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MAY 4, 2008 MARIACHI LOS CAMPEROS **DE NATI CANO**

7 PM | MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL HALL

Join us for the Long Center's iFiesta del Mariachi! May 4 from 3-7 pm on the City Terrace culminating with a performance by Mariachi Los Camperos. This Grammy-winning ensemble employs the finest musicians from Mexico and the United States and was one of four mariachis who collaborated with popular recording artist Linda Ronstadt on her albums Canciones de Mi Padre and Mas Canciones

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MAY 18, 2008 Cherryholmes 7 PM | MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL HALL

This high-energy Nashville-based real-life family was named 2005 IBMA's Entertainers of the Year. Cherryholmes has many qualities that make them unique, but the basis of their success lies in plain, old-fashioned hard work combined with shining star talent.

MAY 20, 2008 **3** Redneck Tenors 8 PM | MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL HALL

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

SHOWTIMES VARY; CHECK ONLINE MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL HALL

This new musical goes behind the music and offers a glimpse at the soul of a legend both through the letters she wrote home and the songs she made famous. Classics like "Me and Bobby McGee", and "Mercedes Benz" come to life in this hauntingly intimate portrayal inspired by the best-selling book by Laura Joplin.

JULY 11-12, 2008 Video Games Live!™ 8 PM | MICHAEL & SUSAN DELL HALL

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They represent the wealthy special interests...



...and that's why we need to replace Lee Leffingwell and Jennifer Kim!

Taking care of developers and getting rid of affordable housing

Despite the objections of neighbors, both Lee Leffingwell and Jennifer Kim voted to allow a developer to tear down an affordable apartment complex with 141 units on South Lamar to build a new complex that had only 30 apartments classified as "affordable"-even though they were more than twice as expensive. (Austin American-Statesman, Nov. 17, 2006)

"We don't want urban blight. We need to think not just about this case but to think long-term."-Jennifer Kim (Austin American-Statesman, Nov. 17, 2006)

And they take care of themselves

On Nov 16, 2006, Lee Leffingwell and Jennifer Kim each voted to increase council salaries from \$45,000 to \$61,848. (University Wire, Nov. 29, 2006; Austin American-Statesman, Nov. 17, 2006)

The Austin City Council is beholden to business groups and special interests. It's time for a change at city hall. That's why I'm supporting Jason Meeker and Randi Shade for city council on May 10, and I hope you will, too!

Political Ad Paid For By Rick Culleton 1011 W. Anderson Lane Austin, Texas 78757

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CHRONIQUE: Mark the date (or dates) on your new TEXAS POLYGAMIST WIVES wall calendar for a PAIR OF ... EVENTS to support Austin's Breast Cancer Resource Center. Then read the rest of our allencompassing design blog.

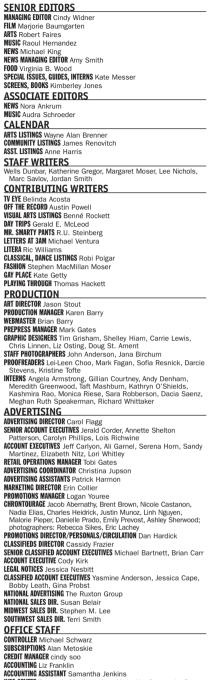
Chronic is now your one-stop blog shop for buzz on politics,

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

THE GAY PLACE: FOLLOW K8X TO JAZZ FEST. Plus: Your GP pals regurg all the gay that's fit to ... well, put online

NEWSDESK: The city's BUDGET SHORTFALL, more PRESI-DENTIAL WRESTLING, plus City Hall Hustle

THE SCORE: Matt Moore on the TOROS PLAYOFF RUN, and more sports blatherings and whatnot from here and afar



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sixth anniversary of dominating the subversive paradigm

DAY TRIPS Caprock Canyons State Park is a hidden gem

of a state park that you won't forget once you've seen it

PLAYING THROUGH Realize your long-held rowing dreams

SOCCER WATCH Austin Aztex announce roster, and more

Soccer Watch' online: Semiregular updates from

baloo weren't enough for one finely fettled Austin weekend.

for Austin City Limits, Ralph Stanley reigns supreme at the

REVIEWS Imperia, Vino Vino

Benefit Screening; Film News

BY AUDRA SCHROEDER

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'Chronicle' Endorsements May 10 municipal elections

Place 1: Lee Leffingwell

Incumbent Leffingwell's unspectacular, consensus-building approach to policy – while criticized in some quarters as insufficiently activist - has in fact made him one of the most productive of council members, especially in a first term. He is environmentally engaged and politically pragmatic, bringing together diverse or even opposing city interests in order to promote concrete, effective programs that enable greener redevelopment. reduce solid waste, conserve water and energy, and preserve shoreline open space along Lady Bird Lake. From his first day in office, he has labored to improve the city's (and region's) mental-healthcare programs, despite the usual funding limitations. He has accepted the responsibility of planning for a rapidly growing city, and he has also sought ways to improve public safety while eliminating staffing inequities, in his still-embattled proposal to merge the city's police forces. His stint on the Capital Metro board, in collaboration with other council members as well as regional representatives, began to turn that agency in a more progressive direction – particularly in its treatment of its employees.

On the other hand, Leffingwell disappointed us on some issues in his first term - a too-easy surrender on Advanced Micro Devices, questionable support at best for the Northcross neighborhood against Lincoln Properties and Wal-Mart, a water conservation plan that was announced with much fanfare but seems very modest in its goals - these and a number of smaller issues left many enviro/ progressives feeling let down, if not betrayed. The most pointed criticism of Leffingwell has come from challenger Jason Meeker, former spokesman of Responsible Growth for Northcross. Some of us believe that a more proactive council could have derailed the Wal-Mart project. But as a group we are unpersuaded that Leffingwell - because he's this election's handy incumbent target - should bear the blame for that complex defeat.

Moreover, those chastising Leffingwell neglect how he fought to reclaim power from city staff: endowing the city auditor with greater autonomy, increasing oversight of the city manager's spending, pushing for single-member districts (nearly universally supported by current council candidates), and other reforms. Considered as a whole, Leffingwell's term has been consistently progressive and steadily successful and offers no substantive reasons to replace him with a less experienced alternative.

And Leffingwell's opponents are indeed both less experienced and less accomplished. Meeker has run a clumsy, largely negative campaign, which at a minimum suggests he needs to cool off before re-engaging in public issues in some positive way. Allen Demling, by contrast, is a politically refreshing presence with a solid and consistent message: earth-friendly, bicycle-focused transportation, preserving Austin's live music and character, affordability, and governmental transparency. Although he's a relative beginner in local affairs and specifically politics, he has an intelligent approach to public policy that bears watching. He would be a welcome, progressive addition to the Transportation or Downtown commission, where he could also garner additional experience in how the city works.

But Austin needs an experienced, adept council member in Place 1 now, and that candidate is Lee Leffingwell.

The May 10 municipal election ballot will not be very long but will propose crucial decisions: most prominently the three City Council seats and beyond them the Austin Independent School District bond propositions, with school district and college trustee seats also in play. We offer our editorial board endorsements for your careful consideration, and we urge you to vote your best judgment. – The Editorial Board

TRAVIS CO. EARLY VOTING: April 28-May 6

NORTHWEST

NORTHFAST

Travis Co. voters may vote at any early voting location. On election day, voters must vote in their precinct. For a list of precinct locations, see www.co.travis.tx.us/county_clerk/election/20080510/polls.asp, or call 238-VOTE (8683).

Early voting polls are open Monday-Saturday, 7am-7pm, and Sunday, noon-6pm, unless noted otherwise.

EARLY VOTING LOCATIONS CENTRAL

CENTRAL Howson Public Library, 2500 Exposition (M-F, 10am-7pm; Sat, 10am-5pm) Washington Mutual Bank, 1000 E. 41st (M-F, 10am-6pm; Sat, 10am-1pm) Travis County Offices, 5501 Airport Bivd. Flesta Mart, 3909 N. I-35

Flawn Academic Center (Undergrad Library) lobby, West Mall, UT campus Travis Co. Courthouse, 1000 Guadalupe ACC Campus, 1212 Rio Grande ACC Business Ctr., 5930 Middle Fiskville

ACC Business Ctr., 5930 Middle Fiskville WEST Randalls, 2303 RR 620 S. Randalls, 3300 Bee Caves Rd. Bee Cave City Hall, 4000 Galleria

Pkwy. Rollingwood Municipal Bldg., 403 Nixon (closed on weekend NORTH

Round Rock ISD Performing Arts Ctr., 5800 McNeil Dr. (closed Sunday) Ben Hur Shriners Hall,

Ben Hur Shriners Hall, 7811 Rockwood ACC Northridge, 11928 Stonehollow NOT INEX31 MT Supermarket, 10901 N. Lamar (M-Sat, 10am-7pm; Sun., noon-6pm) County Tax Office, 15822 Foothill Farms Loop (just off Pecan Street), Pflugerville EAST Parque Zaragosa Rec. Ctr., 2608 Gonzales (M-F, 10am-7pm; Sat., 10am-5pm) Northeast Health Ctr., 7112 Ed

Northeast Health Ctr., 7112 Ed Bluestein #155 (Springdale Shopping Ctr.)

Randalls, 10900-D Research HEB, 7301 FM 620 N. (temporary building in parking lot)

Travis Co. Juvenile Probation Dept. Annex, 2501 S. Congress Randalls, 2025 W. Ben White ACC South Austin, 1820 W. Stassney

SOUTHEAST Dan Ruiz Public Library, 1600 Grove (M-F, 10am-7pm;

Sat. 10am-Spm) Fiesta Mart, 5510 S. I-35 ACC Riverside Campus, 1020 Grove SOUTHWEST ACC Pinnacle, 7748 Hwy. 290 W. Randalis, 6600 MoPac S. Randalis, 9911 Brodie

Randalls, 9911 Brodie

Place 3: No Endorsement

While we traditionally prefer to recommend a candidate in each race, after several discussions we simply could not come to a consensus on the two major Place 3 candidates, so we decided instead to lay out briefly the opposing arguments concerning each.

In her frosh term, incumbent Jennifer Kim has demonstrated "heart in the right place" advocacy of community values. Her strengths include her scrappy independent voice and her voting record on affordable housing, small business, and Asian-American concerns. She has consistently supported environmental protection and responsiveness to neighborhoods. But unfortunately, Kim has not proven very effective at advancing new council policies that make a real difference on these issues. She has neither sponsored nor co-sponsored successful major initiatives. Why this ineffectiveness? Bluntly, she's not a good team player, she's been somewhat aloof from citizens, and she lacks political instincts and skills. Her positions on issues, and her votes on the dais, too often blow with the wind. As a result, she has lost the trust and respect of most council colleagues and of staff and community members who previously supported her. Some of her last-minute vote switches seem calculated to burnish her image and curry favor, at the expense of her colleagues: Choice examples include forsaking the council pay raise and refusing to approve the new city manager. Time and again, Kim has failed to build the relationships and demonstrate the consistency of vision that an elected official must have to carry water on important

MOBILE VOTING
MONDAY, APRIL 28 NW Rural Comm. Ctr., 18649 FM 1431, Jonestown, 10am-6pm
William B. Travis Bldg., 1701 Congress, 8am-6pm Sam Houston Bldg., 201 E. 14th, 8am-6pm Town Lake Center, 721 Barton Springs, 9am-noon Heartland Health Care Ctr., 11406 Rustic Rock, 2-5pm
TUESDAY, APRIL 29 NW Rural Comm. Ctr., 18649 FM 1431, Jonestown, 10am-6pm Manor ISD Admin. Bldg., 312 Murray, 10am-6pm Central Services Bldg., 1711 San Jacinto, 8am-6pm Heatherwilde Assisted Living, 401 S. Heatherwilde, Pflugerville, 2-5pm Westminster Manor, 4100 Jackson, 9am-noon
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30 Manor ISD Admin. Bldg., 312 Murray, 10am-6pm Lago Vista City Hall, 5803 Thunderbird, 9am-6pm Better Business Bureau, 1005 La Posada, 9am-6pm Austin State Hospital, 4110 Guadalupe, 8am-noon Continental Retirement Community, 4604 S. Lamar, 2-5pm
THURSDAY, MAY 1 NW Rural Comm. Ctr., 18649 FM 1431, Jonestown, 10am-6pm Southwest Keys Program, 6002 Jain, 9am-6pm RBJ Residential Tower, 21 Waller St., 9am-noon Lakeside Senior Center, 85 Trinity, 2-5pm St. Edward's Univ., 3001 S. Congress, 9am-noon ARCH, 500 E. Seventh, 2-4pm

issues. As a result, she's weakly positioned for a second term.

