynn** for a talk about Austin's green technology and efforts to curb its contribution to global warming. He'll be joined by architect **Sinclair Black**, who will be presented with the Athena Medal for Lifetime Achievement for his work as an environmentalist and urban designer in Central Texas. For more on Black, see "City Shaper," p.28. 5:30-7pm. Austin Convention Center, meeting room 9, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 344-2027. Free. www.cnuuvi.org.

CHINESE LESSONS Learn Chinese using the puzzle method in this fun, informal class. Call to register. Wednesdays, 6:20-7:30pm. Formosa Art & Tea, 200 E. Pecan #5, Pflugerville, 989-8678. \$15 per lesson. www.drinkarttea.com.

DIVORCECARE SUPPORT GROUP You can join this 13-week group at any time, but register beforehand if you need child care. Children ages 5-13 can enroll in DivorceCare for Kids, which is a Christian-based support group featuring music, puppetry, and other fun activities designed to help children cope with divorce or separation. Through June 18. Wednesdays, 6:30-8pm. St. Paul Lutheran Church, 3501 Red River, 472-8301. www.divorcecare.org.

GREENLIGHTS BOARD SUMMIT St. David's Community Health Foundation CEO Earl Maxwell speaks tonight at this evening of hors d'oeuvres and mingling for nonprofit professionals. 5:45-8pm. SEDL, 4700 Mueller, 477-5955 x252. \$35. www.greenlights.org.

HOW TO BUY OR SELL A GREEN HOME A workshop on energy audits, green financing, and the how-tos of marketing and buying eco-friendly houses. 6:30-8pm. Keller Williams Realty, 9430 Research, 297-5658. Free. www.greenhomeworkshop.com.

The big news locally is that the **Austin Aztex** announced a home field for their inaugural season. They'll play their eight home games at **Round Rock High's Dragon Stadium**. There had been intense speculation about the venue; the team's announcement release noted that a lot of stadiums they looked at "are unavailable in 2008, for one reason and another, but that doesn't mean we won't be revisiting them for the 2009 season." With that hard choice behind them, the spirits were high at the team's kickoff party event Monday night; see the Score, austinchronicle.com/sports, for more.

The **U.S. men** thumped Poland, 3-0, on Wednesday, in Poland, with a lineup heavy with Europe-based players.

England, meanwhile, went down tamely in France, 1-0, in the first game of the **Fabio Capello** era (and **David Beckham**'s 100th appearance for his country). More results and Beckham rumors online.

The **MLS season kicks off** this weekend. The **Houston Dynamo** open Saturday, March 29, at New England, in a rematch of last year's title game (6:30pm on FSC).

CONCACAF Champions' Cup semifinals start April 1-2: **D.C. United** at defending champ Pachuca on Tuesday; the **Dynamo** hosting Costa Rican champ Saprissa on Wednesday (www.houstondynamo.com for ticket info). Both games are at 9pm, live on FSC.

UEFA Champions League quarterfinals also start April 1-2, all at 1:30pm. Tuesday: Roma-Manchester United (ESPN2), Schalke 04-Barcelona. Wednesday: Arsenal-Liverpool (ESPN2); Fenerbahçe-Chelsea. The return legs are April 8-9. – Nick Barbaro

Soccer WATCH

INTRODUCTION TO THE SHAMANIC JOURNEY

Learn the fundamental practice of both ancient and contemporary shamanism. NiaSpace, 3212 S. Congress, 586-2736. \$10. www.shamanicpassages.com.

IN THE SPIRIT OF RESISTANCE Enjoy vegan treats and a screening of *Quilombo Country* tonight as part of **Project Abundant Life's** new monthly film and discussion series focusing on communities and movements of resistance. 7:30pm. *MonkeyWrench Books*, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. \$5 suggested donation. relrath@gmail.com.

ISRAEL & THE PARADOX OF POWER A talk from **Stuart Schoffman**, Hollywood screenwriter, journalist, and columnist for *Jerusalem Report*. 7:30-9pm. UT campus, Carothers building, 2501 Whitis, 471-5787. Free. www.utexas.edu/ugs/uhc/joynes.php.

MASSAGE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE Call to reserve your spot at this open house for future massage therapists interested in starting classes this summer. Free chair massages for all! Call to RSVP. 7-8pm. *Lauterstein-Conway Massage School*, 4701-B Burnet Rd., 374-9222 x14. Free. www.tlcschool.com.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB Join Austin Lyric Opera Director Kevin Patterson for a discussion on the ALO's move to its fancy new digs at the Long Center. 7-8:30am. *UT Club*, Darrell K. Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman, 479-9460. \$15-25 (includes breakfast). www.mbcaustin.org.

MIDWEEK AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET This growers-only market features fresh food, chef demos, kids activities, live music, and more every week, rain or shine. *Wednesdays*, 4-8pm. *The Triangle*, 46th Street, between Guadalupe & Lamar. Free. www.austinfarmersmarket.org.

NATIONAL KARAOKE LEAGUE The first season is under way for this team-karaoke league, but that doesn't mean it's too late for you to participate. Every Wednesday night this spring, they'll be vying for audience approval, so check them out, vote for your faves, and maybe get some mic time yourself in one of the many between-bout contests. *Bennigan's*, 301 Barton Springs Rd. www.nationalkaraokeleague.com/austin.

ROYAL BOTANIC GARDENS DIRECTOR STEPHEN HOPPER presents *Life on the Rocks: A Global Review of Plant Life on Granite Outcrops*, following a reception in his honor at the Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center. *Wed.*, April 2, 7-9pm; *LBJ Wildflower Center*, 4801 La Crosse. 232-0105. Free. (See Monday for more info.)

TEXAS NORML MEETING First *Wednesdays*, 8pm. *Genuine Joe Coffeehouse*, 2001 W. Anderson, 220-1576. Free. www.texasnorml.org.

THEOLOGY ON TAP Join UT professor J. Budziszewski for *Just War Theory*, a discussion about the Catholic Church's take on war. 6:30-8:30pm. *Mother Egan's Irish Pub*, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747. Free. tot.austindiocese.org.

TOWN HALL MEETING: EDWARDS AQUIFER/BARTON SPRINGS The Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District is revising its management plans to accommodate increasing water demands. If you have something to say about how Central Texas' groundwater resources are managed, speak up at tonight's meeting. 6pm. *Sunset Valley City Hall*, 3205 Jones Rd., *Sunset Valley*, 512/282-8441. www.bseacd.org/rules.html.

TRUTH OR FICTION? THE DAVINCI CODE & THE STUDY OF JEWISH HISTORY This talk from New York University Hebrew/Judaic studies professor Lawrence H. Schiffman is the second in St. Edward's new lecture series exploring the interreligious values of the 1965 Vatican II document "Nostra Aetate." 5:30pm. *Ragsdale Center*, *Jones Auditorium*, St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress.

UNIVERSITY AREA KIWANIS MEETING Kiwanis International is a volunteer organization focusing on service projects primarily for youth. All are welcome at their twice-monthly meetings featuring lunch and special speakers. *First & third Wednesdays*, noon-1pm. *Holiday Inn Northwest*,

8901 Business Park Dr., 699-7089. Free for visitors. universityareakiwanis@gmail.com, www.universityareakiwanis.org.

WINEBAT DINNER features seven specially chosen wines served blind with a seven-course dinner. 7pm. *Green Pastures*, 811 W. Live Oak, 961-6151. \$59 (plus tax/gratuity). www.winebat.com.

INPUT NEEDED ON BICYCLE MASTER PLAN Got something to say about Austin's bike programs and infrastructure? Say it at the second of two meetings hosted by the city of Austin Bicycle Program, which is in the process of updating the Bicycle Master Plan. *Wed.*, April 2, 5:45-8:30pm: *University Teaching Center*, UT campus, 21st & University (bus routes No. 1, 20, 29; bike routes No. 46, 47, 33). 974-7142. nadia.barrera@ci.austin.tx.us, www.ci.austin.tx.us/bicycle.

THEATRE (See Arts Listings.)

The Method Gun *Long Center for Performing Arts*

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Beat Films: Sunflower Sutra @ *Alamo Ritz*, 7pm
Hell on Wheels @ *Alamo Ritz*, 10pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Eisley Antone's

The Ugly Beats Beauty Bar

The Weakerthans, A.A. Bondy *The Parish*

Southern Culture on the Skids

Continental Club

Thursday 03

ADULT BEGINNERS COMPUTER CLINIC features one-on-one help with everything from typing and mousing to using MS Word, e-mail, and the Internet. No registration required. 9:30-11am. *Austin Free-Net Computer Lab*, *DeWitty Center*, 2209 Rosewood, 236-8225 x13. Free. www.austinfreenet.net/contact/index.html.

CNU XVI: NEW URBANISM & THE BOOMING METROPOLIS conference starts today. See Ongoing Events or p.32 for details. www.cnu.org/cnuxvi Thu-Sun., April 3-6. *Austin Convention Center*, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 404-4000. \$20-915.

DAHR JAMAIL The author of *Beyond the Green Zone* discusses his experiences working as an independent journalist in occupied Iraq. 7pm. *UT campus*, *Geology building*, Rm. 2.324. Free. www.beyondthegreenzone.org.

FAIR TRADE: A BEGINNER'S GUIDE Join writer Jaqueline DeCarlo for a talk about the far-reaching benefits of fair trade relationships for both producers and consumers. 7pm. *BookWoman*, 5501 N. Lamar, A-105 edit, 472-2785. Free. www.ebookwoman.com.

EAST NIGHT PeopleFund honors Mayor Pro Tem **Betty Dunkerley**, the MFI Foundation's **Will Meredith**, and local small businesses with an evening of music and dance, a buffet dinner, and a silent auction. 6-10pm. *Fiesta Gardens*, 2101 Bergman, 472-8087. \$35. www.peoplefund.org.

ENVISION CENTRAL TEXAS OPEN SESSION Renowned urban planner **Peter Calthorpe** joins **Jim Walker** of the Central Texas Sustainability Indicators Project (and ECT chairman) to take a look at Envision Central Texas' progress so far and examines the rationale behind regional visioning. (This talk is part of the Congress for the New Urbanism conference; see Ongoing for more.) 3-5pm. *Austin Convention Center*, *Ballroom ABC*, 500 E. Cesar Chavez, 344-2027. Free.

FASHION LOUNGE gathers together various fashion and beauty boutiques for an evening of discounted shopping and free massages, beauty consultations, and treats from Joe DiMaggio's. 6-10pm. *Pangaea*, 409 Colorado, 472-8882. Free.

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

POWER OF THE EYEWITNESS Join **Betty Sue Flowers** (of the LBJ Library and Museum) and jour-

nalists **Neal Spelce** and **Tracy Dahlby** for a discussion on the influence of cell phones, digital video, and the Internet on eyewitness accounts of historical events. Reservations required: Call 936-4649. 4-6pm. *Texas Spirit Theatre* at the *Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum*, 1800 N. Congress, 936-8746. Free. www.thestoryoftexas.com.

PRINCIPLES OF LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT - SHAPED BY FAITH Concordia's Spend Your Lunch With ... speaker series presents this talk from TriFusion CEO Corey Bell, the 2007 recipient of the Austin Under 40 Award. 11:30am-12:15pm. *Beto Lecture Hall*, *Concordia University*, 3400 N. I-35 edit, 486-1140. Free. www.concordia.edu.

SMALL BUSINESS FINANCING SEMINAR Learn the basics about credit, business planning, and guaranty loan programs in this seminar hosted by BiGAUSTIN and the U.S. Small Business Administration. 11:30am-12:30pm. *BiGAUSTIN Women's Business Center*, 1050 E. 11th, 403-5921. Free.

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.)

Orange Revolution @ *Avaya Auditorium* (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.)

Christopher Anton *Elysium*

Southern Culture on the Skids

Continental Club

Sam Baker, Gurf Morlix *Cactus Cafe*

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The *Austin Chronicle* is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. **The deadline for the April 11 issue is Monday, March 31.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

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

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

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

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

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

Paintings * Outsider Art * Fashions

Custom Furniture * Tin Sculptures * Carvings

Birds look like they could take flight, alligators look like they could take a bite...

arts listings

Near the end of the Wars of the Roses, the loutish Henry VII still worries about claims to his bloodily won throne. With Richard of York fresh in his grave, the new ruler has three would-be kings floating about his kingdom: Edward, actually a girl, locked in the Tower of London; Ned, who's spent his entire life as a daydreaming shepherd in Wales; and Perkin Warbeck, a snootily oblivious French teenager. Are these legitimate challengers to Henry's sceptre? Far, absurdly far, from it. These are the Brats of Clarence.

For their first full production after an extended hiatus, the members of the Bedlam Faction have chosen a script right up their artistic alley. *The Brats of Clarence* plays toward the group's ensemble approach and Shakespearean roots while

incorporating a very modern, gag-laden humor. The play takes place during Henry VII's reign, right after a great deal of royal jockeying for power, and features quite a few of the Bard's regular dramatic devices: girls disguised as boys, an upstart marching against the crown, a play within a play, ridiculously tied love knots at the end. From the kindly shepherds all the way to the tyrant king, these are characters with whom any Shakespearean buff would be familiar.

And no wonder, considering playwright Paul Menzer is a scholar of Shakespeare. But despite a construction similar to your average Shakespearean history, *Brats* never pretends to be a serious historical representation. This is a farce, a comical romp that uses one of the Bard's history plays as a vehicle. All the language makes sense to our 21st century ears, so even if you've never been a fervent follower of iambic pentameter, don't worry – in this show, characters who speak in blank verse are speedily sentenced to death.

And while *Brats'* setting may be the 15th century, its comic styling is much more contemporary. The fourth wall is broken on several occasions, once to allow for a play-within-a-play segment that goofs on *Return of the Jedi* (Jabba, golden bikini, and all). It's gags like that



The Brats of Clarence

Salvage Vanguard Theater, through April 5

Running time: 2 hr, 5 min

which make *Brats* so darn entertaining; for all its wit and clever turns of phrase, the humor often plays to our baser pleasures. Scotsmen get frightened by some heinous farts in the middle of a haunted bog. There's a Scooby Doo chase scene set to "Last Train to Clarksville." The dungeon master sports a black vest on a bare chest, the cast of characters sports more than its fair share of ridiculous accents, and the king is delivered a parcel by a FedEx guy. In this regard, *Brats* may be a dumb comedy, but it's dumb done intelligently, in the way of Mel Brooks or *Monty Python*.

Bedlam adds to these anachronistic flourishes with their own video intro and some hard-rock riffs. Otherwise the sizeable Salvage Vanguard Theater is left quite open and bare, which is a reflection of both *Brats'* ever-changing settings and Bedlam's focus on its ensemble's actions rather than their surroundings. Most cast members take on several roles, and it seems every role, however minuscule, is granted importance and the opportunity for

characterization. There is something sweetly beautiful about this in the "there are no small parts" vein, although it does lend itself to distraction when anonymous characters moon and mug about the stage. Perhaps Bedlam's ensemble works so well together because the company makes sure that each member feels fulfilled artistically regardless of the production.

With its rapping princes and robot dances, its kilts and kings, *The Brats of Clarence* is an entertaining marriage of Elizabethan drama and wacky, absurd humor. It's self-aware without being self-indulgent, and, most of all, it's fun. There's not much at stake here, but the evident joy of the cast shines through throughout this historical romp. So welcome back, Bedlam Faction: It's good to have y'all back.

— Avimaan Syam

Theatre

OPENING

THE LUNATIC, THE LOVER, AND THE POET The Concordia Players present Brian Bedford's play that examines the life of Shakespeare through his sonnets and soliloquies. *March 27-April 6. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Concordia University, Peter Center, 3400 N. I-35, 486-1257. \$10.*

AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE: RUSS LORENSON'S BENEDETTO This is, of course, a tribute to the life and career of Tony Bennett, as presented by the talented performer and vocalist Russ Lorensen in the elegant setting of the Mansion at Judges' Hill. *Thu.-Fri., March 27-28, 8pm. Mansion at Judges' Hill, 1900 Rio Grande, 495-1800. \$39. www.mansionatjudgeshill.com.*

MAIT & BEN Naughty Austin presents Kelley Estes and Breanna Stogner in this Hollywood-happy farce, written by Mindy Kaling and Brenda Withers, in which a certain pair of celebrity friends magically discovers a screenplay to make a hit movie with. Tabloidable antics ensue. Directed by Blake Yelavich. *For an interview with Estes and Stogner, see Arts, p.43.) Through May 10. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real Theatre, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. \$27 (\$20, students, seniors). www.naughtyaustin.com.*

BLITZ SPIRIT Noel Coward's guh-guh-ghostly comedy of romance and afterlife scheming enlivens the Austin Playhouse stage. With David Stahl, Lara Toner, Bernadette Nason, Janet Hurley Kimlicko, Tom Parker, Mary Agen Cox, and Rachel Dendy under the direction of Don Toner. *March 28-May 4. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$24-28 (half-price for students). www.austinplayhouse.com.*

THE DIONYSIUM GOES HIP-HOP Buzz Moran and L.B. Deyo's cavalcade of cerebral entertainment features, this month, a debate (Resolved: That Hip-Hop Is Dead) between musical phenom Bavu Blakes and whoever's gonna be brainy and ballsy enough to oppose him. Also: Professor Kevin Prince lectures on the socioeconomic roots of hip-hop. And: the usual wine-fueled diversions and delights, with Graham Reynolds on keyboards. *Tue., April 1, 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. \$8. www.dionysium.com.*

THE METHOD GUN Okay, here we go. How many years and workshops and cinder blocks in the making? How many research trips to South America and that bloodstained bathroom in a certain Greenwich Village jazz club? How much fierce and polished talent onstage and behind the scenes? Veritable fucktons, we reckon, and all of it leading to this premiere (at the Long Center, no less) of the Rude Mechs' newest opus – written by Kirk Lynn, directed by Shawn Sides – exploring the life, death, and influence of acclaimed theatre iconoclast Stella Burden. A riveting treat for the eyes, ears, and forebrain – even moreso if theatre is beyond mere entertainment for you. *April 2-12. Wed.-Thu., 7:30; Fri., 7 & 10pm; Sat., April 5, 7:30pm; Sun., April 6, 3 & 6pm; Sat., April 12, 3 & 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 482-0800. \$15-28. www.thelongcenter.org.*

NIGHTHAWKS is a new play by M.C. "Alpha" Morrison, directed by City Theatre's Stacey Glazer, in which the denizens of Edward Hopper's famous painting (you know the one) come to life onstage. *April 3-6. Thu.-Sun., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. www.rudemechs.com.*

DOUBT It's nun vs. priest in this faith-rending power struggle from John Patrick Shanley (author of the film *Moonstruck*), directed for Zach Scott by Steven Dietz, as an intense game of cat-and-mouse unfolds in a Bronx Catholic school in 1964. *April 3-May 11. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre Center, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. www.zachscott.com.*

CLOSING

JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR Here's Andrew Lloyd Webber and Tim Rice's take on the holy shenanigans of that Christian messiah, as directed by Mary Ellen Butler for the Palace Theatre. Held over, in fact: *Through March 30. 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.*

THE LONESOME WEST Here's the Austin premiere of Martin "the Pillowman" McDonagh's thoroughly Irish comedy about two brothers who quarrel over everything – even what hors d'oeuvres to serve at their father's funeral. Featuring Jude Hickey and Benjamin Summers, directed with Glenfiddich-honed acumen by the award-winning Ken Webster. *Through March 29. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Hyde Park Theatre, 511 W. 43rd, 479-PLAY. \$15-17 (pay what you can, Thursdays). www.hydeparktheatre.com.*

MENOPAUSE: THE MUSICAL I suppose this means there won't be blood? Broadway Across America presents Jeanie Linders' musical comedy "celebrating women and the Change," featuring four women wittily holding forth about "hot flashes, night sweats, memory loss, chocolate binges, not enough sex, too much sex, and day-to-day challenges with aging parents, aging children, and aging partners." So: Much kvetching, capering, and parodying of baby-boomer pop songs. If you can relate, you can relate. *Through March 30. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 2 & 8pm; Sun., 2 & 5:30pm. Hogg Auditorium, UT campus, West 24th & Whitis, 471-1444. \$33.50-42.50. www.utpac.org.*

PENETRATOR The Search Party presents this "intense look into the male psyche," as written by Anthony Neilson and featuring Cole Wimpsee, Michael Mason, and Jared Culverhouse under the direction of Jeremy O. Torres. *Thu.-Sat., March 27-29, 9pm. The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 443-3688. \$15. www.theseearchparty.org.*

FERAL ACTS: A PLAY ON WORDS City Theatre presents Jessica Arnold in an expansion of her "Artist Behind Closed Doors," wherein a quartet of distinct personalities play with words and claim their own. Four women embody this show about longing, lust, fairy tales, and happy endings. Directed by Arnold and Stacey Glazer. *Through March 29. Thu.-Sat., 10:30pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 524-2870. \$7. www.citytheatreAustin.org.*

TITUS ANDRONICUS Directed by John Baltisberger for Velvet Rut Theatre. *Through March 29. Thu.-Sat. 8pm. 1612 E. Seventh. Donations accepted. www.myspace.com/thelvelvetruttheatre.*

ONGOING

THE ZOO STORY St. Ed's Transit Theatre Troupe, brings you this Albee classic in a site-specific performance behind the Recreation and Convocation Center on the west side of campus. Directed by Jarrett King, with donations accepted to support the Austin Humane Society. *Through April 5. Thu.-Sat., 5:50pm. St. Edward's University, 3001 S. Congress.*

LAUNDRY AND BOURBON This laugh-out-loud Southern spectacle by James McClure is paired with the playwright's other short comedy, *Lone Star*, as directed by Andy Berkovsky. *Through April 13. 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.*

BRATS OF CLARENCE The Bedlam Faction's crew of theatrical collaborators returns to the Austin stage with Paul Menzer's raucous send-up of Shakespearean tropes and dopes, featuring the Faction's mafficking madcaps and more Bardic shenanigans than you can shake a false staff at. You like Shakespeare? You like to see someone poke him with a stick? We reckon you'll love this. (For review, see above.) *Through April 5. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd., 589-2332. www.bedlamfaction.com.*

TROADES Based on Euripides' ancient anti-war tragedy, this production is adapted and directed by Vortex Artistic Director Bonnie Cullum and features a big cast, original text by playwright Susan Estelle Kelso, and live, original choral music by Vortex co-founder Sean T.C. O'Malley. *Through April 4. 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.*

DINNER THEATRE

THE LINGUINI CODE Gary Payne's Capital City Mystery Players spoof the popular book and movie in a venue featuring tasty Italian cuisine that provides an opportunity to twirl your vermicelli (or divide your veal Parmesan or what-have-you) while trying to sleuth out the culprit of this interactive comedy — and the best detective in your crowd wins a prize. *Sat., March 29, 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. www.capcitymystery.com.*

AUDITIONS

VELVET RUT THEATRE Shakespeare's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* will be done as a tribute to Jim Jarmusch, as directed by Japhy Fernandes. Also, the company's producing *Antony and Cleopatra*, *Salome*, *Oedipus Rex*, *The Birds*, and *Tartuffe* this season, and you can audition for any and all of them. Check their website for details; call for appt. *Through April 3. 236-1092. www.myspace.com/thevelvetruttheatre.*

DOG SEES GOD: CONFESSIONS OF A TEENAGE BLOCKHEAD Hyde Park Theatre is casting this twisted comedy by Bert V. Royal, to be directed by Ken Webster in May and June. Needed: males and females who can play teenagers. E-mail for details and appt. kenwebster@austin.rr.com.

PETRA'S SUEÑO Teatro Vivo seeks actors (men and women, ages 18-60) for Rupert Reyes' bilingual comedy, to be directed by Mary Alice Carnes at the Long Center in June. Call for appointment and script availability. *Mon.-Tue., March 31-April 1, 6:30-9:30pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 474-6379. www.teatrovivo.org.*

NECESSARY TARGETS Eve Ensler's drama about personal resilience in a Bosnian refugee camp will be staged by the Paradox Players, directed by Chris Jimmerson. Seeking seven women between the ages of 17 and 70. E-mail for details. *Sat., April 5, 1pm; Mon., April 7, 7pm. First Unitarian Universalist Complex, 4700 Grover. chris_jimmerson@mac.com.*

THEATRE CALL BOARD

AUSTIN SHAKESPEARE is seeking technical staff for their upcoming production of *Much Ado About Nothing*. If you have experience with theatrical lighting and sound, drop them an e-mail: These are *paid* positions. production@austinsakespeare.org.

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Tig Notaro It's another big gig with Tig, as the funnywoman who's been twisting humor all over the small screen and at festivals across this beleaguered nation makes a stop at Cap City. *April 1-5. Tue.-Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Eddie Gossling Award-winning? Nationally acclaimed? Longtime local favorite? Actually *funny*? Yes, the Goss has got it all, and he'll be shelling it out, midtown, for you lucky people. Also: **Doug Mellard** opens. Recommended. *March 27-29. Thu., 8pm; Fri.-Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.*

Cap City Open Mic This gig ranges from "Who let these dipshits onstage?" to "Wow, this fucker is hilarious!" And, hey, it could be you up there, dear reader, slaying your friends and neighbors. Sundays, 8pm. Free with college ID.

COLDTOWNE THEATER 4803 Airport. www.coldtowne.com.

Improv out the Wazoo Some of Austin's best stand-up and (especially) improv in this weekly mix: **Parallelogramophonograph** They're fast, they're funny, they're totally *kawaii*, and this week the **P! Company** and **Level 5** are performing with them. *Thursday, 8pm. It's a Caaaaaaage Match* in which two improv troupes go all gladiator on each other's collective ass. *Thursday, 10pm.*

Proctor will doctor your improv ills away as three separate ColdTowne troupes vie for your merriment and adoration. *Thursday, 8pm. That Other*

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Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy.
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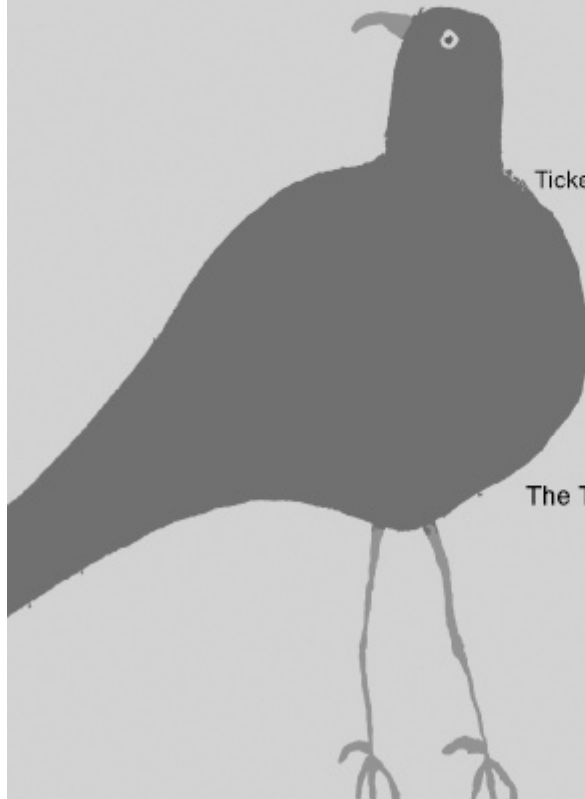
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Troades

The Vortex, through April 4

Running time: 1 hr, 55 min

The women come into view, weary and worn, the hems of their dun-colored shifts and gowns ragged, their bare feet and arms streaked with dirt. We can see that they have been through a struggle, and when men enter the scene, we see instantly what that struggle is. They wear leather skirts and carry spears, which they thrust at the women with the casual cruelty of one in control, the oppressor, the bully, the thug. Threatened, the women's faces stiffen in terror, but when the men leave, those faces go cold and harden like clay that has been through fire.

We recognize that look – or at least we should, given the times we live in. We have had the opportunity to see it every day for the five years our country has been in Iraq, to see it in newspaper photographs and television reports and images on the Web. And that's far from the only place we could have witnessed it in recent years; Afghanistan, Darfur, Bosnia, Somalia, Israel – from all those sites and more have come snapshots of those deadened faces fired by war. War is an intimate of our age, and the Vortex Repertory Company speaks to that tragic fact with a play that long ago spelled out the bitter toll that war always exacts. Bonnie Cullum's adaptation of *The Trojan Women*, with text by Susan Estelle Kelso and music by Vortex co-founder Sean T.C. O'Malley, sets us in Troy after the Greeks have laid waste to the city and its women await the news of their fate.

Led by Hekabe – an alternately despairing and defiant Patricia Wappner – these female survivors recall their suffering through the long siege of their city and its downfall, then are forced to endure new ordeals: orders that they be separated and enslaved; news that loved ones have died; the arrival of the hated Helene, whom they blame for the war, and her escape from their vengeance; the burning of Troy; the execution of a child. Misery is heaped upon misery, and the production strives to evoke these in all their tragic horror, with an earnestness that is the show's blessing and its curse. The earnestness fuels the ensemble with purpose, a kind of righteous fire, but it also sometimes leads the actresses to embroider their responses to their characters' misfortunes, to scowl and wail and grimace to a degree that comes across as showy more than felt. It's the difference between grieving and playing grief, and it pulls us out of the play.

The production is most effective at its simplest: when Wappner stands her ground and flashes steel in her eyes and voice, in the glimmers of humanity that Eric Porter brings to the conscience-stricken Greek warrior Talthybios, in a lone plaintive flute played by Joe England that wordlessly expresses the loss in this city and the hearts of these women, and, most of all, in the singing of the women themselves. Periodically throughout, the action ceases, the musical accompaniment falls away, and these women rise and join their voices as one in simple, elegant melodies and harmonies. Michael McKelvey's choral direction and the clear, strong voices of the actresses create a force that is greater than the sum of its parts: one that binds these Trojan women together and speaks for them all – and for all women wounded by war. It is the thing that brings us close to them and through which we know the devastation and suffering wrought by war. These beaten women sing, and we long for peace.

– Robert Faires



Paper presents Punchline. The popular stand-up showcase continues. *Friday, 10pm.* **Stool Pigeon** features a mystery guest in a sort of modified Armando, thus jump-starting the shenanigans that ensue. *Saturday, 8pm.* The **Faculty** is a super-group comprising members of **ColdTowne** and the **Frank Mills**, either of whom could tie your medulla in knots if they, y'know, felt like it. *Saturday, 10pm.*

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.estersfollies.com

Esther's Follies: World Gone Wild The most popular troupe in town returns with their riotous musical send-ups of local and national politics and cultural phenomena, making already hot topics burn with a bright comic intensity, with the incredible and – *ai! ai! ai!* – spicy illusions of master magician **Ray Anderson**. Thrills! Chills! Ripped-from-the-headlines events turned into comedy gold! *Reservations highly recommended. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sat., 8 & 10pm. \$20 (discounts available Thursdays & Fridays for seniors, students, military). Additional \$5 for special reserved seats.*

Banana Puddin' Time Tom Booker, comedy impresario from L.A., has moved to Austin and is running this new show at Esther's Pool: a mixture of comedic sketches, improv, stand-up comedy, and silly songs. Austin's most entertaining talents are promised, and you'll get free banana pudding with each paid admission. *Thursdays, 9:30pm. \$9.95.*

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688.

Friday: It's **Threerfer 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 and friends present a riotous group of comedians in a show of **Improvvised 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.

Mike MacCrae Is Dozens of People Which is to say that he's a top-notch impressionist, as his recent stint on the Letterman show certainly proved. And he's got the funny, as his "Best Local Comic in Houston" award goes to show you. But he's an *Austin* boy, now, so y'all crowd around, and get a night of laughs from this townie – after **Natalie Cox** and **Eric Krug** open. *Fri.-Sat., March 27-28, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.*

Open Mic Night These are your would-be comic neighbors, three minutes at a time: Love them; fear them. This week's host: **Eric Krug**. *Thursdays, 10pm.*

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

KICK BUTT COMEDY OPEN MIC You can catch the funny (when it's funny) of your neighbors, or you can offer some of your own for audience response. Takes some bravery, could be painful or hilarious, but we reckon the beverages are always good there in Gohring-sensei's martial-arts-inflected java joint. (Arrive early to sign up.) *Wed., April 2, 9pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.*

THE AUSTIN COMEDY TRAINWRECK features the best comics in Austin, so they say – right there in the Hole, on the Drag, deep in the heart of collegiate Texas. *Tuesdays, 10pm. Hole in the Wall, 2538 Guadalupe, 477-4747. \$5. www.myspace.com/austincomedytrainwreck.*

A NIGHT OF COMEDY is precisely what this is, yes. And easily recommended, as it features the hirsutofacial ColdTowner (and hip-hop honcho) Chris Trew as host and local chuckle mongers Seth Cockfield, Kerri Lendo, Bryan Guttman, and others onstage with their professional laugh-traps. Also, it's on Monday, when there's not a lot of other things burning down the house. And? Heavens to Murgatroyd, it's free – from your pals at Dewar's and the *Onion*. *Mon., March 31, 8pm. Mohawk, 912 Red River, 482-8404. Free. www.mohawkaustin.com.*

Dance

AUSTIN CITY BALLET, AUSTIN CITY YOUTH BALLET, AND EN AVANT DANCE Three dance companies present a half-dozen family-friendly dances over the weekend. The performers, under the direction of Carol Feille D'Avila, range in age from 7 to 18. The bill: **Aladdin** performed by the Austin City Youth Ballet. *Sat.-Sun., March 29-30, 1:30 & 4:30pm. \$10 (\$7, ages 3-12).* Austin City Ballet presents *Vida*, and En Avant Dance Company presents a quartet of works: *Romero and Juliana*; *Yes. No. And Something in Between*; *Game, Set, Match*; and *Whatever*. *Fri.-Sat., March 28-29, 7:30pm. \$15 (\$10, ages 3-12).* Dougherty Arts Center, 1110 Barton Springs Rd., 989-3363. www.austin-conservatory-arts.com.

AZTLAN DANCE: AZTLAN DANCE STORIES The program features two original works from the company's rich storytelling repertoire. "Cave Spirit" tells a pre-Columbian myth; "Salon Boogaloo" blends nostalgia, musical rhythm, and Americana to depict Latino life in the 1960s. *Through April 6, Fri.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. Santa Cruz Center for Culture, 1805 E. Seventh, 474-TIXS. \$12 (\$10, seniors, students, children). www.aztlandance.com.*

BALLET AUSTIN: CULT OF COLOR: CALL TO COLOR This world premiere ballet realizes an exciting collaboration among BA artistic director Stephen Mills, Houston-based contemporary visual artist Trenton Doyle Hancock, and Austin composer Graham Reynolds, bringing Hancock's unique mythology to life. Imagine brilliant choreography and music for a world of superheroes and strangely formed creatures of action and vivid dysfunction. Well, try to imagine that; then accept that your own wonderful mind can't quite generate the twisted tableaux that this creative trio unleashes. Accept that, then make your reservations: You don't want to miss this one. *Thu.-Fri., April 3-4, 8pm; Sat., April 6, 3pm; Thu., April 10, 6:30pm & 9pm; Fri., April 11, 8pm; Sat., April 12, 2pm & 8pm; Sun., April 13, 3pm. Butler Dance Education Center, 501 W. Third. 866/443-8849. \$50. www.balletaustin.org*

TWO LEFT FEET

FLAMENCO CLASSES For beginners and intermediate dancers. Beginner: *Mondays, 7:30-8:30pm.* Intermediate: *Thursdays, 7:30-8:30pm.* Joyce Willett School of Dance, 5811 Berkman. \$14 each class.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL Each night features a variety of ballroom and Latin 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.*

CONTEMPORARY CLOGGERS Beginner lessons in Appalachian clog dancing. No partner required. *Through May 27. Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30pm. 402 Brodie. 292-1030. dbauditions@austin.rr.com.*

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.*

AUSTIN STEPPERS WORKSHOP The fundamentals of Chicago Original Style Steppin', a form of ballroom dance. *March 28-29. Fri., 6-9pm; Sat., 1-4pm. Club Breeze, 2113 Wells Branch Pkwy #500. 214/407-4033. \$25-50. www.dbjproductions.com.*

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH TWYLA GRACE Twyla of Twyla & the Twilight Star Ensemble teaches ongoing classes in belly dance. *Mon. & Wed., 8:30-9:30pm, 12687 Research @ Oakknoll, 971-0188. www.twylabellydance.com.*

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES Learn traditional and classical Egyptian techniques in this fun and fast-paced class. *512/750-7037. \$13 per class; \$66 for six classes. www.desertpassion.com.*

SALSA SATURDAYS @ THE CEPEDA BRANCH Adult salsa classes for beginners. *Saturdays through the end of May, 2-4pm. Cepeda Branch Austin Public Library, 651 N. Pleasant Valley. 974-7372. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.*

AUSTIN BALLROOM DANCERS ABD sponsors ballroom dancing with DJ-ed music weekly, year-round. *Saturdays, 8-11pm; minilesson, 7:30pm. Austin Uptown Dance, 8868 Research. 989-3939. www.austinballroomdancers.org.*

BEGINNER ARGENTINE TANGO Laura Pellegrino leads this six-week course in tango. *Through April 17. Thursdays, 7:30-8:30pm. \$90. www.tangointexas.com.*

CONTACT IMPROVISATION DANCE JAMS Participants move in and out of contact with one or more people through a common center of gravity. All are welcome. *Tuesdays, 8-10pm; Sundays, 4:30-6pm. Austin Yoga School, 1122-C S. Lamar. \$5.*

SCOTTISH BALLROOM DANCING Learn the ballroom dances of Scotland: lively jigs and reels and elegant strathspeys; no partner needed but couples welcome. *Thursdays, 7-8:30pm. Quicksilver Dance Center, 8711 Burnet Rd. Ste. H-100. 327-2869. First class free.*

FOLKLORE ARGENTINO Introductory level *gato, chacarera*, and more. *Tuesdays, 7:45pm. EsquinaTango, 209 Pedernales. 524-2772. \$12 each class. www.esquinatangoaustin.com.*

ESQUINATANGO: SALSA FOR BEGINNERS The four-week session is taught by David Alvarez and includes Latin partner dancing merengue in addition to salsa. No partner or experience necessary. *Through March 28. Fridays, 6:30-7:30pm. 209 Pedernales. 524-2772. \$12 per class; \$40 for four-week session. www.esquinatangoaustin.com.*

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Flamenco dance classes for beginners and intermediates. Handy central location to boot. Call for times; private lessons available. *2801 W. 45th. 382-1366. \$10 per class. www.estudioflamenco.com.*

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 Learn the Texas two-step and Western swing in a real honky-tonk. 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.*

NIA CLASSES The Nia Technique is a high-powered energizing workout inspired by dance, martial arts, and healing arts. The first class is free. *Mon. & Fri., 9:30-10:30am; Mon. & Thu., 6-7pm; Sat., 10:30am. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 922-1581. \$10 each class. www.ci.austin.tx.us.*

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS: SPRING OPEN HOUSE This semiannual open house serves up an evening full of fun partner and solo dances from the world over, with plenty of teaching in a friendly, nonintimidating environment. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome; no partner required. *Sat., March 29, 7:30-11pm. Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. Free. 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.*

AUSTIN BARN DANCERS: DANCE IN THE PARK It's the Barn Dancers' 11th annual contra dance event, open to the public for an afternoon of sunny social dancing, featuring live music by the Rising Gorge Boys and the Barton Spring Salamander. *Sun., March 30, 1-5pm. Sheffield Zilker Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton, 453-4225. \$3.*

SPEAKEASY: SALSA LESSONS Salsa is hot, and so is the Downtown nightclubbing scene. The pair makes a lovely couple combining those sultry moves and one of Austin's fave hangouts, with live Latin music. *Wednesdays, 9pm. Speakeasy, 412 Congress, 47-PARTY. Free. www.speakeasyaustin.com.*

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 DJ-spun sounds of past blasts. A beginners' lesson starts the evening. *Thursdays, 8pm-12mid. Texas Federation of Women's Clubs Ballroom, 2312 San Gabriel, 476-5845. \$4 (\$2, members). www.austinswingsyndicate.org.*

Classical Music

OPENING

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC Longhorn Singers Celebrating their 50th anniversary, the Longhorn Singers perform "We Are Family" and, presumably, a host of other fun and familiar numbers. *Fri.-Sat., March 28-29, 8pm. McCullough Theatre. \$10. 471-5401. www.music.utexas.edu.*

VIOLA BY CHOICE: HUMOR IN MUSIC, OXYMORON NO MORE Violist Ames Asbell and Soprano Dana Zenobi join Aurelien Petillot and chamber group for a concert celebrating the many facets of humor in classical music. *Sat., March 29, 8pm. St. David's Episcopal Church, 304 E. Seventh, 913-6554. \$15 (\$12, seniors; \$8, students, children). www.violaby-choice.org.*

OMAR LOPEZ EXPERIENCE The guy with the red violin will be performing with his band, premiering material from his upcoming album (and selections from "Forever Red" and "Experience"). *Sat., March 29, 8pm. Central Presbyterian Church, 200 E. Eighth. 472-2445. \$15 (\$5, ages 13 and younger). www.omarlopezmusic.com.*



AUSTIN CIVIC CHORUS: MENDELSSOHN'S ST. PAUL The chorus, under the direction of Kenny Sheppard, performs the world premiere of John Michael Cooper's English edition of Mendelssohn's "St. Paul." *Sat., March 29, 8pm. Northwest Hills United Methodist Church, 7050 Village Center, 719-3300. \$20 (\$15, seniors, students; \$5, ages 12 and younger). www.chorusaustin.org.*

CONSPIRARE: LOVE IS A CIRCLE Composer and guitarist Jeffrey Van joins the brilliant "Company of Voices" for a program that includes the Austin premiere of Van's "A Procession Winding Around Me," a setting of four Civil War poems of Walt Whitman. Also: works by Salamone Rossi, John Muehleisen, and David Asplin. *Sat., March 29, 7:30pm. St. Stephen's Episcopal Church, 6000-A FM 3237, Wimberley. Sun., March 30, 7:30pm. Congregation Agudas Achim, 7300 Hart. 476-5775. \$30 (\$15, students). www.conspirare.org.*

CHAMBER SOLOISTS OF AUSTIN: MUSIC OF MOZART AND DVORAK The ensemble performs works by Mozart, Dvorak, and contemporary composer David Chaitkin, whose *Concerto for Flute and Strings* was written with CSA's flutist Karl Kraber in mind. Dan Welcher conducts. Chaitkin is on hand to introduce his work at a preconcert lecture. *Sat., March 29, 8pm (preconcert lecture, 7:30pm). First Presbyterian Church, 8001 Mesa, 380-0065. \$20 (\$10, students). www.chambersoloists.com.*

SOUTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY: ERIC STONE MILLER, BASSOON Miller is joined by clarinetist Anna Carney and pianist Kiyoshi Tamagawa, performing works by Mendelssohn, Tansman, Grantham, and Reicha. *Mon., March 31, 7pm. Caldwell-Carvey Foyer, Fine Arts Center, Southwestern University, Georgetown. 512/863-1379. Free. www.sffa.southwestern.edu.*

AUSTIN VOCAL ARTS ENSEMBLE: AMERICAN TAPESTRY Here's a collection of American choral music by the likes of William Billings, Randall Thompson, Samuel Barber, and others, tracing the history of American song from Revolutionary War times to modern days. Kenny Sheppard conducts. *Thu., April 3, 8pm. Hope Presbyterian Church, 11512 Olson. 719-3300. \$20 (\$15, seniors, students; \$5, ages 12 and younger). www.chorusaustin.org.*

CLOSING

TEXAS FOLKLIFE: BIG SQUEEZE ACCORDION CONTEST Up-and-coming accordion players of any genre from Texas (and Louisiana) are invited to enter this year's contest in one of two categories: up to age 18 and ages 19 to 25. Four semifinalists will be selected in each category to perform live at Austin's new Mexican American Cultural Center. Cash and recording-studio prizes available, too. Application forms and details are available on the Texas Folklife website. Deadline for entry: *March 31. 441-9255. \$15 entry fee. www.texasfolklife.org.*

Visual Arts

EVENTS

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART In Katrina's Wake Curator Annette Carozzi and artists Cauleen Smith and Ron Bechet lead a discussion on art as a form of social engagement. *Sat., March 29, 6pm. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

PUMP PROJECT: PRETEND YOU ARE RICH This is no ordinary art auction. There will be live music; there will be parsley-garnished food; there will be drinks with little plastic swords. Get your hands on great local art at knock-off prices, and put money into the hands of local celebrity artists (not art by celebrities). *Fri., March 28, 6-11pm. 702 Shady Ln.. www.pumpproject.org.*

UNITED STATES ART AUTHORITY: LIVE FROM JUVIE HALL Urban Poet Productions and Spider House Cafe present a night of art and music by a group of up-and-coming Austin artists and bands. Drawings, paintings, video, sculpture, and performance by 19 local artists. *Sat., March 29, 8pm-2am. 512 W. 29th, 480-9562.*

OPENING

E4 GALLERY: AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL EXHIBIT E4 Gallery is providing 36 Austin High School students with the opportunity to plan and execute their own show in order to gain experience. Reception: *Fri., March 28, 7-9pm. Exhibition: Through April 5. March 28 through April 5. 3401 E. Fourth, 385-7311. www.armadilloclay.com.*

CRL: SHIFT, AN MFA THESIS EXHIBITION features the work of Sana Ali, Alexandra Morton, Erin Sanders, Selina Silvas, and Christie Zangrilli, in the form of wall covering, installation, and digital imagery. Reception: *Sat., March 29, 7pm. Exhibition: Through April 26. 2832 E. MLK, 322-2099. Free.*

SLUGFEST GALLERY: MIKE MONTEIRO There's a whole roomful of the man's new drawings waiting for you. Going to see this show here is a wonderful idea. Reception: *Sat., March 29, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through April 20. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204. www.slugfestprints.com.*

STENSURD STUDIO Carol Stensrud's figurative and abstract paintings are on display with the wood, stone, and found-object sculptures of Teddy Fernandez. *Sun., March 30, 2-4pm; Thu., April 3, 6-10pm. March 30 through March 25. 1601 Eva, 448-9637. free.*

DESIGN CENTER OF AUSTIN: BIKE ART EXHIBIT Two wheels, good; four wheels, bad. That is the law: Are we not artists? *April 1-May 31. April 1 through May 31. 3601 S. Congress Bldg. C, 441-5540. www.designcenterofaustin.com.*

ARTSPOKEN GALLERY: STORY LINES 10 off the Edge presents new works on paper and canvas, with each piece measuring 11 inches by 14 inches. Reception: *Sat., April 5, 4-7pm. Exhibition: Through April 12. 1507 W. Koenig, 589-2905. www.artspoken.com.*

EL TALLERY GALLERY: AMADO PENA Signed and numbered lithographs, serigraphs, etchings, and other limited editions. *Through April 30. 2438 W. Anderson Ste. C-3, 302-0100.*

CLOSING

MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS, AUSTIN New work by John Robert Alexander Bayne and others. *Through March 30. In the Arboretum, 10000 Research #131, 803-3835.*

LOTUS GALLERY: THE ART OF ED LINDLOF *Through March 30. 1211 W. Sixth, 474-1700. www.lotusasianart.com.*

YARD DOG: TOM RUSSELL Renowned singer/songwriter Tom Russell comes to town for a show of his latest paintings. *Through March 30. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.yarddog.com.*

BIG MEDIUM Jade Walker, the curator of UT's Creative Research Lab, presents "Merriment," an installation of new sculptures – her own work – which we are pleased to recommend. See our review this issue. *Through March 29. And Big Medium's Bay 12 Gallery offers "Loose Connections," amazing works on paper by Gary Sweeney and Bill Amundson. Through April 5. 5305 Bolm, 385-1670. www.bolmstudios.com.*

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: KATY HEINLEIN The Houston-based artist presents sculpture created with sinuous folds of draped fabric. *Through March 29. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.womenandtheirwork.org.*

TIRU GALLERY: THREE Holli Brown, Sandy Lowder, and Jan Middleton Roset come together in an exhibition that spans from mosaic visualizations and ethereal explorations of nature to quantum entanglements in paint. *Through March 29. 3701 Guadalupe, 773-6684. www.tirugallery.com.*

DESIGN CENTER GALLERY New works by oil painter Roberto Ugalde and pastel artist John Bittick. *3601 S. Congress Bldg. C, 288-0574. Free. www.designcenterofaustin.com.*

BOSTON TO AUSTIN: CITIES IN RHYME The Opera House presents a kaleidoscope of seven transplanted artists whose only common thread is that they've all relocated from the Beantown to the River City. *Through March 31. 2209-K S. First, 440-1401. www.theoperahousestore.com.*

WE ARE This year's bright batch of St. Edward's University's Photocommunications graduates shows its final works. *Through March 28. Fine Arts Bldg. Gallery, 3001 S. Congress. 492-3159. free. www.wearephotography.org.*

WALLY WORKMAN GALLERY: TEXAS TO FRANCE New paintings by Gordon Fowler reflect both his fall visit to France and the Texas Hill Country. *Through March 29. 1202-B W. Sixth, 472-7428.*

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. *12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eycontactart.com.*

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a non-profit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.*

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. *1219 W. Sixth.*

AMOA: 20 TO WATCH The latest iteration of this locally invigorated exhibition features work by Yoon Cho, Meggie Chou, Ali Fitzgerald, Alyson Fox, Buster Graybill, Jen Hirt & Scott Webel (Museum of Natural and Artificial Ephemera), Jules Buck Jones, Baseera Khan, Andrew Long, Kurt Mueller, Jill Pangallo, Scott Proctor, Matthew Rodriguez, Shawn Smith, Xochi Solis, Sarah Sudhof, Raymond Uhlir, Stephanie Wagner, Rebecca Ward, and Eric Zimmerman. *Through May 11. 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: ATLAS Eric Zimmerman's most recent body of work investigates the methods we use to structure space, with graphite pieces exploring the ideas of here and there and what occurs between: between the two- and three-dimensional, between then and now, between the real and the imagined. *Through April 9. 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.pablataboadastudio.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: IN KATRINA'S WAKE The latest exhibition in the museum's contemporary series serves as a report on post-Katrina art and artists from New Orleans and across the country. *Through May 25. MLK & Congress, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.*

BLUE MOON GLASSWORKS Unique handmade glass art and jewelry. *108 W. 43rd, 380-0770. www.austinbluemoon.com.*

BOB BULLOCK TEXAS HISTORY MUSEUM Eyewitness: American Originals From the National Archives draws on rarely displayed documents, audio recordings such as Lady Bird Johnson describing the events of President Kennedy's assassination on Nov. 22, 1963., and film footage from the extensive holdings of the National Archives and its Presidential Libraries and Regional Archives. *Through April 20. 1800 Congress, 936-8746. www.thestoryoftexas.com.*

YOGA MYTH

You have to be flexible to do yoga.

YOGA FACT

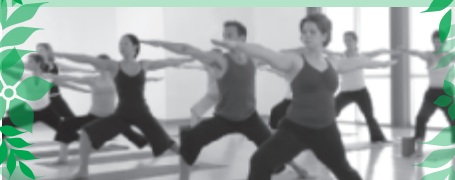
Yoga makes you flexible.

If you can't touch your toes (or even see your toes!), yoga is perfect for you. It is the Number One recommended activity for increasing flexibility according to the Mayo Clinic, the American Council on Exercise, and the American College of Sports Medicine.

Yoga is great cross-training for all sports and activities that require increased flexibility, from lifting weights to lifting your child. Reduce your chance for injury, increase your rate of recovery, and get rid of those chronic aches and pains!

And here is a plus: Yoga makes your body and your mind flexible. You gain the ability to respond gracefully to life's unexpected situations, whether picking up your glasses from the floor or picking up six kids from soccer.

Get a free yoga class visit www.yogayoga.com/myth.



350 CLASSES WEEKLY

Westgate: 4477 South Lamar, #420 • 358-1200

South: 1700 South Lamar Blvd • 326-3900

North: 2167 Anderson Ln. • 380-9800

Northwest: 12001 Burnet Rd. • 490-1200

FEATURED EVENTS

MARCH 28-30 : Yoga of Dance

APRIL 22-27 : Srivatsa Ramaswami

MAY 16-28 : Donna Farhi

www.yogayoga.com/events

YOGA  YOGA
WWW.YOGAYOGA.COM

'Jess: To and From the Printed Page'

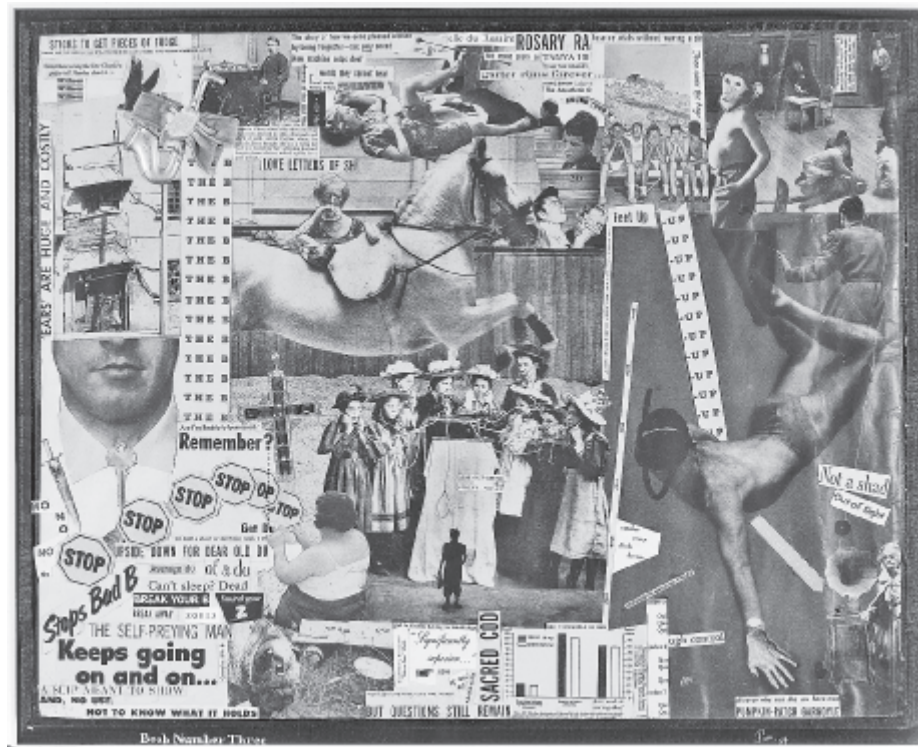
Harry Ransom Center, through April 6

Part of the mission of the Harry Ransom Center is to present some of the rare books, manuscripts, photography, film, artworks, and other ephemera that it collects, preserves, and displays so that it's available to the public for research, scholarship, education, and delight. In this regard, one of the HRC's great features is its ability to present two exhibitions side by side, typically an exhibition on tour alongside one that draws from the vast range of material within the HRC's collection. The center's ability to frame the traveling exhibit within the context of this cultural material sparks a rich dialogue between the two that might not exist otherwise.

The paired exhibitions "On the Road With the Beats" and "Jess: To and From the Printed Page" remind us how the written word sparked a cultural revolution. Both speak of a time long gone, when radical change was being instigated through writing, poetry, and artwork. Using Jack Kerouac's original manuscript for

AG pick *On the Road* as the centerpiece for "On the Road With the Beats" beautifully displays how the written word becomes a conceptual art object. The manuscript is actually a scroll, single-spaced with no paragraph breaks or chapter breaks, where the text weaves back and forth depending on the angle that the typewriter was typing in relation to how the paper was being woven around the rollers. It stretches across the entrance of the exhibit, causing an entire multiangle viewing experience from left to right to even slightly above. While the relationship between Kerouac and Jess – as artist Burgess Collins was known – might seem a bit oblique at first, curator Michael Auping explained in a recent lecture that he sees "the two men finding their unique critical devices within a large, developing 'underground' of cultural change that took the form of movable feasts and poetry readings between New York, San Francisco, and Los Angeles." Maybe Kerouac could be considered part of the "East Coast family" and Jess part of the West Coast – either way, both were concerned with taking part in a cultural revolution through the written word.

"Jess: To and From the Printed Page" explores how imagery becomes a form of dialogue with the written word. Included in the exhibition are the artist's "paste-ups," collages composed of old book illustrations and photographs from magazines. Ironically, some of the paste-ups were used as book covers or posters advertis-



ing poetry readings or art exhibitions for Jess and his partner, poet Robert Duncan. Jess thought of "books as a form of collage space." He spoke about the paste-ups as containing "many stories, not just a story" and that someone could look at the "network of stories" there and "pick out any story they choose." For instance, in *Boob* #3 Jess takes an image of a scuba diver with flippers and places the words "Up, Up, Up" behind him, with a horse jumping to the left and a woman on her back, laughing, above; text runs along the edges and is neatly interspersed behind, next to, and in front of the various cutout images. Jess uses the text like taglines in a commercial or book-jacket cover, with phrases like "Keeps going on and on..." or "But Questions Still Remain." Mind you, this is pre-Photoshop and animation; Jess' collages were being made in the Fifties and reflect a society on the cusp of change.

Jess' early work sheds light on the time period and speaks in reference to a cultural history from a specific geographic location, San Francisco, and an explosion that was about to happen to the youth in the community. Coincidentally, Jess himself took part in a literal explosion that also influenced his work: As a radiochemist with the Army Corps of Engineers, he had a small part in the Manhattan Project that developed the first atom bomb. (Jess had studied chemistry at the California Institute of Technology, painting in his spare time.) Maybe one explosion prompted another.

– Rachel Cook

BROCCA GALLERY: ABSTRACT 08 Juried abstract show by Texas Society of Sculptors, with abstract paintings by Gregory Beck and Augusto Brocca. Through April 19. 1103 E. Sixth, 628-1306. www.broccagallery.com.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a South Austin home. Hours: Sundays, 11am-2pm, or by appt. 4422 Lareina, 299-7413. www.keeapaustinweird.com.

D BERMAN GALLERY: PLEASANT WIMBERLEY Colorful new works by Denny McCoy. Through April 5. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermangallery.com.

DAVIS GALLERY: MUDVILLE Christopher St. Leger paints silent recordings of his days, then reads his work weeks later, like diary entries, recalling visual beauty that had escaped. Through April 5. 837 W. 12th, 477-4929.

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and "sculptural tattoos" by Joyce DiBona. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646.

Francois Photography Gallery 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

GALLERY LOMBARDI: WHEELCHAIR EPIDEMIC & MORE Backroom photos from Antone's, front-row photos of Raul's punk club, and drawings by Win Wallace of Gorch Fock are just a few of the works that examine the old-school days of the Eighties punk scene in Austin. Through April 5. 602 W. Seventh Ste. A, 481-1088. www.gallerylombardi.com.

HARRY RANSOM CENTER: ON THE ROAD WITH THE BEATS This exhibition traces the travels of Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, William S. Burroughs, and their friends across America and the globe. Manuscripts, books, photographs, and visual arts from the Ransom Center's collections tell the story of the beat generation and the literary and social trends they inspired. (The scroll manuscript of Kerouac's *On the Road* will be on display through June 1.) Through Aug. 3. 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.

LORA REYNOLDS GALLERY: PICTURES OF PITCHERS Ewan Gibbs provides these gorgeously rendered graphite drawings of baseball's finest. Through April 19. 300 West #1318, 215-4965. www.lorareynolds.com.

MEXIC-ARTE MUSEUM: LA CAJA/THE BOX is a museum inside a museum, as curated by Martha Papadimitriou. Featuring prominent contemporary artists from Mexico, "The Huge" is an exhibition of 21 paintings and sculptures displayed in a traditional museum gallery, and "The Small" is a miniature contemporary museum. Bonus: The Latino Art Wing features miniature artworks by Texas artists. Through May 15. 419 Congress, 480-9373. www.mexic-artemuseum.org.

INTERMEZZO: BENITO HUERTA This solo show comprises 30 works, including recent, large-scale paintings, monoprints, watercolors, and drawings. Through Aug. 31. 600 River St., 788-3106. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/parks.

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 Take a curator-led tour of the Impermanent Collection, an ongoing trainwreck of forms of collection. Saturdays, 1-4pm. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566. www.mnae.org/collection/ghosts.php.

OKAY MOUNTAIN: WE'VE GOT TISSUES It's Austin's premiere of *I-Be Area*, with the work of Jesse Greenberg, Brian McKelligott, Lizzie Fitch, and Ryan Trecartin. Also showing is *Mice Space, Paper Graveyard, Welcome Wealthy Patrons*, with work by Dave Bryant. Through April 19. 1312 E. Cesar Chavez Ste. B. www.okaymountain.com.

SOUTH AUSTIN MUSEUM OF POPULAR CULTURE: FRANK KOZIK Here's a retrospective of rock & roll poster art spanning years of work by the underground phenom who, having ditched Austin years ago, continues to stretch graphic boundaries and birth smokin' labbits by the truckload. Through May 3. 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318. www.samopc.org.

TEXAS FOLKLIFE GALLERY: PASATIEMPOS DE LA FRONTERA Images from El Paso/Juarez Borderlands by Chicano narrative photographer Chuy Benitez, who documents the cultural vibrance of a region he says is too often misrepresented as dangerous and drab. Through May 1. 1317 S. Congress. www.texasfolklife.org.

SPACES

CAFE MUNDI Black and white silhouette boxes and prints by Lance Bradley. *Through March 30.*

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com.

DROGOS CAFE: SKIP HUNT Haunting metallic-finished photographs taken during the artist's last year of travels. *Through March 31. 200 San Jacinto. 328-4386. Through March 31.* www.poppinfreshmedia.com.

WELLS FARGO: CREATIVE ARTS SOCIETY *Through May 12. 4301 W. William Cannon.*

GUTTERKITTY STUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT 102 Krebs. ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com.

PARADISE CAFÉ: THE FACES OF CRAZY JEFF From a previously uncharted corner of the artist's spirit: Faces representing experiences from the jungles of Asia, the sands of Arabia, the halls of mental institutions, and the jails of Texas. *Through March 31. 401 E. Sixth.*

ARTWORKS GALLERY Tropical butterflies displayed in plexiboxes designed by G.W. Clark. 1214 W. Sixth, 472-1550.

FLIPNOTICS @ THE TRIANGLE: HEATHER PARRISH *Through April 9. 4600 Guadalupe, 380-0097.* www.flipnotics.com.

THE GREEN MUSE: J. LOWRY DOILE 519 W. Oltorf, 912-7789.

LAMBERTS: JOAN MCGUIRE New abstract works on paper. 401 W. Second, 494-1500. www.lambertsaustin.com.

LITTLE CITY: ENTANGLEMENT Art by J. Lowry Doyle. 916 Congress, 476-CITY. Free. www.jlowrydoyle.com.

★ LOVEJOYS: BART FARAR Highly recommended. 604 Neches, 477-1268.

ROADHOUSE RELICS Vintage neon, carnival banners, and other tributes to U.S. popular culture, by Todd Sanders. 1720 S. First, 442-6366. www.roadhouserelics.com.

ABSTRACTS TO ACORNIS Photography by Deana Newcomb. *Through Nov. 3. 101 W. Sixth, 477-7884.*

VIN BISTRO: RUNES Acrylic paintings on paper and canvas. *Through April 28. 1601 W. 38th.*

WET SALON: STREET ART The Creative Workers Union brings local wheat-paste posters off the streets and onto the walls of this haute haird-dery. *Through April 5. 1109 S. Congress, 444-7375.*

CREATIVE OPPORTUNITIES

THE CREATIVE SIDE ACADEMY WORKSHOPS Jewelry workshops in areas from essential stone setting to advanced precious metal clay are being offered by one of Austin's newest creative spaces. Classes: *Through May 29. 628 Allen. 799-0589.* www.creativeside.org.

TEXAS MUSEUM OF FIBER ARTS: CALL FOR ENTRIES First prize, \$500; second prize, \$250; third prize, \$100 gift certificate. Entry fee: \$10. See website for details. Deadline: *April 5. 784-5651.* www.texasfiberarts.org.

AIPP: BMX SKATE PARK Art in Public Places seeks to commission an artist or artist team within 100 miles of Austin to create works to be integrated into the new skate park. Deadline: *March 28. 974-9314.* meghan.turner@ci.austin.tx.us.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES African American Firefighters Memorial Project Deadline: *April 7. Dittmar Precreation Center Play Slab Enclosure* Deadline: *April 10. Municipal Court/Police Substation Project* Deadline: *May 2. See the AIPP website for details. 301 W. Second, 974-9314.* www.ci.austin.tx.us/aipp.

STUDIO SPACE @ IDEA Women in the Studios @ IDEA have two studios available for professional female artists; they're one of the favorite stops on the East Austin Studio Tour. High ceilings, good lighting, clean display walls, ample parking, and 24-hour access. Rent: \$500 for 300 square feet. Contact: 699-4811. 701 Tillery Ste. A-2B, 386-9233. www.womeninthestudios.com.

UMLAUF SCULPTURE GARDEN: ADULT WORKSHOP Hand-building molded vessels with extrusion: The class will begin by creating a plaster mold from various small objects for repeat pulls of decorative bits – feel free to bring something to mold. Taught by ceramicist Lucy Lenoir. *Sat., March 29, 1:30-3:30pm. 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. \$20.* www.umlauftsculpture.org.

SUMMER CAMP AT THE UMLAUF Sculptor to Be offers mornings filled with fun for ages 7-11. Session 1: *June 16-20, 9am-noon.* Session 2: *June 23-27, 9am-noon.* 605 Robert E. Lee, 445-5582. \$145 per student. www.umlauftsculpture.org.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFORMANCES

JOHN MARKS AND CRAIG DETWEILER confront evangelical intolerance in their presentation of Marks' *Reasons to Believe*, an account of a devout Baptist who happens to be homosexual trying to defend his religious conscience against the Evangelical Theological Society. *Wed., April 2, 7pm.* [BookPeople](http://BookPeople.com), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

THE UTTER READING SERIES is always a treat. Luxuriate in the richness of Austin's literary garden. Always surprising, beguiling, bedazzling, and just begun. *Tue., April 1, 7pm.* [BookPeople](http://BookPeople.com), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

DENISE MINA The John Creasy Memorial prize-winner tongues *Slip of the Knife*, her third thriller featuring Paddy Meehan. *Sun., March 30, 3pm.* [BookPeople](http://BookPeople.com), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

COL. ANN WRIGHT retired from the U.S. armed forces the day before the Iraq invasion began. In *Dissent: Voices of Conscience*, she tells her story and those of others who chose to speak for the interests of the country over the interests of political profiteers. *Sat., March 29, 3pm.* [BookPeople](http://BookPeople.com), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

SPITFEST features that slamming host La-Love Robinson. Music by DJ Quan plus Midnight Radio, DJ Scef, and Uprise! Poetry hip-hop explosions ya can hear all the way to Baghdad! Highly recommended. *Sat., March 29, 8-11:30pm.* *Ruta Maya*, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$7 advance, \$10 at the door. www.rutamaya.net.

MARATHON READING OF ON THE ROAD The Harry Ransom Center, along with the Austinist and *The Austin Chronicle*, presents a marathon reading of Jack Kerouac's novel *On the Road*. The scroll manuscript of Kerouac's novel will be on display through June 1. Readers can sign up for a time slot to read on the Ransom Center's website. *Sat., March 29, 10am-10pm.* *Spider House Patio Bar*, 2908 Fruth, 480-9562. www.hrc.utexas.edu/ontheroad.

PEOPLE UNITED presents one of the last performances by the late activist-poet Raúl Salinas, also featuring two of the B-Side Players, vocalist Karlos Paez (aka Solrak) and percussionist Camilo Moreno. Allan Campbell hosts, with a regular commentary by Rahul Mahajan. *Fri., March 28, 1pm.* KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

ALTERNATIVE RADIO features political scientist Jules Boykoff, author of the book *Beyond Bullets: The Suppression of Dissent in the United States*, talking about the FBI and Martin Luther King Jr. David Barsamian hosts. *Fri., March 28, 2pm.* KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

TOM STONER unfolds his quirky debut novel, *The Comfort of Our Kind*. Families, the devil, and imaginary Indians. Food, wine, and music from Three Horse Plow. *Fri., March 28, 7pm.* [BookPeople](http://BookPeople.com), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

GEOFF RIPS tells *The Truth*, a collection of 10 tales told by a hunchbacked man who sits all day on the front porch of a San Antonio whorehouse. Winner of the 2006 AWP Award, Rips is a former editor at the *Texas Observer*. *Thu., March 27, 7pm.* [BookPeople](http://BookPeople.com), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

TEXAS NAFAS presents Club Illusion, a slam-poetry event featuring the "Future." *Saturday, 6-10pm.* Channel 16, ACTV.

WORD/JAZZ The word/jazz performance series presents collaborative spoken word and improvised music, featuring an ever-evolving all-star cast of Austin's best performance poets, musicians, and writers who create live, spontaneous compositions. Harold McMillan's word/jazz low stars include spoken-word standouts Ivanho, Thom the World Poet, Ricardo Acevedo, and others. *Tuesdays, 6-8pm.* *Cafe Mundi, 1704 E. Fifth #100, 236-8634.*

WRITING/BOOK GROUPS

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. This month is *Macbeth!* *Sundays, 5-7pm.* *AcOT Headquarters, 701 Tillery. \$5.* www.austinshakespeare.org.

LAW OF ATTRACTION GROUP discusses the principles in *The Law of Attraction* by Esther and Jerry Hicks and other such books. *Saturdays, 9am.* *Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

SOCIETY OF CHILDREN'S BOOK WRITERS AND ILLUSTRATORS present Brian Anderson, screenwriter and author of the Zack Proton series for children, with a talk on Lessons From Filmmaking. *Sat., March 29, 11am.* *Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

AUSTIN WRITERS WORKSHOP FOR SCREENWRITERS is open to new members to read, discuss, and critique one another's work – every other Monday. *Mon., March 31, 6:30pm.* *Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

THE SPIRITUALITY GROUP walks through *The Seven Valleys of Baha'u'llah* by Baha'u'llah, recounting the odyssey of the human soul as it travels from the plain of creation to the sphere of the absolute. *Thu., March 27, 1pm.* *Barnes & Noble South, 5601 Brodie, 892-3493.*

NEW & NOTEWORTHY CLUB ponders the poetic road to *Gilead* by Marilynne Robinson. *Mon., March 31, 7pm.* [BookPeople](http://BookPeople.com), 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

OPRAH SOULSEARCHERS CLUB stretches with *A New Earth: Awakening to Your Life's Purpose* by Eckhart Tolle. *Through Dec. 17.* *Wednesdays, 6-8pm.* *Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-1010.*

AUSTIN BEAT SCENE Looking to form a beat-generation-like scene in Austin. This is not a writing group; it is a group of writers. One lone man seeks alienated writers who still give a shit enough to want to write. Contact is Darren. *Thursdays, 11am.* *Jo's Coffee, 1300 S. Congress, 323/317-5380.* www.joscoffee.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.

MILWOOD CLUB dicks around *In the Country of Men* by Hisham Matar. *Tue., April 1, 7:30-8:30pm.* *Milwood Branch Library, 12500 Amherst.*

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

CONNIE WILLIAMS of Forrest Fest lead a poetry workshop, "April Fool's Day Poetry Tea Party," with Stefanie Petrik. *Tue., April 1, noon.* *Austin Bahai Center, 2215 E.M. Franklin, 926-8880.* www.austinbahai.org.

DISCOVERY SPEAKER SERIES: MIKE COX The noted Texana historian, columnist, and author explores the inception and rise of the legendary Texas Rangers, in *Texas Rangers: Wearing the Cinco Peso*. *Thu., March 27, 7:30pm.* *Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.*

PATSY CRAVENS discusses *Leavin' a Testimony: Portraits From Rural Texas*. *Thu., March 27, 7pm.* *Carver Library, 1161 Angelina, 974-1010.*

WILLIAM HOLMAN presents his *Nine Orphans' Nine Commandments*. *Mon., March 31, 7pm.* *Spicewood Springs Branch Library, 8637 Spicewood Springs Rd.*

OPEN MICS

ACC LITERARY COFFEEHOUSE features poet, songwriter, singer, and guitarist John Wesley Coleman with the Golden Boys. Hosted by John Herndon. Open mic follows. *Mon., March 31, 7pm.* *ACC Student Lounge, 1212 Rio Grande.*

MONDAY NIGHT CAFFEINE for poets, singer/songwriters, and storytellers. Hosted by Edgar Pace. *Mondays, 7-10pm.* *Cafe Caffeine, 909 W. Mary, 447-9473.* www.cafecaffeine.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 ALMOST SPRING with your host, Thom the World Poet, and special uncensored guests. *Mondays, 7-10pm.* *The Hideout Theatre, 617 Congress, 476-0473. \$2 (or canned food for Poets Pantry).*

APS FOURTHUR is a new poetry venue sponsored by the Austin Poetry Society. All poets welcome. Featured reader is Katherine Durham Oldmixon. Host is Rob Cogswell. Children often will be present. *Thu., March 27, 6:30-8:30pm.* *New World Deli, 4101 Guadalupe, 452-4314.* www.austinpoetrysociety.org.

AUSTIN POETRY SOCIETY Barbara Youngblood Carr, always entertaining, is the featured poet. Host: Rob Cogswell. *Thu., March 27, 6:30-8:30pm.* *New World Deli, 4101 Guadalupe, 451-7170.*

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 loses Mark Maslow to the Netherlands! So we have to have a special night and special time. This will be his last gig hosting before he takes up the genetics of the tulip trade and the engineering of hole plugging in the sex shops of Amsterdam. I mean, before he begins his peace mission at the Hague. Some of the finest poets in town will be reading to wish him a bon voyage. And three bands, all 'cause Mark loves you all night long. *Thu., March 27, 9:30pm.* *Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. \$3.* www.freespechart.com.

AUSTIN CITY WIDE UNDER 21 POETRY SLAM #6 Help some of the finest young slammers on the planet get to the nationals. You choose, or we all lose. Make it count, or we are out. Slam the truth until it screams your name. Slam, slam. Always recommended. *Sat., March 29, 5pm.* *Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 632-5033. \$5 (free for slammers and ages 4 or younger).* www.bjwc.org.

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. *Wednesdays, 8pm.* *Scoot Inn & 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.

FIRST WEDNESDAYS @ VINNY'S Hosted by Kathleen Romana or a rotating cast of local stalwarts. *Vinny's Italian Cafe, 1003 Barton Springs Rd., 482-8484.* Free.

SPEAKING THE SPOKEN The Art of Verse is hosted by Zell Miller III and features a blazing hot event with the best under-21 poets this side of the milky way. The list stays open, so welcome to poets, musicians, comics, singers, dancers, whatever. *Mon., March 31, 6-9pm.* *The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$2 (\$1 for readers).* www.vortexrep.org.

CALL FOR ENTRIES

EXSE (EAST BY SOUTHEAST) SPOKEN WORD is an opportunity for poets and spoken word artists to perform their original work for a television audience on Channel 10. Anyone interested in being considered needs to submit an application and fee. See their website for details. Deadline: *April 4. 478-8600 x22.* www.pactaustin.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! & if this spring or any spring birthed in a winter turn & who wakes even as you sink into the cut away or how ghosts bind blue fire, how what is not there, the thing claiming us without dreams to burn still burns us to dream. shadows hovering over keys; heat held in blood full in these wanting veins; her fingers like tendrils feeding invisible, to drown waiting for its music: a green light sewn to her moon, a tide of fields pulled like silver strings. Namaste. Vaya con dios.

ON THE ROAD WITH THE BEATS This exhibition traces the travels of Jack Kerouac, Allen Ginsberg, William S. Burroughs, and their friends across America and the globe. Manuscripts, books, photographs, and visual art from the Ransom Center's collections tell the story of the beat generation and the literary and social revolution they inspired. (And the scroll manuscript of Kerouac's *On the Road* will be on display there in March.) *Through Aug. 3. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944.* www.hrc.utexas.edu.

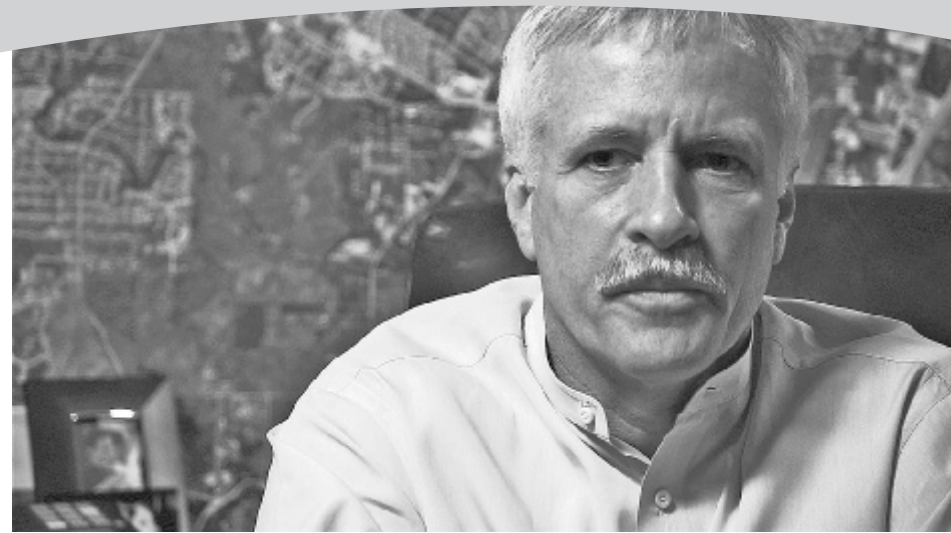
POEM OF THE ISSUE

I, reluctant like Rilke, feel the happy fruit
the porch-like wrapper containing me
& the juice that I possess
dancing
there is a sign over the bathhouse in the west
telling me "live by the sun"; tonight is ripe
yes, live sunny but under the moon
love
– Stephanie Pope, from "Aglow in Oz"

The Unforeseen

D: Laura Dunn. (NR, 88 min.)

In August 1992 a battle was raging for the soul of Austin, Texas. In one corner, weighing 100 pounds soaking wet and wearing tie-dyed T-shirts, stood the environmentalists: good-natured activists and community organizers out to save the city's "spiritual center," Barton Springs, from degradation. In the other corner, weighing countless tons and clad in black hats, stood the developers: corporations like strip miners Freeport-McMoRan, their lawyers and their lobbyists, and – most prominently – developer Gary Bradley, a former farm boy who would grow up to become arguably the most reviled man in Austin. Together, these groups waged a war over what kind of town Austin was to become – hippie paradise or capitalist playground; sleepy artists' town or suburban monstrosity – and over the whole nature of American capitalism and Texas identity. At the heart of Dunn's first full-length documentary – which is part history lesson and part anthropological study, part geological survey and part nature special (complete with profoundly gorgeous views of the Springs and other Austin landmarks shot in the style of the film's Co-Executive Producer Terrence Malick) – lies Bradley, who came to Austin from the wilds of West Texas in the 1970s, the product of a world where nature, like God, is the source of both abundance and destruction. Upon arriving in his new home, this defiant, ambitious young man from the flatlands looked out over the landscape, with its exotic trees and endless water sources, and saw a world he could – at long last – control. He imagined Austin as a "clean canvas" upon which he would paint his masterpiece, using maps as his brushes and buildings, sewer lines, and highways as his palette. It must take a very peculiar kind of mind to see the building of subdivisions and shopping malls as an act of creativity, and it's to Dunn's credit that she takes the time to understand such a mind. Forgoing partisanship, she resists the temptation to demonize Bradley, instead looking at him as a full



man – full of contradictions and pain, full of boldness and arrogance – rather than just a one-dimensional heel. Building out from Bradley, she uses underwater shots of the Springs, chiaroscuro footage of the vast West Texas countryside (courtesy of local cinematographer Lee Daniel), expert scientific analysis, and interviews with some of the era's most important players (including former Texas Gov. Ann Richards and development lobbyist Marshall Kuykendall) and others (co-executive producer Robert Redford speaks of learning to swim as a child in Barton Springs) to tell a story that pushes front and center the conflicts that have come to define the American social identity: private property vs. community rights, individual liberties vs. corporate responsibility, growth vs. nature. The result is an expansive and ambivalent testament to human ingenuity, human intransigence, and nature's endangered yet enduring power to move.

– Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

New Reviews

★ MARRIED LIFE

D: Ira Sachs; with Pierce Brosnan, Chris Cooper, Patricia Clarkson, Rachel McAdams, David Richmond-Peck, David Wenham, Timothy Webber. (PG-13, 90 min.)

Corruption, immorality, decadence, secrecy, loyalty, selfishness, selflessness, murder, love, sex, and indigestion are all swirling around one another in *Married Life*, Sachs' adaptation of the 1955 John Bingham crime novel, *Five Roundabouts to Heaven*. Cooper plays Harry Allen, whose love for his wife, Pat (Clarkson), is a testament to murky ethics and self-satisfied delusion. After starting an affair with a beautiful young widow named Katy (played by the miraculously doe-eyed McAdams), Harry becomes convinced that his wife won't survive without him, so he decides it would be more decent to murder her than subject her to the indignity and loneliness of divorce. Meanwhile, his best friend, the devilish Richard Langley (Brosnan), a cad and philanderer who accepts his own indecencies and moral flexibility as others might accept their height or hair color, develops eyes for Harry's mistress. Phrases like "Dear, sweet, gentle Katy" come dripping off his tongue like melted butter off a stack of pancakes, telling of the joys of a life spent exploring the grayer corners of human morality, so when Harry asks Richard to look in on Katy while he's away, any movie fan knows – as sure as the sun sets in the West (over Hollywood, mind you) – trouble is brewing. What's remarkable is that Richard knows this as well as we do, as if the betrayal of his friend is a matter of cosmic inevitability rather than personal choice. And it's this kind of wonderful, amoral resignation and gleeful responsibility-dodging that makes

Married Life so deliciously different from other modern crime stories. Every character in the film is not only a sinner and a saint, but a sinner who fancies himself a saint and a saint who revels in his sin: Harry longs to be adored by an exciting, new woman but wants to honor the vows he took with his wife as well; Pat, meanwhile, has amorous secrets of her own that she doesn't think her husband deserves to suffer for. And then there's Katy, who lights up every room she enters with a glow of profound decency but remains unsure of where exactly her desires are taking her. With its 1950s decor and upbeat ending (clever camouflage all), *Married Life* probably won't show up on the radar of James Dobson's Focus on the Family anytime soon, but at the risk of supplying the enemy with ammunition, I have to say they might be giving a pass to one of the more ethically dubious films to come out of Hollywood in years. What, after all, could be more corrupting for impressionable children than a celebration of moral malleability and marital duplicity?

– Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Arbor

RUN FATBOY RUN

D: David Schwimmer; with Simon Pegg, Thandie Newton, Hank Azaria, Dylan Moran, Harish Patel, India de Beaufort, Matthew Fontana. (PG-13, 95 min.)