As an alternative, Randi Shade deserves serious consideration. Unfortunately, her campaign has not clearly defined her platform beyond "it's time for a change." On key issues, her positions are in fact very similar to Kim's, so the question returns to effectiveness. Prominently, Shade has called for joint council-nonprofit initiatives to help people living in poverty - and she has a long track record of working within public and private institutions to help the most vulnerable folks. Shade's most alluring difference from Kim is her "plays-well-with-others" reputation for building consensus among disparate people and hammering out workable solutions in government, business, and community nonprofit groups. For a potential budget maven, her Harvard Master of Business Administration nicely balances Kim's Princeton Master of Public Administration. But Shade is unproven as a policy-maker, and she has no voting record on city boards or commissions.

That leaves the inevitable voter's question: Better the devil you know than the devil you don't know?

We'll be considering our cards carefully and playing our Place 3 hands on May 10 – and we urge Austin voters to do the same.

Place 4: Laura Morrison

The chance to fill Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley's term-limited seat has drawn six candidates, although three inexperienced filers appear motivated largely by a mixture of naivete and self-promotion. However, the three major

candidates – Robin Cravey, Cid Galindo, and Laura Morrison – are highly experienced, very impressive, and all have worked directly with current council and staff on crafting workable policy initiatives – indispensably, they all know their way around City Hall.

It's a difficult choice for voters, but overall we believe Morrison's solid engineering and business background make her a pragmatic nuts-and-bolts choice to succeed budgetwhiz Dunkerley. As former president of the Austin Neighborhoods Council, she has listened thoughtfully to the concerns of Austinites in every part of town and helped them to advance their interests. She has earned a reputation for fairness, balance, and respecting multiple points of view. Under her leadership, ANC maintained its impassioned, inclusive activism (and increased the voice of Eastside neighborhoods) while curtailing its tendency to reactionary NIMBYism. While we're lukewarm on the McMansion Ordinance itself, Morrison's leadership on the city's task force in shepherding it (as well as the Design Standards Mixed Use Ordinance) demonstrated her talent for tailoring city policies to reflect valid citizen concerns.

Attorney-poet Robin Cravey has served as a planning commissioner, has a long track record as an environmental activist (most recently on the Barton Springs Master Plan), and would undoubtedly be a stalwart environmental voice on the dais. His ties to the green council of years past - working with Max Nofziger and Daryl Slusher - underscore this; also in his favor is his familiarity with city government. He's the likeliest choice for voters whose first priorities are environmental defense and preservation. Yet outside of this area, Cravey's priorities and proposals are loosely defined. While his "vision for Austin" supports all the right things (affordability, walkable city, participatory democracy), we found his positions short on specific policies to achieve that vision.

By contrast, Cid Galindo has unveiled ambitious policy proposals: a comprehensive growth plan and a call for a central park, each grounded in the principles he espouses in his (admittedly recent) New Urbanism consulting work, a perspective developed while he served as a planning commissioner since 2004 (he stepped down to run for council). We like the depth of his proposal and its anti-sprawl, pro-green, New Urbanist principles. Galindo's selfproclaimed "independent" political affiliation has turned off some Democratic clubs. but in nonpartisan city elections we're not terribly abashed by his lack of ideological purity. However, with a Downtown development-focused mayor, flanked by a deferential council, we questioned whether Galindo's primary focus on Downtown, development, and regional planning (sustainable and New Urbanist as he may be) offers the right balance for this council.

In sum, we believe that as a consensusbuilder who's strong on progressive issues, and with pragmatic experience across the entire city, Laura Morrison is the best Place 4 addition to the currently sitting council.

Austin Community College Board of Trustees, Place 1: Tim Mahoney

Austin Community College is at a crucial juncture. According to a recent Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce report, it has successfully kept its enrollment on pace with Austin's population explosion – but, the report warns, its modest enrollment goals over the next few years will cause it to fall behind. That is already having dire consequences for Austin's economy, as many Austin employers are having to recruit outside the region for qualified workers, especially in tech- and health-related fields. It's a time for some vision on the board (not to mention more resources from the state).

Of the top two candidates in this race, only one presented us with a vision. Unfortunately, we're not certain it's the right vision. Harrison Keller wants to redesign completely the way ACC educates students, saying that it needs to form partnerships with school districts to ensure that high school students are more strongly challenged and prepared before they ever get to postsecondary education. That sounds good enough on the surface, but there's one thing we just can't get past on Keller - his past. Keller is the research director for the House of Representatives, hired by none other than Speaker Tom Craddick. He has also worked for representatives Troy Fraser and Dianne Delisi, and while at UT's Charles A. Dana Center, he authored papers for the Texas Public Policy Foundation pushing the notion of tying public-school funding directly to student performance. He's a nice enough fellow who insists he is no ideologue – but the people with whom he's associated are ideologues of the worst sort, and however well-meaning he may be, we've seen the Lege often use variants on his concepts to punish educators rather than help them. We realize those ideas don't directly apply to community colleges, but it's close enough to give us great discomfort.

That leaves us with Tim Mahoney. While his history in liberal politics squares up better with our general outlook, he failed to inspire us. While Keller is all about specifics, Mahoney speaks more generally of community outreach and selling the idea of ACC to Austin and prospective students. It was all just a little fuzzy and gave us a picture of someone running for office not because he is driven by a goal but just because he wants a direction to channel his desire to serve and this was what was available. Yes, ACC board is an unpaid position, but still, the school is important enough that it deserves better. Therefore, the Chronicle offers up a tepid endorsement of Mahoney - we believe he at least aims in the direction we'd rather go, though he may not have the plan for how to get us there.

Austin ISD Board of Trustees, District 3: Christine Brister

Of the four seats on the AISD board of trustees up for re-election, only one – District 3 in North Central Austin – is contested. While that's disappointing, it's not surprising: A school trusteeship is an unpaid, demanding, and often thankless position. Of the two candidates running to replace the outgoing Johna Edwards, Christine Brister has served on several AISD advisory groups, while the less experienced Jerry Garcia is a statistics maven running on his life experience. The learning curve for a trustee is a sharp one: As District 2 trustee Sam Guzman has noted, the first year is all about getting your bearings. This year is one of the most important the district has faced in a decade, with a new superintendent to be selected and Johnston High School and Pearce Middle School each threatened with closing and requiring immediate attention. Brister's long record of districtwide involvement, plus her strong grasp of both general trends for AISD and issues for specific campuses, means she will be better qualified to hit the ground running. More importantly, she seems to know, in a clear-eyed way, what she's getting herself into.

AISD Bond Proposals

Proposition 1: YES. \$187,797,315 for growth and overcrowding relief and to support academic achievement.

Proposition 2: YES. \$73,920,504 for health, safety and security, environmental improvements, and other district needs. Proposition 3: YES. \$82,000,000 for educa-

tion, special programs, and expansion.

Since Austin ISD called the first meeting of the 2008 Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee last October, this bond package has been about priorities. There is no question that AISD schools are overcrowded and that student numbers are continuing to rise. Aging facilities and computers must be replaced; other renovations must be made to keep the district in health and safety, disability- and energy-usage code compliance. With three bond propositions totaling \$343 million, and growing concerns about the larger economic situation, voters may find themselves thinking about their own funding priorities. If all three propositions pass, they will add an additional maximum of \$17 per year per \$100,000 of appraised property value (\$9 for Proposition 1, \$4 for Proposition 2, \$4 for Proposition 3). Propositions 1 and 2 reflect unavoidable costs, mandated by federal, state, or city agencies, or provide funding to replace crumbling infrastructure or build more classrooms. Innovative solutions have been found to cut some costs - like using mobile computer carts rather than buying each student a laptop. But other projects and needs, like further classroom additions for more schools, were stricken from the list, because the committee and the school board realized that everything can't be done at once. Indeed, if Propositions 1 and 2 do not pass, because they are essentially mandatory, the district will instead have to pay for them out of the maintenance and operations budget.

The three parts of Proposition 3 are more a matter of choice, especially with another bond proposed for 2010 or 2011. AISD has debated a performing arts center since the 1970s, and voters in fact approved partial funding for one in the 2004 bond - but with no location yet chosen, this funding could again go unused. Anderson High School, like other schools, is overcrowded, but portable classrooms, while far from perfect, could temporarily relieve this pressure. There is little doubt that the city will eventually need another high school, but does it need to buy the land for it now? Voters should decide for themselves whether this wish list resolves urgent longstanding problems and essential future planning or whether Prop. 3 can wait for another day ... again.

The *Chronicle* strongly endorses Propositions 1 and 2, and only a little less strongly, we also endorse Proposition 3.



PAGE TWO

The Vision Thing

Championing idealism over realism is not inherently good, moral, or noble BY LOUIS BLACK

There is perception and there is reality. There are theories, speculation, and facts (theories have a central thesis that is factually supported; speculation is more free-form). There are lessons to be learned from history and there is history that is used to support theories. The latter often is taken to mean that history can be cherry-picked to find examples to back up already held beliefs.

An example of that last item would be the argument made by a 9/11 conspiracy theorist who wrote to this paper to say that of course it was an inside job; look at the historical evidence – which, he argued, was the Reichstag fire that Hitler used as an excuse to tighten his control of Germany. Simply naming these two events in no way proves causality. They very much could be connected, or they could have almost no relationship to each other.

President John F. Kennedy was shot almost a half-century back. Since that tragedy in Dallas, there have been tens (if not hundreds) of thousands of conspiracy researchers. Yet nearly five decades later, all they hold in common is their certainty that there was a conspiracy and a collection of facts (the term is used loosely here). There are many different theories among the researchers, with many of them assuming a widespread government disinformation campaign, which is why there are so few pieces of information they all assume to be accurate. All this extraordinary research does not prove there was a conspiracy, nor is the lack of a smoking gun all these decades later an indication there wasn't one.

Office Closing Early Friday

In anticipation of Candy Month, the *Chronicle* offices will be closing at 4pm, on Friday, April 25, and will reopen for regular business hours Monday, April 28.

Any case that is made, however, is completely circumstantial. The law frowns on but does completely dismiss circumstantial evidence. Given that there is no common central thesis or even an encyclopedic collection of agreed-upon facts, it's near-impossible to believe anything is going to come from all this theorizing.

At an Assassination Symposium on Kennedy in Dallas a decade ago, I watched a group of ardent researchers surround Marina Oswald, Lee Harvey Oswald's widow, barraging her with questions. One showed her the famous photo of Lee Harvey Oswald holding his new rifle. Many argue that this is a completely doctored photo. When asked, the assassin's widow replied, "Of course I remember that photo; I was there the day it was taken." There was no response from the crowd.

Central to my thesis here is the argument that if you examine any major historical event closely, you are going to find an enormous collection of bits of information that don't fit in with the overall theory of what happened. Relationships that individuals may not even be aware they have in common are uncovered; any errors by media or government officials can be understood many ways – but not one of them accidental – and even "documentary" recordings or filming, rather than offering an indisputable truth, are often open to multiple interpretations.

That conspiracy-theory researchers are looking for one kind of evidence while rejecting others taints them as historians. The 9/11 conspiracy community boasts an army of intelligent and devoted supporters, but its case also is entirely circumstantial. Again, there is no single, agreed-upon smoking gun or unanimously accepted theory of what happened.

Driving these researchers is a gut feeling that something catastrophically wrong has happened, and they are determined to find out what it is.

The point of this column is actually not to launch another attack on conspiracy theorists

but to continue with the argument I've been trying to get at for a few weeks.

Unfortunately, the dominant political forces and the overwhelming tone of political discussion privilege idealism over realism; passionate, personal beliefs over compromised practicality; and personal conscience over community good. It's believed that not just the government, but almost any large public or private business/institution, is inherently corrupt and monstrous, so any renegade action or radical belief is endowed with purity and visionary courage. Compromise is generally agreed to be evil.

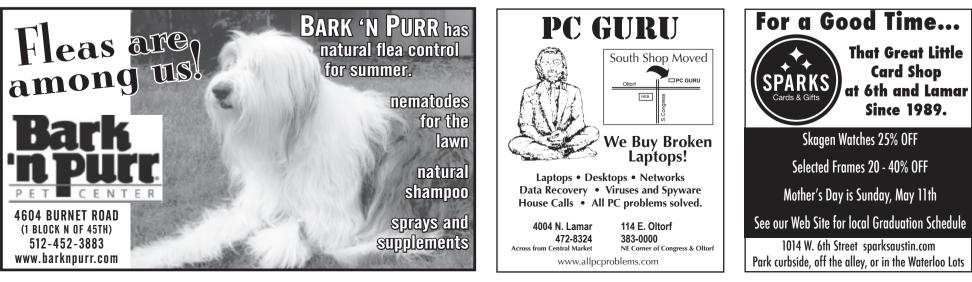
The U.S. Constitution can be read and misread in any number of ways. I argue that at its core is not the will of the people nor the dominance of any set of ideas but rather that compromise, reached through passionately partisan disagreement and debate, makes for the best government. (Again, just because compromise is often good should not suggest that all compromises are good.) Uncompromising, single-issue vetting of all who hold political office is a cancer in our constitutional republic. The loyalist champions of single issues like animal rights, guns, abortion, education, immigration, no matter which side they are on, are also among the most steadfast opponents of our constitutional form of government, whether they believe that or not.