Anyone hoping for the lean meat of the fast, furious, and riotously funny *Shaun of the Dead* or even the popcorn fancy of the lesser *Hot Fuzz* – both of which share with *Fatboy* the co-writer and star Simon Pegg – will do best to look elsewhere; this British rom-com is all soft and plodgy, a by-the-numbers redemption tale that careens uncomfortably from sentimentality to stomach-turning sight gags, as in an extended and excruciating blister-popping scene. Blister is attached to the foot of said Fatboy, Dennis (Pegg). After another

kind of podiatric mishap (cold feet, pregnant fiancée, groom hightailing it away from the altar), Dennis spends the next five years getting fatter, while his lost lady love, Libby (Newton), gets even fitter; by the time Dennis realizes he made a big mistake, Libby's already attached to an American suit named Whit (Azaria), who, in addition to being the perfect boyfriend and an able provider for Libby and her son, is also an impassioned marathon runner. In one of those it's-so-crazy-it-might-work ... in-a-movie moves, Dennis decides to train for a London marathon, the idea being that, at the slightest demonstration of follow-through in Dennis, Libby will come running back to the man who ran away five years prior. There are bits here and there that are genuinely funny (security guard Dennis dry-humping a lingerie-store mannequin doesn't make the cut, not by a long shot), and there are certainly worse crimes in romantic comedy than forgettability. But what I can't abide – along with, I suspect, countless other fans of Pegg's collaborations with Edgar Wright and Nick Frost – is how utterly unlikable Pegg is rendered here. Let's not be stingy with blame – there's enough to pass around between first-time big-screen director Schwimmer (*Friends*), original scripser Michael Ian Black (*The State*), and Pegg (who did the last pass and "Britishized" the screenplay, which was originally envisioned as American-set and -acted). Not an unimpressive gathering of talent, but their forces combine to produce a leading man who starts out a shit and upgrades only to a sad sack of desperation, poor sportsmanship, and projectile pus. The Board of Underappreciated Bodily Fluids in Film rejoices. The rest of us, not so much.

– Kimberley Jones

★★ Alamo Ritz, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, Dobie, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

SHUTTER

D: Masayuki Ochiai; with Joshua Jackson, Rachael Taylor, Megumi Okina, David Denman, John Hensley, James Kyson Lee, Maya Hazen. (PG-13, 85 min.)

The best cinematic ghost stories, the real nail-gnawers, are the ones that insinuate themselves truly, madly, and deeply into your psyche and then leave you nightly eyeing your late grandmother's *armoire de mariage* as though Heather O'Rourke and the dead tot from *Pet Sematary* were grinning within, just waiting for you to slip into slumber so they can seep through the keyhole and proceed to reacquaint you with the never-ending hellscape of 15th century Dutch master Hieronymus Bosch. (Bosch being Bosch, he'll probably turn up as well, looking like Danny DeVito's Penguin sans eyeballs.) That's what is known as getting some heebie-jeebies, and it is an experience to be savored. M.R. James, Arthur Machen, and E.A. Poe could do it in prose, and both King and Kubrick's *Shinings* jangled. But apart from the unexpectedly nifty shock of, say, Neil Gaiman's *Coraline* or Alejandro Amenábar's *The Others*, books and movies are no longer all that committed to the turn of the screw or the squeal of the hinge. In the past two decades, very few filmmakers outside of Asia have been able to overwhelm audiences with anything other than a chain saw and a zombie. Thus, Hollywood has recently found staples in remaking the Asian horror films of Takashi Shimizu (*Ju-on: The Grudge*), Hideo Nakata (*Ringu*), and Kiyoshi Kurosawa (*Kairo* – recently spayed and neutered by Wes Craven, who should know better, and the Weinsteins, who just don't seem to care anymore). And that brings us to *Shutter*. This is Japanese director Ochiai's Americanized-yet-shot-in-Tokyo do-over of Thai filmmakers Banjong Pisanthanakun and Parkpoom Wongpoom's

sublime, melancholy, and ultimately ghastly (and identically titled) 2004 T-horror take on Franco Zeffirelli's *Endless Love* by way of Antonioni's *Blowup*. Masayuki's "photo-mortgage" suffers from the presence of everyone but the ghostly Okina (also seen stateside in *The Grudge* lite) and some shivery camerawork from the masterful eye of director of cinematography Katsumi Yanagijima – a favorite of both Takeshi "Beat" Kitano and Kinji Fukasaku (*Battle Royale*). But the very Thai-specific charms that made the original *Shutter* such an unforeseen, unpredictable delight when I first saw it – and when I screened it again, last night – are almost entirely absent here, eclipsed by the annoying blond highlights of Taylor, ex-*Transformers* babe and forever, as the Thai say, *farang*. New rule: No more Asian-horror remakes until everyone outside of Asia has seen the originals. I'm not kidding.

– Marc Savlov

★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

STOP-LOSS

D: *Kimberly Peirce*; with *Ryan Phillippe, Abbie Cornish, Channing Tatum, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ciaran Hinds, Timothy Olyphant, Victor Rasuk, Rob Brown, Mamie Gummer, Josef Sommer, Alex Frost*. (R, 112 min.)

What if Johnny never comes marching home again, hurrah, hurrah? That's the tragic, combustible, real-world fuse that burns throughout *Stop-Loss*. What if you gave an endless war, and no one ever got off the tour bus for longer than it takes to get drunk, scared, and go bang, go AWOL, or go mad? *Stop-Loss* takes its title from the military's term for its loophole policy that can require soldiers to serve multiple back-to-back tours of duty in Afghanistan and Iraq. The phrase also pretty much sums up the mood of the American taxpayer at the moment: We don't seem to be stopping much of anything, but as of this week, we've lost 4,000-plus servicemen and -women. Peirce's last time behind the camera, with the accolade-magnet *Boys Don't Cry*, garnered the filmmaker enough cluttered mantel space to hold out for seven years before finally choosing screenwriter Mark Richard and embarking on her second feature, which opens smack-dab in the proverbial fog (or sand, actually) of war. Tikrit-based Staff Sgt. Brandon King (Phillippe) and the men in his squadron

are sweltering and bored while manning an Iraqi checkpoint but suddenly find themselves in pursuit of a possible carload of insurgents that leads King's squad straight into a textbook alleyway ambush. The next five minutes are almost too horrific to watch if you know anyone Over There, but when the sniper fire winds down and the blood loss carves out tiny Tigris and Euphrates rivers of red in the Persian dirt, King and his surviving squad members are headed home to the Lone Star State (much of the film was shot in and around Austin, doubling for Brazos), back to reality, such as it is, or should be but, of course, isn't. Stop-lossed almost immediately, King watches his fellow vets attempt to drink, drank, and skank their way back to some semblance of what was; King opts out, though, and goes AWOL with Michele (Cornish), the girlfriend of squaddie Shriver (Tatum), hoping to get to D.C. to plead his case with a potentially sympathetic senator. The road goes on forever, but somehow the party never starts. Phillippe does a dark, searing turn with a character that could have easily been little more than *Taps*-era hubris, and Gordon-Levitt, as one of King's more fragmented former charges, is riveting and convincingly small-town Texas. *Stop-Loss* does not deign to do what the audience may expect or want or need; just when it appears cut-and-dried, or locked and, especially, loaded, it turns out Peirce has the goddamn safety on, or the metaphorical turret gunner jams up, or the film throws you another ricochet. Just like real life but not a damn thing like G.I. Joe. (For more, see "Back in Action," p.60.)

– Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Round Rock, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

SUPERHERO MOVIE

D: *Craig Mazin*; with *Drake Bell, Leslie Nielsen, Sara Paxton, Christopher McDonald, Marion Ross, Keith David, Brent Spiner, Jeffrey Tambor*. (PG-13, 85 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. The team behind the last couple of entries in the *Scary Movie* franchise has taken it upon themselves this time out to spoof comic-book superhero movies. Shazam!

– Marjorie Baumgarten

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

Openings

Married Life (PG-13)

Run Fatboy Run (PG-13)

Stop-Loss (R)

Superhero Movie (PG-13)

21 (PG-13)

The Unforeseen (NR)

Ratings

★★★★★ As perfect as a movie can be

★★★★ Slightly flawed, but excellent nonetheless

★★★ Has its good points, and its bad points

★★ Mediocre, but with one or two bright spots

★ Poor, without any saving graces

🍷 La bomba

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	BE KIND REWIND	130
	JUNO	400
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	JUNO	130
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	JUNO	430
	BE KIND REWIND	930
	DIONYSIUM	700
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21*		115*	430	740	1040
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PURPLE STATE OF MIND				700	(Mon)
AFS ESSENTIAL RIDING ALONE FOR MILES				700	(Tues)

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BE KIND REWIND	130*	725		
10,000 B.C.		400	1030	
IN BRUGES		420	955*	
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–Robert Koehler, Variety

Showtimes

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Be Kind Rewind: Fri, 1:30pm; Sat, 7:00pm
HRC and AFS: Beat Films: Sunflower Suftras: Wed, 7:00pm
Master Panacea: E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial: Fri, 6:45, 10:00; Sat, 6:45, 9:30; Sun, 7:00pm
Ferris Bueller's Day Off Quote-Along: Thu (4/3), 7:00pm
Terror Thursday: Forbidden World: Thu (4/3), 12mid
Hell on Wheels: Sun, 10:00pm; Wed, 10:00pm
Junjo: Fri-Sun, 4:00pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 4:30pm
Run Fatboy Run: Fri, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45; Sat, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45, 11:55; Sun, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45; Mon, 4:45, 7:20, 9:30; Thu (4/3), 4:45, 7:20, 9:45
Weird Wednesday: Shanty Tramp: Wed, 12mid
Music Monday: Space Is the Place: Mon, 10:00pm
Trailerthon Showcase: Tue, 10:00pm
We Will Rock You: The Queen Sing-Along: Thu (4/3), 9:30pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research, 219-8135.
The Bank Job: 12:25, 3:10, 7:30, 10:25
Dogfish Head Off-Centered Film Festival: Thu (4/3), 7:00pm
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Wed, 12:00, 3:00, 7:00, 9:45; Thu (4/3), 12:00, 3:00, 7:00
***Drillbit Taylor:** 12:10, 3:30, 7:35, 10:10
Tromatic Thursday: Fore Play: Thu (4/3), 10:00pm
TV @ the Alamo: Lost: Thu (4/3), 8:00pm
Reservoir Dogs: Fri-Sat, 12mid
***Run Fatboy Run:** 12:15, 3:20, 7:20, 10:05
***Stop-Loss:** 12:20, 3:15, 7:05, 10:00
10,000 B.C.: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 3:05, 7:25, 10:15; Sun, 12:05, 3:05; Mon-Wed, 12:05, 3:05, 7:25, 10:15; Thu (4/3), 12:05, 3:05
Vantage Point: 12:35, 3:25, 7:15, 9:55

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S. Lamar, 476-1320.
Kids Club: Darby O'Gill and the Little People: Sat, 12:00pm
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 12:00, 3:50, 6:35, 9:10pm; Mon, 3:50, 6:35, 9:10; Tue, 11:00am, 1:20, 3:50, 6:35, 9:10pm; Wed-Thu (4/3), 3:50, 6:35, 9:10
Drillbit Taylor: Fri-Sat, 1:55, 4:35, 7:30, 10:05; Sun, 11:20am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:30, 10:05pm; Mon, 4:05pm, 7:40, 10:15; Tue, 11:20am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:30, 10:05pm; Wed-Thu (4/3), 4:35, 7:30, 10:05
Funny Games U.S.: Fri-Sun, 11:10am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:35pm; Mon, 4:40, 7:35; Tue, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:35pm; Wed-Thu (4/3), 4:40, 7:35
Paranoid Park: Fri, 1:05am, 1:25, 7:00, 9:25pm; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 1:25, 7:00, 9:25pm; Mon, 4:05, 10:00; Tue, 11:05am, 1:25, 7:00, 9:30pm; Wed-Thu (4/3), 4:05, 7:00, 9:25
Purple State of Mind: Mon, 7:00pm
AFS: Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles: Tue, 7:00pm
Semi-Pro: 10:15pm
21: Fri-Sun, 1:15, 4:30, 7:40, 10:40; Mon, 4:30, 7:40, 10:40; Tue, 1:15, 4:30, 7:40, 10:40; Wed-Thu (4/3), 4:30, 7:40, 10:40
The Infamous: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:15, 9:45pm; Mon, 4:10, 7:15, 9:45; Tue, 11:15am, 1:40, 4:10, 7:15, 9:45pm; Wed-Thu (4/3), 4:10, 7:15, 9:45

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TV Party: Battlestar Galactica: 10:00pm
Be Kind Rewind: Sun, 1:30, 7:25; Mon, 7:25pm; Tue, 1:30, 7:25; Wed-Thu (4/3), 7:25pm
***Drillbit Taylor:** Fri, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10; Mon, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10; Tue, 1:20, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10; Wed-Thu (4/3), 4:10, 7:20, 10:10
In Bruges: Fri, 4:20pm; Sat-Sun, 4:20, 9:55; Tue-Thu (4/3), 4:20pm
TV @ the Alamo: Lost: Thu (4/3), 7:30pm
The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid
10,000 B.C.: 4:00, 10:30
There Will Be Blood: Fri-Sat, 12:30pm; Sun, 12:30, 7:05pm; Mon, 7:05pm; Tue, 12:30, 7:05; Wed-Thu (4/3), 7:05pm
21: Fri-Sat, 12:20, 3:35, 7:00, 9:05, 9:40, 11:55; Sun, 12:20, 3:35, 7:00, 10:00; Mon, 3:35, 7:00, 10:00; Tue, 12:20, 3:35, 7:00, 10:00; Wed-Thu (4/3), 3:35, 7:00, 10:00

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In Bruges: 12:05, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:10
Junjo: 12:40, 3:00, 5:15, 7:35, 9:50
Married Life: 12:20, 2:40, 4:50, 7:10, 9:40
Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day: 12:10, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:30
Sleepwalking: Fri-Sun, 12:30, 2:55, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; Mon, 2:55, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; Tue-Thu (4/3), 12:30, 2:55, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
There Will Be Blood: Fri-Sat, 1:00, 4:30, 8:00; Sun, 4:30, 8:00; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:00, 4:30, 8:00
Under the Same Moon: Mon, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

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The Bank Job: Fri-Sat, 10:10am, 12:45, 3:20, 5:55, 8:25, 10:55pm; Sun-Thu (4/3), 12:45, 3:20, 5:55, 8:25, 10:55
Doomsday: 10:35pm
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who! (closed captioned): Fri-Sun, 10:55am, 1:10, 3:10, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:10, 3:10, 5:25, 7:30, 9:35
***Drillbit Taylor:** Fri-Sun, 10:45am, 1:05, 3:25, 5:45, 8:05, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:05, 3:25, 5:45, 8:05, 10:25
Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day: 12:50, 5:15, 9:50
The Other Boleyn Girl: Fri-Sat, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:45, 5:25, 7:55pm; Sun, 12:30, 2:50, 5:25, 7:55
***Run Fatboy Run:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:25, 3:45, 6:10, 8:30, 10:50pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:25, 3:45, 6:10, 8:30, 10:50
***Shutter:** Fri-Sat, 10:55am, 12:05, 2:00, 4:05, 6:05, 8:20, 10:40pm; Sun, 2:00, 4:05, 6:05, 8:20, 10:40
Mon-Thu (4/3): 12:05, 2:00, 4:05, 6:05, 8:20, 10:40
***Stop-Loss:** Fri-Sun, 10:55am, 12:30, 3:05, 5:35, 8:30, 10:55pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 12:30, 3:05, 5:35, 8:30, 10:55
***Superhero Movie:** Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20
10,000 B.C.: Fri-Sat, 10:35am, 12:55, 3:15, 5:25, 7:45, 10:10pm; Sun-Thu (4/3), 12:55, 3:15, 5:25, 7:45, 10:10
***21:** Fri-Sat, 11:00am, 12:00, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 9:55, 10:55pm; Sun, 11:00am, 12:00, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 9:55, 10:55pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 12:00, 1:45, 2:45, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:15, 9:55, 10:55
***Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns:** Fri-Sat, 10:15am, 12:25, 2:55, 5:10, 7:35, 10:15pm; Sun, 12:30, 2:55, 5:10, 7:35, 10:15

10:15; Mon-Thu (4/3), 12:35, 2:55, 5:10, 7:35, 10:15
***Under the Same Moon:** Fri-Sun, 10:00am, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:55, 10:30
Vantage Point: Fri-Sat, 10:40am, 3:00, 7:25pm; Sun, 10:00am, 3:00, 7:25pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 3:00, 7:25

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The Bank Job: Fri, 4:15, 6:45, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:15, 6:45, 9:50; Mon-Thu (4/3), 4:15, 6:45, 9:50
College Road Trip: Fri, 2:30, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 12:20, 2:30, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:30, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 2:10, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:10, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 12:45, 2:10, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:10, 10:15; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:10, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:10, 10:15
***Drillbit Taylor:** Fri, 2:15, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:15, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05
Never Back Down: Fri, 4:00, 6:30, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:00, 6:40, 9:30; Mon-Thu (4/3), 3:45, 6:40, 9:30
Shutter: Fri, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
***Superhero Movie:** Fri, 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:00, 4:20, 6:50, 9:30
10,000 B.C.: Fri, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00
***21:** Fri, 4:10, 7:15, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:15, 10:10; Mon-Thu (4/3), 4:10, 7:15, 10:10
***Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns:** Fri, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:40, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
Vantage Point: Fri, 3:15, 5:35, 8:10, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 3:15, 5:35, 8:10, 10:30; Mon-Thu (4/3), 3:15, 5:35, 8:10, 10:30

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 12800 Hwy. 71, 800/FANDANGO.
The Bank Job: Fri, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 12:40, 3:45, 6:45, 9:30; Mon-Thu (4/3), 3:45, 6:45
College Road Trip: Fri, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 1:45, 2:40, 4:20, 5:10, 6:50, 7:45, 9:25, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 12:05, 1:45, 2:40, 4:20, 5:10, 6:50, 7:45, 9:25, 10:00; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:45, 2:40, 4:20, 5:10, 6:50, 7:45
***Drillbit Taylor:** Fri, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:35am, 12:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:10, 4:55, 7:40
Footloose: Fri, 3:30, 6:30, 9:35; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:35; Mon-Thu (4/3), 3:30, 6:30
***Miss Pettigrew Lives for a Day:** Fri, 2:05, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:05, 4:50, 7:30
Never Back Down: Fri, 2:20, 5:05, 7:25, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:05, 7:25, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:20, 5:05, 7:25
***Shutter:** Fri, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:15; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:35, 4:40, 7:10
***Superhero Movie:** Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:05, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:05, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:50, 4:30, 7:05, 9:50
10,000 B.C.: Fri, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 11:55am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:00, 4:45, 7:35
***21:** Fri, 3:40, 7:00, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 12:35, 3:40, 7:00, 9:55; Mon-Thu (4/3), 3:40, 7:00
***Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns:** Fri, 1:55, 4:25, 7:15, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 1:55, 4:25, 7:15, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:55, 4:25, 7:15
Vantage Point: Fri, 2:15, 4:35, 6:55, 9:20; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:15, 4:35, 6:55, 9:20pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:15, 4:35, 6:55

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 2120 N. Mays (Round Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 6pm.
Alvin and the Chipmunks: Fri, 1:30, 4:00, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:15, 3:40, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:30, 4:00, 5:00, 7:10, 9:30, 10:25
Enchanted: Fri, 1:40, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 11:10am, 1:40, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:40, 4:15, 7:20, 9:50
***The Eye:** Fri, 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:55am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:10
***First Sunday:** 2:10, 7:50
***Meet the Spartans:** Fri, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:50, 4:30, 7:30, 9:40
***National Treasure: Book of Secrets:** Fri, 3:30, 7:15, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 3:30, 7:15, 10:15; Mon-Thu (4/3), 3:30, 7:15, 10:15
***There Will Be Blood:** Fri, 3:00, 7:00, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 3:00, 7:00, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 3:00, 7:00, 10:20
***Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins:** Fri, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:30

CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.
The Bank Job: Fri, 2:20, 5:10, 7:55, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:40am, 2:20, 5:10, 7:55, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:20, 5:10, 7:55, 10:30
The Bucket List: Fri, 12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9:10; Sat-Sun, 10:20am, 12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9:10pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 12:50, 3:30, 6:30, 9:10
College Road Trip: Fri, 1:45, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:20am, 1:45, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:45, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 1:15, 2:40, 3:40, 5:05, 7:00, 8:40, 9:20, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 10:00am, 10:45, 12:20, 1:15, 2:40, 3:40, 5:05, 7:00, 8:40, 9:20, 10:10; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:15, 2:40, 3:40, 5:05, 7:00, 8:40, 9:20, 10:10
***Drillbit Taylor:** Fri, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
Never Back Down: Fri, 1:05, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:15am, 1:05, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:05, 4:05, 6:50, 9:40
***Shutter:** Fri, 1:50, 4:15, 7:20, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 11:55am, 1:50, 4:15, 7:20, 9:45pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:50, 4:15, 7:20, 9:45
***Stop-Loss:** Fri, 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 11:05am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:25
***Superhero Movie:** Fri, 1:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 10:30am, 1:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:30, 4:50, 7:30, 9:50
10,000 B.C.: Fri, 1:35, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 10:50am, 1:35, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:35, 4:40, 7:35, 10:15
***21:** Fri, 1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 10:55am, 1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05

4:00, 7:05, 10:05pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05
***Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns:** Fri, 1:40, 4:20, 7:50, 10:20; Sat-Sun, 11:00am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:50, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:40, 4:20, 7:50, 10:20
Vantage Point: Fri, 1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9:15; Sat-Sun, 10:40am, 1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9:15pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:10, 3:50, 6:40, 9:15

CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.
College Road Trip: 12:40, 3:35, 6:50, 9:45
Definitely, Maybe: 1:30, 4:30, 7:40, 10:20
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: 12:35, 1:35, 3:45, 4:35, 6:35, 7:45, 9:40, 10:25
***Drillbit Taylor:** 1:00, 3:40, 6:40, 9:35
Never Back Down: 1:40, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10
The Other Boleyn Girl: 1:10, 3:50, 7:15, 10:00
***Shutter:** 1:15, 4:20, 7:25, 10:30
***Superhero Movie:** 12:55, 3:30, 6:55, 9:55
10,000 B.C.: 1:05, 1:50, 3:55, 4:25, 6:45, 7:35, 9:30, 10:10, 7:45
***21:** 12:45, 4:00, 7:05, 10:05
***Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns:** 12:50, 4:05, 7:00, 9:50
Vantage Point: 1:20, 4:15, 7:30, 10:10
***Zula Patrol: Animal Adventures in Space:** Sat, 10:00am

DOBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM.
The Bank Job: Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Mon, 9:30pm; Tue-Wed, 7:00, 9:30; Thu (4/3), 9:30pm
Box Elder: Mon, 7:30pm
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Mon-Tue, 7:10, 9:40; Wed, 9:40pm; Thu (4/3), 7:10, 9:40
George A. Romero's Diary of the Dead: Fri-Sun, 4:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (4/3), 10:00pm
Persepolis: Fri, 7:30pm; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 7:30; Mon, 7:30pm; Wed-Thu (4/3), 7:30pm
Run Fatboy Run: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (4/3), 7:20, 9:50

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.
Doomsday: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 3:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Thu (4/3), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40, 11:45; Sat, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40, 11:45pm; Sun, 11:00am, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40
Drillbit Taylor: 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 (4/3), 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:40, 9:55
Never Back Down: Fri, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 12mid; Sat, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 12mid; Sun, 11:30am, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (4/3), 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
Shutter: Fri, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15, 11:50; Sat, 11:55am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15pm; Sun, 11:55am, 1:15, 3:15, 5:15, 7:15, 9:15
Superhero Movie: 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 (4/3), 12:30, 2:35, 4:40, 7:10, 9:20
10,000 B.C.: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Thu (4/3), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
***21:** Fri, 1:40, 2:10, 4:20, 4:50, 7:00, 7:30, 9:35, 10:10, 12mid; Sat, 11:00am, 1:30, 1:40, 2:10, 4:20, 4:50, 7:00, 7:30, 9:35, 10:10, 12mid; Sun, 11:00am

TYLER PERRY'S MEET THE BROWNS

D: Tyler Perry; with Perry, Angela Bassett, David Mann, Tamela J. Mann, Rick Fox, Lance Gross, Frankie Faison, Margaret Avery, Jenifer Lewis, Sofia Vergara, Irma P. Hall, Chloe Bailey, Mariana Tolbert. (PG-13, 100 min.)

Tyler Perry, the one-man cottage industry that produces a prodigious number of films, theatre, and television works aimed almost exclusively at African-American audiences, has become a brand unto himself. Just as you acquire a sense of what to expect when going to a "Disney movie," you also know what you're signing up for when attending a "Tyler Perry film": crass but wholesome stories about modern black family life that mesh comedy, melodrama, and Christian uplift — and include his name in the title. *Meet the Browns* also highlights another of Perry's recurrent themes: scorn for black men who don't do right by their families and baby mamas. The casting of Bassett as this film's lead has probably earned Perry the best actor he's featured in any of his movies so far, and although she's terrific to watch, she can't raise *Meet the Browns* from the doldrums in which the film wallows. She plays Brenda Brown, a single mother who is raising three children (by three different fathers) in Chicago public housing and having a difficult time of it. She loses her job and can't pay the bills just as two lovely coincidences occur: Her talented son, Michael (Gross, from Perry's TV show *House of Payne*), garners the attention of handsome basketball scout Harry (Fox),

who is also clearly interested in recruiting mom along with son; and she receives plane tickets to rural Georgia to attend the funeral and reading of the will of the father she has never met. Once in Georgia, some fish-out-of-water comedy ensues as she gets to know the colorful Brown family: The fashion-challenged buffoon, Leroy Brown (David Mann), and his daughter, Cora (Tamela J. Mann), make strong impressions as they rattle off nonsense like "last will and testicle" and other clownish routines. The problem with *Meet the Browns* is not really the story but, rather, the slapdash mechanics of Perry's storytelling. His visual style aspires to nothing more than rudimentary point-and-shoot blocking, and his storytelling bounces radically between low comedy and high melodrama, while excising any fluidity or plausibility that might bridge the two contrasts. For example, a character getting shot in the back is followed in the next sequence by the image of him playing basketball. Moral: guns, basketball = interesting; hospital beds, recovery time = dull, and therefore unnecessary. Perry tosses everything at his disposal into his movie gumbo, even a completely gratuitous appearance by his signature, self-performed, alter-ego in drag *Madea* — most likely to set up the premise for his next film, *Madea Goes to Jail*. — Marjorie Baumgarten

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MEET THE BROWNS (PG-13) Fri. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45
Sat. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25 11:45
Sun. 10:00 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25
Mon. - Thu. 12:15 2:30 4:45 7:10 9:25

DRILLBIT TAYLOR (PG-13) Fri. 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 9:55 11:59
Sat. 10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 9:55 11:59
Sun. 10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 9:55
Mon. - Thu. 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:40 9:55

DR. SEUSS' HORTON HEARS A WHO! (G) Fri. 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40 11:45
Sat. 11:00 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40 11:45
Sun. 11:00 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40
Mon. - Thu. 1:00 3:10 5:20 7:30 9:40

10,000 B.C. (PG-13) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45

SHUTTER (PG-13) Fri. 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15 11:50
Sat. 11:15 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15 11:50
Sun. 11:15 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15
Mon. - Thu. 1:15 3:15 5:15 7:15 9:15

DOOMSDAY (R) Fri. & Sat. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45 11:59
Sun. - Thu. 12:05 2:30 4:55 7:20 9:45

NEVER BACK DOWN (PG-13) Fri. 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:59
Sat. 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30 11:59
Sun. 11:30 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30
Mon. - Thu. 2:00 4:30 7:00 9:30

21 (PG-13) Fri. 1:40 2:10 4:20 4:50 7:00 7:30 9:35 10:10 11:59
Sat. 11:00 11:30 1:40 2:10 4:20 4:50 7:00 7:30 9:35 10:10
Sun. - Thu. 1:40 2:10 4:20 4:50 7:00 7:30 9:35 10:10

SUPERHERO MOVIE (PG-13) Fri. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20 11:30
Sat. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20 11:30
Sun. 10:25 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20
Mon. - Thu. 12:30 2:35 4:40 7:10 9:20

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RUN FATBOY RUN

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Mon-Thu: 7:20, 9:50

THE BANK JOB

Fri: (4:00) 7:00, 9:30; Sat/Sun: (1:00, 4:00) 7:00, 9:30
Mon, Thur: 9:30; Tue-Wed: 7:00, 9:30

GEORGE A. ROMERO'S DIARY OF THE DEAD

Fri-Sun: (4:30) 10:00
Mon-Thu: 10:00

Dr. Seuss' HORTON HEARS A WHO!

Fri: (4:10) 7:10, 9:40; Sat/Sun: (1:10, 4:10) 7:10, 9:40
Mon-Tue, Thur: 7:10, 9:40; Wed: 9:40

PERSEPOLIS

Fri, Mon, Wed-Thu: 7:30
Sat/Sun: (1:30) 7:30 • No Tuesday Shows

SHOWTIMES FOR FRI, MAR. 28 - THUR, APR. 3
Bargain Showtimes in ()

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ALAMO

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DINNER - DRINKS - MOVIES - EVENTS

LAKECREEK SHOWTIMES
(183 & LAKECREEK PARKWAY)

THE BANK JOB
(12:25 3:10) 7:30 10:25

STOP LOSS
(12:20 3:15) 7:05 10:00

DRILLBIT TAYLOR
(12:10 3:30) 7:35 10:10

RUN FATBOY RUN
(12:15 3:20) 7:20 10:05

HORTON HEARS A WHO!
(12:00 3:00) 7:00 (9:45)

VANTAGE POINT
(12:35 3:25) 7:15 9:55

10,000 B.C.
(12:00 3:00) / (7:25) / (10:15)

(L) MATINEE <> NO SHOW THURSDAY / / NO SHOW SUNDAY
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March 28th

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Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles

Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles (2005)

D: Zhang Yimou; with Ken Takakura, Shinobu Terajima, Li Jiamin, Qiu Lin, Jiang Wen, Yang Zhenbo. (PG, 108 min.) **Austin Film Society: Ascending Dragon – Films of Greater China.** Kicking off this new series is a film by veteran Zhang, which is a tale about good intentions and missed opportunities. For more info, see www.austinfilm.org and p.62 of this week's Screens section. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tue., 7pm; \$4, AFS members free.



First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

THE BANK JOB

D: Roger Donaldson; with Jason Statham, Saffron Burrows, Stephen Campbell Moore, Daniel Mays, James Faulkner, Alki David, Michael Jibson, Georgia Taylor. (R, 110 min.)

The Bank Job blends together the daring of the bank-heist genre with the looming dread of the political-paranoia genre and, in the process, creates its own particular world: Call it the “Pandora’s box” genre. When Terry Leather (Statham) and his motley gang of thieves pop open the bank’s safe-deposit boxes, they don’t just blow the lid off a criminal extortion ring; they stumble into a whole universe of police corruption, financial malfeasance, sexual degeneracy, political conspiracy, murder, torture, and upper-class salaciousness. In other words: a moviemaker’s dream. Unfortunately for our heroes, there are consequences to actions that upset rich and powerful people, and where *The Bank Job* really thrives is in its depiction of the cold, hard realities of a life spent dipping your hands in other people’s pockets. The blowback in *The Bank Job* is real and ugly and involves some sort of pneumatic paint-stripping machine that would freak out the Coen brothers. (03/07/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Dobbie, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

BE KIND REWIND

D: Michel Gondry; with Jack Black, Mos Def, Danny Glover, Mia Farrow, Melonie Diaz. (PG-13, 101 min.)

Gondry, who is something of a visionary, doesn’t make artsy movies; he makes ’em crafty, full of gadgets and gizmos and Claymation curios. But his last two narrative features – *The Science of Sleep* and now *Be Kind Rewind*, written alone and without two-time collaborator Charlie Kaufman or any other surer hand at story and structure – have allowed his wonder at the spectacle (a wonderful spectacle, to be sure) to dwarf each picture as a piece. *Be Kind Rewind* has a very particular, very American aim: that is to be a Capra comedy. Only it’s really not all that funny. The film labors to set up its central premise (one easily gleaned in its two-minute trailer). Def is the best thing by far in Gondry’s well-meaning but too soft, too structureless picture. The vision is there; so, I think, is the heart and most definitely the crafts – but the craft ... that still needs some refining. (02/29/2008) – Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Ritz, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Tinseltown South

COLLEGE ROAD TRIP

D: Roger Kumble; with Martin Lawrence, Raven-Symoné, Kym Whitley, Danny Osmond, Eshaya Draper, Will Sasso. (G, 83 min.)

College Road Trip is that movie rarity these days – a G-rated film that isn’t a documentary or an animated feature. A Disney production that would seemingly be more at home on the Disney Channel than in the local metropolis, this formulaic family comedy about father-daughter relationships follows a predictable path from start to finish, although some silly business with a hopped-up pig high on coffee beans provides some unexpected comic relief about halfway through. The film’s script pits university-bound Melanie (Raven-Symoné) against her overprotective father (Lawrence) in the selection of her future alma mater. It’s enough to warm the cockles of your heart, except for the fact that none

of this mawkishness feels real in the least. What this movie needs is some off-the-chain comic relief to temper its mediocre storyline, but unfortunately, most of the film’s energy is expended by Lawrence and Raven-Symoné in a contest to see who can out-mug the other. (03/14/2008) – Steve Davis

★→ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

DOOMSDAY

D: Neil Marshall; with Rhona Mitra, Bob Hoskins, Malcolm McDowell, Alexander Siddig, Adrian Lester. (R, 105 min.)

Doomsday writer/director Marshall seems to be running out of ideas or at least new ways to make old ideas fresh. The director of genre fan favorite *Dog Soldiers* and the genuinely claustrophobic *The Descent* comes up short on *Doomsday* for the simple reason that there’s not a lick of originality to be found anywhere in this film. However, his filmmaking technique – antsy, gliding camera movements punctuated by sudden, extreme moments of gore or explicit character revelation – is still in fine fettle. It’s powerful stuff when it works, and it works more than you’d expect. After a prologue sets up the main storyline – a deadly “Reaper” virus lays waste to Scotland, and the British government seals off the entire country – the action jumps ahead to 2035, as Maj. Eden Sinclair (Mitra) is tasked to enter Edinburgh in search of survivors who may hold the key to a cure. (03/21/2008) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Barton Creek Square, Highland, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

DR. SEUSS’ HORTON HEARS A WHO!

D: Steve Martino, Jimmy Hayward; with the voices of Jim Carrey, Steve Carell, Carol Burnett, Seth Rogen, Will Arnett, Isla Fisher, Dan Fogler, Amy Poehler, Jaime Pressly. (G, 88 min.)

For my money, I’ve never seen anything much wrong with the animated Chuck Jones version of this Seuss tale made for TV in 1970. But everything needs an update, I suppose, and this new animated feature does the job nicely, staying true to the playfulness of the Seussian rhymes and messages while ably adding in new bits of business to expand Seuss’ verse to feature length. Carrey’s general tendency toward comic mania is gently toned down, allowing the rubbery elephant Horton to seem more a lovable goofball than a frenzied nut-job, and Carell’s readings as the Mayor of Whoville are perfectly on target. Twentieth Century Fox’s animation is in the mold of their previous films *Ice Age* and *Robots*: a nice blend of rudimentary and inventive touches. The story’s key refrain, “A person’s a person no matter how small,” speaks directly to children’s experience of the world, thus this new movie should enjoy a long life. (03/14/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobbie, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

Beat Films: Sunflower Sutra

Beat Films: Sunflower Sutra Harry Ransom Center: Beat Film Series. In conjunction with their current exhibition “On the Road With the Beats,” the HRC and the Austin Film Society present this four-part film series. Included in this first program are the films “Motion Picture” (1956) by Frank Paine, “Bridges-Go-Round” (1958) by Shirley Clarke, “Anticipation of the Night” (1958) by Stan Brakhage, and “Pull My Daisy” (1959) by Robert Frank and Alfred Leslie. For more info, see www.hrc.utexas.edu/beatfilm and p.62 of this week’s Screens section. @Alamo Ritz, Wed., 7pm.

The Killing

The Killing (1956) D: Stanley Kubrick; with Sterling Hayden, Marie Windsor, Elisha Cook Jr., Vince Edwards, Coleen Gray. (NR, 85 min.) **Austin Cinematheque.** Kubrick’s second feature film is a dandy heist and double-cross story told in over-lapping time sequences with dialogue by Jim Thompson punching up Kubrick’s script. The film also features Lucien Ballard’s crisp cinematography and hallmark performances by Hayden, Windsor, and Cook. @Texas Union Theatre, Mon., 7:30pm; free.



DRILLBIT TAYLOR

D: Steven Brill; with Owen Wilson, Leslie Mann, Danny McBride, Josh Peck, Troy Gentile, Nate Hartley, David Dorfman, Alex Frost. (PG-13, 102 min.)

This is a dispiritingly mediocre tweener comedy from some very talented people who appear to be experiencing a delayed sophomore slump. With Judd Apatow’s (*Knocked Up*) name hovering comedy-godlike over the titles and Seth Rogen (*Superbad*) credited as co-writer – not to mention the dependably dopey Owen Wilson as the titular borer du jour – you’d expect the laffs to positively gush forth. Nuh-uh. *Drillbit Taylor* is a strange hybrid of Apatow’s über-cool TV series *Freaks and Geeks* and 1980’s film *My Bodyguard*. The film is such an obvious rehashing of old ideas and laugh lines that it borders on the insulting. Hartley, Gentile, and Dorfman play a trio of freshman high schoolers who hire Wilson’s ostensibly ex-Army maniac to protect them from the local bully (Frost). Apatow and Rogen should note for future reference that stealing from the best doesn’t count for squat if you’re the best in the first place, although Wilson does get some juicy throwaway lines. (03/21/2008) – Marc Savlov

★→ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

FOOL’S GOLD

D: Andy Tennant; with Matthew McConaughey, Kate Hudson, Donald Sutherland, Alexis Dziena, Ewen Bremner, Ray Winstone, Kevin Hart, Malcolm-Jamal Warner. (PG-13, 113 min.)

Fool’s Gold is the surprisingly convoluted tale of two gorgeous, love-tossed, star-crossed treasure hunters who reunite to search for a long-missing 18th century galleon that was carrying an enormous fortune when it sunk during a hurricane off the coast of Havana and was then saved by an enterprising ship captain’s son who lied to passing sailors about how he came to be shipwrecked and who preserved his secret through the use of cleverly laid clues that would one day be solved by two gorgeous, love-tossed, star-crossed treasure hunters. Add in a hip-hop loan shark with a mean streak, a calypso soundtrack that’s better suited to a cruise-line commercial, and Sutherland employing a British accent that makes him sound like he’s speaking with a mouthful of pudding, and you have a movie that manages to be everything – romantic comedy, adventure film, family melodrama, farce, gangster movie, and history lesson – and absolutely nothing all at once. (02/08/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt

★ Hill Country Galleria

FUNNY GAMES U.S.

D: Michael Haneke; with Naomi Watts, Tim Roth, Devon Gearhart, Michael Pitt, Brady Corbet, Boyd Gaines, Siobhan Fallon. (R, 107 min.)

There’s nothing funny about what happens to the Farber family. Ann (Watts), George (Roth), and their adolescent son, Georgie (Gearhart), while off

to their upscale country house on summer vacation, fall prey to a pair of immaculately dressed, disarmingly polite psychopaths (Pitt and Corbet), who proceed to mess with the heads of their victims – and the audience – in a very sick way. The result is, well, horrifying. And it’s a remake. If anything, this shiny, new, Americanized take on Haneke’s original themes is more effective, more visceral, and far more apparent in its intentions than the German original. Haneke punctuates his bloody screed with some very freaky exclamatory points – *Funny Games* is not for the faint of heart. It’s an (arguably) nonexploitive, nightmarish vision of random violence that goes exactly where you don’t want it to go and then goes even further. (03/14/2008) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor

★ GEORGE A. ROMERO’S DIARY OF THE DEAD

D: George A. Romero; with Joshua Close, Michelle Morgan, Scott Wentworth, Shawn Roberts, Amy Ciupak Lalonde, Joe Dinicol, Philip Riccio. (R, 94 min.)

Diary of the Dead cuts right back to the beating, bleeding heart of Romero’s original *Night of the Living Dead* and does it with as much of the same fast, cheap, and out-of-control guerrilla panache as is likely possible four decades on. If 1968’s *Night of the Living Dead* was Romero’s visceral rejoinder to the Vietnamethadrine paranoid freak-outs of the late Sixties, then *Diary of the Dead* is his no-less-disturbing *cri de mort* in the wake of Abu Ghraib, Guantanamo, and Bagram-based black-and-blue ops – all of which, as Romero’s nightmare repeatedly underscores, we now discover, watch, and absorb at an orders-of-magnitude rate far higher than old-school 24 frames per second, thanks to the near-instantaneous digital-media saturation that is the blogosphere, YouTube, and 24-hour cable news networks. *Diary of the Dead* is rough around the edges, dirty in the middle, and stained through with a sort of nihilistic humanism that ultimately unsettles more than the lurching undead themselves. (02/29/2008) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Dobbie

JUMPER

D: Doug Liman; with Hayden Christensen, Samuel L. Jackson, Diane Lane, Jamie Bell, Rachel Bilson, Michael Rooker, Tom Hulce, Kristen Stewart. (PG-13, 90 min.)

Based on the 2002 young-adult novel by Stephen Gould, *Jumper*, the first film in a planned trilogy, asks the double-loaded questions, “What would a young teen male do if he suddenly discovered the ability to teleport?” and, “What’s Hayden Christensen done for us lately, other than the cinematic sleep-aid *Awake?*” The answer to both questions is, of course, “not much,” but at least in the first instance you get a snappy teen travelogue through the Valley of the Kings, Tokyo, the sand drifts of the Sahara (or perhaps Tootooine?), and upscale New York loftage, not to mention a whole bunch of Rome’s Colosseum. Actually, taken at face value, *Jumper* is pretty slick, entertaining stuff, well-crafted by Liman; edited into a tight, action-packed bundle of nerviness by Saar Klein; and scripted with not a little Marvel Universality by David S. Goyer. (02/15/2008) – Marc Savlov

★★★ Tinseltown South

★ JUNO

D: Jason Reitman; with Ellen Page, Michael Cera, Jennifer Garner, Jason Bateman, Allison Janney, J.K. Simmons. (PG-13, 92 min.)

When 16-year-old Juno (Page) pays for her pregnancy test with the stick still in hand, the cashier wisecracks, “This is one diddle that can’t be unid, home skillet.” That cup, care of screenwriter and freshly minted Hot New Thing Diablo Cody, almost had me audibly groaning: So it’s gonna be like that, is it? Well, yes and no. The quips keep coming, but they slow, and *Juno* settles in



to 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) — Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Ritz, Arbor, Tinseltown South

MISS PETTIGREW LIVES FOR A DAY

D: Bharat Nalluri; with Frances McDormand, Amy Adams, Shirley Henderson, Lee Pace, Mark Strong, Ciaran Hinds. (PG-13, 92 min.)

The Blitz was not all chip-rationing and stiff-upper-lipness for the Londoners who endured it — there was also the West End, gin, and the promise

of non-Nazi-induced blackouts and sasstacular American movie stars, or at least that's what we have here. As Miss Pettigrew, the unflappable, always appealing McDormand submerges her sense of style and her not inconsiderate wit into the titular character first created by novelist Winifred Watson in 1938. Miss Pettigrew is an unemployed nanny with a no-nonsense streak and an exceedingly dour sense of couture, who bluffs her way into a job as the "social secretary" for the brain-dead, proto-fashionista, Yank-on-holiday starlet Delysia Lafosse (Adams), with appropriately hilarious results. Or maybe not so hilarious. The comedic success of this pair of dramatic archetypes, the radiant flibbertigibbet and the gray, lumpen elder spinster, in a lightweight bit of piffle such as this is a testament to both Adams' and McDormand's smarts. (03/07/2008) — Marc Savlov

★★★ Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Hill Country Galleria, Westgate

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 7 P.M.
Stan Brakhage's *Desistfilm* (1954), Shirley Clarke's *Skyscraper* (1959), and John Cassavetes's *Shadows* (1959)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 7 P.M.
Alfred Leslie's *The Last Clean Shirt* (1964), Peter Whitehead's *Wholly Communion* (1965), Anthony Balch and William S. Burroughs's *Towers Open Fire* (1962), and Christopher MacLaine's *The End* (1953) and *Beat* (1958)

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Las Mujeres de la Caucus Chicana

Las Mujeres de la Caucus Chicana (2007)

D: Linda Garcia-Merchant. (NR, 95 min.) Sor Juana Festival. This documentary profiles six Latina activists who formed the Chicana Caucus of the National Women's Convention of 1977 and the National Women's Political Caucus. Following the film, there will be a discussion with the director and one of the women featured in the film, Austin's Martha Cotera, who was also one of the founding members of La Raza Unida Party. Also, participate afterward in a program of music and dance, and an arts market open until 5pm. For more on the film, see www.vocesprimeras.com. @Mexican American Cultural Center, Sun., 1pm; free.



NEVER BACK DOWN

D: Jeff Wadlow; with Sean Faris, Djimon Hounsou, Cam Gigandet, Amber Heard. (PG-13, 106 min.)

The mixed martial arts flick *Never Back Down* borrows from other movies almost shamelessly – it's *The Karate Kid* meets *Fight Club* by way of Abercrombie & Fitch. (And maybe a little *Rocky* thrown in for good measure.) Jake (Faris), a hot-headed hottie with a big temper is publicly humiliated by his new nemesis, Ryan (Gigandet), the school's reigning prince of extreme sports. Motivated by revenge, Jake trains with a Senegalese-born coach (Hounsou), who teaches his new student that throwing a punch is as much a mental act as it is a physical one. Of course, there's the final showdown, which is ultimately just another excuse for the two of them to strip down to their gym shorts and show off their rock-hard physiques. Though its script leaves no cliché unturned, *Never Back Down* is a notch above the norm, mainly due to director Wadlow's ability to keep everything on track and Faris' abilities as the young hero. (03/21/2008) – Steve Davis
★★★ CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE OTHER BOLEYN GIRL

D: Justin Chadwick; with Natalie Portman, Scarlett Johansson, Eric Bana, Jim Sturgess, Mark Rylance, Kristin Scott Thomas, David Morrissey, Ana Torrent. (PG-13, 115 min.)

The Other Boleyn Girl, adapted from Philippa Gregory's novel, resembles a tragicomic reality show imported from some other, more fashion-forward past. Done in high style but with serious attention to detail, if not the historical record, Johansson plays Mary, the sibling to Anne (Portman), whose socially ambitious father, Sir Thomas Boleyn (Rylance) seeks to marry off (or pimp out) the more spirited Anne to Bana's Henry VIII. As fate would have it, the king favors Mary over Anne and promptly beds this *other* girl. The film is an engagingly sordid meditation on proto-feminism. Director Chadwick and production designer John Paul Kelly take pains to re-create the broody, conniving atmosphere of the court of Henry VIII (there's some impressively invisible CGI work), and the pairing of Johansson and Portman (besides being the wettest of fanboy dreamings) is deliciously inspired. (02/29/2008) – Marc Savlov
★★★ Barton Creek Square, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Westgate

PARANOID PARK

D: Gus Van Sant; with Gabe Nevins, Daniel Liu, Taylor Momsen, Jake Miller, Lauren McKinney, Scott Green, Oliver Garner. (R, 85 min.)

"I just feel like there's something outside of normal life," says teen skateboarder Alex (Nevins), the troubled protagonist of Van Sant's new melancholy masterpiece. "Something besides teachers, breakups, girlfriends. Like different levels. Right out there." That teenage self-awareness, the exact moment when you feel as though you were caught like a bug on some sort of social flypaper, with all eyes on you (including your own) as you struggle to free yourself and break on through to the other side of adolescence – adulthood – is what both the director and the character of Alex (played without a ripple of falsehood by Nevins) are after, although only one of them knows it. From a strictly filmmaking standpoint, it's unique and brutal in its beauty and the truth it tells, and so, too, is Van Sant's visual style. It also features a cast of young people chosen almost entirely from the ranks of MySpace.com. (03/21/2008) – Marc Savlov
★★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

Ezra

Ezra (2007) *D: Newton I. Aduaka; with Mamoudou Turay Kamara, Mariame N'Diaye, Mamusu Kallon, Richard Gant, Mercy Ojelade. (NR, 110 min.) Africa Conference.* Showcased at Cannes and Sundance and winner of the Grand Prize at Africa's top film festival, this drama is a complex psychological study about an abducted child soldier and his attempt to reintegrate into the village society of his former life. See www.utexas.edu/conferences/africa/2008 for more info. @Texas Union Theatre, Sat., 12:15pm; free.



SLEEPWALKING

D: William Maher; with Nick Stahl, AnnaSophia Robb, Charlize Theron, Dennis Hopper, Woody Harrelson, Deborra-Lee Furness. (R, 100 min.)

James Reedy (Stahl) is a chronic introvert who spends his days working on a construction crew and his nights staring at the television. Watching James stir awkwardly on the couch, I marveled at Stahl's ability to elicit both pity and disgust from his audience with barely a look. And Theron has become the Lon Chaney of her generation. Unfortunately, *Sleepwalking* isn't content being a character study of damaged adult siblings. Instead, Joleen (Theron) disappears 15 minutes into the film, leaving her daughter Tara (Robb) in her brother's incapable hands, and soon James and Tara are off on a road trip, running from social services and their haunted pasts and incrementally giving into their shared desire for understanding and friendship. However, neither Maher nor screenwriter Zac Stanford is comfortable enough with the murkiness of human psychology to make a very convincing case for James' transformation from pitiable schnook to master of his destiny. (03/21/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★ Arbor, Metropolitan

STEP UP 2 THE STREETS

D: Jon Chu; with Briana Evigan, Robert Hoffman, Adam G. Sevani, Cassie Ventura, Danielle Polanco, Mari Koda, Christopher Scott, Janelle Cambridge. (PG-13, 98 min.)

In case you weren't aware, there's an epidemic plaguing our cities: the threat of wandering bands of teen guerrilla dancers turning our subways and street corners into nightclubs and generally flouting our belief in a society where honest, tax-paying citizens can walk the streets at night without being performed at against their wills by kids in baggy pants gyrating wildly, twisting their bodies into pretzels, sliding about on their heads, and wearing baseball caps at insolent angles. This, anyway, is the world presented by *Step Up 2 the Streets*, Hollywood's latest exercise in redemption through midriff-baring and hip-hop cross-marketing. The film's two heroes, Andie (Evigan) and Chase (Hoffman), are from opposite sides of the tracks: She is from the streets of Baltimore; he is the scion of upper-class, performing-arts-school royalty. Together, they're out to show all the keep-it-real street kids and blowhard stuffed shirts that the best way to achieve peace and tolerance is to dance, dance, dance! (02/22/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★ Metropolitan

10,000 B.C.

D: Roland Emmerich; with Steven Strait, Camilla Belle, Cliff Curtis, Mona Hammond. (PG-13, 108 min.)

Emmerich comes to the prehistoric party considerably late in the Hollywood timeline, and he arrives bearing neither the spark of creativity nor anything resembling even the flimsiest glimmer of originality. *10,000 B.C.* is a stunningly ham-fisted paste job of a caveman flick, directed with all the subtlety of *Eegah*, woefully acted (those Geico advertisements are considerably more nuanced), and sporting some awfully shoddy CGI effects (the woolly mammoths are up to par, but that saber-toothed tiger seems like a hastily created digital afterthought). Strait is D'Leh, a (possibly)



PERSEPOLIS

D: Marjane Satrapi, Vincent Paronnaud; with the voices of Chiara Mastroianni, Catherine Deneuve, Simon Abkarian, Danielle Darrieux. (PG-13, 95 min., subtitled)

Persepolis is at once a confessional autobiography, historical re-enactment, graphic art object, and deeply involving contemporary story about a girl's coming-of-age while navigating not only the usual pitfalls of adolescence but also the enforced repression brought on by Iran's Islamic revolution of the Eighties. Satrapi's story, which she and Paronnaud adapted into an animated film from her graphic novels, is both specific and universal, and therein lies a large measure of its appeal. "I had survived a war, but a banal love story nearly killed me," she comments sardonically at one point. The film's flat, mostly black-and-white animation helps convey some of the sense of a graphic novel, but moreover, the visual look complements the story's moral sphere, a realm governed by absolute rights and wrongs and lots of gray in-between areas. As befits a coming-of-age story, there are a couple of indulgent passages, but they hardly get in the way of the overall flow. (02/01/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
★★★★ Dobie

RACE

D: Abbas Alibhai Burmawalla, Mastan Alibhai Burmawalla; with Akshaye Khanna, Saif Ali Khan, Bipasha Basu, Katrina Kaif, Anil Kapoor, Sameera Reddy. (NR, 154 min., subtitled)

Not reviewed at press time. This new Bollywood film from the filmmaking team of brothers known as Abbas-Mastan is not about race issues or the caste system, as one might expect from the English title. Instead, it tells the story of two brothers who compete with cars at the racetrack. (03/21/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten
Tinseltown South

SEMI-PRO

D: Kent Alterman; with Will Ferrell, Woody Harrelson, André Benjamin, Maura Tierney, Andrew Daly, Will Arnett, Andy Richter, David Koechner. (R, 90 min.)

Not being a fan of competitive ice dancing or NASCAR, I wasn't bothered when Ferrell brought his inane brand of fraternity-house mockery to *Blades of Glory* or *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*. But basketball ... basketball doesn't deserve the Ferrell treatment. Basketball is a sport of kings, a thing of beauty and elegance, America's game. Which doesn't mean that it shouldn't be mocked but that, if it must be mocked, it deserves to be mocked well, and *Semi-Pro*, unfortunately, isn't up to the challenge. The year is 1976, a time when Afros and short shorts ruled the hard-court. This is perfect terrain for Ferrell because it affords him endless opportunities to display his doughy, hair-covered body; shout profanities into microphones; engage in random acts of violence against himself and others; and generally make a spectacle of himself. In other words: Be Will Ferrell. (02/29/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Tinseltown South

Hell on Wheels

Hell on Wheels (2007) *D: Bob Ray. (NR, 90 min.)*

Atheleticism and exhibitionism are on display in this documentary about the modern-day revival of women's Roller Derby leagues in Austin and elsewhere. The music is by ... And You Will Know Us by the Trail of Dead. @Alamo Ritz. Sun., 10pm; Wed., 10pm.

Paleolithic hunter with abandonment issues who crosses continents (maybe) to rescue his blue-eyed beloved (Belle) after she and others of their tribe are captured by an equestrian raiding party in the employ of (who knows?) some wigged-out Egyptian proto-pharaohs. Emmerich's narrative is maddeningly vague on plot specifics. But most egregious of all is the insurmountable fact that this film is just plain dumb. (03/14/2008) – Marc Savlov
★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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-pro prospector-turned-wildcatter-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 Drafthouse Village, Arbor, Movies 8

UNDER THE SAME MOON

D: Patricia Riggen; with Kate del Castillo, Eugenio Derbez, Mario Almada, Adrian Alonso, Isaac Bravo, Ernesto D'Alessio, Julie Dove, America Ferrera. (PG-13, 109 min., subtitled)

With the right set of eyes, anywhere can be heaven. Take the poor neighborhoods of East Los Angeles, for example: In the mind's eye of 9-year-old Mexican Carlitos (Alonso), that concrete jungle of endless strip malls and fast-food restaurants is a wonderland. Four years ago, his mother, Rosario (del Castillo), left him in their small Mexican village to seek work as a domestic across the border and hasn't been back since. Carlitos dreams of that Los Angeles barrio the way the Spanish conquistadors dreamed of El Dorado, so he resolves to make the perilous journey across the border and into America to reunite with his mother. As a work of dramatic fiction, *Under the Same Moon* isn't anything to ring bells over. Its parallel stories of two lost souls seeking each other across geographical divides is never more than one small step away from mawkishness and cliché, and oftentimes less. But as a sociological study, it's fascinating. (03/21/2008) – Josh Rosenblatt
★★★ Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

VANTAGE POINT

D: Pete Travis; with Dennis Quaid, Matthew Fox, Forest Whitaker, Sigourney Weaver, Eduardo Noriega, Ayelet Zurer, Bruce McGill, William Hurt. (PG-13, 90 min.)

Like Akira Kurosawa classic *Rashomon*, *Vantage Point* replays a single event – in this case, the assassination of the United States president – from multiple points of view. The views include those of an onsite cable-news producer (Weaver), a camcording tourist (Whitaker), a mystery man (Noriega) and an equally unknowable femme fatale (Zurer), a Secret Service agent (McGill), and, the

key to it all, Thomas Barnes (Quaid), a recently rehired Secret Service agent who previously took a bullet for the prez and now enters and exits every situation with a panicky grimace. Quaid does what he can with a role that appears to be little more than a cheap carbon copy of Clint Eastwood's similarly embattled presidential protector from *In the Line of Fire*, but after watching him dash hither and yon, searching for the truth in a plaza of lies, it's just not enough to make *Vantage Point* anything other than another pre-election also-ran. (02/22/2008) - Marc Savlov

★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

WELCOME HOME ROSCOE JENKINS

D: Malcolm D. Lee; with Martin Lawrence, James Earl Jones, Margaret Avery, Joy Bryant, Cedric the Entertainer, Nicole Ari Parker, Michael Clarke Duncan, Mike Epps, Mo'Nique. (PG-13, 116 min.)

If you had told me before I walked into the screening of *Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins* that hyperactive comedian/actor Lawrence would be the quiet center of the movie, I probably would have laughed in your face. Though *Roscoe Jenkins* is hardly what you'd call subtle, most of the film's most boisterous, most scatological moments are left in the hands of other actors. Lawrence, meanwhile, is actually the soul of endearing insecurity (with exceptions made for the occasional overblown sex scene or desperate fist fight). He plays Jenkins, a successful professional who returns home to rural Georgia only to discover that, despite his fame, fortune, and newfound urbanity, around his family he'll always feel like a petulant teenager. *Jenkins* suffers from an epic and disappointing case of schizophrenia; it's capable at times of real subtlety and warmth and humanity but not confident enough in itself to stay away from fart jokes or empty acts of sassiness for very long. (02/08/2008) - Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Movies 8, Millennium

Also Playing

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com.

ALVIN AND THE CHIPMUNKS ★ Movies 8

THE BUCKET LIST ★★ CM Round Rock

DEFINITELY, MAYBE ★★★ Southpark Meadows

ENCHANTED ★★★★★ Movies 8, Rounders Pizzeria

THE EYE ★ Movies 8

FIRST SUNDAY ★ Movies 8

IN BRUGES ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Village, Arbor

MEET THE SPARTANS ★ Movies 8

NATIONAL TREASURE: BOOK OF SECRETS ★★ Movies 8

THE ORPHANAGE ★★★ Metropolitan

THE SPIDERWICK CHRONICLES ★★★ Tinseltown South

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Special Screenings

BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

The symbol (*) indicates full-length reviews available online: austinchronicle.com/film.

THURSDAY 27

Battlestar Galactica *D: Ronald D. Moore; with Edward James Olmos, Mary McDonnell, Jamie Bamber, Katee Sackhoff.* **TV at the Alamo.** From March 24 to April 3, two episodes of season three will screen back-to-back, prior to the April 4 new season premiere. Reserve tickets at www.originalalamo.com. @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm.

Beyond the Pale (2007) *D: Victor Fanucchi; with Hayes Hargrove, Tom Groenwald, Tara Nida, Mindy Sterling.* (NR, 75 min.) **Austin Film Festival.** A 13th-year graduate student is the central figure in this satire of literary academia. @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm; \$4, AFF members free.

Chopping Mall (1986) *D: Jim Wynorski; with Kelli Maroney, Tony O'Dell, Russell Todd, Karris Emerson, Barbara Crampton.* (R, 77 min.) **Terror Thursday.** A shopping mall becomes a breeding ground and a slaughterhouse when a gaggle of horny teens do some after-hours mattress-shop spelunking and become targets of a highly advanced (and slightly malfunctioning) squadron of anti-burglary battledroids. Features cameos by Mary Woronov, Paul Bartel, and Gerit Fraham. Filmmaker Wynorski will be in attendance. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

Ferris Bueller's Day Off Quote-Along (1986) *D: John Hughes; with Matthew Broderick, Jeffrey Jones, Jennifer Grey, Kristy Swanson.* (PG-13, 102 min.) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Justin Timberlake Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:45pm.

The Lady Eve (1941) *D: Preston Sturges; with Barbara Stanwyck, Henry Fonda, Charles Coburn, William Demarest.* (NR, 94 min.) **Iron Chef Alamo.** Round 4 pits Alamo chefs John Bullington, Trish Eichelberger, and Elijah Horgan against a common foe: the award-winning chef Lawrence Kocurek of Roy's. Each team will serve five film-themed courses, for a total of 10 courses and five paired wines. If there's any way you can also manage to take in the movie, *The Lady Eve* is a Sturges comedy gem. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm; \$75.

Lost (2007) TV @ the Alamo. Weekly episode. @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 8pm; @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 7:30pm. Free

Outlaw Prophet (2001) *D: David Heavener; with Heavener, Rebecca Holden, Ric White, Davita Sharone.* (NR, 90 min.) **Tromatic Thursday.** Writer/director/star Heavener runs the show in this low-budget sci-fi story about a media empire gone wild. @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

SPACES

Michael Clayton (2007) *D: Tony Gilroy; with George Clooney, Tom Wilkinson, Tilda Swinton, Sydney Pollack, Michael O'Keefe, Denis O'Hare, Ken Howard.* (R, 119 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

El Violin (2005) *D: Francisco Vargas; with Don Angel Tavira, Dagoberto Gama, Fermin Martinez, Gerardo Taracena, Mario Garibaldi.* (NR, 98 min.) **Spanish Language Film Night.** An aging, itinerant fiddler becomes caught up in the peasant revolts of the 1970s. *No subtitles.* @MonkeyWrench Books, 8pm.

FRIDAY 28

Battlestar Galactica @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thu., 3/27.)

E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial (1982) *D: Steven Spielberg; with Henry Thomas, Dee Wallace, Robert McNaughton, Drew Barrymore, C. Thomas Howell, Peter Coyote.* (PG, 115 min.) **Master Pancake Theater.** Sweet, heartwarming, adventuresome, and joyful, *E.T.* tugs at the believers inside each of us. The Pancake gang is sure to smash such wholesomeness to bits. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 6:45, 10pm.

Reservoir Dogs (1992) *D: Quentin Tarantino; with Tarantino, Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth, Chris Penn, Steve Buscemi, Lawrence Tierney, Michael Madsen.* (R, 99 min.) Tarantino's explosive first feature is about a heist gone bad. (*) @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 12mid.

SPACES

Atash (2004) *D: Tawfik Abu Wael; with Hussein Yassin Mahajne, Amal Bweerat, Roba Blal, Jamila Abu Hussein, Ahamed Abed Elrani.* (NR, 110 min.) **Center for Middle Eastern Studies.** With a heavy reliance on visuals over dialogue, *Atash* is the story of a Palestinian patriarch who moves his family to remote wilderness due to perceived shame his daughter causes the family. One day he illegally diverts water onto their parched land, arousing the free flow of long-buried resentments. Producer Avi Kleinberger will be in attendance. @Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7pm.

The Big Lebowski 10th Anniversary Bowl-Out (1998) *D: Joel Coen; with Jeff Bridges.* (R, 117 min.) **Rolling Roadshow.** This is so much more than a parking-lot screening of the wonderful *Big Lebowski*. It's also a celebration of the 10th anniversary of the release of this Coenworld treasure, and the ticket includes a free game, shoes, and White Russian. @Dart Bowl, 8pm.

The Real Dirt on Farmer John (2006) *D: Taggart Siegel.* (NR, 82 min.) **Sustainability Conference.** This documentary looks at 25 years in the life of Wisconsin farmer John Peterson, who has waged a decades-long struggle to keep his family's farm in business. The result is the creation of a rural community dedicated to agriculture and the arts. Discussion afterward led by UT professor Robert Jensen. @St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church (14311 Wells Port), 7pm; free.

SATURDAY 29

Battlestar Galactica @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thu., 3/27.)

Darby O'Gill and the Little People (1959) *D: Robert Stevenson; with Albert Sharpe, Janet Munro, Sean Connery.* (G, 90 min.) **Kids Club.** No one believes a man usually full of blarney when he befriends the king of the leprechauns. Director Stevenson's career is highlighted by his output of some of the best kid-friendly films of the period: *Old Yeller*, *Mary Poppins*, *That Darn Cat!*, and *The Love Bug*. (*) @Alamo Draffthouse South, noon; free.

E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial (1982) @Alamo Ritz, 6:45, 9:30pm. (See Fri., 3/28.)

Ezra (2007) See p.96.

Reservoir Dogs (1992) @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 12mid. (See Fri., 3/28.)

The Rocky Horror Picture Show (1975) *D: Jim Sharman; with Richard O'Brien, Barry Bostwick, Susan Sarandon, Tim Curry.* (R, 95 min.) Austin fans have been dressing up and doing the "Time Warp" thing live for more than 30 years straight. For more info, see www.austinrocky.org. @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 12mid.

Offscreen

aGLIFF: My Gay Movie Challenge 2008 is now accepting submissions for this seventh annual competition. First-time and novice filmmakers are invited to submit a short film (no longer than 10 minutes) with a "queer sensibility" to compete for a \$500 cash prize and the chance to screen their film at aGLIFF's 21st annual festival. Open to residents of Texas, as well as to residents outside the state with films set in or about Texas. See website for details. Submissions must be postmarked by May 15. www.agliff.org.

AFS: Call For Entries for 2008 Texas Filmmakers' Production Fund The Austin Film Society is accepting applications for the 2008 Texas Filmmakers' Production Fund. They'll provide at least \$100,000 to emerging film and video artists in Texas, in cash grants up to \$25,000, as well as Kodak film stock and in-kind services from Seattle-based Alpha Cine Labs. (AFS will be hosting a free application workshop in Austin on April 21, to help you with the process.) Filmmakers who have resided in Texas for at least one year are eligible, and the cur-

Zula Patrol: Animal Adventures in Space (2008) (NR) Five new episodes of the kids science and astronomy TV show will screen, plus a sing-along. @Southpark Meadows, 10am; @Tinseltown North, 10am.

SUNDAY 30

Battlestar Galactica @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thu., 3/27.)

E.T.: The Extra-Terrestrial (1982) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Fri., 3/28.)

Hell on Wheels (2007) See p.96.

SPACES

Las Mujeres de la Caucus Chicana (2007) See p.96.

MONDAY 31

Battlestar Galactica @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thu., 3/27.)

Box Elder (2008) *D: Todd Sklar; with Alex Rennie.* (NR, 90 min.) Shot locally in Columbia, Mo., on a shoe-string budget, Sklar's debut feature is a collegiate love letter about best friends. For more on the film, see www.boxeldermovie.com. @Dobie, 7:30pm.

The Killing (1956) See p.94.

Purple State of Mind (2008) *D: Craig Detweiler and John Marks.* (NR, 80 min.) The film is a series of conversations between Detweiler and Marks, who renewed their friendship 25 years after rooming together as college sophomores, when both were devout Christians. It was Craig's first year in the faith, John's last. Now they meet again and have reasonable discussions about their religious difference. The screening will be followed by a discussion with Detweiler and Marks. @Alamo Draffthouse South, 7pm.

Space Is the Place (1974) *D: John Coney; with Sun Ra, Barbara Deloney, Raymond Johnson.* (R, 85 min.) **Music Monday.** Ever wonder about all that intergalactic mythology that propped up Sun Ra's Arkestra? This movie acts some of it out in a strange Seventies landing of the shamanic band-leader among inner-city, black-power youths and a satanic overlord. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm; \$2.

TUESDAY 01

Battlestar Galactica @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thu., 3/27.)

Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles (2005) See p.94.

Trailerthon Showcase Join the Alamo crew for an inspection screening of some of their trailers. @Alamo Ritz, 10pm; free.

SPACES

The Princess Bride (1987) *D: Rob Reiner; with Cary Elwes.* (PG, 98 min.) Free. @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

rent application is available on the AFS website. Submission deadline: *June 2*. www.austinfilm.org.

Austin Film Festival: Call for Readers

The AFF seeks readers for the 2008 Screenplay and Teleplay competitions. You'll be a vital part of the festival, and your hard work will be rewarded with an AFF all-access Producers Badge to the Austin Film Festival in October. Sounds good to us! Send an e-mail for details. alex@austinfilmfestival.com.

Cine Las Americas: Passes Now on Sale

The 11th Cine Las Americas International Film Festival celebrates its opening night on Wednesday, April 16, at the Paramount Theatre. The nine-day event screens new work made by or about Latino and indigenous people of the Americas, with a diverse selection of narrative and documentary features, short films, experimental work, animation, and youth films. Passes of various levels of awesomeness are now available for purchase on their website. www.cinelasamericas.org.

Tesoros Trading Company A unique collection of hand-painted Mexican movie posters are on display. There are vintage Mexican and Cuban movie posters for sale, too. *Through April 6*. *Tesoros Trading Co., 209 Congress, 479-8377*. www.tesoros.com.

WEDNESDAY 02

Battlestar Galactica @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thu., 3/27.)

Beat Films: Sunflower Sutra See p.94.
Hell on Wheels (2007) See p.96.

Shanty Tramp (1967) *D: Joseph G. Prieto; with Lee Holland, Bill Rogers.* (NR, 72 min.) **Weird Wednesday.** A sleazy evangelist and the town tramp rub each other wrong. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

SPACES

Star Wars (1977) *D: George Lucas; with Mark Hamill, Harrison Ford.* (PG, 121 min.) Free @Rounders Pizzeria, 6:30pm.

THURSDAY 03

Battlestar Galactica @Alamo Draffthouse Village, 10pm. (See Thu., 3/27.)

Dogfish Head Off-Centered Film Festival *D: Various.* The two-day festival sponsored by the independent beer brewery specializes in off-centered food and films. Thursday (April 3) consists mostly of various beer samples and beer-inspired food specials, as well as the screening of some in-house-created shorts and beer commercials. (Tickets, \$40.) Friday's program (April 4) is a screening of the competition shorts submitted by filmmakers; winners will be announced at the end of the screening. (Tickets, \$5.) @Alamo Draffthouse Lake Creek, 7pm.

Ferris Bueller's Day Off Quote-Along (1986) @Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Thu., 3/27.)

Forbidden World (1982) *D: Allan Holzman; with Jesse Vint, Dawn Dunlap, June Chadwick, Linden Chiles.* (R, 77 min.) **Terror Thursday.** Also known as *Mutant*, this *Alien* knockoff stars an intergalactic bounty hunter. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

Fore Play (1975) *D: John G. Avildsen, Bruce Malmuth and Robert McCarty; with Zero Mostel, Estelle Parsons, Pat Paulsen, Jerry Orbach, George S. Irving.* (R, 75 min.) **Tromatic Thursday.** This three-part comedy examines the "science of sexology." Look at this primo cast, and then also note that

IMAX Theatre

For ticket prices, call 936-IMAX or 936-TSHM or see www.thestoryoftexas.com. See Showtimes for dates and times.

Dolphins and Whales 3D: Tribes of the Ocean (2008) *D: Jean-Jacques Mantello; narrated by Daryl Hannah.* (NR, 42 min.) Presented by Jean-Michel Cousteau, this documentary goes from the coral reefs of the Bahamas to the waters off the Kingdom of Tonga to visit with the world's dolphins, orcas, belugas, and manatees.

Grand Canyon Adventure 3D: River at Risk (2008) *D: Greg MacGillivray; narrated by Robert Redford.* (NR, 40 min.) The river at risk is the Colorado. Water-conservation advocate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. joins ethnobotanist and author Wade Davis and their 18-year-old daughters for a rafting trip down the river to the parched Colorado delta.

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) *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. (*)

one of the episodes is directed by Rocky's Avildsen. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

Lost (2007) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 8pm; @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 7:30pm. Free. (See Thu., 3/27.)

We Will Rock You: The Queen Sing-Along Sing your heart out, and you will be the champion. @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm.

SPACES

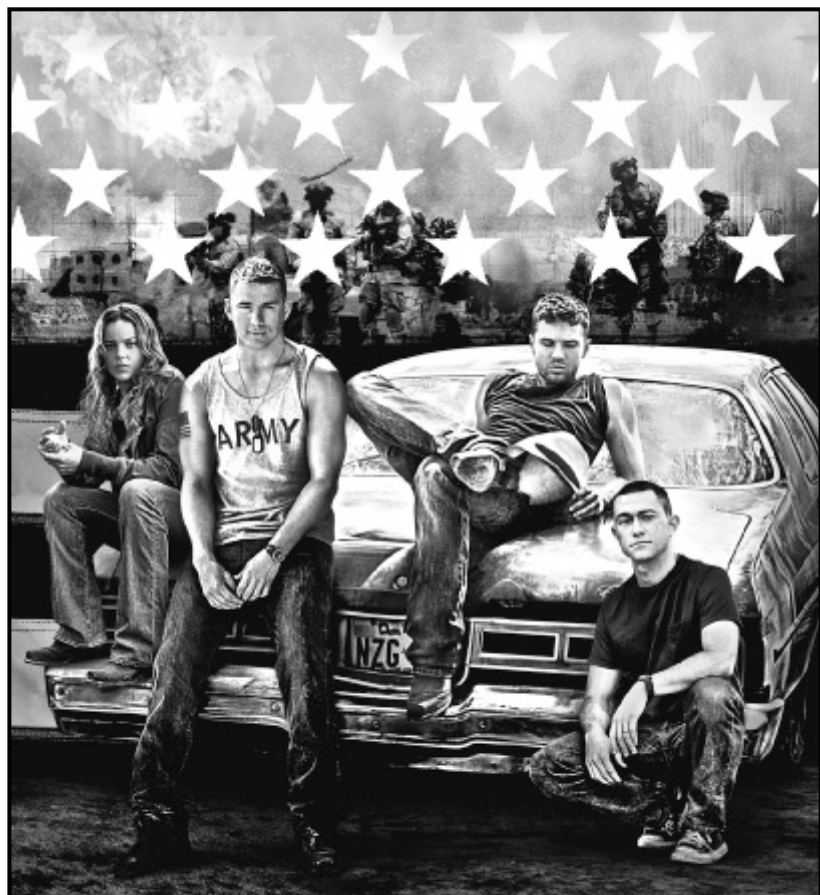
Enchanted (2007) D: Kevin Lima; with Amy Adams, Patrick Dempsey, James Marsden. (PG, 107 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

Fame Chimica (2003) D: Antonio Bocola and Paolo Vari; with Marco Foschi, Matteo Gianoli. (NR,

97 min.) **Il Circolo Italiano.** The title is Italian slang for the "munchies," a phrase that has both a literal appearance and a metaphorical reference to the desire for better lives. @MEZ B0.306 100 (base-ment of Mezes on the UT campus), 8pm; free.

Orange Revolution (2007) D: Steve York. (NR, 106 min.) **Strauss Center International Security Film Series.** The film depicts the events of 2004 in Ukraine, where a stolen election and the attempted poisoning of a presidential candidate triggered a popular uprising that restored democracy and achieved a political revolution without a single bullet. York, the film's producer and director, will be in attendance for a post-film discussion, joined by Jack DuVall, Lester Kurtz, and Alan J. Kuperman. @Avaya Auditorium (ACES 2.302 on the UT campus), 7pm; 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 April 4 issue is Monday, March 31.** Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Send submissions to the *Chronicle*, PO Box 49066, Austin 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail. Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com.



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MTV FILMS PRESENTS

STOP-LOSS

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Dengue Fever, Brownout

CLUB DE VILLE, FRIDAY 28

While the namesake malady is nothing to smile about, Dengue Fever's exotic weave of Cambodian pop and airy West Coast psychedelia is the stuff of ear-to-ear grins. The L.A. sextet's new release, *Venus on Earth* (M80), combines the mellifluous vocals of Chhom Nimol and homespun, articulate arrangements with cinematic, jet-lagged sentimentality. Grupo Fantasma spin-off Brownout explores Latin-flavored TV-cop-show funk everybody can groove to.



— Greg Beets

The Fleshtones MOHAWK, FRIDAY 28

For three decades now, the Fleshtones haven't forgotten that rock & roll is supposed to be fun. The NYC quartet's performances are full-on frenzies of artery-clogging garage-party goodness, and latest bubble-gum-and-beer broadside *Take a Good Look!* (Yep Roc) answers the prayers of Little Steven's Wicked Cool disciples in a swirl of Farfisa-fueled redemption.



Arrive early for a double shot of hometown pride from the Ugly Beats and Shapes Have Fangs.

— Greg Beets

The Strange Boys/Those Peabodys

BEERLAND, FRIDAY 28/SATURDAY 29

Two nights, two birthdays, and 10 million pounds of sludge from Austin. Friday night kicks off Beerland fixture Mike Rod's birthday party with the Strange Boys' slow burn, Alright Tonight's basement party, and the Carrots' girl-group glee. Ripe opens. Saturday night, Beerland owner Randall Stockton joins in celebration with nuthin' but rock: Those Peabodys, Hex Dispensers, and Attack Formation, with Party Garbage starting off on a sloppy note. Dance, drink, and buy the boys a beer. — Darcie Stevens

Les Claypool, Tim Fite

STUBB'S, SATURDAY 29

It takes a unique performer to open for eccentric bass-thumper Les Claypool, but Brooklyn's Tim Fite more than fits the bill. Equally deft at dark country disillusion and hip-hop hyperbole, Fite's sophomore 2007 Web release, *Over the Counter Culture*, exploded with unexpected beats and samples in contempt of consumerism. *Fair Ain't Fair*, out in May on envelope-pushing imprint Anti-, finds Fite further layering rhymes and rock with alt-folk dread.



Tim Fite

— Doug Freeman

Buddy Miles Memorial

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, SUNDAY 30

The late Buddy Miles was drumming with Wilson Pickett at age 14, formed the Band of Gypsies with Jimi Hendrix, and recorded a 1972 live album with Carlos Santana in the crater of a Hawaiian volcano. The legendary musician died at his Austin home on Feb. 26, and some of his most talented friends, including P-Funk keyboardist Bernie Worrell and Band of Gypsies bassist Billy Cox, gather to send Miles off in style. 6pm.

— Thomas Fawcett

Southern Culture on the Skids

CONTINENTAL CLUB, TUESDAY 1-THURSDAY 3

One sure sign of spring: SCOTS take over the Continental Club. The Chapel Hill, N.C., trio's brand of whacked Americana is a perfect match for that SoCo stage, where greasy blues, fuzzy soul, and banana puddin' are always right at home. Locals Alejandro Escovedo (Tuesday) and Teisco del Rey (Wednesday) guarantee hearty opening slots, while the headliners continue pluckin' through this weekend's multistage Lone Star Rod & Kustom Round Up.

— Jim Caligiuri

The Weakerthans, A.A. Bondy

PARISH, WEDNESDAY 2

The Weakerthans have a different definition of indie rock: introspective, sentimental, and with a sense of humor. 2007's *Reunion Tour* (Epitaph/Anti-) found the Canadian quartet deepening the niche, offsetting understated romance with tunes about curling and hockey. Former Verbena frontman A.A. Bondy brings a stately brand of scratchy folk, and composer/Canadian compatriot Christine Fellows opens with complementary visions of the new, weird America.

Sam Baker, Gurf Morlix

CACTUS CAFE, THURSDAY 3

Pairing the exceptional songwriting talents and rough voices of Sam Baker and Gurf Morlix plays out a bit like a musical odd couple. The two trade bars with familiar, friendly candor while alternating between Morlix's brooding ballads and Baker's hauntingly beautiful narratives. On last year's second LP, *Pretty World*, Baker delivered visions of weary redemption drawn in vivid, sympathetic portraits.

— Doug Freeman



The Weakerthans

Soundcheck BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

THE FREDDIE STEADY 5

Ruta Maya, Friday 28

Dance party ATX, with Jenny Wolfe & the Pack and Dallas' Kenny & the Kasuals.



Freddie Steady

POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES CD RELEASE

Continental Club, Friday 28

The one-man growler unleashes *Cold and Blind*, with Kansas' Split Lip Rayfield (also Saturday).

FU MANCHU, BURNING BRIDES, MAX CADY Mohawk, Saturday 29

Heavy metal, high times.

THE ALICE ROSE CD RELEASE

Emo's Lounge, Saturday 29

ATX's great pop hope sways with the Bellfuries, Lalaland, and the Boxing Lesson.

NANCY COPLIN'S BIG SIX-O/HAAM BENEFIT

Antone's, Sunday 30

Marcia Ball, Delbert McClinton, Sunny Sweeney, Ruben Ramos, and more toast the local booker.

AUDIO INVERSIONS

Austin Museum of Art, Monday 31

Composer Conrad Kehn brings avant-garde Downtown. 8pm.

EISLEY

Antone's, Wednesday 2

Familial indie-pop graduates from the Disney Channel.

THE UGLY BEATS

Beauty Bar, Wednesday 2

The Beats polish Beauty Bar's anniversary soiree. Free!

CHRISTOPHER ANTON

Elysium, Thursday 3

Information Society singer's solo goth-a-go-go.

In-Stores

Tuesday: **South Austin Jug Band**, Waterloo Records, 5pm

The U.S. State Department doesn't take lightly incursions onto American soil by any army other than its own. Imagine the panic, then, erupting last year when intel indicated that a "new model army" was storming our shores: Home Sec abuzz, Jack Bauer retasked, the threat level raised to 11. Translation: no visas for legendary UK rockers New Model Army.

"We applied in April of last year to tour the States in September," explains singer, guitarist, and co-founder Justin Sullivan, "and it wasn't until the very last day of August that we found we'd been denied visas. We never found out why."

No matter. NMA has survived and thrived longer than most punks *live* and has done so with its political, emotional, and musical integrity intact. If anything, songs like "Here Comes the War," "51st State," and "Vagabonds" are more relevant than ever. On their best nights, the fivepiece remains good as the Clash ever was, and 10th studio album *High* (Attack Attack) continues to give 'em enough rope. "I'm 51, and I still get the same visceral thrill from being in this band,"

Sullivan explains. "I'm still in love with the romance of it all. I still think it's romantic to eat awful food by the side of the road at 3am. I always loved the romance of Woody Guthrie playing from bar to bar across the world. Most people grow out of that.

"Someone once told me a journalist friend of theirs was absolutely terrified to say they liked us, because they never knew what we were going to say or do next," he continues. "And that's about as high a praise as an artist could possibly get, I should think." — Marc Savlov

Orange County dark-wavers Vale open.