Taking a deep breath, I see that in the case of every one of the oppositions I describe above, I have passionately championed the side that I here cast more negatively. These dualities are not absolutes, and the meaning of those ideas is fluid. Most of my life, for example, has been spent more in the service of idealism than realism (though some would claim this has as much to do with my ongoing mental state as anything else). Repeatedly, throughout the world's and our national history, views considered radical, outrageous, renegade, and subversive during their times in retrospect seem prescient. Renegades and radicals offering unpopular ideas, though attacked and suppressed by the status quo, have proven instead to represent socially aware vision.

The problem is that not every divergent voice or point of view is valid. Almost all embrace the triumph of causes driven by individual integrity. Regularly, certain statements/slogans are offered up as proof that this minority view or that unpopular one have been historically vetted. An observation such as "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is good men doing nothing" is offered up as a justification for all kinds of actions and philosophies. In so many cases, it is absolutely the truth. But as a statement, it is a descriptive caution rather than a prescriptive one. Every antigovernment action, every social cause, every renegade act is not inherently good, moral, or noble. That there are times when resistance has proven courageous and correct does not mean that every act of resistance is morally valid. Not to pick on my friends in the conspiracy camp too much, but when they say anything like "Open your mind and open your eyes" or "Are you scared of the truth?" they are being exclusive rather than inclusive. If you do not believe in the government-9/11 conspiracy, that means you are scared of the truth or that you have closed eyes and a closed mind. There is reality and opinion; there is conjecture and supposition; there is research and there is building a partisan case.

But what is "good," "patriotic," "truth," "factual," and/or "historical" is always open to discussion. Anointing oneself with righteousness and morality means nothing. There is a distinction between outside reality and personal opinions and beliefs. All too often, those on every side of every argument confuse the two, using completely loaded language to bless themselves and validate their causes.

Even though it doesn't appear to be, this column is really about taxes.



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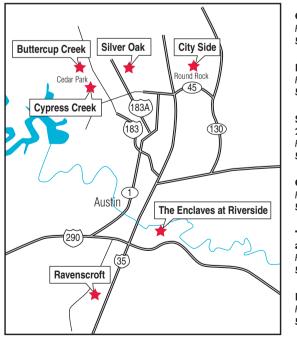
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Don't Blame Bikers

Dear Editor

Re: "Dear Bike Rider, Wake Up!" ["Postmarks," April 18]: As a bike commuter, this subject is near and dear to my heart. Every time I ride, I am aware that drivers may be deflecting their frustration with congestion on the visible target that is the biker who temporarily slows down traffic. It is not my desire to alienate drivers from the positive virtues of bicycle commuting, nor would I ever choose to bike during rush hour if I could avoid it. Of course, quite often I find that the cars also hold me up, their sheer numbers creating massive congestion around red lights.

Bikers wish that Austin offered decent, safe routes around town, but the sad reality is that they don't really exist. Never mind the bumps. glass, and gravel along the sides of the roads or that there is usually no bike lane. Avoiding heavy traffic is akin to zigzagging down side streets and alleys, waiting at stoplights that aren't triggered by a bike, and cutting along ill-maintained sidewalks, while maintaining constant awareness for negligent drivers. Fortunately, I find that most drivers are respectful and patient, and I do my best by biking hard when I know that I'm slowing down cars behind me. I'm very aware that many drivers would prefer I weren't biking, but I don't have the money to buy a car or afford the gas, don't know where I would regularly park even if I did and don't want to live that way even if I could.

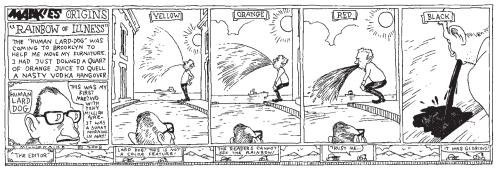
Some people live too far from their jobs to bike or require cars for their jobs. But the impact of biking on the environment is negligible compared to that of driving, idling cars withstanding. Each of us contributes to the world that we have before us. I imagine that Carl LoSchiavo's letter will provide ample grist with which a vocal minority can continue to alienate bikers and drivers from one another rather than facilitating cooperation to achieve a better transportation system. I feel that the anti-car resentment that bikers have is primarily due to a few bad apples, and the anti-biker angst tends to be fueled by those with egos and a sense of entitlement. I hope LoSchiavo will also vent his frustration constructively by advocating for more bike lanes.

Jeff Paine

Don't Lose the Faith!

Dear Editor.

I commented on Grist and other blogs about what a big deal Earth Day is, and I guess I'll say it here. The last Chronicle has three great News articles about how Austin is a leader in reducing emissions ["Cool Austin, Cool Planet," "Austin Climate Protection Plan Year One Highlights," and "The Local Politics of Climate Protection," April 18].



I found all three to be well-written and concise and wondered why everybody is worried about politics when that "doesn't mean boo to a tree." The articles not only show wonderful prog-

ress, but you also get a sense of how hard it is to reduce greenhouse gases.

If this were an easy job, we'd leave it to a bunch of do-nothing mullets. Come on folks, don't lose the faith!

Respectfully, Sam Wells South Padre Island

Bikes Are Traffic

Dear Editor.

I am writing to respond to Carl LoSchiavo, the fellow driving his car behind me on Guadalupe the other day ["Postmarks," April 18]. First of all, by the passive-aggressive and then defensive tone of your letter, Carl, I can tell I made you very angry. For that, I am sorry. But I feel obliged to inform you that driving a fuel-efficient car does not prevent you from being part of the No. 1 cause of air pollution in Austin. And while you seem aware of the fact that the city offers many options on bike routes, you lacked the ambition to check a city bike map (they just came out with a nice new one). If you had, you might have noticed that bike routes Nos. 47 and 33 go right down Guadalupe. As far as accusing me of blocking traffic, check the law; the state of Texas says a bike is a vehicle which I must ride as far to the right as is practicable, and on some sections of bike route No. 33, that is in the middle of the lane, of which there are two. I am traffic. So next time that happens, just put on your turn signal, change lanes, and pass me. Pretend I'm your grandmother in a big ol' Cadillac. And if you find a little ambition, try riding a bike. Not only is it fun, but you save gas, too.

Pete Wall

City Needs to Support Clubs

Dear Editor,

It's clear why very few bars were not enthusiastically supporting the smoking ban. They were losing money big time. Why doesn't the city work with the clubs to provide exemptions or financial assistance? Instead they worked to reverse a sensible ruling by Judge Sam Sparks ["Off the Record," Music, April 4].

Ted Christopher



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The Krayons Were/Are for Real!

Dear Editor.

Since my early days of the punk and hardcore scene in Austin, the Krayons played to packed houses, clubs, and warehouses ["Texas Platters," Music, April 18]. This may be before your time; this was back in the days of the Cavity Club and, after that, the Blue Flamingo. This was a time when skateboarding was a crime. This was before punk was cool, fashionable, and marketable. Granted, the Krayons may live on in retrospective CDs and reunion shows only, but for this aging punk rocker who grew up in an Austin that despised punks and their music, the Krayons were/are for real!

James Coffill

No Longer an AMR Shareholder

Dear Editor,

Jim Hightower's April 18 article ["The Hightower Report"] was right on target regarding CEO pay. Getting close to home here in Austin, you might remember or may have been involved in the American Airlines cancellation of more than a thousand flights just two weeks ago. The reason was the powers that be failed to comply with a simple Federal Aviation Administration airworthiness directive. The powers that be had laid off many licensed airframe and power-plant mechanics that could have performed this check. A whistle-blower at the FAA blew the whistle. This resulted in American canceling a thousand flights and stranding and disrupting thousands of passengers (customers). Some passengers waited in line for more than four hours to get a hotel voucher and meal voucher (when some of the express hotels didn't have a restaurant).

A week later, after AMR had complied with the airworthiness directive, the parent of American Airlines announced on April 16 a loss of \$328 million for the first quarter; this doesn't factor into the huge loss they'll announce later for the second quarter, since the cancellation revenues and expenses are in the second quarter.

The same day of the \$328 million loss, the CEO announced that \$40 million in executive bonuses based on performance would be distributed among this elite group of underperforming executives.

On April 16, 2007, AMR's stock was about \$30.64; a year later on April 16, 2008, the stock was \$8.54. I would equate this with fleecing the shareholders and the traveling public that relied on American Airlines.

Am I an AMR shareholder? Not anymore. Richard Gilliam

continued on p.14







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POSTMARKS :: FROM P.13

Buffalo Loves Whitman

Dear Editor.

Re: The Whitman CD review ["Texas Platters," Music, April 11]: I absolutely love this band! I think this album is one of the best albums I have ever heard. It is rock solid from beginning to end. I think the reviewer needs to take a harder listen to this album. If he still doesn't like it, then he has no soul. When this band is touring the Northeast, I will be drivin' across two states to see them play. Soon enough, the world will know the might that is Whitman!

> Eric Toye Buffalo. N.Y.

Neoconservatives Not Fans

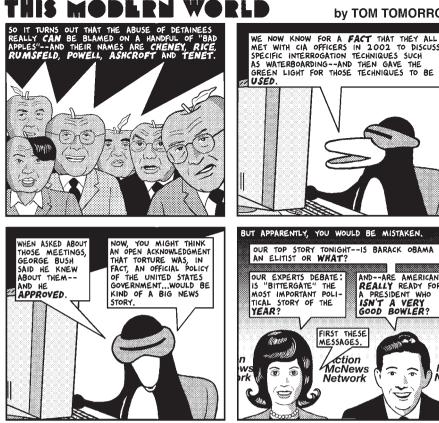
Dear Editor,

I was disappointed with the comment that Ayn Rand influenced neoconservatives ["Naked City." News, April 4]. Many modern Libertarians do acknowledge her influence.

Neoconservatives have generally attacked her viciously. This was especially the case of the founder of National Review, who died recently. Their review of Atlas Shrugged is one of the most vicious attacks on the book and easy to find on the Web. William F. Buckley Jr. was a vocal critic of Rand throughout his life, and his 1982 obituary for Rand showed just how classless a person he was

In her interview in Playboy in 1964, Rand called National Review the "worst and most dangerous magazine" in America. Unfortunately for the country, history has proven her right. Chris Baker

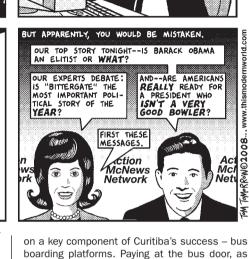
POSTMARKS ONLINE UPDATED DA austinchronicle.com/postmarks



Try Innovative Ideas

Dear Editor,

As a follow-up to Skip Cameron's letter "Postmarks," April 18], I would like to note that the website he referred to (www.cmt4austin.org) mentions Curitiba, Brazil, but does not elaborate



by TOM TOMORROW

boarding platforms. Paying at the bus door, as is done in Austin, forces passengers to enter through one narrow door - a process that takes several seconds per passenger. When the bus is full, these several seconds translate into substantial delays.

The boarding platform involves people paying to get onto a raised platform. The bus then arrives, and four wide doors open, as on a subway car, to allow large numbers of people to enter and leave in a few seconds.

Transport systems such as Curitiba's can be installed in stages, as Mexico City did. If large numbers of people are moving along one route, as from North and South Austin to Downtown, the Capitol, and the University of Texas, a single bus line with dedicated bus-only lanes can enormously relieve congestion and cut travel time. In Mexico City, the single line was so successful that cross routes are now being installed, fleshing out the system, as was done in Curitiba and in Richard Schultz's model.

Before spending millions of dollars on sleek buses on Lamar, which will be little-used because they will be stuck in traffic. I would like to extend an invitation to the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization and Cap Metro members and their staffs - I will accompany you to Mexico City and set up an interview with their transit authority so you can witness a proven, cost-effective method for urban transport. After that, you can make an informed choice on spending our tax money.

Philip Russell

What Is Happening in Austin?