New Model Army
ELYSIUM, FRIDAY 28

UPSTAIRS IN THE GALLERY • APRIL 3-6PM KUSTOM KULTURE ART SHOW
 THURSDAY • 10PM
 GALLERIO TRIO
 FRIDAY • SATURDAY • SUNDAY
 MIKE FLANIGIN'S
 B-3 TRIO
 MONDAY • 10PM
 THE UPTOWN SWINGERS
 TUESDAY • 10PM
 EPHRAIM OWENS EXPERIENCE
 WEDNESDAY • 10PM
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The Continental Club

THUR MARCH 27
 HAPPY HOUR THE MOTHER TRUCKERS 12AM

Jake Andrews 10PM

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 SPLIT LIP RAYFIELD

FRIDAY NIGHT H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS 10PM
 POSSESSED BY PAUL JAMES 12AM

SATURDAY NIGHT 3PM SATURDAY MATINEE REDD VOLKAERT 10PM

COUNTRY FRIED SUNDAY MARCH 30
 REDD VOLKAERT AND EARL POOLE BALL 12AM

COMING SOON EVERY MONDAY IN APRIL
 JAMES INTVELD 4/11

MONDAY MARCH 31
 H. H. UPTOWN SWINGERS
 TWO HOOTS AND A HOLLER
 BACK AND BETTER THAN EVER!
 TUESDAY APRIL 1
 PLANET GASPER
 WITH CHARLES THIBODEAUX & THE AUSTIN CAJON ACES FEATURING STEVE DOERR

SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS
 11:30PM FRIDAY NIGHT 4 BIG NIGHTS

ALEJANDRO ESCOVEDO 10PM
 WEDNESDAY APRIL 2

H. H. HOT CLUB OF COWTOWN
 SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS
 TEISCO DEL REY FEATURING THE VENTURES' BOB SPALDING 10PM
 THURSDAY APRIL 3

WELCOME LONE STAR ROD & KUSTOM ROUNDUP!
 H. H. THE MOTHER TRUCKERS
 SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS
 Michael Holt AND THE TROPHY 500's 10PM
 FRIDAY APRIL 4

WELCOME LONE STAR ROD & KUSTOM ROUNDUP!
 H. H. THE LEGENDARY BLUES SPECIALISTS
 SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS
 RED LIGHT BURLESQUE MIDWEST MONSTER 12AM
 SATURDAY APRIL 5

WELCOME LONE STAR ROD & KUSTOM ROUNDUP!
 H. H. THE LEGENDARY JAMES HAND
 SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS
 JAMES BURTON 12AM
 SATURDAY APRIL 5

10:45PM THE RUMBLERS FEATURING JOHNNY RENO 9:30PM

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FRIDAY, APRIL 4

2PM THE SADDLE TRAMPS
 4PM CAESAR



6PM WAYNE "THE TRAIN" HANCOCK

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

11:30PM THE LEROI BROTHERS

1:15PM REDD VOLKAERT
 2:45PM DOYLE BRAMHALL

4:30PM THE LEGENDARY JAMES BURTON

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<p>1315 SOUTH CONGRESS 441-2444</p> <p>FRIDAY, APRIL 4 10:30PM SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS</p> <p>12AM MIDWEST MONSTER</p> <p>SATURDAY, APRIL 5 9PM SOUTHERN CULTURE ON THE SKIDS</p> <p>12AM JAMES BURTON</p> <p>9PM THE RUMBLERS</p>	<p>TROPHYS Bar & Grill 2008 S. CONGRESS 447-0969</p> <p>FRI., APRIL 4 12:30AM BLEED THE THUNDERCLIFTS</p> <p>11PM BENNY PETERS</p> <p>SATURDAY, APRIL 5 12:30AM JESSE DAYTON</p> <p>9:30PM SADDLE TRAMPS</p> <p>11PM PURE LUCK</p>	<p>1316 SOUTH CONGRESS IN THE PARKING LOT JO'S</p> <p>FRI., APRIL 4 8PM CHILI COLD BLOOD</p> <p>SATURDAY, APRIL 5 6PM HOMER HENDERSON WITH THE LOVELY DONNA PEARL LUSTRE</p>
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SUNDAY MAR 30

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KAZ KAZANOFF
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THURSDAY APRIL 17

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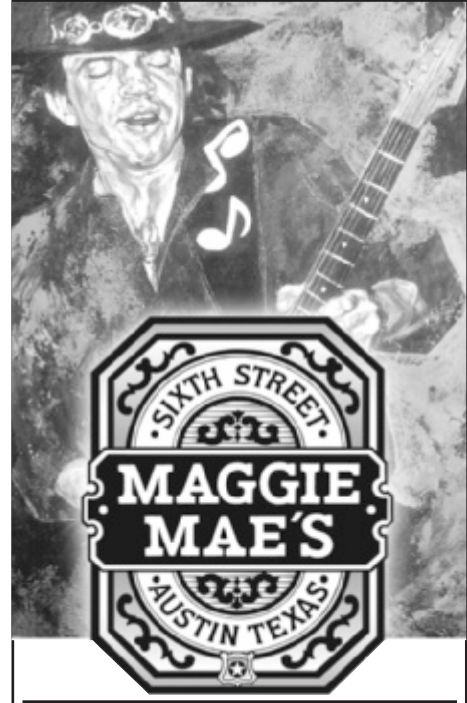
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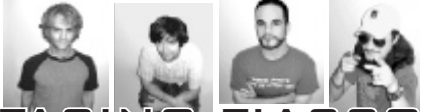
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RIVAL CITY
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THE 71'S 9:15
CARLA CAMERON 8
MICHAEL HOLT 7
NO COVER HAPPY HR **SHAWN NELSON** 6-6:45

FRIDAY MARCH 28 / \$8

 **WENDY COLONNA** 10
T-BIRD & THE BREAKS 12
TED HADJI 8:45
MELISSA GREENER 7
NO COVER HAPPY HR **TWANGUERO** 6

SATURDAY MARCH 29

PIMPADELIC 12
WILL EVANS PROJECT 10:30
AMY ATCHLEY 9:15
KARMA 8
GRAHAM WILKINSON 7

SUNDAY MARCH 30 / \$5

HONEYDEW REVUE 12:30
BELLEVILLE OUTFIT 9:30
MARSHALL FORD SWING BAND 8
SHORELINE MEETING 6

MONDAY MARCH 31 / \$5

 **DUSTIN WELCH**
& THE HOUSE BAND 10
DALLAS 1
CHRIS HAWKES 11:30
SALLY ALLEN 9
CANDILAND 8
NO COVER HAPPY HR **BOB BARNEY** 6

TUESDAY APRIL 1 / \$5

MARSHALL JONES 10:30
LA TAMPIQUENA 9
LOWELL GREENE 7:45
NO COVER HAPPY HR **RANDY WEEKS** 6-6:45

WEDNESDAY APRIL 2

 **DAN DYER** 9-30
CHARLIE FAYE 11:30
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JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829
JO'S COFFEE, 1300 S. Congress, 444-3800
JOVITA'S, 1619 S. First, 447-7825
LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290, 459-8729
LAMBERTS, 401 W. Second, 494-1500
LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889
THE LOADING DOCK, 708 S. Austin St., Georgetown, 512/864-2100
LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS, 701 W. Riverside, 482-0800
LOUIE'S 106, 106 E. Sixth, 476-1997
LOVEJOYS, 604 Neches, 477-1268
LUCKY LOUNGE, 209-A W. Fifth, 479-7700
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE, 141 E. Hopkins, San Marcos, 512/558-7399
MAGGIE MAE'S, 323 E. Sixth, 478-8541
MANUEL'S, 310 Congress, 472-7555
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261
MCCULLOUGH THEATRE, UT campus, 23rd & East Campus Drive, 471-1444
MEAN-EYED CAT, 1621 W. Fifth, 472-6326
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL, 14106 N. I-35
MOHAWK, 912 Red River, 482-8404
MOMO'S, 618 W. Sixth, 479-8848
MOONRIVER, 2002 N. Pace Bend Rd., Spicewood, 512/264-2064
MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN, 4215 Duval St., 451-3994
MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS, 3825 Lake Austin Blvd., 477-2900
MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305
NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349
NORTH BY NORTHWEST, 10010 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 467-6969
 NUEVO LEON, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097
NUNO'S ON SIXTH, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133
NUTTY BROWN CAFE, 12225 Hwy. 290 W., 301-4648
THE OAKS, 10206 FM 973 N., 278-8788
THE OASIS, 6550 Comanche Trail, 266-2442
ONE 2 ONE BAR, 121 E. Fifth, 473-0121
THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 479-0474
THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965
PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE, 5001 E. Ben White, 444-2020
PEDRO'S PLACE, 1601 Guadalupe, 472-2369
PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318
RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577
REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115
RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100
RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120
RENAISSANCE HOTEL, 9721 Arboretum, 343-2626
RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132
ROADHOUSE, 1103 Wonder, Round Rock, 512/218-0813
ROADHOUSE RAGS, 1600 Fortview, 762-8797
ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE, 6406 N. I-35 #1100, 467-7244
ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN, 701 Main, Georgetown, 512/868-1300
ROMEO'S, 1500 Barton Springs Rd., 476-1090
ROOM 710, 710 Red River, 476-0997
RUTA MAYA, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637
SAM'S TOWN POINT, 2115 Allred, 282-0083
SAXON PUB, 1320 S. Lamar, 448-2552
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200
SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717
SHOAL CREEK SALOON, 909 N. Lamar, 474-0805
SKY LOUNGE, 416 Congress, 477-3151
SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017
STORTINI RISTORANTE, 1917 Manor Rd., 391-9500
STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341
T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200
TARRYTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 2601 Exposition, 472-3111
TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300
TEXAS MUSIC MUSEUM, 1009 E. 11th, 472-8891
THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College, 443-4200
TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236
TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 902-5057
THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil Dr., 331-9831
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 6203 Capital of TX Hwy. N., 418-9700
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE, 1106 W. 38th, 451-5245
WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500
Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355

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CYNTHIA WOODS
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ELI YOUNG BAND

ON SALE THIS SATURDAY AT 10AM

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CHRONIC

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DURING SOUTH BY SOUTHWEST:

“Can somebody please explain to me the allure of grown men in capes? I’m asking you, Ghostland Observatory.”

- Darcie Stevens

CHRONICLE

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AUSTIN DAZE PRESENTS Ruta Maya WEEKENDS

THURS 3/27 7PM MEAGAN TUBB & SHADY PEOPLE
MASLOW'S MOVING TO THE NETHERLANDS
9:30PM-2AM **BLOW OUT!**

FRI 3/28 8PM- FREDDIE STEADY'S FRONTIER
2AM **A-GO-GO**
w/guests CHRIS GERNIOTTIS (Zachary Thaks)
& MINE CLAXTON (Sherwoods)
special guests - KENNY & THE KASUALS!
also MCLEMORE AVENUE and JENNY WOLFE & THE PACK!

SAT 3/29 5PM UNDER 21 YOUTH POETRY SLAM
MAKE IT WET SPITFEST
8:30PM **PART 11**
www.myspace.com/rutamayaweekends
3501 S. Congress, Suite D 200, Penn Field, South Austin,
(Behind Expose), 512-707-9637, Rutamaya.net for details

Ruta Maya

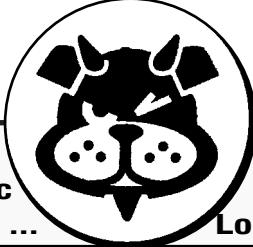
SUN 3/30 FREE KIDS SHOW 10:30 AM EVERY SUNDAY
10 PM **Natural Soul**

MON 3/31 9 PM Blueprint Rebellion
10:30 PM Southern Gothic

TUESDAYS ARE OPEN MIKE - NO COVER!
6 PM Poetry Open Mic
9 PM Music Open Mic
8 PM Poetry Karaoke on Porch

TUE 4/01 **CUBAN DANCE NIGHT**
FREE Salsa Lesson 7:30 PM
Live Salsa 9 PM with CIENFUEGOS

WED 4/02 **Fresh Organic Coffee!**
FREE YOGA - Check Online Calendar

Live Music Early ...  Late Night Loungin'

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NO COVER • FREE SHOWS

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BERNIE CALCOTE
CELLUS & THE LOOSE GRIP
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FRIDAY MAY 09 | ON SALE NOW

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club listings

Thu 27

- 219 WEST** Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
- 311 CLUB** Joe Valentine (8:30)
- ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR** Candiland (3:30)
- ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR** Redd Volkaert (3:30)
- ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET** Shelley King (12:30)
- ANTONE'S** Shooter Jennings, the Drams (9:00)
- ARTZ RIB HOUSE** Michael Ballew
- AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735** Los T-Birds (8:00)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB** Julieann & the Activates
- BABY ACAPULCO'S NO. 3** Cienfuegos (8:00)
- BEAUTY BAR** 88 Keys, Aceyalone
- THE BELMONT** Bruce James Soutlet (8:00)
- BENNIGAN'S** Andy Fiegall (7:00)
- BROKEN SPOKE** Jesse Dayton
- THE BROWN BAR** DJ gmau

CAROUSEL LOUNGE

- Chemicals, Nanosmash, Confuzatron (9:00)
- CEDAR STREET** Kent Mayhew, Radiostar (6:00)
- CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** Crying Monkeys (6:30)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Kyle Park Band (9:00)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Mother Truckers, Dedrings, Jake Andrews (6:30)
- COOL RIVER CAFE TUB**
- COPA BAR & GRILL** Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
- DONN'S DEPOT** Murphy's Inlaws
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
- EGO'S** Robert Banta, 2 Hoots & a Holler
- ELEPHANT ROOM** Marc Devine, Pete Rodriguez
- EMO'S** Inside: The Dirtbombs, Kelley Stoltz, Black Joe Lewis & the Honey Bears; Outside: Moonlight Towers, Zykos, the Hold Steady; Lounge: Slingshot Dakota, Lucas Molandes, War Against Sleep

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.

EVANGELINE CAFE Craig Toungeate (7:00)

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (8:00)

FREDDIE'S PLACE Graham Wilkinson (6:00)

GIDDY UPS Open Mic w/ Roy & Ted (8:30)

roadshows

MARCH

THU 27

- Shooter Jennings, the Drams**, Antone's
- Aceyalone, 88 Keys**, Beauty Bar
- Nanosmash**, Carousel Lounge
- The Hold Steady, Slingshot Dakota, Kelley Stoltz, the Dirtbombs**, EMO's
- Bent Left**, Headhunters
- Odis**, Mohawk
- The 71's**, Momo's
- Pickled Punks, the Gravetones, Ghost Story**, Room 710
- Girl in a Coma**, Triple Crown

FRI 28

- Dengue Fever**, Club de Ville
- Split Lip Rayfield, Possessed by Paul James**, Continental Club
- The Big Spank**, Ego's
- New Model Army, Vale**, Elysium
- Neil Hamburger, the Nasty Rumors**, EMO's
- Nitty Gritty Dirt Band**, Gruene Hall
- Buttercup**, Hole in the Wall
- Earl Gilliam**, Lamberts
- Thee Armada**, Lucy's on the Square
- The Fleshtones**, Mohawk
- Brad Rothner**, the Oaks
- A Fine Frenzy**, the Parish
- The Action Design, Warm Winter, Ballgag**, Red 7
- Slickfist**, Rock City Icehouse
- Spent Shells**, Room 710
- Kenny & the Kasuals**, Ruta Maya
- moe, Tea Leaf Green**, Stubb's

SAT 29

- Bassnectar**, Antone's
- Split Lip Rayfield**, Continental Club
- The Audition, Hit the Lights, Every Avenue, the Morning Light, Kiros, Spill Canvas, Secondhand Serenade, Play Radio Play!, Treaty of Paris**, EMO's
- The Von Ehrics**, Headhunters
- Lyle Lovett**, Long Center for the Performing Arts
- Fu Manchu, Burning Brides, Max Cady**, Mohawk
- Pimpadelic**, Momo's
- Havana NRG!**, Pedro's Place
- Pinto Bennett, Bob Cheevers**, Poodie's Hilltop Bar & Grill
- The Unseen, Fist Full of War, Zoma**, Red 7
- Der Todesking**, Room 710
- Fondue Monks, Speakeasy Les Claypool, Tim Fite**, Stubb's

SUN 30

- Delbert McClinton**, Antone's
- Terri Fann**, B.B. Rovers
- Jeffrey Van**, Congregation Agudas Achim
- Kara Grainger**, Flipnotics Coffeespace
- Jerry Jeff Walker**, Gruene Hall
- Buxton**, Hole in the Wall
- Pink Razors**, the Parlor
- Pinto Bennett, Poodie's**, Hilltop Bar & Grill
- New Soul Invaders**, Stubb's
- Billy Cox, Bernie Worrell**, Thredgill's World HQ

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

MON 31

- Randy Rogers**, Cheatham Street Warehouse
- Claire Small**, Flipnotics Coffeespace

APRIL

TUE 1

- Randy Rogers**, Cheatham Street Warehouse
- Southern Culture on the Skids**, Continental Club
- Anti-Flag, Street Dogs, the Briggs, Fake Problems, Pulling Teeth, Scavenger**, EMO's
- The Mishaps, Autons**, Red 7
- Zenith Fuzzbomb, White Knuckle Divers**, Room 710

WED 2

- Eisley**, Antone's
- Southern Culture on the Skids**, Continental Club
- Pickled Punks, Corpse Show Creeps**, Headhunters
- Wade Bowen**, Hill's Cafe
- The Weakerthans, A.A. Bondy, Christine Fellows**, the Parish

THU 3

- We March**, Beerland
- Southern Culture on the Skids**, Continental Club
- Christopher Anton**, Elysium
- Plea for Purging, Sometimes in April, Deshaft**, Red 7
- Flamin' Hellcats**, Riley's Tavern
- Be My Doppelganger, Something Fierce, Uptown Bums**, Room 710
- Ferry Corsten**, Sky Lounge

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MERLE HAGGARD

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Doors/Bar @ 7 pm | Show @ 8 pm
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CAFE AND BAR
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ALL AGES ALL THE TIME
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AUSTIN MUSIC AWARDS • #7 • THANKS AUSTIN

THUR • MAR 27 • 8:30PM
FROM THE SILOS!
WALTER SALAS - HUMARA

FRI • MAR 28 • 9PM
SONGWRITER EXTRAORDINAIRE,
AUSTIN'S OWN
BRUCE ROBISON
SPECIAL GUEST • CHRIS BRECHT

SAT • MAR 29 • 9PM
THE ONE, THE ONLY
GUY FORSYTH
WITH SPECIAL GUEST

MON • MAR 31, APR 1, 7 • 7PM SIGN-UP
OPEN STAGE HOSTED BY ABI TAPIA
AND GRAHAM WEBER

WED • APR 2 • 8:30PM
CACTUS DEBUT!
DAVID NEWBOULD
WITH MEGAN MELARA

THUR • APR 3 • 8:30PM
ALONE & TOGETHER
SAM BAKER & GURF MORLIX

FRI • APR 4 • 7:30PM & 10PM
LIVE @ THE CACTUS
CHARLIE ROBISON
TWO SHOWS! • 7:30PM & 10PM
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FRI • APR 11 • 9PM
DIRECT FROM TERLINGUA
BUTCH HANCOCK

SAT • APR 12 • 9PM
JIMMY LAFAVE

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LIVE @ THE CACTUS

4.9 DANNY SCHMIDT	4.18 RAY WYLIE HUBBARD
PAUL CURRERI	4.19 RAJAMANI
4.10 CHRISTINE ALBERT	4.25 MICHELLE SHOCKED
4.16 CARRIE NEWCOMER	5.1 SLIDE-O-RAMA
4.17 LEATHERBAG	5.9 BILLY JOE SHAVER

The Cactus is located inside the Texas Union.
Happy Hour is 4-7pm, Monday-Friday. Tickets @ the door & all shows @ 9pm unless otherwise noted.
23rd & Guadalupe. 475-6515.
www.cactus@union.edu

THREADGILL'S
South
512.472.9304
301 West Riverside Dr.
World Headquarters

FrontGate
Sat 03/29
Jimmy LaFave
Graham Weber
9:00pm \$15 advance/door

FrontGate
Sun 03/30
Buddy Miles Memorial
Cyril Neville and Felton w/ CON
FUNK SHUN, Tommy Shannon, Kenny Olsen, Billy Cox, Bernie Worrell, Mark Leach, Randy Pavlock, Larry Mitchell, Rod Kohn, Leo Nocetelli, and many more!
6:00pm \$20 advance/\$25 door

Thurs 04/03
Belleville Outfit
9:00pm \$10 cover

FrontGate
Friday 04/04
South Austin Jug Band
CD release party
9:00pm \$10 cover

FrontGate
Sat 04/05
Grupo Fantasma
9:00pm \$15 advance/door

Sun 04/06
Merle Haggard B-Day Party
Benefiting the Freddy Powers Parkinson's Foundation. Featuring Floyd Domino, Redd Volkaert, David Carroll, Marvin Dykhuis, Casper Rawls and more!
5:00pm Donations Welcomed

FrontGate
Friday 04/11
Mingo Fishtrap
9:00pm \$10 cover

FrontGate
Sat 04/12
Commander Cody
Free indoor show every Monday 8pm with Lee Duffy, Will Sexton, Joe Manuel, Floyd Domino and Marvin Dykhuis.
Gospel Brunch Sundays at 11am!

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New, New Old No. 1

Friday 03/28
Belleville Outfit
9:30pm \$10 cover

Check out our new room!

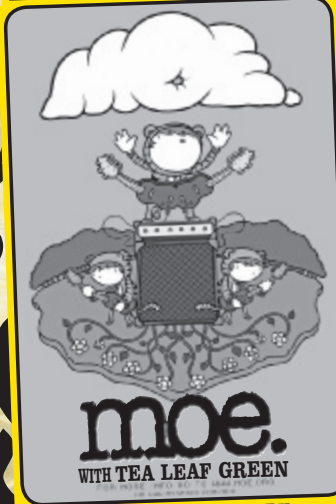
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JUST OUTSIDE OF AUSTIN, TEXAS
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MARTY STUART & HIS FABULOUS SUPERLATIVES - MARTIN SEXTON
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TODD SNIDER - BETTYE LAVETTE - NEW MONSOON
CHARLIE MUSSELWHITE - JD CROWE & THE NEW SOUTH
PETER ROWAN & FRIENDS - THE INFAMOUS STRINGDUSTERS
BRAVE COMBO - TERRI HENDRIX - THE WAYBACKS - SARAH JAROSZ
CADILLAC SKY - THE JONES FAMILY SINGERS
BLACKIE & THE RODEO KINGS - GREEN MOUNTAIN GRASS
BEATLEGRAS - FLOUNDERS WITHOUT EYES - PIETA BROWN
BELLEVILLE OUTFIT - EMILY ELBERT - BEARFOOT
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SAT-MAR-29



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SAT-APR-5



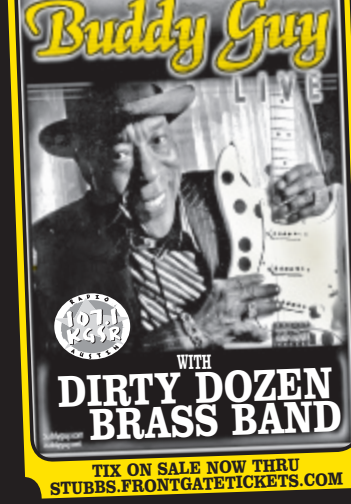
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THU-APR-17



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FRI-APR-18



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MON-APR-21



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WED-APR-23



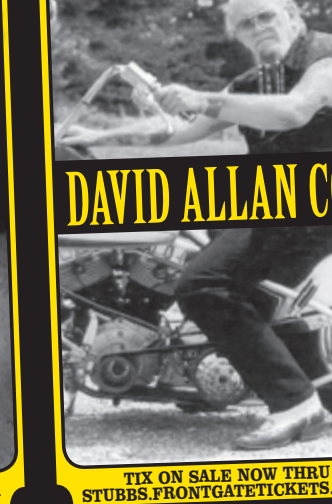
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THU-APR-24



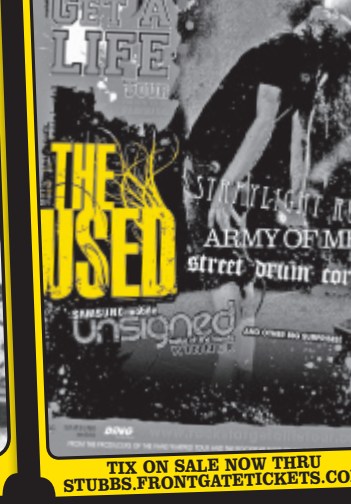
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FRI-APR-25



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SUN-APR-27



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THU-MAY-1



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FRI MAY 2 & SAT MAY 3



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TUE-MAY-6



TIX ON SALE 3/29 AT 10AM THRU STUBBS.FRONTGATETICKETS.COM

MON-MAY-12



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THU-MAY-15



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WITH SPECIAL GUESTS **BILLY TALENT** AND **Drive By**
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IN THE CLUB

THU MAR 27
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WITH **THE LANGUAGE ROOM** AND **BLOWING TREES**

SAT MAR 29
MOVING MATTER
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SUN MAR 30

GOSPEL BRUNCH
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THU APR 3

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WITH **PHOENIX DOWN**
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TIX INCLUDE PHOENIX DOWN CD
FRI APR 4

DRIVER F
WITH **KINGSLEY**
THE ARMADA AND **CRUISERWEIGHT**
SUN APR 6

DAVE BARNES
WITH **ANDY DAVIS**
TUE APR 8 — FREE SHOW!

HAYES CARLL
CD RELEASE PARTY
FRI APR 11

RARARIOT
WITH **THE LITTLE ONES**
SAT APR 12

FUTURE ROCK
WITH **THE FREQUENCY**
WED APR 16

GREEN RIVER ORDINANCE
THU APR 17 — DOORS AT 10PM

MURDER MY SWEET
FRI APR 18 — DOORS AT 11PM

JONATHAN TYLER AND NORHTERN LIGHTS
FREE WITH BUDDY GUY TIX
SAT APR 26

TRISTAN PRETTYMAN
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PARAMOUNT THEATRE
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With special guest Allison Moorer 101.5 KUTV

-SUNDAY, APRIL 27-
All Ages, Doors @ 6:30pm

JOE JACKSON



-With Mutlu 101.5 KUTV

-MONDAY, APRIL 28-
All Ages, Doors @ 7:00pm



-TUESDAY, MAY 20-
All Ages, Doors @ 7:00pm

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\$2 LONESTAR & \$3 FIREMANS
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with special guests:

SOUL NATURAL Deors at 9:30 pm 21+

and **gfire** CD giveaways and other prizes all nite long!

DJ: The Gothfather

Friday April 4th ELYSIUM

705 Red River

club listings << FROM THURSDAY

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Redd Volkaert (9:00)

GRUENE HALL Dustin Welch (7:00)

HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man

HEADHUNTERS The Bulemics, Expiration Unknown, Bent Left, Higher Than Why, Indofin

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Cellus & the Loose Grip (10:00)

HILL'S CAFE Doug Warriner & His Only Band (7:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Cari & Jason, Monster Sleeps Quiet, School Police (10:00)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Roland (8:00)

JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

LAMBERTS Glover Tango (6:30), Mario Matteoli (10:30)

THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic (7:00)

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Everyday People (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Fire Kills, Dremnt the End, Mother's Anthem (9:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)

MOHAWK Odis

MOMO'S Shawn Nelson, Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's, Carla Cameron, the 71's, Much Love

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)

NORTH BY NORTHWEST Jim Bryant (6:30)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Bruce Newman's Nutty Karaoke, One Tire Fire

THE OAKS Mandy Mercier Birthday Show w/ the Love Band, Myrna Cabello, Ebb & Flo

THE PARLOR Jude Ross & Sea Legs

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Lonesome Dave Fisher (8:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Stop the Truck

RED 7 Pataphysics, Like Dogs, Magic Jewels

RED FEZ Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Michael Wren

ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Lug, Remember This, Manifesto, Bionic Gorilla Project (9:00)

ROOM 710 Grinding Wheel, Ghost Story, the Gravetones, Pickled Punks

RUTA MAYA Meagan Tubb & Shady People (7:00)

SAXON PUB Larry Joe Taylor, Band of Heathens, Uncle Lucius

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN JWW & the Prospectors (8:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D.

SPEAKEASY JJ Usher

STORTINI RISTORANTE Sustainable Food Center Benefit w/ Ephraim Owens Trio (7:00)

STUBB'S Blowing Trees, Language Room, Goldcure

T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Mirage Jazz Ensemble (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN Joel Hofmann Band, Winter Dance Party, Elephant Nightmare, Girl in a Coma

TROPHY'S Death in Texas

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE The Hudsons (6:00)

Z'TEJAS Trés

B.B. ROVERS Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench (8:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Floating Crowbar

BABY ACAPULCO'S NO. 5 Cienfuegos (7:00)

BEERLAND Ripe, Alright Tonight, the Carrots, the Strange Boys

THE BELMONT The Busta' Moovalators (9:00)

BLUE DAHLIA BISTRO Joseph La Fave (8:00)

BOOMERZ Jason Marbach

'BOUT TIME DJ Element

BROKEN SPOKE Dale Watson

CACTUS CAFE Chris Brecht, Bruce Robison (9:00)

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Unfortunate Heads, Greatest American Heroes

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Los Jazz Vatos (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Phil Pritchett

CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Warren Hearne (9:00)

CLUB DE VILLE Dengue Fever, Brownout

CONTINENTAL CLUB The Blues Specialists (6:30), Possessed by Paul James, Split Lip Rayfield (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE Dysfunkshun Junkshun

COTTON CLUB Kenny Orts

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Lucky Strikes (8:00)

EGO'S Nakia & His Southern Cousins, the Johns, the Big Spank

EL SOL Y LA LUNA Oliver Rajamani (7:30)

ELEPHANT ROOM Joe Cordi, Elias Hanslanger Quintet

ELYSIUM Vale, New Model Army

EMO'S Inside: Nasty Rumors, Precious Blood, Neil Hamburger; Lounge: Dedringers, Slowtrain, Rite Flyers, A Few Nice Things; Outside: Hollywood Gossip, Ringo Deathstarr, Yellow Fever, Voxtrout

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SATURDAY, 3/29 NO COVER!
THE HONCHOS
CD RELEASE PARTY
7-9pm

TEDDY LONG BAND
9:30-11:30pm

SUNDAY, 3/30 7:30-9pm
ASHERA BENEFIT

TUESDAY, 4/1 6:30-9:30pm
FUNDRAISER FOR ANN RICHARDS SCHOOL FOR YOUNG WOMEN LEADERS
CERRONATO
CINA CHAVEZ

WEDNESDAY, 4/2
JODI ADAIR
6:30-7:30pm

BLUES MAFIA NO COVER!
8-10pm

Fri 28

311 CLUB Dawn Maracle, Joe Valentine (8:30)

ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Jessica Shepherd (3:30)

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Emily Kaitz (3:30)

ABIA: WATERLOO RECORDS/AUSTIN CITY LIMITS Brent Adair (1:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Jerry Sires (7:30)

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Herman the German (9:00)

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FRI	28	18 KARAT	ROTEL & THE HOT TOMATOES
SAT	29		BUZZFUEL
SUN	30		suede
MON	1	HIGHLY LIKELY	THE ACTIVATES
TUE	2	TRAVIS DAMRON	FRANK GOMEZ
WED	3	TRENT & DAVE	SPAZMATICS

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FRI MAR 28 ESPN LIVE BROADCAST 3PM-6:30PM
UT BASKETBALL 6:30PM
THE FATAL ATTRACTIONS 10PM

SAT MAR 29 TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER 1, 4 & 7PM NO ENTRY FEE
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\$200 CASH PRIZE

TUE APR 1 PIANO BAR \$3 YOU CALL IT
\$7 PITCHERS

WED APR 2 80s NIGHT CAMERON ROAD 6PM
CALLING JACK BURTON 9:30PM

FRI APR 4 ESPN LIVE BROADCAST 3PM-6:30PM
SYBIL 10PM
JJ USHER 11PM

SAT APR 5 TEXAS HOLD 'EM POKER 1, 4 & 7PM NO ENTRY FEE
\$200 CASH PRIZE
SOUNDS UNDER RADIO 10PM

FRI APR 11 METAL SHOP 10PM

SAT APR 12 EMBER 10PM
LANGUAGE ROOM 9PM

FRI APR 25 VALLEJO 10PM

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FRI MAR 28 THE FLESH TONES • THE UGLY BEATS
SHAPES HAVE FANGS • DJ HOOKER

SAT MAR 29 **FU MANCHU** 9PM
BURNING BRIDES • MAX CADY

THU APR 03 THE CORTO MALTESE
MOSES AND THE BURNING BUSH
PILLOW QUEENS

FRI APR 04 BLACK JOE LEWIS
AND THE HONEY BEARS
THE STRANGE BOYS • THE CARROTS

SAT APR 05 XIU XIU
THAO & THE GET DOWN STAY DOWN
WEIRD WEEDS

SUN APR 06 **QUIET COMPANY**
STALE FASHION • GROUP HUG

THU APR 10 **LEMURS**
BRAZOS • THE STEPS [18+ FREE]

FRI APR 11 **THE BLACK**

SAT APR 12 CENTRAL BOOKING PRESENTS
THE PARTY

THU APR 17 **SIBERIAN**

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THURSDAY, MARCH 27

OUTSIDE:



THE HOLD STEADY
ZYKOS • MOONLIGHT TOWERS

INSIDE: **DIRTBOMBS**
KELLEY STOLTZ • BLACK JOE LEWIS

LOUNGE: **THE WAR AGAINST SLEEP**
LUCAS MOLANDES • SLINGSHOT DAKOTA

FRIDAY, MARCH 28

INSIDE: **NEIL HAMBURGER**
PRECIOUS BLOOD • THE NASTY RUMORS
(RALPH WHITE & AMY ANELLE)

LOUNGE: **A FEW NICE THINGS**
RITE FLYERS (EX-YOUNG HEART ATTACK,
FASTBALL, SIXTEEN DELUXE)
SLOWTRAIN • DEADRINGERS

OUTSIDE:

VOXTROT
YELLOWFEVER
RINGO DEATHSTARR • HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

SATURDAY, MARCH 29

INSIDE: **THE AUDITION** • HIT THE LIGHTS
EVERY AVENUE • THE MORNING LIGHT • KIROS

LOUNGE: **THE ALICE ROSE** CD RELEASE
THE BELLFURIES • LALALAND • THE BOXING LESSON

TUESDAY, APRIL 1

OUTSIDE:

ANTI-FLAG
BRIGHT LIGHTS OF AMERICA TOUR



STREET DOGS • THE BRIGGS
FAKE PROBLEMS
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

INSIDE: **PULLING TEETH** • IRON AGE
SCAVENGER • BREADTH

THURSDAY, APRIL 3

INSIDE: **FOREVER CHANGES**
TRANSGRESSORS • LOVE TAPS

FRIDAY, APRIL 4

INSIDE:



RJD2
DALEK
HAPPY CHICHESTER

SATURDAY, APRIL 5

INSIDE: **CASIOTONE FOR THE PAINFULLY ALONE**
CLUE TO KALO • TRE ORSI

MONDAY, APRIL 7

INSIDE:



SICK PUPPIES
DROPPING DAYLIGHT • SAVING ABEL

LOUNGE: **INTERNATIONAL NOISE CONFERENCE**
for artist listings, check emosoastin.com

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

INSIDE: **JOHN HUGHES OVERDRIVE**
TWENTY QUESTIONS • DISCONNECTED
UNDER THE GUN

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

INSIDE:



THE ROLLER • WARWOLF

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

INSIDE: **SWEET SKULL**
DEAD EARTH POLITICS
PREY FOR SLEEP • TBA

LOUNGE: **THE FLOOD**
DEATH HELL BATTLETANK • THE DICKINS
(RUSS OF FUCKEMOS)

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

INSIDE: **FREE SHOW!!! LIONS**

SATURDAY, APRIL 12

INSIDE: TAKING YOU OUT ... WITH
THE JONESES
THE CHUMPS • THE URGENCIES
THE PEPPERONI'S TICKETS ON SALE NOW

LOUNGE: **NUDITY** (EX-MEMBERS OF
TIGHT BROS FROM WAY BACK WHEN)

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

INSIDE: **COMA IN ALGIERS**
HEALTH • DANIEL FRANCIS DOYLE
YELLOWFEVER

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

INSIDE: **A.U.X.** • THE COPS
EAGLE CLAW

LOUNGE: **UNWED SAILOR** • RYAN LINDSEY
(OF THE STARLIGHT MINTS)

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

INSIDE: **SCOUT NIBLETT** • TBA
LOUNGE: **FLAMING LIPS HOOT NIGHT**

SATURDAY, APRIL 19

OUTSIDE: 101X NO CONTROL PRESENTS
THE DILLINGER
ESC
PLAN **THE BLEED**
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

LOUNGE: **INDIAN JEWELRY**
THE CARNYS • ST 37

INSIDE: **ZEROBOYS**
THE WAX MUSEUMS
THE HEX DISPENSERS • DESKONOCIDOS

SUNDAY, APRIL 20

INSIDE: **QUIET COMPANY** • ETHAN DURELLE
THE NEW FRONTIERS (ESOTYPE RECORDS)
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TUESDAY, APRIL 22

INSIDE: **MONUMENTS**
EXETER MONUMENT TO NO ONE

SATURDAY, APRIL 26

OUTSIDE: **DYNAMITE BOY REUNION**
CRUISERWEIGHT • BORN TO LOSE
SAY HELLO TO THE ANGELS
THE ARMOUR (FEATURING MEMBERS OF
DYNAMITE BOY AND NEAR MISS)
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

SUNDAY, APRIL 27

OUTSIDE: **CARIBOU** • FUCK BUTTONS

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

OUTSIDE: **YEA BIG** • KID STATIC

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

OUTSIDE:

MAN MAN
YEASAYER TICKETS ON SALE NOW

INSIDE: **BONDE DO ROLE** • THE DEATH SET

THURSDAY, MAY 1

INSIDE: **THE LONELY H**
LOMITA • LEATHERBAG

FRIDAY, MAY 2

TWO NIGHTS!
FRIDAY, MAY 2 & SATURDAY, MAY 3
OUTSIDE:



WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS
PAINT AUSTIN GOLD
ATMOSPHERE
ABSTRACT RUDE • DJ RARE GROOVE
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

LOUNGE, 7-9PM:
PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK

LATER IN THE LOUNGE:
GHOST OF THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE
CD RELEASE

SATURDAY, MAY 3

OUTSIDE: WHEN LIFE GIVES YOU LEMONS,
PAINT AUSTIN GOLD
ATMOSPHERE
ABSTRACT RUDE • DJ RARE GROOVE
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

INSIDE: **THE SHOW IS THE RAINBOW**
WHEN DINOSAURS RULED THE EARTH

LOUNGE, 7-9PM:
PAUL GREEN SCHOOL OF ROCK

LATER IN THE LOUNGE:
MIDGETMEN CD RELEASE
PEEL • THE GEORGIAN • COMPANY • CALM BLUE SEA

MONDAY, MAY 5

OUTSIDE: 101X PRESENTS

THE-BREEDERS
COLOUR REVOLT
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

FRIDAY, MAY 9

INSIDE: **THRONES** • TIA CARRERA
THE ROLLER TICKETS ON SALE

SUNDAY, MAY 11

OUTSIDE:

PENNYWISE

STRUNG OUT • **AUTHORITY ZERO**
TICKETS ON SALE NOW

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• 5/23 NEVA DINOVA AND LADYHAWK (INSIDE, ON SALE SAT 3/29) • 5/27 GASOLINE HEART (INSIDE/ON SALE NOW) • 6/1 LOCAL H • 6/3 SWERVEDRIVER (ON SALE NOW!) • 6/12 FIREWATER (INSIDE/ON SALE NOW) • 6/21 RED DONS • 6/22 CEREMONY

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ELI "PAPERBOY" REED & THE TRUE LOVES
WEATHERBOX

WED APR 09 on sale now

THE BAMBOOZLE
ROADSHOW
SAVES THE DAY
ARMOR FOR SLEEP METRO STATION
SET YOUR GOALS LYDIA

THU APR 10 on sale now

MINISTRY
CH-LA TOUR
W/ MESHUGGAH & HEMLOCK

TUE APR 15 on sale now

Wailers
Feat. In Concert
with THE D-MADNESS PROJECT

THU APR 17 on sale now

Stephen Malkmus & The Jicks
w/The Loggins

SUN APR 20 on sale now

with **holy fuck**

THU MAY 01 on sale SAT

MASON JENNINGS & **MISSY HIGGINS**

FRI MAY 09 on sale now

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GRIMY STYLES
CONGRATULATIONS

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04.19: REGGAE FEST AFTER PARTY WITH CULTURE with KENYATTA HILL

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club listings ◀◀ FROM FRIDAY

EVANGELINE CAFE Freight Train Troubadours (10:00)
FADÓ Mysterious Ways (10:00)
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Nueva Cosa (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sarah Temple (9:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE K'Cee Edwards (6:00)
FURR'S FAMILY DINING Carlton Lombard (6:00)
GIDDY UPS Brent Allen
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Amber Digby (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Nitty Gritty Dirt Band (8:00)
HANOVER'S Melodic Drifters, Brewer Nation (8:00)
HEADHUNTERS The Bad Motivators, Oklahomos, the Bulemics
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Adam Buhman (6:15), Primm (10:00)
HILL'S CAFE 10-Mile Crossing (7:30)
HOLE IN THE WALL Buttercup
HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR DJ Bullet (6:00)
JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Bahai Open Mic Night (8:00)
JOVITA'S Conjunto Azatlan, Los Texmaniacs (7:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)
LAMBERTS Earl Gilliam (6:30), Little Elmore Reed (10:30)
LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Bernie Calcote (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Vettes, the Finalist, Thee Armada
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann Atherton (7:00)
MCCULLOUGH THEATRE Longhorn Singers (8:00)
MOHAWK DJ Hooker, Shapes Have Fangs, the Ugly Beats, the Fleshtones
MOMO'S Twanguero!, Ted Hadji, Wendy Colonna, T-Bird & the Breaks
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
NORTH BY NORTHWEST Six Sons of a Gun (6:30)
NUTTY BROWN CAFE Funky Old Soul
THE OAKS Brad Roithner (8:00)
ONE 2 ONE BAR Primm (10:00)
THE PARISH A Fine Frenzy
THE PARLOR The Archibalds
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Texas Swing Kings (8:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Band of Heathens
RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED 7 Outside: Ballgag, Ayasoltec, Pleasant Valley, Disfigured, Anal Blast; Inside: Van Buren Boys, Monuments, Warm Winter, the Action Design
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Redd Volkaert
ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Adrenaline Factor, Slickfist, Broken Teeth (10:00)
ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield
ROOM 710 A Secular End, Spent Shells, Death Hell Battle Tank, 13th Victim, Roger's Porn Collection
RUTA MAYA Kenny & the Kasuals, Jenny Wolfe & the Pack, Freddie Steady V
SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00), Gary Nicholson & Anson Funderburgh, George Devore (8:00)
SPEAKEASY Sprung
STUBB'S Tea Leaf Green, moe
TEXAS BAR & GRILL Brandon Raines
TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Mirage Jazz Ensemble (7:30)
TRIPLE CROWN Mark Jungers, Colour Wheel, River Hymn
TROPHY'S Less Against Arms, Living Better Electrically, That's Mister to You
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ruby Jane Smith (7:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Douglas Kent (9:00)