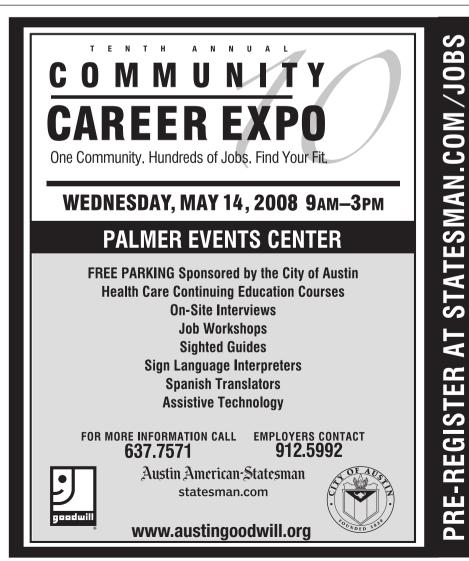
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Dear Editor

A month ago, while cruising around Lady Bird Lake, my friend and I were thrown off our bikes. beaten, and I had my wallet stolen. I understand wanting my wallet. Not the beating. It was South by Southwest week. These kids thought we had money. Blah blah blah. Take it. It's gone. We are both okay.

A little more than a week ago, while cruising Sixth Street for a slice, my friend and I were punched in the face for being "faggots." I am a faggot, tried and true. A faggot that is wondering what the hell is





going on in Austin? A faggot that wants solidarity. A faggot that wants all the aggressive folks out there to understand why this is *obviously not okay*.

I am a faggot that wants Austin to think about its obnoxious slogan "keep it weird" and actually do that exact thing. This city is growing and changing. Its problems keep growing and changing. Drunken tourism seems to be a stable and growing income for this town. Drunk or sober, let's not forget that *anybody* can jaunt down the street and deserves to do so peacefully.

With this said ... I know that I am not the only one that this has happened to over the last month. Five friends have had similar altercations. I know stuff happens ... but this is crazy. What is happening?

Scott Tankersley

Innocent Black Children Are Still Not Safe

Dear Editor,

With Ronnie Earle retiring at the end of the year, innocent little black girls who happen to be "big for their age" may think they can finally rest easy. Sorry, kids. Earle's personally chosen heir, Rosemary Lehmberg, has a clear stance on letting abusive murderers get away with beating a baby nearly to death at home and then dumping her at a day-care center so another innocent girl there can have her life destroyed by vicious prosecutorial persecution - she is all in favor of it. Where does Ms. Lehmberg stand on intimidating and threatening a false confession out of an 11-year-old child without having a lawyer or guardian present? Again, decidedly in favor, since she and Gary Cobb appear to have helped Austin Police Department detectives knowingly circumvent the law in order to do so. I wonder, how many of the Travis County voters who rubber-stamped her into office have overly large daughters?

Jason Meador [Editor's note: Please see "Advocates Still Fighting for Lacresha Murray's Freedom," News, Aug. 7, 1998, for more.]

The Children Are Suffering for the Misdeeds of Men

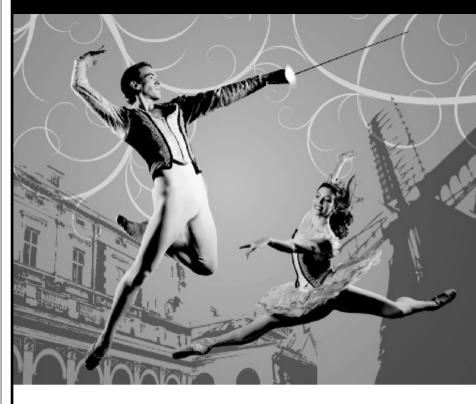
Dear Editor,

I agree with Ms. Payne ["Postmarks," April 18] that the state's handling of the situation in Eldorado, Texas, has been disastrous for the very people it intended to protect. Why traumatize the children by wrenching them away from their mothers and homes when they are not accused of any crimes? It is the men of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints compound who are suspected of crimes, and it is the men who should be removed and questioned, not the women and children. Once again, it is the children who suffer. Tragic.

Annie Hartnett



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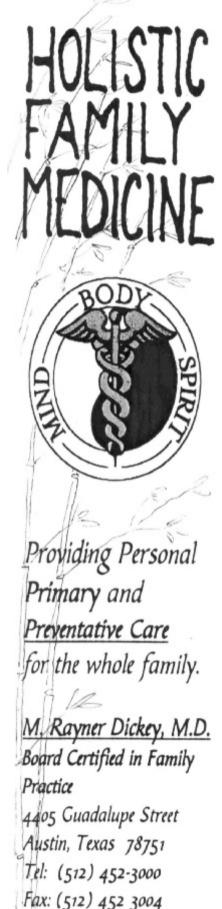
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Raul with his wife, Theresa, and their daughter, Sofia.

Jason Meeker City Council, Place 1

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news

29 THE HIGHTOWER REPORT



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QUOTE OF THE WEEK

"With spring in full swing, we decided to hit the trail. I just hit it a little harder than I had planned."

 Austin U.S. Rep.
 Lloyd Doggett, after suffering a broken leg in a bicycle accident while out for a ride with his wife, Libby

HEADLINES

- Early voting in Austin's municipal elections starts Monday, April 28. See endorsements, p.6, plus lots of coverage, beginning with "Point Austin" at right.
- If this is Austin, then there must be a new transit plan making its debut; see p.26.
- At its first budget work session Wednesday, council members learned that, even with generous tax projections, the city's \$20.6 million in the hole; see "Beside the Point," p.18.
- Hillary Clinton may be hanging by her fingernails, but she scored a victory Tuesday in the Pennsylvania primary.
- Horse sense or hogwash? A handful of equine dental practitioners has filed suit in Travis Co. against the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners for requiring that only state-licensed vets care for horse teeth.

NAKED CITY

The latest attempt to tackle the issue of **Downtown billboards** has suffered a setback, with a proposed city ordinance being pulled from this week's council agenda. On Friday, Council Member Mike Martinez requested that his fellow members postpone the public hearing scheduled for the April 24 meeting to allow time for more discussion. The ordinance would have introduced a "cap and trade" system intended to move billboards out of Downtown; it also would have banned mobile billboards. Council sent the proposal out in November for consultation, but the Design and Planning commissions and Scenic Austin criticized it for not going far enough on cutting billboard numbers; billboard firms, meanwhile, say it goes too far. Martinez intends to offer a new "slim line" ordinance on May 8

(two days before the council election), which will keep the ban on mobile billboards while also creating a new billboard database, introducing registration fees, setting energy-efficiency requirements for lighting, and dumping the ability to replace a removed board. If the proposal makes it to a third reading, it could be the last significant ordinance the current council passes. – *Richard Whittaker*

The Bus Riders Union of Austin, formed last year to advocate for mass-transit users, called on Capital Metro Tuesday to return to a free-fare system. Such a move would be a complete turnaround for the agency, which declared last fall that it intended to double fares - a plan put on hold after widespread protests. The proposal argues that eliminating fares would cost Capital Metro a negligible amount of revenue, a small price to pay in exchange for the net benefit to the environment and the efficiency of the system. According to the report, fares account for about 3.3% of total revenue after the costs of fare-box maintenance and accounting are factored in; nearly 78% of the agency's revenue is derived from sales tax. If fares were eliminated, the report suggests, ridership would increase (alleviating traffic congestion, the city's greatest source of pollution), and bus-boarding would be streamlined (making the system faster). The report also identifies some areas where waste could be cut to make up for the lost fares, such as the bloated marketing budget, a fleet of fuel-inefficient supervisor sport utility vehicles and sedans, and \$31 million budgeted for "services," which include paying consultants for jobs that could be done in-house. Cap Metro briefly flirted with the idea of a fare-free system in 1989-90, but agency officials say the plan was killed because it didn't produce a significant increase in riders. See the full report at www.busatx.org. – Justin Ward

- Justin Ward continued on p.19

POINT AUSTIN

What's at Stake?

Municipal election offers a referendum on your priorities

BY MICHAEL KING

Maybe it's something else we can blame on Barack Obama.

Even though we've just endured weeks of primary campaigning, including a run-off or two, public interest remains high entering the final weeks of the city election campaigns. The handiest barometer is the number of "endorsement" forums held by myriad associations, interest groups, and political clubs around town. Several of the candidates have noted how many forums there have been this year, hosted by the usual suspects (e.g., neighborhood associations and Democratic clubs) as well as numerous tiny interest groups that seem to have appeared out of thin air. It's arguable that the excitement generated by the Obama campaign, and that amplified the voting and caucus numbers, is reverberating at the local level. Of course, it's also arguable in turn that the Obama excitement is partly a response to nearly eight long years in the Bushian desert - if you needed something else to blame on Bush, be my guest.

Whatever the case, it's been a mixed blessing, especially when the forums begin to double up and the attendees all begin to look suspiciously familiar. But it's useful to know how the enviro groups, the public safety unions, the neighborhood associations, and yes, even the real estate crowd are evaluating the various candidates. The endorsement gauntlet is a very uneven guidebook, but the accumulation of information eventually offers some patterns for comparison.

This week, the *Chronicle* News staff delivers an overview of the municipal ballot you will see on May 10, covering the City Council races, the (rather thin) community college and school board campaigns, and the school district bond propositions. Up front (p.6) we've got our own endorsements, and take them for what they are: the considered (and hard-argued) opinions of about a dozen *Chronicle* reporters and editors, who have looked closely at the candidates and come to a rough consensus. Read, consider, roll your eyes ... and vote as you will.

Storm Clouds

The designed structure of city government is such that no one election marks a sea change. Only three places on the seven-member council are in play, two featuring incumbents, so any transformation is unlikely to be dramatic. But there will be changes in emphasis and approach, and, more importantly, the major issues that will face the new council will be strikingly different from those of the last two years. My guess is that the issues dominating the city discussion over the next year will be: 1) economic recession and affordability; 2) public safety costs; 3) transit, urban planning, and *continued on p.18*

land use; and 4) addressing the costs of continued growth. These issues mix and overlap, and some are perennial, but this year's conversation will take place in an altered context.

Most prominently, it looks increasingly likely that the city will follow the country into some degree of economic recession, and thus the next budget cycle will be more constrained. Perhaps it will not be as bad as the crunch that closely followed 9/11, but the city had only climbed back to a budget plateau in the past year, so news of diminishing sales-tax receipts is sending predictable shivers through City Hall. That goes double because the Police, Fire, and EMS contracts will be in negotiations over the next several months, and new City Manager Marc Ott has already fired a predictable warning shot about fiscal limitations - while (to his credit) revising the budget drafting process to get more upfront council and public input.

I'm skeptical of the now-conventional wisdom that public safety consumes two-thirds of the city's revenues, on a trend line to bankrupt us all - especially when the percentages depend curiously on how one does the overall accounting. Moreover, the supposedly ravenous public safety unions are currently on record as prioritizing increased staffing over salary increases. That money certainly comes from the same pot, but not only is the city continuing to grow, every citizen survey reflects that Austinites (rightly or wrongly) list police and fire protection as their own first priority and doubtless those are the first duties of any municipal government.

The point is there are structural costs to city government that simply can't be wished away or found deeply hidden in legendary, secret "waste and fraud" pockets of budget documents routinely posted on the city website. It's also true that growth (or, if you prefer, "economic development") never quite pays for itself and that state limitations on local governments have increasingly moved costs downward while simultaneously restricting financial tools to address those costs. That means that most of the available money is already spoken for. One comical consequence is the annual headline hand-wringing over the random million or 2 in last-minute funds allotted the council for discretionary spending.

Small Comforts

All of the above is by way of introduction to your choices on election day and more broadly to what's at stake in trying to assemble a workable

city government. Although most of the political air has been understandably sucked into this year's presidential campaign, much of what will happen to Austinites on our day-to-day ground is more directly determined by our local governments trying to administer our local resources. The current record is very mixed. We seem finally to be making some tentative progress on mass transit and even more tentative advances on climate protection and resource conservation. On basic matters of social equity - e.g., affordability and social services - we seem to be backsliding, and what's more worrisome is that the available leadership, in and out of office, appears largely bereft of effective ideas to make progress.

Our broadest safety net, United Way, is in the midst of a radical restructuring that may reap benefits down the line but in the short term has left crucial services at the mercy of either local government or scarce, independent funding. And while every candidate, without exception, supports "affordable housing" as a basic principle, when asked for specific proposals, pretty much all we get is the current incremental approach of targeted public incentives and crossed fingers. That's perhaps grudging acknowledgment that in a capitalist economy - not to mention a municipal budget founded upon property wealth - real estate rules. That's worth remembering if the recession indeed deepens and the current public aversion to subsidies for "economic development" abruptly goes into hiding.

Hard Choices

All of these subjects have indeed come up in the Chronicle's discussions with candidates and to a lesser degree in the tightly time-constricted public forums with various interest groups. But upon reflection, much of the discussion of economic realities has been around the margins of the debate. Maybe we should spend the last couple of weeks trying to determine which of the available candidates has the experience and judgment to manage responsibly the city's limited resources in what looks likely to be another rough economic period.