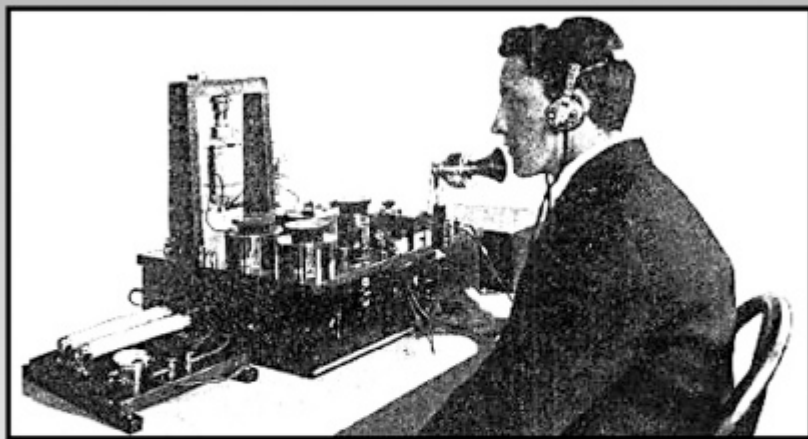
CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Two High String Band (6:30)
CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Casa del Swanko (6:30)
CENTRAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH Omar Lopez (8:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Jon Wolfe Band
CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Darrin Kobetich & Eric Christopher (9:00)
CONTINENTAL CLUB Redd Volkaert (3:00), Country Fried, Split Lip Rayfield (10:00)
COOL RIVER CAFE Vertigo
COTTON CLUB Johnny Lyon
DELI WERKS Drawing Back w/ Daniel Conti (8:30)
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kat Edmonson (8:00)
EGO'S No Show Ponies, Grub Dog & the Modestos, James Rider & the 4:20 Turnaround
EL SOL Y LA LUNA Chinampa (7:30)
ELEPHANT ROOM Lara & Reyes (9:30)
EMO'S Outside: Treaty of Paris, Play Radio Play!, Secondhand Serenade, Spill Canvas, Yellow Card; Inside: Kiros, the Morning Light, Every Avenue, Hit the Lights, the Audition; Lounge: The Boxing Lesson, Lalaland, the Bellfuries, the Alice Rose CD Release
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Primm (9:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Matson Belle (9:00)
FREDDIE'S PLACE K'Cee Edwards (6:00)
GIDDY UPS Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (9:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Brennen Leigh (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Gary Claxton, Erik Hokkanen (1:00)
HANOVER'S Guy Forsyth (10:00)
HEADHUNTERS Little Morts, the Von Ehrlics, Thunderosa, Grinding Wheel
THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Derrick Davis (10:00)
HILL'S CAFE Glenn Collins
JOVITA'S The Javalinas, the Honchos CD Release, Teddy Long Band (7:00)
LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim (8:00)
LAMBERTS Moses & the Burning Bush (6:30), Loxly, the Bubbles (10:30)
LONG CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS Lyle Lovett, Ray Benson, Willie Nelson *Chrontourage* event (8:00)
LUCKY LOUNGE Cellus & the Loose Grip (9:00)
LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Grupo Fantasma (10:00)
MAGGIE MAE'S Rick Harvey's Blues Jam (6:00)
MCCULLOUGH THEATRE Longhorn Singers (2:00, 8:00)
MOHAWK Max Cady, Burning Brides, Fu Manchu

Sat 2 9

311 CLUB Erin Jaimies, Joe Valentine (8:30)
ANTONE'S DJ Big Face, DJ Manny, Bassnectar
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Emily Kaitz (7:30)
AUSTIN CITY HALL PLAZA Christ Unites w/ Soundwave, Chrissy Lovell, Life In Rescue, Gina Chavez, Dave Thies, Jerry Wise, Faith Dies Last, Sarah Monteen, Andy Melvin (4:00)
AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN The Grass Onions
B.B. ROVERS Steve Brooks, Donna Frost (9:00)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Jimi Lee & Mr. Venson
BEERLAND Party Garbage, Attack Formation, Hex Dispensers, Those Peabodys
THE BELMONT Cienfuegos (9:00)
BOOMERZ Redneck Jedi
'BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00)
BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow
THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau
CACTUS CAFE Guy Forsyth (9:00)
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Nicole
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Dark Water Hymnal, Distant Seconds, the Paper South (9:30)

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- Th 27 Joel Hofmann Band 6pm
 Girl In A Coma, Elephant Nightmare,
 Winter Dance Party 9pm
- Fr 28 Mark Jungers 6pm
 River Hymn, Colour Wheel 9pm
- Sa 29 The Beaumonts, Leo Rondeau 10pm
- Su 30 Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 8pm
- Mo 31 Leo Rondeau 6pm Smarty Pants 8pm
- Tu 1 Cody Richardson 6pm
 Scotty & the Metaphysics 9pm
- We 2 Scott Wood 6pm
 Movie Night - No Cover! 9pm
- Th 3 Paul Logan 6pm
 M6chate - Salsa Night 9pm
- Fr 4 Buck Jones & the Haggards 6pm
 Bloodshot Pyramid, Muchos Backflips,
 Blow Up Your TV 9pm
- Sa 5 Word Association, Quanstar, Poet 10pm

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THURSDAY, MARCH 27 • 7PM
CRAIG TOUNGATE
 FRIDAY, MARCH 28 • 10PM • \$5
FREIGHT TRAIN TROUBADORS
 MONDAY, MARCH 31 • 6:30PM
CHARLES THIBODEAUX
 TUESDAY, APRIL 1
BRENNEN LEIGH 6PM
KEVIN GALLAUGHER AND GREG ANDERSON 8PM
 WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2 • 6PM
COWBOY JOHNSON

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 2 full bars * 2 stages

Thursday, March 27
JWW & the Prospectors 8pm

Friday, March 28
Bridge Farmers & more! 9pm

Saturday, March 29
Co-Pilot Exeter & more! 9pm

Tuesday, April 1
Jodi & the Redneck Boys 9pm

Wednesday, April 2
Austin Poetry Slam 7:30pm

Thursday, April 3
Woodsboss 8pm

Friday, April 4
AntManBee (farewell show) Hobble (and more!) 9pm

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DATES & BANDS:	FRIDAY MARCH 28 LOS JAZZ VATOS LATIN JAZZ	THURSDAY MARCH 27 CRYING MONKEYS BRAZILIAN
	SATURDAY MARCH 29 TWO HIGH STRING BAND AMERICANA	SUNDAY MARCH 30 CIENFUEGOS CUBAN
	SUNDAY MARCH 30 JEFF LOFTON QUARTET JAZZ	WEDNESDAY APRIL 2 HUDSON AMERICANA
	FRIDAY APRIL 4 SEU JACINTO BRAZILIAN	THURSDAY APRIL 3 RIDGETOP SYNCOPATORS WESTERN SWING
	FRIDAY & SATURDAY 6:30 - 9 PM SUNDAYS 12:30 - 3 PM	WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY 6:30 - 9 PM SUNDAYS 12:30 - 3 PM

UPCOMING:

MUSIC & HERB FESTIVAL SATURDAY APRIL 5 @ BOTH LOCATIONS
 HERB CLASSES AND SEMINARS during the day at both locations.
MUNDI 6:30PM at NORTH LAMAR;
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THURSDAY March 27th

School Police 12am,
 Monster Sleeps Quiet 11pm
 The Cari and Jason Band 10pm

FRIDAY March 28th

The Summer Wardrobe 12am,
 Buttercup 11pm, Brent Palmer 10pm

SATURDAY March 29th

The Two Timin' Four 12am, Hacienda 11pm
 The Skeletons 10pm
 On the Patio: DJ Nimrod Cane (Psych, Soul, RnB) 12am

SUNDAY March 30th

The Harlequins Jam, Buxton (Houston) 12am,
 All to Sea 11pm, Tyler Jordan 10pm

MONDAY March 31st

Tito and the Man 12am, We Dream in Daylight 11p,
 Barebones Orchestra 10pm

TUESDAY April 1st

The Vanburen Boys 12am,
 The Bread 11pm, Clyde & Clem's Whiskey 10pm
 ON THE PATIO: The Austin Comedy Trainwreck
 Presents "The A- list Showcase" \$5 (9pm)

WEDNESDAY April 2nd

Lonesome Heroes 12:30,
 The Breathers 11:30, Nick Jaina (DR) 10:30,
 McMercy FamilyBand 9:30pm

21 + open 3p -2am
www.myspace.com/holeinthewallaustin

club listings ◀ ◀ FROM SATURDAY

MOMO'S Graham Wilkinson, Karma, Amy Atchley, Will Evans Project, Pimpadelic

MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (11:30am)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Crawfish Boil w/ Jean Pierre & the Zydeco Angels

THE OAKS Burton & the Buffalo, Rogue River String Band, McMercy Family Gospel Band (8:00)

ONE 2 ONE BAR Derrick Davis (10:00)

THE PARLOR Bad Rackets, the Late Fees

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Mary Cutrufello & the Havoline Supremes (8:00)

PEDRO'S PLACE Havana NRG! (11:00)

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Bob Cheevers, Pinto Bennett

RED 7 Inside: Sons of Oblivion, Zoma, Fist Full of War, Course of Ruin, Southern Front; Outside: Steadfast, Krum Bums, A Wilhelm Scream, Unseen

RED FEZ LaVonne, DJ Kurv (8:00, 10:00)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Joel Hofmann Band

ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Austin Howell & the Big Naturals, Shurflow Band (9:00)

ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Kirk Hale (6:30)

ROOM 710 Robert Allan Caldwell, Bad People, Exit the Sun, Der Todesking, Hoodrats

RUTA MAYA Make It Wet Spitfest (8:30)

SAXON PUB Bo Porter, James Hand, Band of Heathens

SPEAKEASY Fondue Monks

STUBB'S Outside: Tim Fite, Les Claypool; Inside Later: Moving Matter

TEXAS BAR & GRILL Tin Can Phone

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Jimmy LaFave (9:00)

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30)

TRIPLE CROWN The Beaumonts (10:00)

TROPHY'S Rockland Eagles

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Dunlap's Sunday Jam (7:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ruby Jane Smith (9:00)

Sun 30

ANTONE'S Nancy Coplin's Big Six-O HAAM Benefit w/ Ruben Ramos, Sunny Sweeney, Delbert McClinton, Marcia Ball

ARTZ RIB HOUSE John Russell & the Tone Rangers (6:30)

B.B. ROVERS Open Mic w/ Missoula Slim & Terri Fann (7:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish Tunes Session (8:00)

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton Adams

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/ Brian

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Joe Gee

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Jeff Lofton Quartet (12:30)

CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Open Mic, Cienfuegos (12:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Luckenbach Cultural Exchange

CONGREGATION AGUDAS ACHIM Jeffrey Van, Conspirare w/ Craig Hella Johnson (7:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Heybale! (10:00)

COTTON CLUB Can't Hardly Playboyz (7:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EGO'S Atomic Honky Tonk

ELEPHANT ROOM Brett Butler Trio (9:30)

ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Brian Hudson (8:00), Kara Grainger (8:30)

FREDDIE'S PLACE Adam Raven Trio (3:00)

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Dale Watson (4:00)

GREEN PASTURES Jacques Vilmain (11:00am)

GRUENE HALL Billy Bacon & the Forbidden Pigs (1:00), Jerry Jeff Walker (7:00)

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Matt Creation (10:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Buxton

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Brunch w/ Kinktet (11:00am)

LAMBERTS Ephraim Owens, Brannen Temple, Red Young (7:00)

LOVEJOYS Heart & Soul Sound System (9:00)

LUCKY LOUNGE Les & the Funk Mob (10:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Melting Social Project (9:00)

MANUEL'S Paul Glasse (11:30am)

MOMO'S Belleville Outfit, Marshall Ford Swing Band

NUEVO LEON Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz (11:00am)

THE OASIS The Brew

ONE 2 ONE BAR Matt Creation (10:00)

LATE NIGHT AT BESS

Music, Morsels & Mischief

FRI & SAT 11PM-LATE | FRIDAY: DJ Mahaelani

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THE BRONX STREET DOGS AGAINST ME!
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STORY OF THE YEAR **COBRA STARSHIP**
DEVIL WEARS PRADA **THE COLOR FRED**
THE PINK SPIDERS **PIERCE THE VEIL** WE THE KINGS
THE BRIGGS FAMILY **FORCE 5** **MAYDAY PARADE**
BROADWAY CALLS **ALESANA** SET YOUR GOALS
THE HIGHER A DAY TO REMEMBER **AUGUST BURNS RED**
BLAKE STICK TO YOUR GUNS THE SECRET HANDSHAKE
FOREVER THE SICKEST KIDS **AGGROLITES** **KATY PERRY**
SHWAYZE **BEDOUIN SOUNDCLASH** **3OH3** **EVERGREEN TERRACE**
HORRORPOPS **BEAT UNION** **ORESKA** **MAYLENE AND THE SONS OF DISASTER**
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The Hudsons
FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 9-11PM

Douglas Kent
SATURDAY, MARCH 29, 9-11PM

Ruby Jane

38TH & MEDICAL PKWY

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FRIDAY, MARCH 28, 7PM
Ruby Jane

SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 7PM
Will Dunlap's Sunday Jam

TUESDAY, APRIL 1, 7PM
Will Dunlap

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 8PM
Ptarmigan

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 7PM
Will Dunlap

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 8PM
Ptarmigan

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transmit: UPCOMING EVENTS


now showing:

fri 3/28/08

dengue fever
 + BROWNOUT! @ CLUB DEVILLE

fri 3/28/08
 + UGLY BEATS, SHAPES HAVE FANGS, DJ HOOKER

fleshtones
 @ MOHAWK

sat 3/29/08

THE UNSEEN
 + A WILHELM SCREAM, KRUMBUMS, STEADFAST
 9PM @ RED 7

sat 3/29/08
 + BURNING BRIDES, MAX CADY

fu manchu 11PM
 @ MOHAWK 9PM

sat 4/05/08

xiu xiu
 + THAO NGUYEN AND THE GET DOWN STAY DOWN, WEIRD WEEDS
 @ MOHAWK

coming soon:

- 4/11 THE DJ MELEE PT 1 (HAWK) •
- 4/12 BRITISH SEA POWER/FILM SCHOOL/COLORMUSIC FREE SHOW (DEVILLE) •
- 4/13 BIRDS OF AVALON (BEAUTY BAR) •
- 4/18 GOLDEN BEAR/THROW ME THE STATUE (HAWK) • 4/19 DEADBOLDT (RED 7) • 4/19 JFA (RED 7) • 4/19 PRINCE PAUL/ RICHARD HENRY AND DJ P-NYCE (HAWK) • 4/20 COLLIE BUDDZ (HAWK) •
- 4/22 CONVERGE/RED CHORD/GENGHIS TRON/ COLISEUM (RED 7) • 4/23 BITCH AND THE EXCITING CONCLUSION (RED 7) •
- 4/25 ELF POWER (HAWK) • 5/2 MEAT BEAT MANIFESTO (DEVILLE) • 5/3 TSOL (RED 7) • 5/7 SOMEONE STILL LOVES YOU BORIS YELTSIN (HAWK) • 5/7 STARS OF THE LID w/ LUKE SAVISKY AND CHRISTOPHER WILLITS (CALAMO RITZ) • 5/15 CAVE SINGERS/DARK MEAT (HAWK) • 6/14 BUSDRIVER (HAWK) • 7/6 KING KHAN AND THE SHRINES (HAWK)

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Caribbean Nights

Friday 03/28
Brandon Steadman
Quincy Harper ROADSHOW

Saturday 03/29
Vatos LOCOS ROADSHOW

Sunday 03/30
Shut Up & Sing!

Tuesday 04/01
Redneck Jazz & Jazz Jam

Wednesday 04/02
Zak Perry Band

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THURSDAY, MARCH 27 **JJ USHER** 9:30PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 28 **SPRUNG** 9:30PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 29 **FONDUE MONKS** 9:30PM

TUESDAY, APRIL 1 **BLACKTOOTH TUESDAYS** 9:30PM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2 **LATIN WEDNESDAY THE BREW** 9:30PM
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BREWER NATION 10PM

SAT 3/29
GUY FORSYTH 10PM

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STEVEN FRANKS 7:30PM
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march 30th
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club listings ◀◀ FROM SUNDAY

THE PARLOR The Anchor, Party Garbage, Pink Razors

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Pinto Bennett

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/ Robert Wagner (10:00)

RED FEZ DJ Krupt (10:00)

RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen

ROADHOUSE RAGS Moondog Matinee, Lonesome Dave Fisher (3:00)

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield

RUTA MAYA Mr. Steve (10:00am), Natural Soul (10:00)

SAXON PUB The Resentments, Candiland, the Salingers

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D

STUBB'S Brunch w/ the New Soul Invaders (noon)

TARRYTOWN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH Chamber Music w/ Richard Kilmer, Bruce William, Sara Nelson, Paul Determan (3:00)

TEXAS MUSIC MUSEUM Native American Music w/ Dr. Mario Garza, Eagle Point Singers, Pash Falacto (1:30)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Brunch w/ the Rockin' Gospel Project (11:00am), Buddy Miles Memorial w/ Bernie Worrell, Billy Cox, Tommy Shannon (6:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra

Mon 3 1

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Bob Rose (3:30)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30)

AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART Audio Inversions (8:00)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric Heard Showcase

BEERLAND Karaoke w/ John Chapman

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton Adams

CACTUS CAFE Open Stage w/ Abi Tapia (7:30)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Elizabeth McQueen & Her Firebrands

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Randy Rogers

CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO Rich Demarco (6:30)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Uptown Swingsters (6:30), Dale Watson & His Lone Stars (10:00)

DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00)

EGO'S Open Stage w/ Robert Banta

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles Thibodeaux (6:30)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Funktronica (10:00)

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T. Jarrod Bonta (8:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE David Ohlerking, Claire Small (8:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano (6:30)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic (9:00)

MOMO'S Candiland, Dustin Welch, Chris Hawkes

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson & Joley Flowers

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:00)

THE PARLOR Kings of the Blood Cells

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Ru Coleman & Texas Boogie

RED FEZ DJ Jeff Jupiter (10:00)

ROOM 710 Heart & Soul Sound System (8:00)

RUTA MAYA Blueprint Rebellion, Southern Gothic (9:00)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Breck's Stormy Open Blues Jam (8:30)

SAXON PUB Jake Payne, Matt the Electrician, Hayes Carl, Britni Hoover

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Marvin Dykhuis, Lee Duffy, Floyd Domino (8:00)

Tue 0 1

311 CLUB D-Madness (9:30)

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Al Monti (3:30)

ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, David Grissom (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30)

B.B. ROVERS Billy Eli's Jollyville Hayride (7:30)

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne Smith

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The Kitchen Pickers (6:30)

THE BELMONT Suzanna Choffel (7:00)

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Coffee Sergeants

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Randy Rogers

CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Carson Werner (8:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Charles Thibodeaux & the Austin Cajun Aces, Steve Doerr, Alejandro Escovedo, Southern Culture on the Skids (6:30)

DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the Station Masters

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00)

EGO'S Elise Evans

ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Tony Campise (9:30)

ELYSIUM 90s Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

EMO'S Inside: Breadth, Scavenger, Iron Age, Pulling Teeth; Outside: Fake Problems, the Briggs, Street Dogs, Anti-Flag

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Kevin Gallagher (6:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00)

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Horton Brothers (9:00)

GRUENE HALL John Arthur Martinez (7:00)



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FRIDAY April 4th

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SUNDAY April 6th

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FRIDAY MARCH 28TH

A FINE FRENZY
DANNY MALONE

SATURDAY MARCH 29TH
ROCK THE CASBAH
 WITH
DJ MEL

WEDNESDAY APRIL 2ND
THE WEAKERTHANS
AA BONDY
CHRISTINE FELLOWS

FRIDAY APRIL 4TH
SHINY TOY GUNS'
JEREMY DAWSON &
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SATURDAY APRIL 5TH
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W/ JAH MIGHTY
& BABY G
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APRIL 10TH & 11TH
NAVDO PRESENTS:
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 W/ LOMITA, THE SOLDIER THREAD, THE BREATHERS
 (SOLO), THE BOXING LESSON,
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NAVDO PRESENTS:
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 W/ SOUNDPOOL, RINGO DEATHSTARR,
 ALL IN THE GOLDEN AFTERNOON,
 SHE, SIR, THE BOXING LESSON,
 MY EDUCATION, SKIES FALLING

SATURDAY APRIL 19TH
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MONDAY APRIL 21ST
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MANIFESTO 11PM
REMEMBER THIS 10PM
LUG 9PM

FRIDAY, MARCH 28



BROKEN TEETH 12AM
SLICKFIST 11PM
ADRENALINE FACTOR 10PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 29
SHURFLOW BAND 9PM-12AM
AUSTIN HOWELL
& THE BIG NATURALS 12AM-1AM

SUNDAY, MARCH 30
DJ KARAOKE 7-11PM

MONDAY, MARCH 31
LIVE BAND KARAOKE
9PM-1AM

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2
HAPPY HOUR WITH
ZAK BAKER & AJ 6-8PM

BRAGGER'S BRUNCH 12PM-3PM
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 No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with **THE FABS**
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GARY NICHOLSON
& ANSON FUNDERBURGH
GEORGE DEVORE
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FRIDAY MAR. 28 The REGULARS

THE BAND OF HEATHENS
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JAMES HAND
BO PORTER
8:30 \$10 7:00 \$10
SATURDAY MAR. 29

THE RESENTMENTS
CANDILAND 10:30 \$5
STEVEN WILL & THE SALUNGERS 12:00 7:30 \$7
SUNDAY MAR. 30

HAYES CARLL
8:30 \$10
MATT THE ELECTRICIAN 7:00 \$10
BRITNI HOOVER 11:00 \$5
JAKE PAYNE 12:30 \$5
MONDAY MAR. 31

SUNNY SWEENEY
7:00 \$5
BRUCE HUGHES 9:00 \$5
JAMES BULLARD 11:30 \$5
TUESDAY APR. 1

monte montgomery
10:00 \$10
PAULA NELSON 8:00 \$5
MEAGAN TUBB 12:00 \$5
 No Cover Happy Hour at 6:00 with **BO PORTER**
WEDNESDAY APR. 2

Coming soon to the Saxon Pub:
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APRIL 11 - WARREN HOOD
APRIL 12 - RUSTY WIER & W.C. CLARK
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Saturday, March 29
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Sunday, March 30
PINTO BENNETT

Friday, April 4
SUNNY SWEENEY
MARK ALLEN ATWOOD (OPENER)

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SATURDAY, MARCH • 29

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DANCE LESSONS 8-9PM

FRI, MAR 28 **DALE WATSON**

SAT, MAR 29 **ALVIN CROW**

TUE, APR 1 **HARD CORE COUNTRY WITH ALVIN CROW & JAMES WHITE**

WED, APR 2 **TONY HARRISON** 6-8PM
LUCKY TOMBLIN 9PM

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club listings << FROM TUESDAY

- GUERO'S TACO BAR** Trio Indiano (6:30)
- HANOVER'S** Kevin Havron & Steven Franks (8:30)
- HEADHUNTERS** Bad People
- HILL'S CAFE** Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bill Rice
- JOVITA'S** Ann Richards' School for Young Women Leaders Benefit w/ Gina Chavez, Cerronato (6:30)
- LAMBERTS** Jitterbug Vipers (6:30)
- LOUIE'S 106** Mac Bynum (6:30)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** DJ Rapid Ric, Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa (10:00)
- LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** J&L Brothers (10:00)
- MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL** Russell & Mikey
- NUNO'S ON SIXTH** Stephanie Bradley
- THE PARLOR** Total Foxes, Killing Industry
- POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Troubadillos
- RED 7** Autons, the Mishaps, Black Jesus
- RED FEZ** David Jimenez, Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)
- RILEY'S TAVERN** Dance Lessons w/ Li'l Bit & the Customatics, Shawn Line
- ROOM 710** Bad Day Motorcade, the Banes, White Knuckle Divers, Zenith Fuzzbomb
- 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, James Bullard
- SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN** Jodi & the Redneck Boys (9:00)
- SHENANIGANS** Karaoke w/ Rae Rae
- THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ** Elizabeth McQueen & Jason Roberts (8:00)
- TROPHY'S** Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Bill Davis, Sonny

- WATERLOO ICE HOUSE** Will Dunlap (7:00)
- WATERLOO RECORDS** South Austin Jug Band (5:00)
- Z'TEJAS** Kris Kimura Quartet (6:00)

Wed 02

- 219 WEST** Breezy (7:00)
- ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR** Lee Simmons (3:30)
- ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET** Lisa Hayes (1:00)
- ANTONE'S** Easley
- 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
- BEAUTY BAR** The Ugly Beats
- THE BELMONT** Lucascookus (7:00)
- BROKEN SPOKE** Lucky Tomblin
- CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Raised by Pandas
- CEDAR STREET** John Pointer, the Spazmatics (6:00)
- CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH** The Biscuit Brothers (6:30)
- CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE** Kent Finlay's Songwriters Circle (9:00)
- CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO** Jacinta (7:00)
- CONTINENTAL CLUB** Shotgun Party, Teisco Del Rey, Southern Culture on the Skids (6:30)
- CREEKSIDE LOUNGE** Kill the DJ, Smash-Ups, Robot, DJ Alib, Ghattotech w/ DJ Orion (9:30)
- CUBA LIBRE** Havana Nights w/ the Cadaques (8:00)
- DONN'S DEPOT** Albert & Gage
- EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kat Edmonson (7:00)
- EGO'S** Reid Wilson & His So-Called Friends

- ELEPHANT ROOM** Jazz Pharaohs (6:00), Ephraim Owens Quartet (9:30)
- ELYSIUM** Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister
- EVANGELINE CAFE** Cowboy Johnson
- FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE** Piano Bar w/ Michael Fracasso, Nathan Hamilton (6:00)
- GIDDY UPS** Open Blues Jam w/ JJ Slyde (7:00)
- GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON** Roger Wallace (9:00)
- GRUENE HALL** Zach Walther & the Cronkites (6:00)
- HANOVER'S** Open Mic w/ Carson Alexander
- HEADHUNTERS** Corpse Show Creeps, Pickled Punks
- HILL'S CAFE** Wade Bowen *Chrontourage* event (8:00)
- JOVITA'S** Jodi Adair, Blues Mafia
- LAMBERTS** DJ Mel (6:30)
- LAS PALOMAS** Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)
- LOUIE'S 106** Kenny Luna (6:30)
- LUCKY LOUNGE** Meridianwest (10:00)
- LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE** Electric Mayhem (9:00)
- MAGGIE MAE'S** Patrick Fleming (10:00)
- MEAN-EYED CAT** Matt Giles (8:00)
- MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL** Cameron Road, Calling Jack Burton (6:30)
- MULLIGAN'S** Karaoke w/ Stormy (9:00)
- THE OAKS** Mark McGuire (9:00)
- ONE 2 ONE BAR** Jeffrey David & Ady Hernandez (10:00)
- THE PARISH** Christine Fellows, A.A. Bondy, the Weakerthans
- THE PARLOR** Fatman & Little Boy
- PARMER LANE TAVERN** Pete Benz (9:00)
- PLUSH** Weight w/ the Herd
- POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL** Open Mic w/ Fond Kiser (8:00)

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Thu 3/27
PICKLED PUNKS
THE GRAVETONES from colorado
THE GHOST STORIES
GRINDING WHEELS

Fri 3/28
ROGER'S PORN COLLECTION
13TH VICTIM
DEATH HELL BATTLETANK
THE EXTRAVAGANZA
9pm: Secular End

Sat 3/29
THE HOODRATS
DER TODESKING
EXIT THE SUN
BAD PEOPLE
8pm: Robert Allan Caldwell

Sun 3/30
DUBSTEP
with **THE HERD**

Mon 3/31
HEART & SOUL
SOUND SYSTEM

Tue 4/1
ZENITH FUZZBOMB
THE WHITE KNUCKLE DRIVERS
THE BANES
BAD DAY MOTORCADE

Wed 4/2
STICKFIGURE FLOWERS
SPOILED ROYALS
SANGUINISTAS

UPCOMING SHOWS
4.3 The Bad Rockets, Be My Doppelganger, Something Fierce
4.4 Sarcolytic, Blasphemous, Obsessive 4.5 That Damned Band, Sick's Pack

RED 7
611 E. 7TH STREET
myspace.com/redsevenaustin

Thu 3/27
Magic Jewels, Like Dogs
Pretty Pretty, Dale Beach

Fri 3/28
Inside: **Anal Blast, Pleasant Valley**
Disfigured, Ayasoltec, Ballgag
Outside: **The Action Design, Warm Winter**
Monuments, The Van Buren Boys

Sat 3/29
Inside: **The Unseen**
Wilhelm Scream, KrumBums
Steadfast (members of Born To Lose)
Outside: **Southern Front, Course of Ruin**
Zoma (CD Release), **Fist Full of War**
Sons of Oblivion

Mon 3/31
Show at 7pm:
Fire From the Gods, Cobretti
Take Control (Iowa), **Shots Fired**
No Harm Done (Florida)

Tue 4/1
Black Jesus
The Mishaps (Baltimore), **Autons**

Beauty BAR
MARCH
27TH **ACEYALONE W/ 88KEYS**
28TH **PunkBunny w/ Ultraviolet**
Prince Klassen
29TH **ORION W/ SPECIAL GUEST**
APRIL
1st **Mermaid Blonde w/ A Faulty Chromosome**
2nd **Beauty Bars 2nd Anniversary Party**
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Strange Boys, Carrots,
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sa 29 **Mike Rod's & Randall's Birthday**
Those Peabodys, Hex Dispensers,
Attack Formation, Party Garbage
su 30 closed

mo 31 **BEERLAND'S LEGENDARY**
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HEADHUNTERS
720 Red River www.headhuntersclub.com (512) 236-0188
Th 3/27 > 12:30 INDOFIN 11:30 BENT LEFT 10:30 EXPIRATION UNKNOWN
Fri 3/28 > 1:00 the BULEMICS 12:00 the OKLAHOMOS 10:00 BAD MOTIVATORS
Sat 3/29 > 1:00 the GRINDING WHEELS 12:00 THUNDEROSA 11:00 the VON ERICHS
10:00 the LITTLE MORTS 9:00 B-Day Karaoke Party (P) *** Tue 4/1 > BAD PEOPLE
Wed 4/2 > Texas Psychobilly Presents: KLUB SIN - 12:30 PICKLED PUNKS
11:30 CORPSE SHOW CREEPS 9:30 DJ DESTIN & Friends Spinning Psychobilly/Punk Rock
Thu 4/3 > 12:30 the ENDS 11:30 HELLAPEÑO 10:30 CANTINA FLYS
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SATURDAY-MARCH 29 **GRADY**
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AGE OF FIRE
FIVE AND NINE SHIP

FRIDAY-APRIL 4 **MIKE TRUTH & THE REPLACEMENT KILLERS**
MOSTLY DEAD
VERMICIOUS CANIDS
THE DABBY DRIVERS
PHIL MARSHALL

UPCOMING SHOWS
04/11 - BOUND, LITANY FOR THE DEPARTED, SNAKESKIN PRISON
04/12 - FOR SAKE OF THE RUINS, HEARTBREAK IN ACTION
04/18 - REDEFINING THE MOMENT, RED TEAM GO, BANNER YEAR
04/19 - WAR AGAINST SLEEP, THE BRIGHT LIGHT SOCIAL HOUR
04/25 - BRINK OF DISASTER, BIONIC GORILLA PROJECT, LUG
04/26 - LIVONNE, LANGUAGE ROOM

ELYSIUM
705 RED RIVER ST.
Thursday • Mar. 27 **LIVE MUSIC!**
Underdriven 12:00 AM
www.myspace.com/underdriven
Matches for Memories 11:00 PM
www.myspace.com/matchesformemories
Unnamed Project for Revenge 10:00 PM
www.myspace.com/theunnamedprojectforrevenge

Friday • Mar. 28 **LIVE MUSIC!**
NEW MODEL ARMY (UK) 12 AM
www.myspace.com/newmodelarmymyspace
VALE 11 PM **POOR PEOPLE 10 PM**
www.myspace.com/valc www.myspace.com/tijmw

Saturday • Mar. 29 **HAVEN**
goth, INDUSTRIAL, synthpop, & EURO DANCE
HAVEN WITH DJs VOID & THE GOTHFATHER

Sunday • Mar. 30 **REGRESSION**
RETRO 80's RETRO 80's RETRO 80's
REGRESSION WITH DJ PUMPKIN SPICE

Tuesday • Apr. 1 **90'S NIGHT**
SO LAST CENTURY... 90's Night
WITH DJs BOBA FETT & MINIMUS

Wednesday • Apr. 2 **MID-WAVE**
UNDERGROUND retro & OLD SCHOOL goth
WITH DJs PUMPKIN SPICE & EDMINISTER

UPCOMING EVENTS
Thursday April 3 • Live!
CHRISTOPHER ANTON
(Information Society) w/ Exit, Japanese Car Crash

Friday Apr. 4 • Live! Lucid Dementia,
subNatural, gfire

Thu. Apr. 10 • Stockholm Syndrome -
Swedish Synth, Dance, etc. w/ DJ Stay Gold

Fri. Apr. 11 • PDA - Indie, Electro, Britpop,
New Wave, Postpunk w/ DJ Filthy Rich

Sat. Apr. 12 • STEAMPUNK BALL -
w/ DJs Void, Nihil, & the Gothfather

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Plus, if you place a profile with a picture by **5pm, Monday,**

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Cindie's

austinchronicle.com/easystreet

SPRING INTO A NEW ROMANCE

with a turn onto Lovers Lane, the Chronicle's online community

for hooking up with real people from the Austin area. On

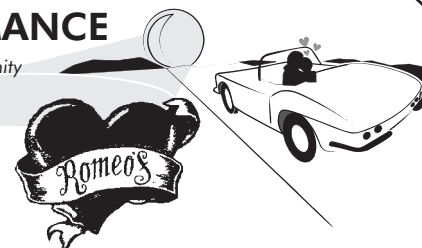
Lovers Lane you can read profiles, look at pictures, and

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absolutely free. Plus, if you place a profile with a picture by

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Perfect 10

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Wednesdays
GET DEEZAL OR BOMBED
ALL DEEZAL OR RED BULL BOMBS
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Thursday
TEQUILA TIME
\$5 SUPER 20 OZ MARGARITAS
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FABULOUS FEAST UNTIL 3PM
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club listings ◀◀ FROM WEDNESDAY

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30)
RED FEZ Atash
RILEY'S TAVERN Trey Stapleton
ROADHOUSE Karaoke w/ Billy D.
ROOM 710 The Sanguinistas, Stickfigure Flowers, Spoiled Royals
RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons, Cienfuegos (7:30)
SAXON PUB Bo Porter, Meagan Tubb, Paula Nelson, Monte Montgomery
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Austin Poetry Slam (7:00)
SHOAL CREEK SALOON Eve & the Exiles (7:30)
SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons, O Positivo (9:00)
WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan (8:00)
Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Will Sexton & Bill Carter

BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton
THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau
CACTUS CAFE Gurf Morlix & Sam Baker (8:30)
CAROUSEL LOUNGE Wiretree
CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, Radiostar (6:00)
CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE South Austin Jug Band
CONTINENTAL CLUB Mother Truckers, Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's, Southern Culture on the Skids (6:30)
COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)
DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws
EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30)
EGO'S Robert Banta, 2 Hoots & a Holler
ELEPHANT ROOM Gaila Kenneally, Bruce Saunders & Mitch Watkins
ELYSIUM Christopher Anton
EMO'S Love Taps, Transgressors, Forever Changes
EVANGELINE CAFE Liz Morphis
FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00)
FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (8:00)
GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Mike Barfield (9:00)
GRUENE HALL Sylvia Kirk, Matt & Bobby (7:00)
HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man
HEADHUNTERS Cantina Flys, Hellapeno, the Ends
JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band (8:00)

LAMBERTS Glover Tango (6:30), Flyjack (10:30)
THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic (7:00)
LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)
LUCKY LOUNGE Mike Maven & the Good Life (10:00)
MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00)
MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL The Fatal Attractions (10:00)
MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00)
THE OAKS Wood, Wind & Fire; the Love Band; Patty Finney & David Dunn
THE PARLOR Magic Jewels
PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Weldon Henson (7:00)
POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Stop the Truck
RED 7 Deshaft, Sometimes in April, Death Got Killed, Falsetta, Lady Ellouise, Plea for Purging
RED FEZ Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30)
RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00)
RILEY'S TAVERN Flamin' Hellcats
ROOM 710 Uptown Bums, Something Fierce, Be My Doppelganger, Bad Rackets
SAXON PUB Candiland, Phillip Gibbs, George Devore, Shawn Nelson
SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Woodsboss (8:00)
SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D.
SKY LOUNGE Ferry Corsten
T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00)
VICTORY GRILL Word/Jazz Low Stars (8:00)
Z'TEJAS Kat's Meow

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

Thu 03

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00)
311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30)
ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SPORTS BAR Aimee Bobruk (3:30)
ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Kellye Gray (3:30)
ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Son Dos (1:00)
ARTZ RIB HOUSE Rick McRae, Paul Glasse, Gary Hartman (7:30)
B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Hosea Hargrove
BEERLAND Teeners, We March
THE BELMONT Bruce James Soultet (8:00)
BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegall (7:00)



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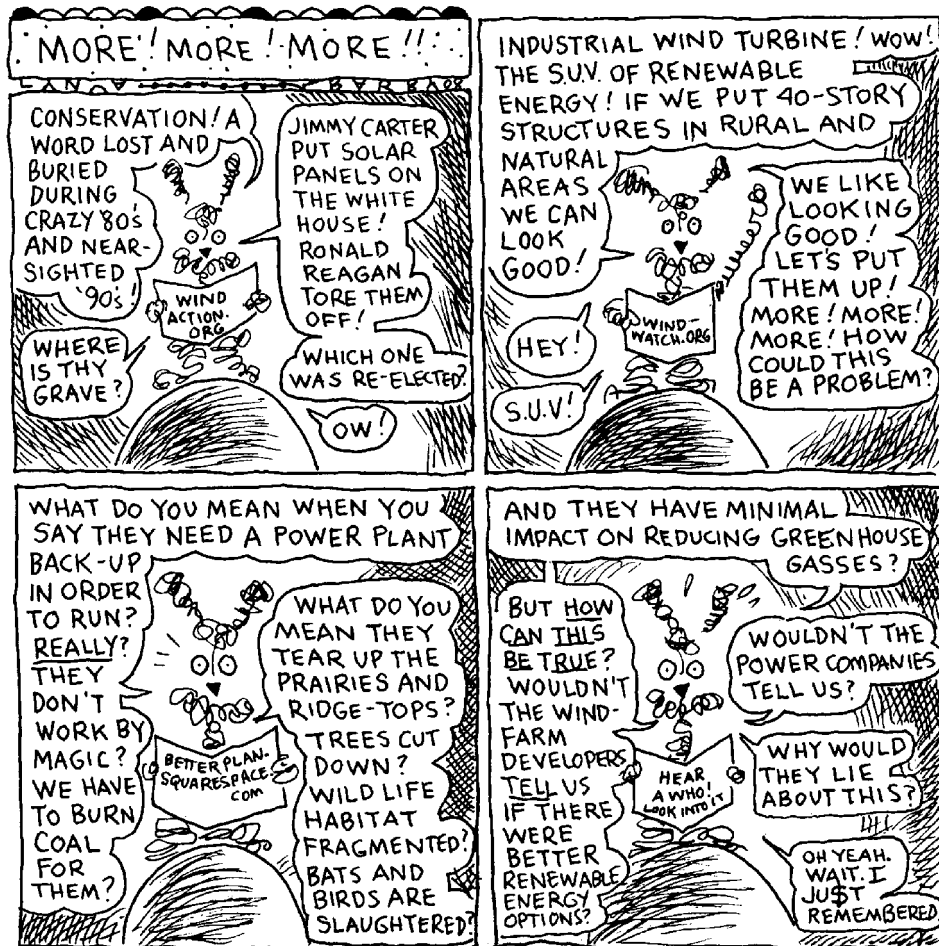
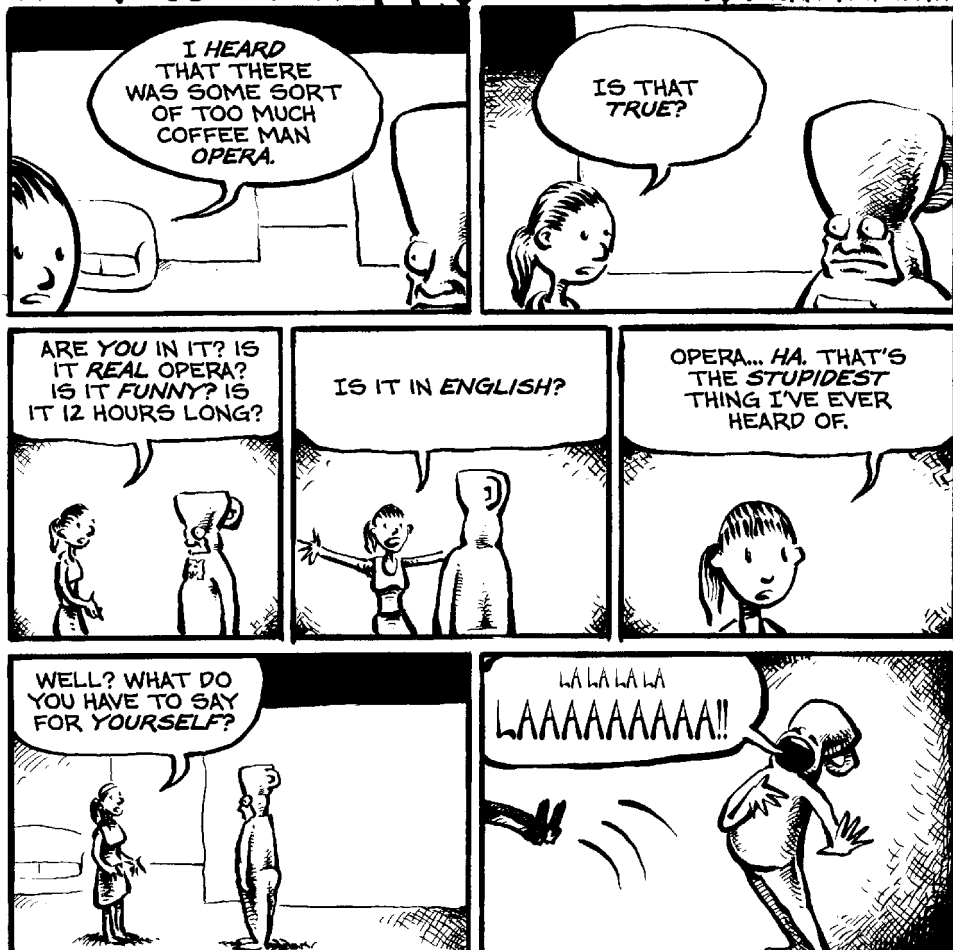
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Science-fiction author Robert Heinlein conceived the first modern water bed.

Al Capone hated the nickname "Scarface." He much preferred being called "Snorky," which meant "well dressed" in the 1920s.

April 30 is Walpurgis Night. According to the ancient legends, this is the last chance for witches and their friends to stir up trouble before spring. It has many of the traditions associated with Halloween, including a version of trick or treat. In Bavaria, it is called Freinacht or Drudennacht.

Redd Foxx and Malcolm X used to work at the same N.Y. restaurant.

Several of the buildings used in the set of *The Andy Griffith Show* actually came from the Atlanta set for *Gone With the Wind*.

The above is information that Mr. Smarty Pants read in a book, a magazine, or the newspaper; heard on the radio; saw on television; or overheard at a party. Got facts? Write to Mr. Smarty Pants at the Chronicle, or e-mail mrpants@austinchronicle.com.

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- 120 Entertainment/Casting
- 125 General
- 130 Healthcare
- 135 Hospitality
- 140 Legal
- 145 Office/Clerical
- 150 Non-Profit
- 155 Professional
- 160 Research Study
- 165 Retail
- 170 Sales/Marketing
- 175 School/Training
- 180 Technical

200 HOUSING

- 210 Reader Notice
- 215 Apartment/Condo/Townhome
- 220 Duplex/Houses
- 225 Vacation
- 230 Commercial
- 235 Roommates
- 240 Real Estate For Sale

300 BUY/SELL/TRADE

- 310 Antiques/Collectibles
- 315 Appliances
- 320 Baby/Kids Stuff
- 325 Clothing
- 330 Computers
- 335 Electronics
- 340 Free Stuff
- 345 Furniture
- 350 Garage/Estate Sales
- 355 General
- 360 Jewelry/Accessories
- 365 Pets/Pet Supplies
- 370 Recreational
- 375 Tickets/Entertainment
- 380 Tools
- 385 Trades
- 390 Wanted to Buy

400 SERVICES

- 410 Business
- 415 Computers
- 420 Counseling
- 425 Health/Wellness
- 430 Home
- 435 Financial
- 440 Fitness/Training
- 445 Legal
- 450 Licensed Massage
- 455 Psychic/Astrology
- 460 Travel
- 465 Miscellaneous

500 NEIGHBORHOOD

- 510 Activities
- 515 Classes/Workshops
- 520 Discussion Groups
- 525 Events
- 530 General
- 535 Lost & Found
- 540 Volunteers
- 545 Legal Notices

600 MOTOR

- 610 Cars
- 615 Trucks
- 620 SUV's
- 625 Motorcycles
- 630 Recreational
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- 640 Repairs

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- Problems with concentration
- Lack of energy and motivation

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For the past month have you:

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Benchmark Research is currently seeking women to participate in a clinical research study of an investigational medication for vulvovaginal candidiasis (yeast infection).

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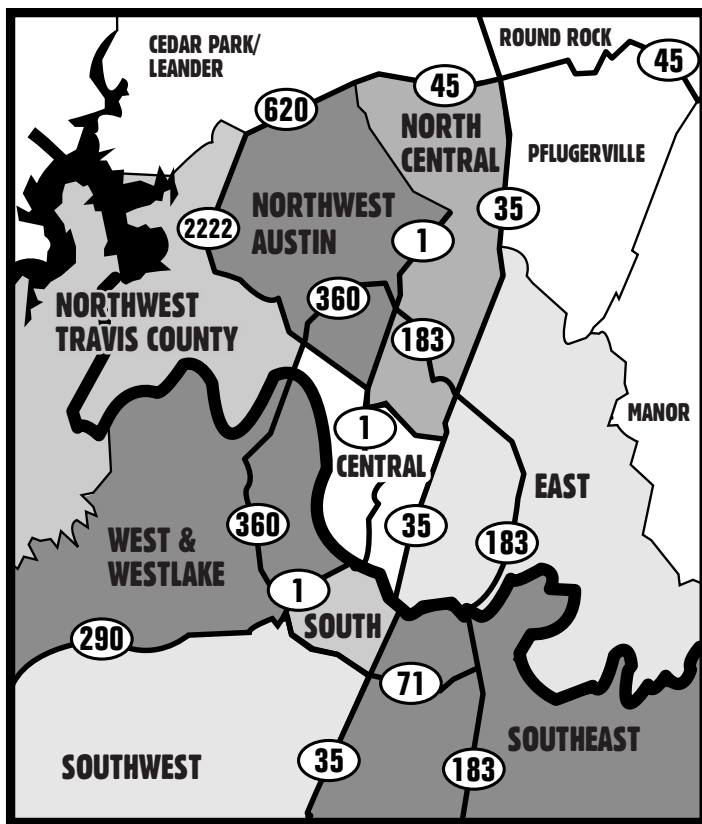
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CAUSE NO. 88023 IN THE ESTATE OF JOE VELASQUEZ DE LA ROSA, DECEASED IN THE PROBATE COURT NO. 1 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Letters of Testamentary for the Estate of JOE VELASQUEZ DE LA ROSA, Deceased, were issued on February 26, 2008 in Docket Number 88023, in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas to RONNIE DE LA ROSA. Claims may be presented in care of the Executor of the Estate addressed as follows: The address of record for RONNIE DE LA ROSA is 606 W. Oltorf, Austin, Texas 78704. All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. DATED the 6th day of March, 2008. /s/ RONNIE DE LA ROSA, Executor of the Estate of JOE VELASQUEZ DE LA ROSA, Deceased

ORCHID SHOW & PLANT SALE: April 19-20, 2008. Zilker Botanical Gardens Center, 2220 Barton Springs Road; Austin, TX

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR LEE WOODS, Deceased, No. 88341 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. JUNIORS WOODS, III alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 13th day of MARCH, 2008, an Application for Letters of Independent Administration to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ARTHUR LEE WOODS, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this 17th day of March, 2008. DANA DEBEAUVOIR County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714 By Deputy: /s/ RoxAnne Torrez

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR LEE WOODS, Deceased, No. 88341 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. JUNIORS WOODS, III alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 13th day of MARCH, 2008, an Application for Letters of Independent Administration to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ARTHUR LEE WOODS, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this 17th day of March, 2008. DANA DEBEAUVOIR County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714 By Deputy: /s/ RoxAnne Torrez

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CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ARTHUR LEE WOODS, Deceased, No. 88341 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas. JUNIORS WOODS, III alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 13th day of MARCH, 2008, an Application for Letters of Independent Administration to Determine Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ARTHUR LEE WOODS, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate. Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Texas. All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this 17th day of March, 2008. DANA DEBEAUVOIR County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325, Austin, Texas 78714 By Deputy: /s/ RoxAnne Torrez

cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should he desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 19th day of March, 2008.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 149325,

Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s. R. Torrez

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF DON ELWARD CRUMLEY AKA DON ELWERT CRUMLEY AKA DON E CRUMLEY, Deceased, No. 88363 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

EVELYN INEZ CRUMLEY alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 18th day of MARCH, 2008, an Application for Determination of Heirship and Letters of Depend-

ent Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said DON ELWARD CRUMLEY AKA DON ELWERT CRUMLEY AKA DON E CRUMLEY, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 18th day of March, 2008.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 149325,

Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MERTIS BIRCH, Deceased, No. 88357 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

DEBBIE ANN BIRCH alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 18th day of MARCH, 2008, an Application to Determine Heirship for Independent Administration and Letters of Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said MERTIS BIRCH, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 6th day of March, 2008.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 149325,

Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /a/ Marie Shanklin

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KAREN LYNN VANOUS, DECEASED, Cause No. 08-0097-CP4, in County Court at Law No. 4 of Williamson County, Texas.

JANA VANOUS, applicant, in

the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 20th day of February, 2008 an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 145(E) OF THE TEXAS PROBATE CODE of the said estate and requests that the said court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said KAREN LYNN VANOUS, DECEASED, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MARY RUTH HERNANDEZ, Deceased, No. 88381 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

SALVADOR HERNANDEZ alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 20th day of MARCH, 2008, an Application for independent Administration and for Declaration of Heirship in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said MARY RUTH HERNANDEZ, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 20th day of March, 2008.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 149325,

Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /s/ Monica Limon

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF ROBERT ALEXANDER HUTTASH, Deceased, No. 88185 in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

HALLIE BOENIG alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 13TH day of FEBRUARY 2008, an Application for Letters of Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said ROBERT ALEXANDER HUTTASH, Deceased, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard and acted on by said Court at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 6th day of March, 2008.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

County Clerk,

Travis County, Texas

P.O. Box 149325,

Austin, Texas 78714

By Deputy: /a/ Marie Shanklin

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF KAREN LYNN VANOUS, DECEASED, Cause No. 08-0097-CP4, in County Court at Law No. 4 of Williamson County, Texas.

JANA VANOUS, applicant, in

the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 20th day of February, 2008 an APPLICATION TO DETERMINE HEIRSHIP FOR INDEPENDENT ADMINISTRATION AND LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION PURSUANT TO SECTION 145(E) OF THE TEXAS PROBATE CODE of the said estate and requests that the said court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said KAREN LYNN VANOUS, DECEASED, and their respective shares and interests in such estate.

Said application will be heard at 10:00 o'clock a.m. on the first Monday next after the expiration of ten days from the date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house Annex in Georgetown, Williamson County, Texas.

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to appear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contesting such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be returned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Georgetown, Texas, this the 20th day of February, 2008.

NANCY E. RISTER, County Clerk

Williamson County, Texas

by/s/ Cindy E. Dawson

Deputy

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-07-004276 To: JOHN F WALKER JR Defendant(s), in the herein-after styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND EACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the APRIL 21, 2008, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 126TH JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on MARCH 5, 2008, a default judgment may be taken against you.

Said suit being number D-1-GN-07-004276, in which WILHELMINA JOHANNABRUINSMA AND ROBERT BRUINSMA Plaintiff(s), and AEGIS REALTY GROUP, LLC AND JOHN F. WALKER, JR. Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows:

PAYMENTS DUE PURSUANT TO DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT AND GUARANTY ALL OF WHICH MORE FULLY APPEARS FROM PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES.

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, March 05, 2008.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MENDOZA
Travis County District Clerk
Travis County Courthouse
1000 Guadalupe,
P.O. Box 679003 (78767)
Austin, Texas 78701
By/s/DIANA STATION, Deputy
REQUESTED BY:
ALAN M. COHEN
7200 N. MOPAC EXPY.,
SUITE 430
AUSTIN, TX 78731
BUSINESS PHONE: (512) 795-0600
FAX: (512) 795-0632

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO: LACH, JONATHAN

1201 ANNA CT

CEDAR PARK, TX 78613

Defendant, in the herein-after styled and numbered cause: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the Court which issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of forty two (42) days from the date of issuance of this citation, which would be the 19th day of April, 2008, then a default judgment may be taken against you. Plaintiff's demand is more fully set out in the copy of the claim which is attached to this citation.

YOUR WRITTEN ANSWER SHALL BE FILED AT 10409 Burnet Road, Suite 180 Austin, Texas 78758

Your cause number is 049156, and your case styled BOND, JAMES, Plaintiff vs. LACH, JONATHAN, Defendant was filed in Justice of the Peace Court, Precinct 2, on AUGUST 10, 2007

The nature of this suit is: Agreement/Contract

Issued and given under my hand on MARCH 7, 2008

/s/ Madell Ferguson

Judge BARBARA BEMBRY

Justice of the Peace,

Precinct 2

10409 BURNET ROAD,

SUITE 180

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78758-4427

Plaintiff G REARDY:

ANTHONY G ATTY

8716 N MOPAC EXPWY #310

HYRIDGE TX 78759

of this citation, which would be the 19th day of April, 2008, then a default judgment may be taken against you. Plaintiff's demand is more fully set out in the copy of the claim which is attached to this citation.

YOUR WRITTEN ANSWER SHALL BE FILED AT 10409 Burnet Road, Suite 180 Austin, Texas 78758

Your cause number is 049156, and your case styled BOND, JAMES, Plaintiff vs. LACH, JONATHAN, Defendant was filed in Justice of the Peace Court, Precinct 2, on AUGUST 10, 2007

The nature of this suit is: Agreement/Contract

Issued and given under my hand on MARCH 7, 2008

/s/ Madell Ferguson

Judge BARBARA BEMBRY

Justice of the Peace,

Precinct 2

10409 BURNET ROAD,

SUITE 180

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78758-4427

Plaintiff G REARDY:

ANTHONY G ATTY

8716 N MOPAC EXPWY #310

HYRIDGE TX 78759

Kunstance Dawson

DBA Whispering Hills Is Making Application with the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission for a Mixed Beverage Permit On the Address of 12100 FM 969, Austin, Travis County, Texas.

NO. 88185 ESTATE

OF ROBERT ALEXANDER HUTTASH, DECEASED, IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER ONE OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that the original Letters of Dependent Administration for the Estate of ROBERT ALEXANDER HUTTASH, deceased, were issued on March 18, 2008, in Docket No. 88185, pending in the Probate Court of Travis County, Texas, to HALLIE BOENIG, Dependent Executor.

The residence of the Dependent Executor is in Travis County, Texas. The post-office address for mailing of claims is:

Estate of Robert Alexander Huttash
c/o John B. Meadows
9065 Jollyville Road,
Suite 201
Austin, Texas 78759

All persons having claims against this estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 28th day of March, 2008.

HALLIE BOENIG
Dependent Executor
Estate of ROBERT ALEXANDER HUTTASH, Deceased
By: /s/ John B. Meadows

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DATED this 28th day of March, 2008.

HALLIE BOENIG
Dependent Executor
Estate of ROBERT ALEXANDER HUTTASH, Deceased
By: /s/ John B. Meadows

Notice is hereby given that Hilton Grill, LLC has filed an application for a sexually oriented business license to be located at 9705 Reservoir Ct Austin TX, 78754, Lot 3 of the Kay/Mark Sub-division No. 1 Travis County, Texas.

APRIL 10, 2008 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

APRIL 10, 2008 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

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Behzad Bahrami is required to obtain an operator's license to operate the sexually oriented business. Behzad Bahrami, Member-Manager.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE ACT, THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS.

GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER, 8200 S CONGRESS, AUSTIN, TX.

1. 2003 CHEVY BLAZER 1GNDT13X53K130492

2. 2004 CHEVY TRUCK 1GCEC19X34Z291246

3. 1985 DODGE 2B4HB21T2FK220049

4. 1992 HONDA JHMBB215XN002125

5. 1982 HONDA MC JH2AC0101CK011813

6. GREEN CANOE 1C463421899

7. GENIE TML LIGHTS 5DBLC14174R000697

8. 2002 TOYOTA 2TKR32E33C101262

9. 1992 CHEVY 1GNDM15Z9NB118330

s/Trish Kabel
City Secretary

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
PS Orangeo, Inc., and Shurgard TRS, Inc., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All property generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, **NO CHECKS**, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 9th of APRIL 2008 or on about the time in

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed.

Garagekeeper:
A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC
2963 MANOR ROAD
AUSTIN, TX 78722
(512)670-7578

1992 Cadillac Seville, NZH815 LA, VIN# 1Z6GTS3B7N4265452

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING Notice is hereby given

AV0410 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IMPOUNDED BY ORDER OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 683.011 ET SEQ., TEXAS TRANSPORTATION CODE, REGULATING THE IMPOUNDING AND SALE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES BY DELEGATE OR PERSONALLY.

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE MOTOR VEHICLE FREE AND CLEAR OF ALL LIENS AND CLAIMS OF OWNERSHIP AND IS ENTITLED TO REGISTER THE PURCHASED MOTOR VEHICLE AND RECIEVE A CERTIFICATE OF TITLE.

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION TO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

APRIL 10, 2008 @ 10:00 AM @ AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 78745

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/s/ Madell Ferguson

Judge BARBARA BEMBRY

Justice of the Peace,

Precinct 2

10409 BURNET ROAD,

SUITE 180

AUSTIN, TEXAS 78758-4427

Plaintiff G REARDY:

ANTHONY G ATTY

by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

TURN SIGNAL MALFUNCTIONS WHEN CAR IS COLD

Dear Tom and Ray:

We have a 2002 L300 V-6 Saturn. The turn signals will not work in cold weather (below 30 degrees) until the car has been driven and therefore warmed. The hazard lights will work, however. The dealer says that he doesn't know what causes the problem, and, of course, by the time we drive it to the dealer, the car is warm and the problem is gone. Any suggestions? — Richard and June

TOM: Have you considered relocating to Key West? If it ever gets close to 30 degrees down there, you can drive out to the orange groves and park next to the smudge pots.

RAY: Actually, if you have a problem that occurs only first thing in the morning, or when the car is ice-cold, you should make arrangements to drop the car off at your mechanic's place the night before your appointment.

TOM: Just make sure he has a secure place to leave it outside. If he leaves it inside, it'll be nice and toasty in the morning, and he still won't be able to experience the problem.

RAY: And if he leaves it out on the street and he's in a neighborhood like where my brother lives, your car could get vandalized or stolen.

TOM: Of course, if the car gets stolen, you won't have the turn-signal problem anymore. But I don't think that's the solution you're looking for.

RAY: If you came to me with this problem, the first thing I'd do is replace the hazard-lights switch. That's in the dashboard, right behind the hazard switch itself. That switch has the flasher built into it for both the hazard lights and the directional lights.

TOM: If that doesn't fix it, your mechanic can try plugging in a new multifunction switch. That's the stalk sticking out of your steering column that controls your turn signals, your wipers, your bright lights, and your in-dash lava lamp. The contacts in that switch just might have worn out over time.

RAY: But I'd bet on the hazard switch. If the mechanic has the car when it's cold, when the directionals are actually misbehaving, he can test all this stuff in five minutes, out in the parking lot. Good luck, guys.

It's never cheaper in the long run to buy a new car. Want proof? Order Tom and Ray's pamphlet "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the [Car Talk](http://www.cartalk.com) website, www.cartalk.com.

Tune in to *Car Talk* each Saturday at 9am on



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CONTINUED 545 LEGAL NOTICES

TV, MOTORCYCLE, LAWN EQUIPMENT

612 JOHN RODGERS, DRESSER, BOXES, CHAIR
676 JASON SMITH, SHOP VAC, BED, TABLE

11:30 a.m. Public Storage @ 2301 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741

1002 GORDON PEARSCALL, DRESSER, CHAIR, BOXES

2032 JAMES POPHAM, HAND DOLLY, CHAIR, TABLE

2043 MICHELLE OLLER, BOXES, TOTES, BED

2144 BILL ALLEN, COUCH, BOXES, SUITCASE

3088 MICHAEL LOZANO, SPEAKERS, GUITAR, BOXES
12:00 p.m. Public Storage

@ 5016 E Ben White, Austin, TX 78741

B026 MIGUEL VELA, TV, BOXES, FREEZER

C030 CYNTHIA CERDA, DRESSER, BOXES, BED

C078 MARYANN BACA, DESK, COUCH REFRIGERATOR

C111 JOHNNY SERNA, CHAIR, BOXES, TOTES

C140 MANUEL MEDELLIN III, TV, TABLE, COMPUTER

C154 LANEAA AUSTIN, TV, TABLE, COUCH

C249 BRYAN MCCORMICK, TABLE, WASHER, DRYER

E023 LORI UESTER, DRESSER, GOLF CLUBS, TABLE

12:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 2121 S IH 35, Austin, TX 78741

1000 SHELLEY HUTCHINGS, BOXES, SHELIVING, SUITCASE

1081 SEAN CASEY, TABLE, CHAIR, BOXES

2064 THOMAS WRIGHT, SPEAKERS, BOXES, TABLE

2072 GILBERT MEDINA, TABLE, DRESSER, CD TOWER

3095 ELIZABETH PURCELL, CAR JACK, TABLE, BOXES

3098 ELIZABETH PURCELL, CHAIR, BOXES, TABLE

4090 JESSE RIVERA, TV, RADIO, BOXES

4109 DANA LIMON, TV, STEREO, BOXES

4129 STEPHANIE RODRIGUEZ, WASHER, DRYER, DRESSER

4161 SEAN CASEY, HAND DOLLY, LADDER, LAWN EQUIPMENT

1:00 p.m. Public Storage (formerly known as Shurgard) @ 6726 BEE CAVE RD, Austin, TX 78746

6004 VIRGINIA KELLER, BOXES

1:30 p.m. Public Storage @ 1213 W 6th Street, Austin, TX 78703

2120 HAYLEY MYLER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Delinquent Tenants

PS Orangeto, Inc., and Shurgard TRS, Inc., hereby gives notice that the property generally described below is being sold to satisfy a Landlord's Lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, at the time and place indicated below, and on the following terms: All items in the unit generally described below will be sold at public sale to the highest bidder for cash, or credit cards, NO CHECKS, with payment to be made at the time of the sale. Seller reserves the right to refuse any bid and to withdraw any item or items from the sale. The property will be sold on the 8th April on or after the time indicated at each self-storage facility identified:

Tuesday April 8th 2008
9:00 a.m. Public Storage @ 1033 E 41st Street, Austin, TX 78751

2052 NAILAH SANKOFA, BOOK CASE, BOXES, TOTES

4012 SOARING EAGLES WORSHIP COPIER, FOLDING CHAIRS, BOXES

4154 TORIE DANIELS, BOXES, BOOK CASE, TOTES

4160 TORIE DANIELS,

DRESSER, COUCH, CHAIR

4186 PEGGY WOOLEY, CHAIR, BOXES, SUITCASE

5132 DONNA PHARR, TV, TABLE, CHAIR

5164 DANIEL ARME, TOOL BOX, BAGS, SUITCASE

9:30am Public Storage @ 10001 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

1027 TAMMY JUSTICE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

5039 JD YBARRA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

5044 RUBEN ARMADO GARCIA BLAS, BOXES, VACUUM, TILE

7033 DOMETHIA WRIGHT, TREADMILL, COMPUTER, BOXES

1023 KATHLEEN SANDERS, TOOL BOX, CLOTHING, BOXES

2034 DAVID JONES, DRYER, WASHER, TV

3086 JENNIFER HUGHES, TV, TOTES, TOYS

5004 LONNIE LENUED, COUCH, LAWNMOWER, WEIGHT BENCH

3092 ANDREA BRANCH, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

6004 JEFFREY STEVEN PEPER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

4015 MELODY PERRY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

10:00am Public Storage @ 10100 Nth IH-35, Austin, TX 78753

C039 KEN GERBER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

A004 JULIO VASQUEZ, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

D049 PERDO GONZALEZ, CLOTHING, BOXES, MICRO-WAVE

B012 ROCHELL MATHIS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

D073 CANDACIA REESE, TV, SUITCASE, BOXES

D029 WHITNEY OLSON, DRESSER, BIG SCR TV, TABLE

B051 ANGELITA DELEON, CLOTHING, BOOK CASE, TOTES

A007 ERVIN WALKER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

10:30am Public Storage @ 937 Reinitl, Austin, TX, 78751

232 AJ HERNANDEZ, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

752 LINDA GRAY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

521 FRANK FUERTAS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

478 ANN RICHTER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

245 RONALD REED, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

336 VICKI COLLINS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

253 CHARLES D WILSON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

254 LAUREN HENDERSON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

11:00am Public Storage @ 8101 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

N3360 STEVIN WOODY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

322 LISA GONZALEZ, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

510 HELBERT OSORIO, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

N3402 SCOTT LAMB, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

N2405 DAVID GLENN LARKINS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

N1293 DEORDRAYE JARMON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

1457 REYNALDO ARIEL CUE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

2016 MARY JANE LUCERO, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

N3490 LESEDI TROTZ, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

2062 JANIE SQUIRE, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

126 SUSAN MARKS, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

411 CASEY LIEBENOW, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

220 LARRY WILKERSON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

12:00pm Public Storage @ 8525 N Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

A010 JOSHUA HUEBNER, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

B033 JACQUELYN MCCLELLAN, PICTURES, BICYCLE, BAGS

B040 ARETHA AVERY, SUITCASE, TOTES

B045 ERICK MARGARITA LOPEZ, TOOL BOX, CLOTHING, TIRES

C010 VIVIAN BARNES, DRESSER, TOTES, BOXES

C015 MARGIE LEWIS

C016 JENNY MCCOY, DRESSER, TOYS,

C044 DERRICK RUNNELS

C066 KELLIE MARLEY, BOXES, TOOL BOX, DRESSER

E043 EGINO GALINDO BARBOSA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

JO05 JESSIE GARZA III, SEWING TABLE, LAWN EQUIP, CHINA CABINET

JO15 JUAN A PINEDA SALGADO, LOVE SEAT, WASHER, DRYER

12:30pm Public Storage @ 8128 Nth Lamar Blvd., Austin, TX 78753

B011 VERONICA SIERRA, DRESSER, BIG SCREEN TV, LAWN EQUIPMENT

C024 JUAN CASTILLO, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

E088 MARK FLYNN, COUCH, LOVE SEAT, TOTES

E100 ANTHONY GARZA, TV, CLOTHING, TABLE

F005 GINA COLVIN SMITH, WASHER, DRESSER, DRYER

F021 LINDA ANN WASHINGTON, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

1:00pm Public Storage @ 9205 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78758

D061 JAMES NOWELL, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

A270 THERESA MC GARRY-ALLSUP, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

E139 LETICIA VILLAREAL, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

E162 EMILIA ESQUIVEL, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

1:30pm Public Storage @ 12318 N MOPAC EXPRESSWAY, AUSTIN TX 78758

C285 AL BACA, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

C386 STACIE HANCOCK-ZACHARY, BOXES, BAGS

C299 MICHAEL SHEPARDSON, BOXES, LAWN EQUIPMENT, MONITOR

C464 WILMA DEGROOT, COUCH, COFFE TABLE, LOVE SEAT

2:00pm Public Storage @ 10931 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78759

D009 NICOLE LOMSKY, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

D044 BETH MARSH, DRESSER, TV, BOXES

E033 DEANA ORTIZ, DRESSER, DESK, AQUARIUM

2:30pm Public Storage @ 12915 Research Blvd., Austin, TX 78750

2074 MARIZELA GONZALES, LADDER, TABLE, BOXES

5006 CINDY MCBRIDE, DRYER, SEWING MACHINE, CLOTHIN

A004 MICHAEL BRIEDWELL, DESK, BBQ GRILL, DRYER

1015 CASEY HURST, ALL ITEMS IN UNIT

3:00pm Public Storage @ 13675 N US HWY 183 Austin, TX 78750

0238 JOHN KRUSE, CLOTHING, BOXES

3:30pm Public Storage @ 1517 Round Rock Ave., Round Rock, TX 78681

8162 RADHIKA PRATAP, BOXES,

1103 EDWARD COULON, SOFA, ENT CENTER, STEREO, DINING TABLE

5123 LESA SISSON, FILING CABINET, CHAIR, CLOTHING

8104 BEVERLY RHYMANN, TABLE, PLYWOOD, MOLDING TRIM

4107 MARY MACHADO, LAMP, COUCH, BOXES

8185 GARY LEWIS, BOOK CASE, TOLL BOX, LAWN EQUIPMENT

6116 SHEMEKA RILEY, STEREO, TOTES, BOXES

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
Pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, Texas Storage Park, which is located at 10013 Hwy. 620 N. Austin, TX 78726, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 am on April 29, 2008. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash or equivalent.

Cynthia Prieser: bedroom furniture, sofa, dishes & more.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
In accordance with the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charges for which the undersigned is entitled to satisfy an own-

er's lien of the goods herein after described and stored at Stor Self Storage locations listed below; And due notice having been given, to the owner of said property and all parties known to claim an interest therein, and the time specified in such notice for payment of such having expired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the following address to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash only. **Stor Self Storage 2508 W. Pecan St. Pflugerville, TX 78660 512-990-1000, April 7, 2008 12:00 pm.** Horace Curtis, # 318, 10x10 unit. Steffan Cheatum, #705, 5x5 unit.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
to satisfy landlord's lien. Sale is at 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, April 15, 2008 at Oak Hill Mini's, 5100 Roadrunner Lane, Austin, TX, 78749. Property will be sold at public auction to the highest bidder for cash. Cleanup dep. may be required. Seller reserves the right to not accept a bid and to withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of the following tenants: BRETT WEIR-futon frame, new umbrellas, dresser, coffee table, etc.; ANGGAY TENNEY-children's riding toy, basketball net, chair, etc.; BRANDON COPELAND-futon frame, leather couch, dresser; LISA RITCHIE-misc. household. Contact Oak Hill Mini's (512)892-5293. Dated March 20, 2008.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE
U-STORE-IT hereby gives notice of Public Sale under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. This sale will be held on **April 7, 2008 beginning at 10:30 A.M.** at the U-STORE-IT located at 610 East Stassney Lane, Austin, Texas. This sale is being held to satisfy a Landlord's Lien. Everything sold is purchased "as is" "where is" for cash. U-STORE-IT reserves the right to set a minimum bid, refuse any bid, or to cancel any Public Sale that is advertised. Announcements made the day of the sale take precedence over any printed materials related to the sale.

U-Store-It #751
610 E. Stassney Lane
Austin, TX 78745
512-441-8300

John Beaty - Desk, Totes.
Charles Hazel Jr. - Box Spring, Mattress, Bookcase, Dresser, Shelf, Entertainment Center.

Tara Barborka - Totes.
Gary Hunnicutt - Bags, Boxes, Clothing.

AUCTIONEER: KENNETH HIERHOLZER 6568

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE ACCESS SELF STORAGE
located at 4243 and 4341 South Congress Avenue, Austin, Travis County, Texas wishing to avail themselves of the provisions of and pursuant to Chapter 59, Texas Property Code, will hold a public auction of the property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Sale to be at 10:30 a.m. on Monday April 14th at 4341 South Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78745. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Clean up and removal deposit may be required. Seller reserves the right to withdraw property from sale. Property being sold includes complete contents in spaces of the following tenants: Charles Ansley, Tridada Cano, Brandon A. Davidson, Shawn Duss, Debra Glenn, Cory Parker, Jeff S. Pounds, Don Specks, Christopher Romero. Items include a large screen tv, and regular color tv, furniture, tools, electronic equipment, and supplies, chest of drawers, automobile engine, dresser, toys, clothes, professional pool cue and household items.

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL PROPERTY
State of Texas
County of Travis
Cause: 030619265 By virtue of an Writ of Execution issued by the clerk of the District Court 365 Court of MAVERICK County, Texas, February 25, 2008, in cause numbered 030619265, styled

PEDRO REYES versus KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS on a judgment rendered against KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS. I did on March 04, 2008 at 2:00 p.m., levy upon as the property of KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS the following described real property:

LOT SIX (6), OF WOODLAND HILLS SECTION ONE, A SUBDIVISION IN TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS ACCORDING TO THE RECORDED IN VOLUME 6, PAGE 105 OF THE PLAT RECORDS OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS.

On May 06, 2008, being the first Tuesday of the month, between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 4:00 P.M., beginning at 10:00 A.M., at the Travis County Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe Street, Austin, Texas, I will sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the right, title and interest of KEVIN MICHAEL WELLS in and to the real property described above.

Dated at Austin, Travis County, Texas, March 05, 2008

Bruce Elfant,
Constable Precinct 5
Travis County, Texas
/s/ Alan Redd
by SENIOR DEPUTY ALAN REDD, Deputy

Notice to Bidders: You are buying whatever interest, if any, the Debtor has in the property. Purchase of the Debtor's interest in the property may not extinguish any liens or security interests held by other persons. There are no warranties, express or implied, regarding the property being sold, including but not limited to warranties of title, merchantability or fitness for a particular purpose.

Notice to Judgment Debtor: If there is any property, real or personal, you want to point out for levy in lieu of the above described property, you must contact this office immediately.

Bidders shall present an unexpired written statement issued to the person in the manner prescribed by Section 34.015, Tax Code, showing that the Travis County Assessor/Collector has determined that there are no delinquent ad valorem taxes owed by the person. In addition, an individual may not bid on or purchase property in the name of any other individual.

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF MARY JANE MALLARD Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARY JANE MALLARD were issued on March 13, 2008, in Cause No. 88.265, pending in Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to: LINDA BUTLER and JOHN R. BUTLER

The address of such Independent Co-Executors is 2535 Jarratt Avenue, Austin, Texas 78703. The Independent Co-Executors direct that all claims against this Estate be addressed to:

LINDA BUTLER and JOHN R. BUTLER

Representatives of the Estate of MARY JANE MALLARD
c/o Nancy N. Scherer

Scherer & Scherer
602 West 13th Street
Austin, Texas 78701

All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 17th day of March, 2008.

NANCY N. SCHERER
SCHERER & SCHERER
602 WEST 13TH STREET
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78701
ATTORNEYS FOR THE INDEPENDENT CO-EXECUTORS

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF BENNY HANNESDOTTIR ZUNTAG Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 88.257

THE ESTATE OF JAMES WILLIAM SPAIN, DECEASED Notice is hereby given that in Cause No. 88197, styled Estate of James William Spain, Deceased, pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas, original letters testamentary were issued on March 6, 2008, to Patrick J. Spain.

Claims may be presented and addressed to the personal representative of the estate in care of her attorneys at the following address:

c/o Graves, Dougherty, Hearon & Moody
 A Professional Corporation
 Attn: Julie Frey
 PO. Box 98
 401 Congress, Suite 2200
 Austin, Texas 78767-0098
 All persons having claims against this estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 DATED the 18th day of March, 2008.
GRAVES, DOUGHERTY, HEARON & MOODY,
 A Professional Corporation
 PO. Box 98
 401 Congress, Suite 2200
 Austin, Texas 78767-0098
 512.480.5776 Telephone
 512.480.5876 Fax
 By: /s/ Julie Frey
 State Bar ID No.: 00792283
ATTORNEYS FOR INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Marguerite C. Van Osselaer, Deceased, were issued on March 11, 2008, in Cause No. 88,245, pending in the Probate Court No. One of Travis County, Texas, to Paul J. Van Osselaer of 2305 Cheswick Court, Austin, Texas 78746.
 All persons having claims against this Estate, which is currently being administered, are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

All claims against the decedent in care of the Independent Executor's attorney, Derry W. Swanger, at Giordani Schurig Beckett & Tackett LLP, 100 Congress Avenue, 22nd Floor, Austin, Texas, 78701.

DATED this the 17th day of March, 2008.
GIORDANI, SCHURIG, BECKETT & TACKETT L.L.P.
 By: /s/ Derry W. Swanger
ATTORNEYS FOR PAUL J. VAN OSSELAER, INDEPENDENT EXECUTOR OF THE ESTATE OF MARGUERITE C. VAN OSSELAER, DECEASED

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of John E. Foster, were issued on March 4, 2008, in Cause No. 88142 pending in the Probate Court Number One for Travis County, Texas, to H.H. Rothell, Jr.
 All claims against the Estate shall be presented to the Independent Executor at the following address in care of the attorney for the Estate:
 Mr. H.H. Rothell, Jr.
 c/o Mr. Edward K. Clark
 11412 Bee Caves Road, Suite 300
 Austin, Texas 78738
 Dated the 18th day of March, 2008.
 /s/ Edward K. Clark
 State Bar No. 04277500
 11412 Bee Caves Road, Suite 300
 Austin, Texas 78738
 (512) 402-0646
 (512) 402-0647 (fax)
ATTORNEY FOR THE ESTATE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of MARGARETTE G. SHARPE, Deceased, were issued on March 20, 2008, in Cause Number 88175, in the Travis County Probate Court No. 1, to Mary Patricia Sharpe. All persons having claims against the estate currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. The residence of the Independent Executor is Travis County, Texas. The post office address of the Independent Executor is: Mary Patricia Sharpe, c/o Moeller Law Offices, 106 East Sixth St. Suite 800, Austin, Texas 78701.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Carol Gilchrist Chamberlin, Deceased, were issued on March 18, 2008, in Cause No. 88210, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: John Gilchrist Chamberlin.
 All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them to the undersigned within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 c/o: Steve Hollahan
 Attorney at Law
 13 Treemont Drive
 Austin, Texas 78746
 DATED the 18th day of March, 2008.
 /s/ Steve Hollahan
 Attorney for John Gilchrist Chamberlin
 State Bar No.: 09838000
 13 Treemont Drive
 Austin, Texas 78746
 Telephone: (512)330-0087
 Facsimile: (512)330-0460

NOTICE TO CREDITORS
 Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Robert Frederick Thelen, Deceased, were issued to Laurie Jean Thelen on March 20, 2008, in Cause No. 88273, Probate Court No. One, Travis County, Texas. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law to: Steven Hake, 1306 Guadalupe St., Austin, TX 78701.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
 Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:
 1. Erosion Control Services, B080185-DR
 Opens: April 7, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m.
 2. Doors and Insulation, B080112-DR
 Opens: April 14, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m.
 3. Residential Plumbing Services, B080163-DR
 Opens: April 14, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m.
AN OPTIONAL PRE-BID CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 2, 2008 @ 11:00 A.M.

Bids should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Specifications can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bidders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payments may be made by check. The successful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO PROPOSERS
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS
 Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be accepted by Travis County for the following items:
 1. Long Distance Telecommunication Services, for Voice & Data and any Associated Telecommunications Services including Local Dial Tone for Voice and Data, P080189-BF
 Opens: April 21, 2008 @ 10:00 a.m.
AN OPTIONAL PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCE WILL BE HELD ON APRIL 10, 2008 @ 10:00 A.M.

2. IT Security Products, Support and Services, P080155-LC
 Opens: April 14, 2008 @ 2:00 p.m.
 Proposals should be submitted to: Cyd Grimes, Travis County Purchasing Agent, Ned Granger Building, 314 West 11th, Room 400, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas 78767. Proposal Documents can be obtained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by downloading a copy from our website: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Proposers should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if appropriate. Payment may be made by check. The successful proponent shall be required to furnish a Payment Bond and a Performance Bond in the amount of One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable.

PUBLISHED NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Martin Luther Welch were issued on March 13, 2008 in Docket Number 88239, pending in the Probate No. One, Travis County, Texas to **RONNIE LYNN WELCH**, Independent Executor. The address of record for **RONNIE LYNN WELCH** is 5729 Galsworthy Court, Austin, Texas 78739. All persons having claims against this Estate are required to present their claims to the foregoing address within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.
 S/ **RONNIE LYNN WELCH**, Independent Executor of the Estate of **MARTIN LUTHER WELCH**

PURSUANT TO PROVISIONS of State Property Code 7001 notices is hereby given to the owner and lienholder of the following vehicle to reclaim the vehicle within 30 days and pay all fees or your failure to do so shall be a waiver of all your rights, title, and interest and your consent to sell the vehicle at public sale:
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- NEW! 1994 Camry \$3950** v6, one owner, really really nice, 135k. Full warranty.
- NEW! 2000 Honda Civic \$7950** 2 door, EX, auto, only 72k miles. Similar to one we just sold, but nicer! Clean, nice.
- NEW! 2002 Honda Accord. \$13500** Four door, EX, loaded with leather. Immaculate only 38k. Warranty. Can trade.
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Install toilet.
Hire designer to set up website.
File taxes.
Learn Spanish.
Where to start?
The Austin Chronicle's Service section.