I'll offer just a few of my own thoughts to supplement the staff reporting you'll find within on the individual races:

In Place 1, incumbent Lee Leffingwell is opposed by Northcross firebrand Jason Meeker, who has tried to cast his challenge as an "outsider" scaling the corrupt battlements of City Hall, and by the youthful Allen Demling, who continued on p.30

BESIDE THE POINT Hard Times

BY WELLS DUNBAR

How do you know times are tight? When you start calling meetings to talk about how hosed you are.

At the Chronicle's press time Wednesday, City Council was wrapping up its first budget work session, having pored over the citv economic outlook and a five-year financial forecast. And there's no shortage of disquieting indicators. As Brewster McCracken was telling anybody with a camera in a fiveblock radius of City Hall last week, the city is a hair away from a hiring freeze as they scramble to fill a shortfall in sales-tax revenues. Chief Financial Officer Leslie Browder affirmed the slowdown - instead of the projected 7.5% growth in sales tax, we've now slouched to 3.8% growth for the fiscal year, down from the 4.7% projected earlier. On the news channels, McCracken was riffing off a memo City Manager Marc Ott had issued in light of the bad news, asking all city department directors to come up with belt-cinching suggestions.

However, hopefully using City Hall like this on Wednesdays doesn't interfere with my income-generating suggestion to hold a swap meet there on off days.

Going into the budget, they'll certainly have a lot to talk about. Like, if even the, shall we say, fiscally challenged Capital Metro didn't project sales-tax growth this high, it makes you wonder what other time bombs might be buried in last year's budget. Discerning readers may also recall that last year, the financial forecast told of a \$27 million-odd gap (which, In Toby We Trust, was supposedly closed). But with cloudy financial times here already, what wonders could this one hold? Wednesday morning, we got the anwser: a \$20.6 million deficit - by the city's sunniest estimate.

Regardless, it's good to see the work sessions return. Although it was a little before BTP's time, councils past used them regularly to get ahead of the curve, instead of valiantly struggling to shoehorn everything into one weekly meeting. But the work sessions were cast aside during the Kirk Watson era. And who could blame him? After all, it was those high-flying late 1990s - there were photo shoots in front of the Ritz to

arrange, nightclubs to demolish, and deals with cutting-edge companies like Intel to ink!

Well, Mr. Ott, here's one unsolicited piece of financial advice from yours truly: While council has scheduled a total of five work sessions for the budget, why not stretch those out even longer? With additional work sessions, say, every other weekly meeting, council could cover some of the interminable presentations they receive each week, capture some of the massive zoning agenda, further tackle the joined-at-the-hip public safety negotiations, and generally provide more bang for their buck. Now, I'll need those 2 cents back, please I'm strapped!

On Tap This Week

That's not to say the city's two steps shy of the poorhouse exactly. This week's Thursday council meeting brings plenty in the expenditures department. The city inks three \$50,000-plus contracts with the Asian-American, African-American, and Hispanic chambers of commerce to create an interconnected database of hiring companies, in advance of an "employment expo targeted to minorities seeking career opportunities." Items from council include a call to upgrade and expand the Austin **bike network**, with the goal of attaining the League of American Bicyclists' gold-level status, and a sister measure to promote the city's "interconnected bicycling, pedestrian and trails network." Council also looks into a future move of the Austin History Center into the Faulk Central Library, along with allowing overnight concrete delivery and pours Downtown (to avoid any further fogs of profanity from a gridlocked hizzoner - hopefully), plus Mike Martinez's nowgutted ordinance banning mobile billboards, but steering clear of the scenic roadway debate (see p.17). PowerPoint-wise, there's a 10:30am presentation of the Mavor's Mental Health Task Force Monitoring Committee's third annual report and a 2pm rundown on the African-American Quality of Life initiative. On zoning, there's vertical mixed-use opt-in/opt-out from Windsor Road, South Lamar, Barton Hills, and Windsor Park neighborhoods. Truly an

embarrassment of, if not riches, something. Stock tips? Money-market advice? Ring wdunbar@austinchronicle.com

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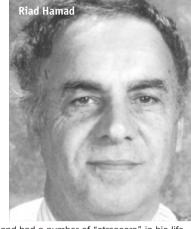
Home For Children



NAKED CITY :: FROM P.17

The changing of the guard continues at the **Austin American-Statesman**. Publisher Mike Laosa announced his retirement this week, just a month after Editor Rich Oppel announced his own departure. Laosa will leave Oct. 1, Oppel in June. Laosa, 54, told a Statesman reporter, "I just wanted to spend more time with my family and friends." He said the decision was prompted in part by a bout with prostate cancer in 2001. In keeping with Cox Newspapers' focus on promoting from within the company, Laosa will be succeeded by Michael Vivio, publisher of the Waco Tribune-Herald, another Cox paper. Described in the Statesman as "innovative," Vivio is credited with redesigning the Tribune-Herald. While noting that "there isn't any part of the business that wouldn't benefit from a fresh approach," Vivio told the Statesman reporter: "The Statesman is an incredibly wellmanaged newspaper. It doesn't need to be fixed." In the article, Cox Newspapers President Jay Smith described the Statesman as "solidly in the black" and as "one of the top-performing newspapers in the country." But Smith is also leaving - Kevin Brass the company, retiring next week after 37 years with Cox.

Austin Police reported last Thursday that they believe Riad Hamad, a local teacher and activist whose body was found Wednesday afternoon in Lady Bird Lake, died by his own hand, based on preliminary observations by the medical examiner. Police said they do not suspect foul play despite the fact that Hamad was found with his arms and legs loosely bound and with tape over his eyes and mouth. Police observed that the "hindings of his hands and legs and the placement of the tape was consistent with Hamad having done this to himself." When Hamad was reported missing on April 14, his friends informed investigators that



he had expressed suicidal thoughts and had a number of "stressors" in his life. Apparently one of those was the fact that he was the target of an FBI investigation. FBI spokesman Erik Vasys confirmed in the *Statesman* Friday that Hamad was a "person of interest" in a criminal investigation. Initially it was rumored that Hamad's death was a homicide after Debbie Russell, president of the Austin chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union, sent out an erroneous e-mail to that effect. Hamad, who taught at Small Middle School and was an official for the Palestine Children's Welfare Fund, was eulogized by family members in a written statement as a "peace activist who worked tirelessly on behalf of those less fortunate than him." – Justin Ward

Austin Chronicle News reporter **Kimberly Reeves** was recently honored with the Texas State Teachers Association School Bell Award, which aims to "recognize outstanding media coverage of education issues and events." Education Austin nominated Reeves for her reporting last fall in the *Chronicle* on efforts to save Johnston High, the East Austin school that faces closure after years of lagging test scores ("The Slow Dying of Johnston High," Nov. 30, 2007). Reeves continues to follow Johnston's story and reports this week on the most recent developments (see below). Congrats, Kimberly!

– Nora Ankrum

Only one person showed up at Monday night's Austin Independent School District board meeting to testify on a potential closure plan for **Johnston High School**. Even so, Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Chair Robert Franco's testimony was no plea to keep the Eastside school open; instead, he admonished the school district to take more substantive action before additional schools follow Johnston's fate. After four years of failing test scores, state law gives Education Commissioner Robert Scott the right to close Johnston this summer if this spring's test scores continue to fall in the "academically unacceptable" range. The Texas Education Agency has two options: either close the school outright or seek an alternative manager to operate the campus next year. A request for qualifications is already on the street, seeking managers to operate the state's academically unacceptable campuses. *– Kimberly Reeves*

CITY HALLBUSTLE

Watch the *Chronicle* do it vloggy-style with our inaugural video blog, City Hall Hustle. Every Thursday this month, City Hall Hustle has delivered the down-low on the upcoming City Council elections, bringing you profiles and interviews with the candidates – all imbued with the inimitable flavas of City Council reporter **Wells Dunbar**. Catch the entire three-part series online at **austinchronicle.com**. This week's stars: Place 4 candidates **Robin Cravey**, **Laura Morrison**, and **Cid Galindo**.

Supporters of **Pearce Middle School** will gather this Saturday, April 26, to march and rally for the campus as it heads toward this year's final state-stan-dardized tests. Pearce, in its third year rated as an academically unaccept-able campus, could face potential closure if scores on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills test don't rise. Radio talk-show host Michael Lofton, who is rallying the community, said teams will go door-to-door in the Pearce neighborhood to raise awareness of the importance of the test. Supporters, and especially alumni of the 50-year-old school, are encouraged to meet at 1pm at Andrews Elementary, 6801 Northeast Dr., to begin the march. - K.R.

Uri Horesh, an Arabic lecturer at UT, started a rumble earlier this year when he resolved not to eat until UT offered same sex health benefits to faculty. He made it seven days without food in which time his silent, nonviolent protest managed to make some noise (and not just hunger pangs) for the cause. But sadly, the university is held accountable to state law, which says that coverage can only be provided to an employee's married spouse (defined by a 2005 constitutional amendment as a union between "a man" and "a woman" only). So Horesh had a burger and recognized the need for more voices to make the change. Since then, he's been joined by UT's Human Resources Department, staff council, faculty council,



and Pride and Equity Faculty Staff Association, as well as Equality Texas and former UT President Larry Faulkner. With their prompting, and following the lead of the student governing body of the LBJ School of Public Affairs, the UT Senate of College Councils has passed a resolution urging UT to offer domestic-partner benefits to employees, sending the message that students do support commonsense civil equalities. You earned your burger, Uri Horesh. – Kate Getty

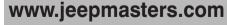
BEYOND CITY LIMITS

Bill Dingus, the Democratic candidate challenging House Speaker Tom Craddick for his seat in the Texas Legislature, has resigned his seat on the Midland City Council as part of his fight to stay on the November ballot. On April 15, U.S. District Judge Walter Smith Jr. had ruled Dingus (running under the slogan "One of the Good Guys") ineligible because he had not stood down from the City Council before filing his paperwork. Texas has a "resign to run" rule that requires anyone holding a lucrative office to resign before running for a higher office. But the Texas Democratic Party interpreted a 1996 case as specifically giving Midland council members an exemption from this rule. While Smith's decision did not remove him from the ballot, Dingus offered his resignation on April 21, as a pre-emptive measure. "The chances are that someone, somewhere, will try to get me off the ballot, so every scenario we went through started with me resigning," said Dingus. He says he intends to remain in the race and has retained an attorney.

A solar farm in West Texas may grow out of a land deal announced last week between Austin Energy and the Texas General Land Office. Our cityowned utility has leased 438 acres in Reeves Co. near the town of Pecos and is authorized to develop up to 150 megawatts of solar-generated energy, but they probably won't decide on a particular solar technology until next year. The announcement was made in front of a solar array at Austin's 0. Henry Middle School, one of 20 demonstration solar systems AE has installed at local schools. The connection: While O. Henry was penning his famous short stories, he made ends meet by drawing maps for the General Land Office, explained agency spokesman Jim Suydam. When the solar project eventually goes online, Suydam said, proceeds will flow into the state's Permanent School Fund - currently bolstered by wind and oil and gas projects on state lands. "Oil and gas is our bread and butter, but it's going away," Suydam said. "We think solar is an entirely viable option." The GLO has also offered leases in the Texas Gulf and along the coast for proposed wind and geothermal power production. Daniel Mottola

The Texas Education Agency has offered the job of science coordinator to Kenn Heydrick. That should quash the conspiracy theorists who speculated that the agency removed former coordinator Chris Comer last year to replace her with someone who supports intelligent design. Heydrick, who's been the coordinator of science and health in the Pflugerville ISD since 2000, is the immediate past president of the Science Teachers Association of Texas and a vocal supporter of evolution. In a news release on the National Science Teachers Association website, he said, "We do our children a great disservice if we allow pseudoscience to be addressed in a science classroom." – K.R.







Group Calls for Museum Director's Ouster

A group of former employees, museum members, and contractors with the Texas Military Forces Museum at Camp Mabry is calling for the immediate firing and criminal prosecution of museum Executive Director Jeff Hunt, who they say threw a "tantrum," destroying a \$23,000 Civil War battle diorama built by Arizona high school students that was commissioned by a former museum director.

History teacher Glen Frakes, of Gilbert, Ariz., says his students spent more than three years and thousands of hours building the 5-foot-by-10-foot diorama of the Battle of Palmetto Ranch for the Camp Mabry museum, and Hunt tore the diorama apart, soldier by inches-tall soldier, over the course of a weekend last fall.

Officials at Camp Mabry stand by Hunt's decision to torpedo the diorama - though they

sav it was "dismantled" and carefully preserved - and cite historical inaccuracy as the reason for its alteration. But Frakes insists that the display was as historically accurate as any "work of art" representing a

100-year-old battle and that his students are heartbroken. "The girls were in tears," Frakes said, when he told his students of the diorama's fate last fall. Frakes says they believe Hunt committed a crime by destroying museum property. "We want to push for a felony conviction of Hunt."

he said, "and see him fired from his job." To that end, Frakes and his associates, including the son of the museum's founder and a former director there, must convince Camp Mabry officials that Hunt committed a crime, but they have so far been unsuccessful. Hunt was formerly the curator of the National Museum of the Pacific War in

Fredericksburg but was "dismissed" in 2006 after nine months in the position for "failure to adhere to agency policy," according to the Texas Historical Commission. He was hired at the Camp Mabry museum in October 2007.