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
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


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
BAD KITTY
I want satisfaction...a reason to purr. I want someone to push my buttons and my limits. I enjoy light bondage, costumes, high heels, and hate to be bored. Photos after contact. **Kit-Cassy**, 28,  #125358

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sexy, spicy, luscious, tempting tantalizing tarnishing bliss 24/7 but mostly all night long. **bubble3bear**, 24,  #125109

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Give me two serpents to ride. -Bring friends. **exotic_artist_exploring**, 31,  #124881


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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,  #124643

MALE BODY LOVER
Looking for a "friend" not just a hook-up. Someone who is outgoing, an outdoor lover, intelligent and maybe a bit of a nerd. **rockett2222**, 34,  #124473


REWARDING DOM
Looking for a consistent submissive, not a one time experience. Would like to meet them before anything sexual obviously. If you are interested, please feel free to contact me. **TomorrowsWorse**, 23,  #123509

IT'S PLAYTIME BOYS
I'm looking for a man that's sweet and caring but i get bored easily so he needs to be full of surprises so that i never get bored. **austinpartygirl1985**, 22,  #119045


CURIOUS COUPLE
Couple (female: 18, male: 22) seeking a female ages 18-22 to play with the female as male watches.... We just want to try something new and spontaneous. **youngandwilling**, 18,  #125455


SEARCHING FOR PLAYMATE
Couple seeking (clean) female for friendship/play. Must get to know first. Bisexual experience a plus. Interested in threesome and girlongirl. Want to find someone we can comfortably be around. **WakingLifeHunt**, 23,  #125198


NERDY SWEET COUPLE
We are looking for a woman or a man to play with us. We are shy, but adventurous and open to anything once we get to know you. **TrixieGirl**, 38,  #125322


SWEET & INNOCENT.....
Attractive, easy-going couple, looking for someone to be our Pornstar! Meaning a down a*% girl up for whatever comes her way! Look forward to good times! **mjo8a**, 27,  #125133

LIGHT IS ON
We never preveracate. She's 34 and lovely. I'm 55 and not so lovely. A W/H women would have a fun time with us. We'd respect your space and boundaries. **aphroditecronus**, 34,  #125033

SEEKING OTHER(S)
We're in our early twenties and in a serious relationship. Interested in seeing what is out there and having fun. Send a message. :) **quixoteandlolita**, 23,  #125004


LET US
I am 32 and bi. He is 34 and we want a woman to pleasure over and over. We do all the work. We are open to a lot of things. **sassiepatties**, 32,  #124910


MRS. SEXII
Me 29 Him 26, me 130 him 250. We like to drink and have fun. We are looking 4 a female that likes to do the same. **dat1**, 29,  #124883


WANTING SOME FUN
Young couple seeking a third for some fun and play. This would be a first time for us but are excited and looking forward to some fun. **maryagogo**, 18,  #124721

SHARE OUR BIRTHDAYS
We're a couple of old hippies who don't feel or act old. Butterfly very sensual and beautiful soul. Dog is into music. Looking for bi female for all night 3-some birthday celebration. **Butterflyanddog**, 50,  #124509

LETS GET HIM
Hello, we seek another man in the bedroom, clean cut, professional, no tattoos to get me good while my man is forced to watch. **hotvixen**, 31,  #124454

THREE IS COMPANY
We're an attractive African-American couple looking for another to female to join us in spreading a little holiday cheer. Be ready to please, I guarantee you will be. **Threescocompany2**, 23,  #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 games, just great sex! **ginger**, 37,  #124266

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
HOT VIXEN PLAYMATE
I am a very attractive woman, tall, blonde and very sexual... Looking for a female playmate to share fun girl on girl times while my hot boyfriend watches the fun... **mitzifenmore**, 38,  #123847

FEMALE WANTED
Looking for a sexy woman or couple to join us. Must be ddf. **Curiouscpl**, 28,  #123082


WANT TO SHARE
We have an awesome relationship and sex life- and we wanna include you in it! Looking for a third to join us and make things more adventurous... **iris_and_jack**, 35,  #122165


HOT LATIN COUPLE
I'm bi, 30yrs old, 5', 118lbs, long brwn hair, brwn eyes, in shape, 36D. My hubby is 31yrs old, 5'8", 160lbs, blk hair, brwn eyes, in shape, 7" cut too. **gandmjz**, 30,  #121503


CURIOUS TO INSATIABLE
Short, Irish, Quick-witted [and modest!] Quick-tempered, a little bit of a space cadet, a whole lot of dark humor and quite ready for a pretty lady to seduce [oh and i've got a hot spot for redheads. **PinkStormtrooper**, 20,  #125177

ENTIRELY TOO CURIOUS
I'm relatively adventurous, but looking to try things I haven't yet; shy but not.. teach me something about me i didn't know. I'm an excellent student. **Slinx**, 19,  #124957

LESBIAN LOVE
I'm a petite fem girl looking to mess around with similar. Preferably around my age and no strings attached. **heybaby**, 19,  #123524

KINKY BOOK SELLER
I'm just a kinky nerdy girl looking for some kinky nerdy sex. Can you flog me while you make me conjugate Latin verbs? **Plagosa**, 25,  #123241


PLAY WITH ME
5'3 athletic 140. Brwn/Brwn Lost my Dom, play with me? Miss the teasing and torture terribly! Yet to find all my boundaries, help me? Fun, Energetic Sub eager to explore. **Pierce**, 27,  #123112


ATTRACTIVE, INEXPERIENCED, BI-CURIOUS
Attractive, mid 40's 5'3/110lbs, hispanic female, married d/d/free, looking to explore with another woman also bi-curious and inexperienced. Prefer attractive, d/d/free, open minded, height/weight proportionate hispanic/caucasian female. Must be willing to occasionally include my shy handsome husband. **davn**, 47,  #120088

GIRL PLAYMATES
Experienced sexy bi hottie looking for other femme hotties to play with. **Catwalk**, 30,  #119900


SEEKING SWITCH PARTNER
You-looking for fun above all with no pre-conceived expectations. US: Average people looking for an above average fun ;) Prefer bi-sf, couples ok. Inexperienced welcomed. Honesty refreshing. **Bife-maustincpl**, 32,  #121712

ATTENTION SUGAR DADDY'S:
SWM, 46: look 30 something, young looking/hearted, 6'2", 185, 34w, shaved head, green eyes, handsome, masculine, honest, outgoing, and have excellent morals/values. Seeking all SUGAR DADDY'S for mutual beneficial relationships. **Lucky694u**, 46,  #125068

FOOT/WS SLAVE
Seeking straight or bi masculine, slim buddies who love to be spoiled with foot massages. If your interested in either foot massages, write me. **Male-FootSearch**, 47,  #123872


DARKSHARK
Looking for girls that love to push the law, streaking, flashing, ect... Something about it turns me on, email me, we could have some fun. Truth.. **truthandare55**, 22,  #124927

ASS SLAPPIN GOOD
Im a nasty boy bringin nasty joy, so come on out and play. Can you make it rain, that would ticle my brain, i will play the part you say. **Sowrong**, 48,  #119751


MAN'S LADY'S MAN
Handsome, classy, sensual lady's man who loves to be a soft, silky man's lady. Seeking couples and women for a walk on the wild side in my sexy French lingerie. **Pantyboy**, 42,  #123387


UP4ALMOSTANYTHING
Laid back and very open minded, looking for nsa fun with a hot girl, or couples. Well endowed and clean ddf. Love to please and be pleased. **up4almostanythingg**, 27,  #116083


HOT GAY SEX
WM seeks 50+ GWM. Open to ideas, even kinky. Love massages. Will bottom or top. Nicely built Safe only, but otherwise no limits. I'm nicely built, clean, DDF. **M4Fun**, 58,  #116038

HOTLATINACD
tired about all bull shit and fake people, looking for A REAL MAN for date or hang out, no into WEIRD shit, U: over 30 no over 45/WHITE/TALL/HAND-SOME/STABLE IN ALL SPECTS/REAL TOP/. **crossdressedlatina4you**, 31,  #125315


CROSSDRESSER ISO GIRLFRIEND
I am a very passable and kinky crossdresser. I am bisexual, but prefer women. I'm primarily looking for a girlfriend, but occasional play partners and friendships are good, too. **kinky_violet**, 26,  #120083


SEXY TS
iim a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. iim 5'10f 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. iim very classy, too, and dress very provocatively. iim 28 years old. **nicole_anais**, 31,  #115140


BLONDE SHEMALE TOP
Hot Blonde TS girl, likes to have late night fun(no strings). Seeking HOT FIT WHITE JOCK-TYPE GUYS for some FUN new adventure. sign in online, and say Hi to me. **BlondeHottie**, 33,  #101055


OLDER BUT IMAGINATIVE
I am 58, but young at heart. I like women of all ages and have a great imagination in the bedroom. I am married but wife doesn't play. Very oral. **HotTxsGuy**, 58,  #125572


YOU FOUND DONE
Hello Sexy Ladies. **texasniceguy6969**, 27,  #125563

FUN OPENMINDED MALE
Ssexual person who would love to find someone who understands the difference between emotional sex and the joy of physical sex. Interested? **austinguy30**, 30,  #125558

FUN CREATIVE GUY
Looking to have a good time. **JC289**, 21,  #125530

RED RAGGIN HARD
Hot auburn haired guy looking for cute girls with freckles or red hair to have some fun with. **notmechanical**, 22,  #125523

RIDER SEEKS PASSENGER
Good looking, intelligent, athletic man with great "bed" skills seeking an electrifying badgirl (FWB) for fun, wild and erotic rides in and out of the bedroom. I am single, no-1-night-stands. **Mid-nightRider**, 38,  #125521

LOVE TO LICK
Like the heading states I LOVE to lick. Your pleasure is more important than mine. Life is short. ENJOY. **frank78654**, 50,  #125437

SLINX

CURIOSITY DIDN'T KILL ME..

I'm relatively adventurous, but looking to try things I haven't yet; shy but not..teach me something about me i didn't know. I'm an excellent student.

read the rest of **SLINX's** profile or enter your own profile for **FREE** online at **austinchronicle.com/easystreet**



THE LUV DOC

Nancy Coplin's Big 6-0 Benefit for HAAM • Sun., Mar. 30 6pm • Antone's • 213 W. Fifth • www.antones.net

There is so much money in Austin. It's crazy, isn't it? All those penthouse condominiums, lakeside estates, and hillside mansions that stretch all the way to the horizon and beyond have to be owned by someone, right? Who *are* these people? Where do they come from? And most importantly, where did they get all that goddamned money? Austin is the Live Music Capital of the World, so naturally you would think that the majority of Austin's high-dollar real estate is owned by scruffy, tattooed, coke-snorting rock stars who sleep past lunch and spend their afternoons wallowing in coconut oil greased kiddie pools filled with Girls Gone Wild. The ugly truth of the matter is that there aren't any musicians in Austin who fit that bill. In fact, only Billy Gibbons could make that type of thing happen (OK, maybe Britt Daniel, but he doesn't really seem like he's into that scene). Sadly, Billy Gibbons doesn't even live in Austin unless you count his occasional sojourns at the Four Seasons – swank digs, to be sure, but lounging poolside with a margarita while a dude in a white coat brings you trays of cold washcloths and spritzes you with a mist bottle full of Evian doesn't really rank as a double-devil-horns-type, rock & roll experience, even if you're chilling in a colorful knit cap and sporting the beard of Methuselah. At some point you have to get amped up enough to defenestrate a TV set or something. Just saying. In reality, the working musician in that scenario is probably the guy in the white coat pulling the trigger on the spritzer. Life is full of vicious ironies isn't it? Maybe "Live Music Capital" should be amended to the more appropriate "Live Music Capital (Loss) of the World." Let's not pull anyone's chain. Musicians in this town are cheap whores – at least the successful ones – the rest are just sluts trying to work their way up to being whores. Sounds a trifle insulting on the surface, but at least a slut does it for love, and isn't that the best reason to make music? Of course it is, but the payments on those new high rise condos aren't going to be built from the tip-jar cash at the Mean Eyed Cat – at least not until the inevitable real estate bust. Until then, artistic types will have to depend on the monetary largesse of the people who enjoy the benefits of their artistic largesse. After all, those Downtown condos didn't spring up so people could enjoy the pretty office buildings and corporate culture, did they? Nuh unh. So, Austin, how do you afford your rock & roll lifestyle? Here's how: By supporting organizations who support the musicians who make Austin such an interesting and desirable place to live. For instance, this Sunday you can attend Nancy Coplin's Big 6-0 Benefit for HAAM at Antone's on Fifth Street. Coplin, whose primary job of recent years has been supporting Austin music by booking bands into actual paying gigs at Bergstrom Airport, is celebrating her 60th birthday with a benefit for the Health Alliance for Austin Musicians, which provides low cost primary health care services for uninsured professional musicians in the Austin area. Even if you're not overwhelmed with gratitude, the lineup for this gig is well worth the \$15 cover: Acts scheduled to perform include Marcia Ball, Delbert McClinton, Wendy Colonna, Shelly King, Sunny Sweeny, Ray Wylie Hubbard, Ricky Trevino, Ruben Ramos, and Stephen Bruton. It's not a kiddie pool full of GGW, but it should be a great show since they're all doing it for love.

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women SEEKING men

LUCKY LUVER
Share bicycling, walking, laughter, traveling, dip kissing in the grocery store, a round debate, rainy days in bed. Birdwatching over sports watching, canoeing over the gym, dark beer over light? **bicyclelover**, 52, ☎️, #125578

LADY SEEKING LOVE
WELL I THINK AM WHAT EVERYMAN WANTS. **sarahwills**, 22, ☎️, #125603

KILLER LIPS
I'm quirky, fun and energetic. I live north of Austin. Therefore, I'd like someone to show me around to the places they love & new places for me to experience. **friendly_foe**, 23, ☎️, #125599

NOT TYPICAL
I moved to Austin a couple years ago and am still finding myself lost. I am independent, adventurous, and strong-willed. I love sports, hiking, camping, pool, darts, photography, writing, & coffee. **SweetElle80**, 28, ☎️, #125574

FITNESS FREAK WANNABE
I jog, cycle, rollerblade, lift weights, and swim, but unfortunately, I'm very inconsistent, and weigh much more than I should. Looking for friends for cycling, hiking, rollerblading. **Bbme**, 39, ☎️, #125583

WHY NOT?
~ Moment by moment is how we actually live our life! ~. **wingsfree**, 51, ☎️, #125579

OTHER WORDS, FLY
I seem to appreciate free spirits that think about the greater good and aren't afraid to dream big and have the confidence to know things will work out for them. **dscmbolulated**, 29, ☎️, #125566

TRAVEL COMPANION WANTED
I've traveled the world and I'm looking for the right person. I'm looking for a long-term/relationship. I'm outgoing & friendly. If your bored then you've not been out with me! **bcxcs**, 36, ☎️, #125559

TALL. SARCASTIC. INTELLIGENT.
I love the outdoors. I love people. I love my dog Haylen. **Niki6**, 20, ☎️, #125555

MAKE ME DANCE
I love listening to music outside, getting coffee, and going to the creek. I believe in enjoying today. **iLove**, 23, ☎️, #125507

CARPE DIEM!
Wakeboarder, dreamer, optimist, navigator, painter, dancer, music addict, rapper, entertainer, star gazer, comedienne, entrepreneur, listener, writer, conversationalist, chef, mexican food connoisseur, lover, MMA fan, photographer, health nut, designer, movie critic, animal lover, planner, storyteller, and much more. Looking for someone who knows who they are and what they want and isn't afraid of someone who does too. **FunInTheSun**, 22, ☎️, #125511

ALTERNATIVE, INTELLIGENT, SPONTANEOUS
You must be able to handle the fact that I have piercings (22) and am still a good person, and I have 3 tats, and am not a trashy chick. **Tenacious_T**, 19, ☎️, #125505

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE!
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KINDNESS ROCKS
Well, I'm friendly, smiley and easygoing. I'm looking for a smartass with a heart of gold who can challenge my intellect while being my partner in crime. **ChicaFantasma**, 39, ☎️, #125503

GOOFY, ANALYTICAL, DREAMER
Let's hang out and eat icecream, swim, see movies, bowl, drink New-Castles, go to museums, road trip, talk art and creation, laugh and figure out how to change the world. **FlyTree**, 23, ☎️, #125501

SEEKING GOOD PERSON
I am loving, caring, romantic, kind and honest person. I'm looking for a long term relations with the happy marriage. I want to share everything with my future husband. **babygirl4u**, 25, ☎️, #125491

IT'S PICNIC SEASON!
I'm a happy person by nature, it would be great to meet someone I click with to share things with. Do you like hiking? **Bazillionaire**, 50, ☎️, #125486

THRILL SEEKER
I'm a quirky kind of girl who is willing to travel the world with only a backpack and a single map to show me the way. I want some adventure. **jewel101**, 19, ☎️, #125474

YOU SAW HEADLINE.
I really like the bulk section at central market, and their cafe mexicano.. I've climbed pyramids in Mexico city and I tap dance three times a week. **Veralynn**, 24, ☎️, #125457

FREE BEER!
I love being in/on/by the water: relaxing on the river, camping by the lake...and would like to spend time with someone who enjoys those types of things as well. **CincoDeMayoMandy**, 38, ☎️, #125417

LOVES DOGS...
I am looking to find someone with similar interests that wants to enjoy a show or movie with me one night then Barton Springs or the lake the next day. **texascj**, 33, ☎️, #125410

INDIAN MEN ONLY
Attractive American woman looking for Asian/Indian man 30 yrs+ who is interested in long term or marriage possibilities. No currently married men. Divorced men even better. **orthis**, 37, ☎️, #125361

QUIRKY FUN SMARTASS
I'm an intelligent woman, I love to laugh and have a good time. I love to tease and be teased. At heart I am compassionate, always taking others' perspectives. **swopester**, 23, ☎️, #125338

POSITIVE ACTIONS
I am a positive person, my friends find me encouraging, friendly and reflective. I think before I speak. treat others as yourself. Friendships to go out music dinner or movies. **sugar**, 50, ☎️, #118717

MADE YOU LOOK.
Dump out my purse... findings include: a book, currently Vonnegut. kleenex. tide to-go. the usual suspects. handfuls of loose change. tuner. half eaten cookie. I have a pretty big purse. **oboeplayer**, 84, ☎️, #124924

men SEEKING women

SQUIRRELS EN SECH
People keep telling me I look like The Transporter. I give cigarettes but not money to homeless people and I know the difference between to, too, and two. **ChogoRi**, 35, ☎️, #125621

PICK ME PLEASE!!
I've tried other sites, and honestly, no results. I am an honest guy, easy going, i have a very dry sarcastic sense of humor. **nkm0972**, 35, ☎️, #125612

NORTHERN TRANSPLANT
I work too much and im looking to change that. Give me a good reason not to. **packerbacker**, 27, ☎️, #125610

HEADLINES ARE LAME.
I'm very intelligent, okay looking, not too fat, losing my hair, great in bed, mean to mean people, nice to nice people, and I'm extremely creative. I've been through hell. **nnslogan**, 38, ☎️, #125600

FUNLOVING, ADVENTURE SEEKER
I am a free spirit that loves to ride my Harley and enjoy life to its fullest. I am looking for a girl to have fun with. She should be wild. **wild2**, 51, ☎️, #125592

ENGLISH, ACHINGLY SO.
I've gone. This is no use. I've left. Find me. Next time, Austin. **wegaveyoulenon**, 23, ☎️, #125593

SEER SEEKS PEER
writer, runner, healer, appreciator, creator, giver, people lover: could relate w/ spiritually aware female who's comfortable with herself, ideas, people, nature. friendship, mutual admiration, sending love to the world. **appreciate**, 55, ☎️, #125549

SEEKING GOOFY CHICK
the title says it all. **lonelymusician**, 23, ☎️, #125520

NO FAT CHICKS
Let's have some fun but I need someone to take care of my drunk ass and feed my 3 dogs every morning. Can you make coffee and bacon and eggs? **1hooker**, 22, ☎️, #125488

ME YOU MOVIE?
Lets smile, lets laugh, lets enjoy each other. Lets say out loud. "This weekend I will Laugh, I will Dance, And YES, I will have a slice of Pecan Pie". **Global-Golfer**, 43, ☎️, #125526

AUSTIN, BORN/RAISED
I enjoy the simple things, going for a nice drive to the hill country, for a swim at Barton, movie at the Drafthouse. If your a fun, honest, easy going with a positive outlook, lets meet. **jaydo79**, 28, ☎️, #125513

LAIDBACK, COUNTRY, MUSICIAN
I'm real easy going and laidback, i love traveling, going to shows, im outdoorsy as well, im a risk taker, i just like to enjoy my life evermoment im alive. **FlippowithanF**, 23, ☎️, #125502

NOT SO WISE
5'5" 110lb Asian man looking for friendship/dating relationship. Not much else can fit into 30 words... **Epiphany**, 28, ☎️, #119209

PERFECT ,EXCEPT
I am a hippie redneck. I played in bands from the time I was 19 still get together with a couple of old band members a few times. **mylife48**, 48, ☎️, #125483

YEP!
I lives in South Austin. I have 2 dogs and a cat. I can often be found around Town Lake. I like to ride my bike. That's all for now. **Hipopotamus**, 27, ☎️, #125477

LOOKING FOR MERMAID
I'm just an old punk rocker just looking for a little sweetness. My work schedule keeps me away so I'm not home long enough to look in the usual places. **tegenerom**, 38, ☎️, #125471

BOONIES
Well I like just hanging out. Don't get me wrong I like taking trips and going out, but I would rather spend time in, with someone whose company I enjoy. **addyperactive**, 25, ☎️, #125465

DIRTY, BUT DREAMIN'
Musician by day, just waiting for this analyst stuff to take off. **TheManontheSilverMountain**, 25, ☎️, #122733

ARTISTIC, LAID BACK
I'm a friendly and easy to get along with person, but hey who isn't around Austin. I love the arts and film, and somewhat of a news junkie. **letsgo31**, 31, ☎️, #125443

women SEEKING women

LET'S GO CAMPING!!!
I drink, I smoke, I am 420 friendly, I don't do other drugs. Have job/vehicle/place/responsibility. Would like to find someone along the same lines. Own a kayak, extra points!! **kayakingkuippo**, 44, ☎️, #125617

3
looking for a good time. must be open to bf around. **3**, 27, ☎️, #125510

BOARDING N TATS
I'm a college student who loves snowboarding, longboarding, any kind of boarding, and live shows. I'm in love with girls with tats and piercings. Want someone to show me around Austin. **snowchick87**, 20, ☎️, #125569

COUNTRY HIPPIE
Hippiest tye-dye individual you'll meet. Believe in old fashion manners and can have quite the charm. Live for the present, the past is gone and the future may never come. **kimmikaye**, 42, ☎️, #125500

URBAN HIPPIE SEARCHING
I'm honest, crass, opinionated, political minded. I enjoy the finer things in life on a beer budget. I go to school and work. I'm 420 friendly and love the outdoors. **mangopen**, 29, ☎️, #125368

I'M SO CHARMING
basically i'm looking for women that are confident they are lesbians. if you're into men, just say so, it's so much easier. if you want to more, hit me up. **amevz**, 27, ☎️, #125213

KIND, HONEST, PLAYFUL
I am looking for an honest, kind woman who knows how to communicate and express her feelings. I love long conversations and playfulness and doing romantic things for each other. **InquisitiveVDC**, 39, ☎️, #125197

PASSION SEEKS PASSION
I'm outgoing', sweet, & easy goin' yet sensitive!!!!.....I just want 2 meet others 2 hang w/ & c where things might go!!!!.....I'm one 2 let things develop.....NATURALLY!!!! Hit Me up!!! **Sexxytyger74**, 34, ☎️, #124986

BIGIRL SEEKS EYESORE
Seeking freaky adult human for whatever. Like punks, NOT crusties with dreads/trust funds. Good: tattoos, uncontrollable laughter, cynicism. You should like: booty, my kid, dogs, Horse-shoe, bad karaoke. No Christians! **funnyhaha**, 38, ☎️, #124885

LOVELY IN AUSTIN!!
Looking for a bi or lesbian lady to meet in Austin. **shynatasha**, 27, ☎️, #124876

men SEEKING men

QUALITY GUY
Enjoy social functions, movies, theater, cooking, entertaining, more. Swim, workout, and walk my dog. Yes: Romance, charm, thoughtfulness, adventure. No: Drugs, heavy drinkers, smokers, insecurity, unsafe sex, closet cases, immaturity. **taurusbull86**, 43, ☎️, #125317

SOBER GUY AUSTIN
I am a gwm, 60 years old, slender, 5'10", 140 lbs. I am a dog lover, avid reader, etc. HIV+ for 20 years, good health. Retired, easy-going, honest , communicative. **soberguy**, 60, ☎️, #125183

ATTRACTIVE HUNGER FORCE
Sexy sophisticated male likes to have a good time, party, relax and enjoy life. I'm hott in the kitchen and even hotter in other places. **hungerforce**, 24, ☎️, #125108

FRIENDSHIP, DATING, LTR
Looking to meet a nice guy. Interests: camping, hiking, biking, theater, movies, conversation over beer, reading, canoeing, and traveling. Am politically progressive Younger guys, Hispanic men are a plus. **AusAbogado**, 61, ☎️, #124933

JUST LOOKING
I like to go clubbing, watch movies, dinner, and just hang out. Must have a good job, vehicle, and not live with your parents. 27-35. **shannon1980**, 27, ☎️, #124896

BES1971
GBM 6'0 175lbs black/brown. Told I have a nice smile. Like to cook/bake, sing, dance, travel, read, theater/movies, hiking/camping, swimming, bowling. Looking for W/H/M to start out as friends that may lead to LTR. Serious reply. **NIIU**, 36, ☎️, #124639

Hipopotamus

Name your guitiest, most lurid pleasure.
Chocolate or maybe chocolate and sex.

If you are about to enter a room full of total strangers, what song would you want played to accompany your entrance? When the Levee Breaks by Led Z

Quote a line from your favorite movie. "If theres anything more important than my ego on this ship I want it found and shot right now" Zaphod


read the rest of HIPHOPOTAMUS' profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at austinchronicle.com/loverslane


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FREE WILL ASTROLOGY

by Rob Breznsky for March 28 - April 3

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): It's a good time to start preparing for the shocks that will arrive when the Mayan calendar ends on Dec. 21, 2012. Some measures to consider: Learn how to use a gun, live off the grid, and gather edible plants that grow in the wild. April fool! Everything I just said was a histrionic lie. Here's my real message: The period leading up to the winter solstice in 2012, as well as that day itself, will bring no more than the usual rate of breakdowns and breakthroughs that has characterized the last two decades. Of course, that's still more novelty per year than previous generations experienced in a lifetime. But you've become pretty good at adapting, haven't you? This week I suggest you expand your mind even further about the massive transformations we're in the midst of, and think about how you can become even more skilled at constantly changing.

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): When you call to get pizza delivered and the clerk who takes your order asks your name, say you're Paris Hilton. When someone you're meeting is annoyed because you're late, say you couldn't help it because you were smoking crack in the bus station bathroom with your mom and lost track of time. If asked how much education you have, say you have three Ph.D.s in astrology, Russian literature, and whale songs. April fool! In fact, it's crucial for you to be utterly accurate about yourself. Try to go the entire week without indulging in even one white lie about who you really are.

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): Danni, the renowned "psychic to the rich and famous," predicts that disgraced ex-governor of New York Eliot Spitzer will relocate to Nevada to build an empire of legal high-end brothels that will feature the services of Britney Spears and other starlets on the downside. In that extravagant spirit, I prophesy that during the rest of 2008, you Geminis will have love lives that are as tumultuous and melodramatic and desperately interesting as the romantic escapades of bipolar Hollywood idols. April fool! Your love life may be unusual, uncanny, and highly entertaining during the next eight months, but it won't be painfully funny.

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): If you feel possessed by a ghost this week, don't worry about it: You're just channeling the spirit of a person you were in a previous incarnation. So yes, you may feel like a puppet whose strings are being yanked by an invisible entity, but at least you can rest content knowing that entity used to be you. April fool! You should not, under any circumstances, allow yourself to be controlled by the old days and the old ways – even if the invasive force comes in the form of someone you used to be.

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): Author Rick Fields wrote about the time a friend called to recommend a workshop he'd signed up for. "You've got to come," the friend said. "This seminar will completely change your life in one brief weekend." Fields was skeptical. "I don't want to completely change my life this weekend," he replied. "I've got a lot of things to do on Monday." I urge you, Leo, to adopt a similar stance toward any big educational experiences that promise to dislodge you from your routine. April fool! I lied. In fact, the astrological omens suggest you'll benefit from responding to invitations that just might thoroughly upgrade your world very quickly.

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): In his science fiction book *The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, Douglas Adams says "the meaning of life, the universe, and everything" is the no. 42. This week you will prove that's wrong, as you accumulate substantial evidence that the meaning of life, the universe, and everything is actually 59. April fool! The meaning of everything can't be reduced to one number, or even to a single theory or ideology. In fact, the meaning of everything is just the opposite: It's glorious mystery. It's gorgeous, mind-teasing ambiguity and fertile, fascinating chaos. Get out there and enjoy the prodigious, kaleidoscopic truth!

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Ralph Nader for president of the United States! Ron Paul for vice-president! Oprah for secretary of state! Dennis Kucinich for speaker of the house! It's time to overthrow the corrupt powers-that-be and install visionary leaders who will actually work for the good of the people. April fool! As much as I'd love to see those public servants ascend to high office, it doesn't make sense to fight for that outcome. For me as well as for you, revolution is not yet in the works. This is a time to pursue hard-earned incremental improvements that will come through a pragmatic willingness to compromise. Don't waste your time on all-or-nothing proposals.

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): If you're intent on scoring and imbibing an exotic psychedelic drug from Africa, please seek out stuff that has been grown organically. If you're planning to acquire a panther as a house pet, make sure it has been house-broken. And if you find it impossible to repress your urge to stagger into a bar and find a stranger to take home for a night of carnal rapture, be sure to practice safe sex. April fool! Everything I just said is a lie. Here's my real message for you: You're susceptible to rationalizing risky behavior, which could lead you to do stupid things. I suggest you either postpone sketchy adventures for a couple of weeks or else get frank feedback from a clearheaded friend before diving in.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Lots of sex: That's the truth and the way for you right now, Sagittarius. It's the only sure method for enhancing your intelligence, increasing your income, and bringing you closer to your spiritual sources. I suggest you embark on a non-stop immersion in erotic experiments, stopping only occasionally to sleep and eat. April fool! There's a crucial caveat to what I just said: Make sure the sex is blended with dramatic doses of tenderness, love, and compassion. Otherwise, you'll be wasting your time.

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): Right-wing politico William Kristol applauded President Bush's decision to nix better health insurance coverage for kids. "Whenever I hear anything described as a heartless assault on our children, I tend to think it's a good idea," he told Fox News. "I'm happy that the president's willing to do something bad for the kids." In the coming week, Capricorn, you should adopt Kristol's attitude. April fool! It's true that the demands of innocent young things and sprouting naive types might inconvenience you. But I urge you to do the opposite of what Kristol advocates. It's in your long-term interest to be in eager service to whatever's unripe and unspoiled and growing fast.

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): After mining operations stripped away the plant life on China's Laoshou Mountain, the bureau of forestry hired workers to literally paint the bare surface of the whole facade green. You should take a similar approach to tidying up after your own recent "mining operation." April fool! I was kidding. What I really meant is that you should do the metaphorical equivalent of planting a lot of trees and bushes to compensate for the consequences of your "mining operation." Don't be satisfied with merely cosmetic fixes.

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): You need more mayonnaise in your life. The omens suggest you should use it as a condiment with every meal and even add it to smoothies and cocktails. To place yourself in maximum alignment with cosmic rhythms, make mayonnaise a part of your skin-care regimen, try it out as a brass polisher, and employ it to spice up your sex life. April fool! You didn't seriously believe the planetary aspects are suggesting you should obsess over mayonnaise, did you? You do need a new spirit medicine, but it's not made from chicken eggs. Now here's your real horoscope, courtesy of philosopher Jonathan Zap: "Find your spirit medicine. And remember that what works for someone else may not work for you and vice versa. Also what works for you when used consciously, sparingly, in just right the circumstances might be disastrous as a habit."

Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Breznsky's EXPANDED WEEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESSAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700.

IS IT YOU?

Where have all the good men gone? I am hoping that you are still there and that you are looking for me too. GBM, 39, looking for you. **Colorado, 39, ☎ #123381**

REFRESHING AND QUIRKY

I'm a fun and free-spirited person. I love experiencing new things, meeting new people, and living life to the fullest. If this sounds like you, we'll get along quite nicely. **nightblindness, 25, ☎ #118639**

JUST friends

GEEK CHIC

Just looking for someone who I can get along with. Will be moving to Austin soon, and I am looking to broaden my horizons. **Geek_Sheek, 22, ☎ #125504**

I R S

whats up out there ive been in austin eight years full time job i like to go out to small towns and visit the bars out of austin, join me? **ir, 22, ☎ #125373**

FUZZY MUSIC FAN

i've been in austin since last july, but haven't even been downtown. something wrong with that. i dig all types of music and am up for anything fun! **fuzzums_druzzums, 23, ☎ #125460**

AWSOMELY KNOWLEGABLE BARISTA

Hey whats up my name is Michael I just moved to austin looking for someone to show me around town that know the sites that aren't on any tour map. **hopiland_1987, 21, ☎ #125341**

SEEKING CASE STUDY

I am enjoying my job, my family, my friends and the fabulous city of Austin and I am finally ready to let someone enjoy all of that with me. **ace, 29, ☎ #125232**

WANNA HANG OUT?

just looking for fun interesting people to hang out with and get some conversations going. NOT looking to go on dates so dont get any ideas. let's hang out! **Demographics, 21, ☎ #125209**

DO NOT READ!!!

Let's throw our laptops in a fire & rip the clothes from our bodies & dance around like savages ... Seriously, I like long walks on the beach ... **flyingmon-key, 27, ☎ #125297**

CREATIVE COQUETTE

I'm the epitome of Pisces. If conflict is the characterization of humans, I must be the poster-girl. I yearn for spontaneous adventures and captivating conversation. **ununderstood, 20, ☎ #125168**

messages

IT'S JUST ANOTHER day in paradise....!

a Shot in the Dark.....→

CEDARST.J!

The ladybug has landed, mi amor. Only wish: That you'll be my butterfly. Sweetest one... the eyes of a beautiful soul looked into mine and robbed me of my heart. **When: Saturday, January 12. Where: Cedar Strret. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902830**

LOUNGE LIZARDS SXSW

On the steps of City Hall, you were there with your nephew? I was there with my boss. You asked about my fizzy drink, I wish I had responded more... **When: Friday, March 14. Where: Steps of City Hall. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #902829**

HOW NICE?

You said that hold felt kinda nice. Did it really or was it just nerves? Contact me outside of work if you have an interest to find out the possibilities. **When: Monday, March 17. Where: work-training. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902828**

DRINKS SOMETIME?

David, you're the first one I saw when I walked into Puma. You got a Band-Aid for me. We talked music when I paid. Catch a show sometime or drinks? **When: Sunday, March 23. Where: Puma Store Round Rock Outlets. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #902827**

FARGO FARRAGO

It was rented. I was smitten at counter. Jumped in front of your car hoping for an accident. Did you see what happened with the woodchipper? Coffee sometime? Say "Yah." **When: Friday, March 21. Where: Vulcan Central. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902825**

SPOON SHOW SXSW

Walked passed you into the beer line. You asked if I was lost & said I was looking for someone. From where I ended in line I could see your intense back tattoo. Could I get acloser look? **When: Thursday, March 13. Where: Spoon Show Auditorium Shores. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902824**

SECOND SHOT @JO'S?

Pabito was checking Chadwick out while I was checking you out. Talked briefly in line at Jo's... I wish it wasn't cut short. Iced turbo soon? **When: Saturday, March 15. Where: Jo's on South Congress. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902823**

YOU DON'T TELLMIE

you: 2/3 of a musical pie i wanna devour like a vegan peanut butter cup. i want to sprinkle you in my palm and blow.hunny, u so prit-ay. like model. let's move in. **When: Saturday, March 22. Where: crawfish boil. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902822**

CUTE BARTENDER DONDERO

you were wearing a zoroaster shirt. super cute and seemingly really cool. you are a great bartender and super nice. **When: Friday, March 21. Where: Hole in the Wall. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902821**

CALI IWANTODANCE

Ureally have an amazing smile. Was with two friends from California. Asked you to find out who the band was. Figured I would try a longshot here. You made mynight. **When: Saturday, March 1. Where: Red River. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902819**

THULSA-DOOM CD RELEASE

You: beautiful, green-eyed blonde. Me: fool. cant take that night back. beggin for last chance to replace it with good nights/days. miss you and too sorry for words. **When: Tuesday, February 19. Where: WhiskyBar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902818**

RECOLLECTIONS IN FIRESTORMS

Once, in a dream, you and I shared a fantasy. Dawn came; the tyranny of reality made itself known. Your curly hair still haunts me, in a way. **When: Saturday, February 2. Where: Everywhere/Nowhere/in my house. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902817**

HALFPRICED BOOKS MARCH 1

South Lamar, Saturday. You dressed in gray slacks and black blouse, spoke with two senior ladies about crochet. I was looking for an art book, should have said hello. Coffee? **When: Saturday, March 1. Where: Half Priced Books, South Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902816**

L FROMTHE LAINIES

OrWasItTheLaurens?? You CameAndWentSoFast. HopefullySeptWillComeAtTheSame Pace.ASetOf Bongos, Guitar;And Definitely Some Keys Destin Us For Greatness.Yes,ThatWas an Oxford Comma..The Band Is DefinatlyHotterThan A Sno Cone OnTheStreetsOfAustin. FigurativelySpeaking. **When: Friday, March 14. Where: Vampire Weekend. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902815**

BUFFET PALACE BRANDON

Ate 10 plate loads of Sushi hoping to meet you!!!My office is nearby. Hoping to connect!!! If you know Brandon, please ask him to contct me!! **When: Monday, March 10. Where: BUFFET PALACE. You: Man. Me: Man. ☎ #902814**

DHABA JOY

The girl who walked into Dhaba Joy and curiously didn't order anything, where did she go? It was the 17th. You had short brown hair, I had a brown hoody. **When: Monday, March 17. Where: Dhaba Joy. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902811**

AIRPORT SHUTTLE 7PM-ISH

You: attractive/funny man wearing a GT jacket on the airport B/C parking lot shuttle. Me: Cute girl wearing a Texas black sweatshirt who smiled every time I caught you looking. **When: Wednesday, March 19. Where: Parking Lot B/C Airport Shuttle. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902812**

DOGANDDUCK

me: goofy girl with tattoos you: hand-some rockabilly bartender had small convo about tiger army.cant stand how adorable you are.love to ask you out but moving very soon.had to let you know **When: Thursday, March 20. Where: dog and duck pub. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902813**

SXSW CONVENTION CENTER

While Sons&Daughters were playing you stopped my sister and said I was pretty. Were you just putting that out in the universe? **When: Saturday, March 15. Where: Convention Center. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902810**

LEAH/MARK @ EPOCH

You befriended, maybe re-friended, me over NYC and bicycles on the patio before I left town. You've got my #, my phone ate yours- otherwise you wouldn't feel blown off. **When: Tuesday, February 26. Where: Epoch Coffee Shop. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902809**

CONAN'S CRAZY

Lance, you are the hot, delicious, satisfying, Conan's Deep Dish in the pizza box of my heart. Don't let our crust get cold andchewy. let's fireup the oven-o-dreams andget thisparlor passionate. **When: Tuesday, March 18. Where: Conan's Pizza. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902808**

CISSI'S MARKET

You were sitting in Cissi's Market Saturday with a friend. I walked by twice...black pants, blue shirt. Are you single? **When: Saturday, March 15. Where: Cissi's Market. You: Man. Me: Woman. ☎ #902807**

LOVE HILLBILLY GAPS!

Was watching Perry Ferrell during SXSW @ Pangeas I commented about ur gap.I showed u mine u told me that u loved urs I said that I hated mine.Wanna Play? **When: Thursday, March 13. Where: Pangeas Bar. You: Woman. Me: Woman. ☎ #902806**

508/PARTY BLACK DRESS

you were on stairs around 2am @ 508 saturday. can't get ya out'a my head. pretty sure we traded looks, i was/in a black t to the right of porch. **When: Saturday, March 15. Where: 508 Party. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902805**

JULIA LEXUS CONV

Looking for a beautiful women named Julia driving a convertible Lexus.Meet you 3-14-08 @ the intxn. of Stonelake Blvd. and Cap. TX. Hwy.My name is Paul driving a silver BMW. **When: Friday, March 14. Where: Traffic light. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902804**

ADORABLE TATTOO ARTIST

David thanks for staying open late. Could have stayed all night talking with you. You said my scent was intoxicating. Its even better up close. Care to find out? **When: Saturday, March 15. Where: Mom's Tattoo Parlour. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902803**

WAITRESS, MAGNOLIA CAFE

Girl in the red skirt, you are so sweet and cool, thanks! have a great day! See you in L.A someday! p.s. my little brother thinks you are cute. **When: Sunday, March 16. Where: magnolia cafe. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902802**

GREEN DRESS MAGICIAN

you: dancing at the cock pit in a green dress on thursday night, i thought you were fly. me: told you i would shoot you in the dark. **When: Thursday, March 13. Where: the cock pit. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902801**

COTTON CANDY CONTESSA

Flipnotics. You spilled your strawberry soda. Sent my hands racing for a paper towel. Sealed my heart in syrup. We were drugged and parted ways. Let's play funny games together. **When: Sunday, March 16. Where: Flipnotics. You: Woman. Me: Man. ☎ #902800**

B&N KNITTER

You, come in Tuesdays to knit with blonde hair I, work Tuesdays at Barnes & Noble La Frontera I always look forward to seeing you come Want to get lunch!! **When: Tuesday, February 19. Where: Barnes & Noble. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902799**

YOUNGER WHOOP! GOLDBERG

Texas Caucus, March 4. We spoke a bit. You were with Omo. It would be fun to talk to you more. I was there for Homey, too. **When: Tuesday, March 4. Where: Texas Caucus. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902798**

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