Frakes' group has called on Gov. Rick Perry's office to investigate Hunt and has gathered letters of support from two of Arizona's top officials – Republican Sen. John McCain

JaffHunt

Frakes likened Meehan's "dismantled" claims to breaking a piece of dinnerware. "It's like if I broke a dinner plate and said, 'It's not destroyed; I've got all the pieces."

and Democratic Gov. Janet Napolitano. The

"It absolutely was not destroyed," said

Col. Bill Meehan, public affairs officer at

racy for the battle has turned into a war of

cials. But before and after photos of the

January, three months after the diorama was, as Meehan put it, "dismantled," sol-

broken weaponry, along with at least one

headless soldier.

diorama do not appear to show a carefully dismantled display. In a photo taken in

diers are seen piled willy-nilly, with bent and

During a visit to Camp Mabry last week,

containing nearly all 750

of the preserved diorama

figurines, as Hunt pulled a

few figures out to demonstrate. But examination of

hooves where cavalry had

below the horses' knees.

the diorama base itself showed several broken

been removed, severed

When asked about the hooves, Hunt said there

was no way to maintain

total preservation during

dismantling: "Taking this

apart, did some rifles get

bent? Some figures get

broken? Sure."

this reporter was shown boxes purportedly

words between Frakes and Camp Mabry offi-

Camp Mabry brass denies wrongdoing with regard to the diorama, which was appraised

at between \$60,000 and \$130,000.

Meehan listed a variety of reasons the diorama was unacceptable, saying it was too large, that a model boat was traveling in the wrong direction, and that the type and placement of soldiers present were incorrect. But Frakes and others calling for Hunt's resignation say the historical inaccuracy is a cover story for what really happened.

Hunt "wrecked the thing first," says Frakes. Museum employees who were with Hunt when he initially saw the diorama have described his reaction as a "tantrum," saying he ranted about how "awful" and "terrible" it



Hundreds of tiny soldiers formed an intricately detailed display of the Battle of Palmetto Ranch, one of the last battles of the Civil War.

was. Then, they say, over an October weekend, Hunt came back to the museum after hours and destroyed it. But Hunt may have destroyed something based on his own life's work - a book on the Battle of Palmetto Ranch, written by one Jeff Hunt, served as Frakes' guide in constructing the diorama. And one of the claims of historical inaccuracy - concerning the type and placement of soldiers on the battlefield - came straight from an error in Hunt's book, according to Frakes, which was inadvertently repeated in the diorama. While Hunt's book, The Last Battle of the Civil War: Palmetto Ranch, claims that the charging forces in the May 1865 battle in South Texas numbered "up to 200," said Frakes, most other accounts he found after the diorama's destruction actually put the number closer to 300.

Frakes says Camp Mabry's other complaints about the display are easily

Walther next will preside over hundreds of individual hearings before deciding whether each child will remain a permanent ward of the state. Those decisions must be made by June 5, reports the Associated Press. Still, the legality of the initial raid may now be in doubt, since it appears that the outcry that prompted the action was completely false. In addressed: The diorama was always commissioned at 5 feet by 10 feet, nearly the same size as four other dioramas Frakes and his students created for the museum in the past. As for the boat traveling in the "wrong direction," it is in fact paddling upstream, away from the battle, as any logical captain would have done. It is all a powerful testament to the unknowable aspects of the past, and Frakes says he was never given a chance to right any perceived inaccuracies before the diorama was demolished.

Over the years, Frakes and his students have had dioramas placed all over the country, including in the Smithsonian Museum in Washington, D.C. A 35-year veteran educator, Frakes plans to retire next year and hoped the Battle of Palmetto Ranch would be a high note on which to leave his position. But now, he describes the Palmetto diorama ordeal as "a tragedy, a nightmare." - Andrea Grimes

fact, reports The Denver Post, the woman

allegedly behind the calls, Swinton, has a his-

tory of making false reports. She was arrest-

ed for a June 2005 call wherein she claimed

POLYGAMIST RAID PROMPTED BY FALSE REPORT?

Texas Rangers say they've seized evidence from an apartment in Colorado Springs, the residence of a 33-year-old woman who may be responsible for prompting a massive raid of the Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints compound in the West Texas town of Eldorado. Reportedly, the woman, Rozita Swinton, has been arrested but not yet charged with making a false report in Texas. Allegedly, she called a West Texas family violence shelter on March 29 and 30, claiming to be a 16-year-old girl named Sarah who was being forced against her will to stay

at the gated Yearning for Zion Ranch; the caller also said she was the mother of an 8-month-old and the seventh wife of a 50-year-old man, Dale Barlow, who had beaten her in the past.

The calls prompted hundreds of Department of Public Safety officers and Child Protective Services investigators to descend on the gated compound, where sect members have lived since 2003; at the end of an eight-day siege, officials had removed 416 children from the ranch. The children were in "imminent" danger of abuse, the state claimed,

thanks to the FLDS lifestyle, which, famously, includes polygamy - and in particular, the marrying off of underage girls to older men. After a huge and chaotic court hearing April 17-18, in Tom Green County, District Judge Barbara Walther on Friday granted the state custody of all 416 children and ordered DNA testing on all, to resolve questions of parentage.

to be a teen mother thinking of abandoning her child, and in February, the daily reports, she allegedly called police claiming to be an abused child locked in a basement. Still, Department of Family and Protective Services spokeswoman Shari Pulliam told the Post that there may actually be an underage mother named Sarah taken from the ranch - and even if that isn't so, the fact that pregnant underage girls were found at the ranch means the state's case is still solid.



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WILCO SENDS ANOTHER ONE PACKING

Another "national expert" has left Williamson Co., after apparently running afoul of WilCo's incestuous power structure. His departure comes nine months after the high-profile resignation of a nationally recruited director of the animal shelter. **Gary Oldham**, chief of the county's Department of Emergency Communications, left his post last month, citing, among other things, a lack of adequate support from county officials. Former Regional Animal Shelter Director **Melanie Sobel** had cited similar reasons when she left last year.

In 2006, the county recruited Oldham, a former police officer, dispatcher, and fireman, who rose up the international ranks of emergency communications over a 30-plus-year career to supervise the design and construction of an emergency operations complex, subsequently assigning him "several other full-time jobs," according to Oldham's March 24 resignation letter. Oldham gave 30 days' notice, but the Commissioners Court rejected the notice, "making my resignation effective immediately." Now, Oldham is taking stock of his achievements, which included the creation of a model dispatch academy. He says he's still struggling to understand why WilCo froze "pesky ol' me out of the picture."

Oldham left Round Hill, Va., to take his dream job in WilCo, whooping and hollering as he and his wife crossed the Texas/Arkansas border. He remembers looking forward to living in a state known for its "straight talk." He set about modernizing the county's aging communications system, deciding early on to delay construction of a new emergency operations complex, which could have been his first mistake. "I made the case that a number of things needed fixing before we built a shiny new building into which we'd move existing problems," Oldham told the *Chronicle*.

Oldham acknowledges bucking what he terms "seemingly deliberate delays" to his myriad solutions. For one, Sheriff **James Wilson** indefinitely impounded his new operations manual, based on unsubstantiated theories that it would lead to "dead cops all over the place," Oldham recalls. In another instance, the county effectively killed a plan to replace its circa-1970s "computer-aided dispatch" system with state-of-the-art gear because, as County Judge **Dan Gattis** told Oldham, people had complained of a lack of input, which Oldham denies.

However, Oldham believes the nail in his coffin may have been his expressed concerns about some questionable business-as-usual practices. For example, he said, he had told the WilCo brass that millions of dollars in grant funding could be in jeopardy if the

Department of Homeland Security were to find out the county had not correctly instituted certain mandates.

In a county press release, Gattis stated Oldham's resignation had presented the county with an "opportunity" to improve delivery of emergency services. Meanwhile, Oldham no longer buys the Texas "straight shooter" mystique. More than that, he said he laments that though he made the county safer, he was forced to leave it "not as safe as it could be." – Patricia J. Ruland

Waterfront Agreement Ends Deadlock

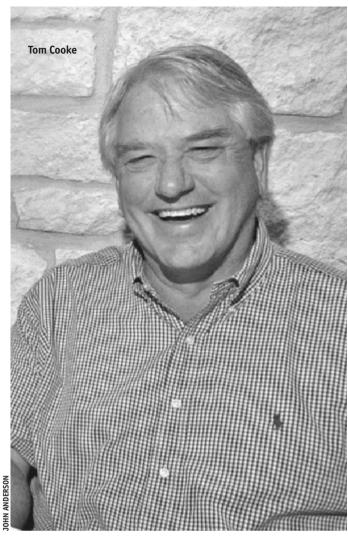
After a long stalemate, and facing almost certain rejection from City Council, the developer of the hotly contested **waterfront condo project** at 222/300 E. Riverside finally has agreed to new project parameters that have won the hearty endorsement of community groups. The project ignited a citizen outcry over variances to the Waterfront Overlay Ordinance, which protects open space along the Lady Bird Lake shoreline; the controversy led to formation of a new city Waterfront Overlay Task Force charged with reviewing the ordinance and making recommendations for protecting the public interest.

CWS Capital Partners and the community advocates protesting its project – **SaveTownLake.org** and **South River City Citizens** – last week reached an agreement that both sides hold up as a model for future responsible high-rise development on the lake. Council Member **Mike Martinez** took the lead on publicly supporting the SaveTownLake. org position, which filed a lawsuit against the city to uphold the height limits originally set in the 1986 Waterfront Overlay Ordinance. The City Council also signaled its concurrence with the group's position, as did the Travis Co. Democratic Party and the Austin Neighborhoods Council. The broad support smoothed the way for a negotiated agreement, according to **Tom Cooke**, chairman of the SaveTownLake.org group. Cooke said each council member has independently indicated support for the brokered agreement.

In contrasting council action on this developer-neighborhood conflict to the Northcross/Wal-Mart controversy, Council Member **Lee Leffingwell** pointed out that council was able to be a "hard-nosed and hard-headed" negotiator in this case, because it had the necessary power and leverage – CWS needed a council-approved variance.

The developer earned community accord by agreeing to build no higher than 96 feet; its site plan had shown condo towers of 200 feet, which both the neighborhood and SaveTownLake.org criticized as inappropriately out of scale. For their part, the advocates agreed to a 150-foot building setback from the shoreline, rather than the 200-foot setback required by the Waterfront Overlay Ordinance. However, within the 50-foot "secondary setback," the developer agreed to limit building heights to a low-rise 35 feet. CWS also agreed to permanently dedicate to the city as parkland the entire 1.5-square-mile area of the 150-foot waterfront setback; the park will include an extension of the Town Lake Trail that connects along protected creek frontage to Riverside Drive. "The revised plan illustrates responsible development along the shores of Lady Bird Lake," said Cooke.

With the new agreement, CWS attorney **Richard T. Suttle Jr.** will withdraw the existing site plans and council appeals. Said Suttle, "CWS is pleased that all of the parties were able to figure out a way to redevelop this property and respect the community values associated with the Waterfront Overlay Ordinance." He said a new plan will be filed soon; it



will still need to undergo review from the Parks & Recreation Department, the Planning Commission, and City Council.

Leffingwell expects the new project to be filed as a planned unit development. Use of PUD zoning allows special-project concessions without setting the precedent of a variance to the Waterfront Overlay, which both Martinez and Leffingwell have opposed on principle. New, improved PUD zoning guidelines that incorporate better planning principles, community benefits, and green-building standards now are moving toward consideration by the Planning Commission and the council. Leffingwell said council can require the developer to meet the new PUD standards. – *Katherine Gregor*

Supremes Rule on Lethal Injection

The **U.S. Supreme Court** on April 16 ruled that the trichemical cocktail used as **lethal injection** in the Kentucky death chamber does not violate the Eighth Amendment ban on cruel and unusual punishment, signaling that a de facto moratorium on executions nationwide may be lifted, and executions may soon begin anew.

Although the court ruled 7-2 in favor of the state of Kentucky, which argued that its strict lethal injection protocol is humane, the justices were nowhere near unanimous in their reasoning; the Supremes filed a total of seven opinions in the case, and just two justices – **Anthony Kennedy** and **Samuel Alito** – joined the majority opinion penned by Chief Justice **John Roberts**.

Indeed, in two separate opinions, Justices John Paul Stevens and Stephen Breyer concurred with the majority judgment but raised serious questions about the future of the death penalty itself. When the court agreed to hear this case (Baze v. Rees), "I assumed that our decision would bring the debate about lethal injection as a method of execution to a close." Stevens wrote. "It now seems clear that it will not. The question whether a similar three-drug protocol may be used in other States remains open, and may well be answered differently in a future case on the basis of a more complete record," he continued. "Instead of ending the controversy, I am now convinced that this case will generate debate not only about the constitutionality of the three-drug protocol ... but also about the justification for the death penalty itself."

In the controlling opinion, Roberts concluded that "Kentucky has adopted a method of execution believed to be the most humane available, one it shares with 35 other States." And the Kentucky prisoners at issue in this suit "agree that, if administered as intended, that procedure will result in a painless death," he continued. "Kentucky's decision to adhere to its protocol ... cannot be viewed as probative of the wanton infliction of pain under the Eighth Amendment."

Still, as Stevens suggested, the resolution of the Kentucky case does not mean a similar suit might not be brought, perhaps successfully, by another state "with a more complete record" – and none is more complete than Texas, where more than 400 people have been executed since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976. In contrast, Kentucky has executed just two individuals in that time.

Officials told *The Dallas Morning News* that it may be a few more weeks before Texas' death chamber reopens, pending the outcome of a similar case brought by death row inmate **Heliberto Chi**.



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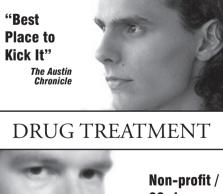
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If you walk into the **Dreamers** boutique at 613 W. 29th today, you'll find the place well-stocked – not only with hundreds of adult films (try *On Golden Blonde* or *Space Nuts*) and instructional videos (like *Enjoying Guilty Pleasures*), but with all manner of toys. You name it; Dreamers has it: The All American Whoppers collection, the Butterfly Kiss, and Buzz Bunny, holding its upturned bunch of carrots, to name but a few.

It wasn't always so.

Since 1979 it has been illegal to sell, give, lend, distribute, or advertise any item the state considers an "obscene device" – in particular, any anatomically correct sex toy "designed or marketed as useful primarily for the stimulation of human genital organs," reads the Texas Penal Code. According to the state, the law protects our collective morality. But that's not how Austin-based Reliable Consultants Inc. which owns Le Rouge Boutique and the well-known sevenstore chain Dreamers - or the North Carolina-based PHE Inc. (which owns online sex-toy retailer Adam & Eve) see it. To Doug Richards and his son Cloud, Reliable's owner and general manager, respectively, and to PHE CEO Phil Harvey, Texas' sex-toy ban is nothing more than an attempt to define acceptable sexuality (for procreation only - no pleasure here, thank you very much) and a means to police the private sex lives of consenting adults.

But thanks to the Richards, who sued the state (Harvey subsequently intervened) on grounds the toy ban was unconstitutional, things are now different. On Feb. 12, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals delivered a firm message to the state of Texas: Free Willie. According to a two-judge majority (of a three-judge panel), the state's sex-toy ban is unconstitutional. The law impermissibly curtails an individual's "right under the Fourteenth Amendment to engage in private intimate conduct in the home without government intrusion," Judge Thomas M. Reavley wrote. "Whatever one might think or believe about the use of these devices, government interference with their personal and private use violates the Constitution."

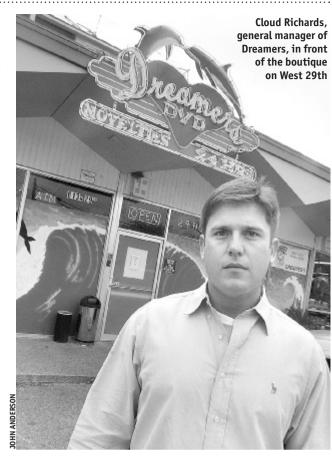
Indeed, according to the Texas statute, it's illegal to sell a dildo but not to own or use one. In 1993, lawmakers returned to the statute, adding in a narrow defense to prosecution under the anti-dildo statute for those who were "promoting" such devices for a "bona fide medical, psychiatric, judicial, legislative, or law enforcement purpose." (In other words, what was fine for the dildos down at the Capitol would not be good enough for the rest of us.) And therein lies the rub (figuratively speaking, of course) – and the foundation for legal action: By proscribing access to dildos, limiting their sale, Reliable and PHE argued in federal court, the state was effectively prohibiting their use. And that, they said, illegally truncates individual liberty as protected by the 14th Amendment's due process clause.

For years, says Cloud Richards, Dreamers customers have requested a variety of toys, and for years Dreamers employees have had to explain why the store cannot stock them: Retailers could sell generic vibrators as "novelty" items, but by law, a retailer with more than six such devices on hand at any given time would be open to prosecution. The law is enforced, variously, across the state. One of the more notorious examples was the 2003 case against Joanne Webb, the Passion Party maven (a vibrating version of the classic Tupperware party), who was nabbed for selling a dildo to Burleson police posing as a couple in need of a romantic jump-start. (The charges against Webb were eventually dropped.) But it isn't just in small, presumably less sophisticated, communities where these cases pop up - and more often than not, says Richards, it's the clerks at adult-oriented businesses that are nabbed by police.

In recent years, clerks have been arrested in San Antonio, El Paso, and Houston, said Jennifer Kinsley, an attorney for Reliable Consultants. That's what prompted the Richards to bring federal suit in 2004. "They are trying to run a professional business," Kinsley said. "This is not a fly-by-night operation. And they were concerned about having an employee arrested for selling a product that is lawful in 99 percent of the country."

The state maintains that the Texas statute is legal and is now appealing the ruling. The state argues that only an individual can assert a liberty interest and that there is no constitutionally protected right to peddle obscenity. But the Richards and Harvey disagree: Legal precedent (dating to the 1965 Supreme Court decision that lifted the ban on the use of contraceptives) allows businesses to advocate for the individual rights of their customers.

The state's argument is that of "Moral Majority types," said Kinsley: "If we let people" buy these devices, "then the next thing you know, prostitutes will be available on every street corner for sale to [our] children." The "outcome of this case is an enormous victory," she added, not only for individual rights but also "for women's rights." The majority of sex-toy consumers are women, she notes, and the ban on their sale is often seen by those in the industry as "anti-female and anti-enjoyment of sex." (In that way, perhaps it isn't so surprising that



Texas would find sex toys obscene; the state hasn't exactly enjoyed a reputation for treating women as competent to control their sexual lives – spending money to "promote" pregnancy yet failing to champion family planning and to provide comprehensive access to reproductive health care.) That makes some sense to Adam & Eve's Harvey, whose career involves both pleasure and planning: In addition to heading the online giant (www.adameve.com), he is also the founder of a nonprofit that provides family planning and HIV-prevention education in 70 countries. Only six states have ever sought to ban sex toys, he notes, and only four still seek to do so: Alabama, Mississippi, Texas, and Virginia. The "holdouts here," he said, "reflect the anti-sex tenor of opinion" in those states.

Jordan Smith

THE SMOG COMETH

Ozone season is approaching, bringing with it those confoundingly hot days when the ills of our fossil-fueled society manifest as ill people – particularly children, the elderly, and outdoor exercisers. The culprit? Ground-level ozone (aka smog) formed when industrial air pollution mixes with exhaust fumes from cars and then bakes in the sun. Breathing the stuff is like getting a sunburn to the lungs, according to Dr. **Bennie McWilliams** of Dell Children's Medical Center, and exposure can seriously exacerbate a range of lung conditions. McWilliams spoke at a recent press conference kicking off local pollution reduction efforts – an especially urgent endeavor right now, given that Austin may soon stand in violation of federal ozone standards, following the Environmental Protection Agency's decision last month to tighten its rules to better protect public health.

Mayor **Will Wynn** said that we're doing a good job curtailing electricity-related emissions, thanks to Austin Energy's conservation and clean-energy programs – but "transportation emissions," he said, "are fouling Central Texas' air." Hoping to tap the "awareness that Central Texas' air is not what it should be," Wynn touted the immense near-term airquality potential of regional initiatives like **Clean Air Partners** and **River Cities Rideshare**. If 10% of the 160,000 workers employed locally by the Clean Air Partners' 105 participating businesses found an alternative to driving alone, he said, we'd take 16,000 single-occupant vehicles off



the road each day and avoid 250,000 pounds of nitrogen oxide emissions.

Participants in the Clean Air Partners program pledge to reduce their ozone-causing emissions by 10% within three years and report their progress online. Employers that have signed on can participate through on-site greening tactics as well as altcommute strategies like car- and van-pooling, public transit, bicycling, telecommuting, and flextime work schedules (designed to avoid auto congestion peaks). Meanwhile, River Cities Rideshare offers free ride-matching and public transit info for Austin- and San Antonio-area commuters, who can use an online calculator to see precisely how curbing their drives saves This parade float depicting Gov. Rick Perry smooching a coal plant smokestack, created by North Texas community group Downwinders at Risk, debuted at a Dallas demonstration last year. Perry issued an executive order in 2005 fast-tracking the construction of new coal plants. Recently he spoke out against more protective federal regulations for smog-related ozone pollution. Coal plants are among the top emitters of smog-forming emissions. – D.M.

cash, burns calories, and reduces pollution. Locally run website **Commute Solutions Coalition** offers similar resources.

But to focus on auto avoidance alone, said Sen. Kirk Watson, would be ignoring the proverbial "800-pound gorilla in the room: coal plants." He cited the propensity of the governor's office and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to rubber-stamp fast-tracked permits with weak standards. Specifically, Watson said the Oak Grove plant, under construction about 100 miles northeast of Austin, was permitted in such a way that its emissions could single-handedly put Austin out of compliance with EPA standards. "The TCEO is going to have to be better," said Watson, noting 2007 legislation by Waco Dem Chet Edwards requiring federal Government Accountability Office oversight of the cumulative statewide impacts of Texas coal plants. The TCEQ refused to consider such impacts beyond 30 miles in its permitting policy, which Watson equates to "burying their head in the sand." As for further reforms, he said, "I'm not afraid for a minute to look at legislative changes to make sure the TCEQ does its job."

For more info, see www.cleanairpartnerstx.org, www.rivercitiesride share.com, and www.commutesolutions.com. - Daniel Mottola



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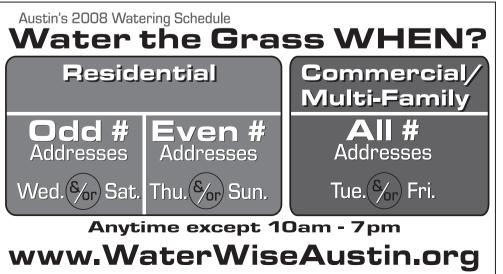
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New Rail Plan Rolled Out

On Tuesday night, the city sponsored a public workshop seeking citizen input on the details of designing a new streetcar system - also called ultralight rail transit - to serve Downtown and Central Austin. Alternately, the city could choose a more expensive light-rail system that would allow for greater future capacity.

Urban design consultant ROMA Austin presented a recommended alignment; Council Member Brewster McCracken answered questions during the public discussion. The line proposed would serve the "big three" critical to future urban mobility: Downtown destinations, the state Capitol complex, and the UT campus. In addition, streetcar service would extend to the airport and to Mueller. An extra Downtown spur could link Seaholm to the Long Center across Lady Bird Lake and perhaps extend out to Zilker Park.

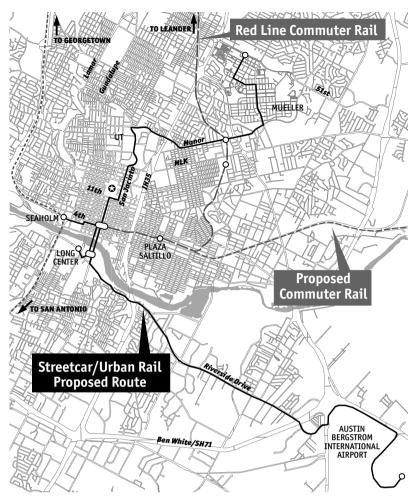
Now is the time for public input to shape a major transit project that the city and/or Capital Metro hope to put before voters in November. Council recently authorized ROMA to review and make recommendations for the streetcar route, alignment, technology, and projected costs as an extension of its work on the Downtown Austin Plan. The immediate project proposed will be a starter line, deferring for now any discussion on how a complete citywide system might look and work 40 years hence. But ROMA did show how the streetcar could connect to the regional/commuter rail transit north to Leander (the Red Line, nearing completion), out east to Elgin (proposed), and south to San Antonio (proposed).

At the workshop, the public weighed in on key points: favoring dedicated lanes over in-traffic service (to maintain traffic flow): costs (probably \$20 million to \$30 million per mile for ultralight rail; by contrast, a

new highway costs \$70 million to \$90 million per mile); financing (the city wants to get it done with no new taxes); the best technology (light vs. ultralight); and exactly where the line should run. A light-rail system with dedicated transit lanes is seen as an easier "sell" in car-loving Central Texas because it would only minimally affect vehicle traffic. But the public needs to understand that building a dedicated-lane system will cost more. Dedicated lanes entail extra expenses such as moving curbs and gutters, widening bridges, and perhaps adding sidewalks. The heavier light-rail technology requires digging deeper footings, which in turn drives up the costs to move utility lines. An ultralight system that runs in traffic (like the Portland Streetcar) is less costly but provides less capacity. One hybrid solution being explored: ultralight streetcar vehicles running on light rails in the ground.

The city needs to move quickly on a comprehensive project proposal to present to the Transit Working Group of the Capital Area Metropolitan Planning Organization. After incorporating public feedback, ROMA will make a presentation to City Council May 8 and to the CAMPO group May 12. The ambitious goal is to take the project to the full CAMPO board for approval (or not) by June. Project champions Will Wvnn and McCracken wear multiple hats as city of Austin elected officials, CAMPO board members, and Transit Working Group members, which makes the politics tricky; having the proposed system come from ROMA thus provides a degree of third-party objectivity.

Ideas or comments for ROMA and the city? E-mail them by May 1 to jim.robertson@ci.austin.tx.us. For reference. the ROMA presentation will be posted soon to the Downtown page of the city's website. - Katherine Gregor



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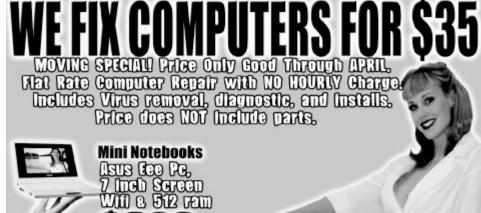
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HAPPENINGS

For more events, see Community Listings, p.74.

THURSDAY **24**

TEXAS SOLAR FORUM explores the increasing viability of solar energy. *Thu.-Fri., April* 24-25. *Capitol. Free.* www.texassolarforum.com.

FRIDAY **25**

DEMOCRATIC PARTY OPEN HOUSE FUNDRAISER 5:30-7:30pm. Texas Democratic Party Headquarters, 505 W. 12th #200. \$25 (\$15. members).

PEOPLE UNITED features a live discussion about the upcoming March for Immigrant Workers' Rights. *1pm. KOOP Radio* 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

SATURDAY 26

CENTRAL WEST AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD

WORKSHOP 9am-1pm. Austin State School, NEOS Bldg. 526, 2203 W. 35th, 974-2857. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/central_west_austin.htm.

EAST END COMMUNITY DIALOGUE Help

build consensus around the revitalization/gentrification of East 11th and 12th streets. (See "Eastside Development," at right, for more.) 9:30am-noon. Street-Jones Building, Rm. 400-A, 1000 E. 11th, Free.

EMPLOYMENT & HOUSING RIGHTS

MEETING Brush up on your civil rights, and find out who can help if you're the victim of abuse. Spanish interpreters will be on hand. 1-4pm. Parque Zaragoza Recreation Center, 2608 Gonzales. Free.

SUNDAY 27

RONNIE EARLE, LIVE A talk from the 32-year veteran (and soon-to-be-former) Travis Co. district attorney himself. *11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168.* www.austinuu.org.

MONKEYWRENCH SIXTH ANNIVERSARY

PARTY A veggie barbecue followed by a MonkeyWrenchers of the Year award ceremony. Social justice never tasted so good. 5pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

MONDAY 28

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY PROCEDURES An informal discussion on the voting process, hosted by the League of Women Voters. 6pm. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar. Free. www.lwvaustin.org.

WHAT'S LEFT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN LEFT? A two-day conference discussing what

happened to the musical, political, and social movements of Latin America, circa 1968. *Monday-Tuesday, April 28-29, 9am-5pm. UT campus, Avaya Auditorium, ACES 2.302, 471-8418. Free.* www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/llilas.

TUESDAY 29

ISRAEL/PALESTINE IN THE NEWS A talk from UT professor Robert Jensen. 6pm. St. John's United Methodist Church, 2140 Allandale. www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING FORUM 5:30-7pm. ATCMHMR Annex, 1700 S. Lamar. www.atcmhmr.com.

WEDNESDAY **BO**

COALITION TO ABOLISH DEATH PENALTY MEETING 11:30am. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 441-1808. Free, www.tcadp.org

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM LECTURE by Dean Lawrence Sager, one of the nation's top constitutional scholars. *Apm. Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 100 E. 27th, 472-6736. Free.* www.austinseminary.edu.

THIRD COAST FILM NIGHT features *We Feed the World*, a documentary about food and globalization. *Tpm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz*, *320 E. Sixth*, *476-1320.* \$8.25 (\$6, students *and seniors).* www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

WALLER CREEK TUNNEL PUBLIC WORKSHOP 6:30-8:30pm. UT campus, Thompson Conference Center. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/wallercreek.

THURSDAY **OO**

HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

COMMEMORATION features "Diamonds in the Snow," a documentary by Mira Binford. Preregistration recommended. 7pm. Texas Hillel, 2105 San Antonio, 735-8012 x17. Free. elainie. vasquez@shalomaustin.org, www.shalomaustin.org. MARCH FOR IMMIGRANT WORKERS' RIGHTS 4:30pm. Capitol grounds.

austinirc@gmail.com.



This photo by John Langmore is on display through April 27, as part of the Mexican American Cultural Center's exhibit "Fault Line: A Portrait of East Austin."

Eastside Development A community dialogue

On Saturday, April 26, Central East Austin neighborhood residents, East End property owners, and all interested citizens are invited to a second consensus-building meeting concerning proposed developments in the East End. The meeting – organized by the **Austin Revitalization Authority**, in partnership with the city of Austin – will address changes to the East 11th and 12th streets **Urban Renewal Plan**. The ARA has taken a good deal of heat in the community for its weak execution of the plan to date, as well as for other problems – thus the need for dialogue.

The purpose of the Urban Renewal Plan is to encourage positive new development that has "a thriving mix of uses." As a guide to development on East 11th and 12th, it describes, block by block, the details of desired height, density, and parking. The April 26 session will be the second in a series of three; the final session will be on Saturday, May 17. The outcome is expected to change the city's **Neighborhood Conservation Combining District**, which provides incentives for development.

Call 469-1705 or visit **www.austinrev.org** for meeting materials, summaries, and more information. Both sessions start with refreshments and a social at 9am. Meetings run 9:30amnoon, at Street-Jones Building, Room 400-A, 1000 E. 11th.

- Katherine Gregor

CITY HALLBOIN' IT VLOGGYSTYLE

The *Chronicle*'s **new Video blog** delivers the down-low on the upcoming **City Council elections.** Do it vloggystyle with City Hall Hustle.



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THIS WEEK: PLACE 4





THE HIGHTOWER REPORT

BY JIM HIGHTOWER

BIG-SPENDING GEORGE

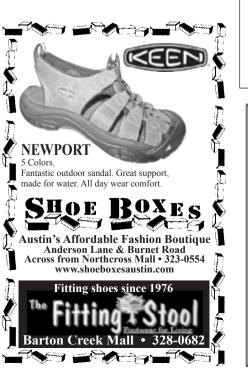
George W. likes to pose as the Texas president – in the rough-hewn, rancher model of Lyndon Johnson.

However, George isn't actually a Texan – he was born in Connecticut, went to an East Coast prep school and to Ivy League colleges, and summered in Kennebunkport at his family's oceanfront estate. Nor is he a rancher, as Lyndon was. Yes, George bought a ranchette to boost his cowboy image when he decided to run for president, but this "cowboy" has no cattle and is even afraid of horses – that's not quite a "tall in the saddle" president like Johnson.

Yet, there is one area where George W. has stood taller than the real Texas president: federal spending. LBJ was derided as a bigspending liberal, but he was tightfisted compared to Bush. While George is now trying to pretend that he's a small-government fiscal conservative, federal spending in his administration has grown by 5.3% a year, nearly a full point higher than the rate of increase in the Johnson years and more than double the annual spending growth under Democrats Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton.

Of course, the Bush White House takes no responsibility for anything negative, so it's now trying to blame the billions of dollars that it's dumping into his war on terrorism for distorting Bush's spending numbers (maybe the Bushites don't remember that LBJ had a war to finance, too, since so few of them actually served in it). But Bush's spending is not just about his mismanaged wars. He has also hiked budgets in most agencies, with a disproportionate share of the increases going to privatization of government, corporate welfare, and right-wing ideological boondoggles.

So, now that we hear free-spending George W. suddenly posing as Mr. Frugal and demanding that Congress hold the line on spending, remember that no president has spent more of your tax dollars and gotten so little for it as he has.



HOUSE THE RICH

Once again, let's take a peek into the Lifestyles of the Rich ... and Cranky.

You think you've got it tough trying to find affordable housing or trying to figure out how you can pay for a two-bedroom apartment instead of the one-bedroom you're now in? Well, you don't know the meaning of troubles, bucko, until you've walked a mile in the Guccis of those poor rich people who are dealing in the luxury housing market.

Yes, the general housing market has cooled down all across America, but stop thinking about yourself. The high-end housing market is booming, and it's a struggle for folks there to get what they want. Take the case of a couple in Manhattan who recently found a sweet little duplex off Park Avenue. It was only \$6 million, so of course they jumped on it. Indeed, they tacked an extra half-million dollars onto the asking price in order to fend off competing buyers.

Buying it, however, was the least of their troubles. Naturally, they had to tear out the existing walls and flooring and renovate the space to suit their tastes ... as well as to suit their social ambitions. And, darling, luxury renovation is not for the meek. The lady of the house had to quit her banking job so she could devote her full time to coordinating the restoration. There was a small army of some 50 architects, specialty decorators, expediters, staircase builders, audiovisual installers, and whatnot that was called in to make the place "just so."

Coping with luxury housing is harder than you riffraff can imagine. I mean, when you're having kitchen cabinets built for you in Italy and purchasing a custom-made, wraparound \$30,000 couch – well, sweetheart, you're going to have some headaches.

So, please, don't tell us your tacky little stories of subprime mortgage woes, and don't bore us with sad-sack tales about your hunt for middle-class housing. Show a little love for those at the top who are struggling so mightily to make do in the Gilded Age.

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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New Program Helps Uninsured With Prescription Costs

The number one health care crisis in America today is the rising cost of prescription drugs. In fact, many uninsured must choose between purchasing their medications or purchasing food and other basic necessities. Many are forced to go without their medicine causing serious health consequences. It doesn't have to be this way.

One of Americas most reliable patient advocacy groups has a new program for low or middle income patients without prescription coverage. To assist those who have difficulty affording their prescription medication, this new program works with over 200 pharmaceutical companies that have developed patient assistance programs. These programs help patients who lack prescription drug coverage and earn less than 200% of the federal poverty level (approximately \$21,000 for an individual or \$34,000 for a couple.)

In 2006, over 22 million prescriptions were provided to Americans through these programs, saving them over \$4 Billion. Yet these numbers represent only a small portion of those who qualify.

Although these programs bring much needed relief, most of those eligible for assistance have not yet enrolled or are not aware of them. So the problem of unaffordable prescription drugs persists. Brandon Todd, President of SelectCare Benefits Network, states that, "Millions of Americans could be receiving assistance with their prescriptions and don't even know it. Our job is to get the word out about these programs to those who need them and to simplify the process of applying."

SelectCare Benefits Network is a patient advocacy company that helps uninsured patients navigate through over 200 programs with one central point of contact. SCBN helps thousands of Americans get enrolled in patient assistance programs, with an average annual savings of over \$2000 per person.

SCBN offers free phone consultations and pre qualification to the public via a toll free number. In this consultation patients can find out if they qualify for assistance and receive help on how to apply.

To find out if your or a loved one qualifies for assistance, call toll free (877) 331-0362. For best results, have your income statements and list of prescriptions ready when you call.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT





POINT AUSTIN

continued from p.18

has focused primarily on transportation (bicycling) and cultural (music) issues and has admittedly no experience in the details of city government or budgeting. Leffingwell has been a reliable, steady, but uncharismatic official, and there are those who insist he has not been aggressive or proactive enough in carrying his own initiatives on matters like resource conservation – or indeed denounce him for supporting the construction of a new ("wasteful") water treatment plant. The choice seems to be between experienced pragmatism or inexperienced idealism.

In Place 3, incumbent Jennifer Kim's substantive opposition comes from Randi Shade, who charges, with considerable justice, that Kim's term has been marked by indecision, inaccessibility, and a disturbing tendency either to undermine her colleagues for whimsical reasons or else bail on them at the last moment because of shifting political winds. On the other hand, Shade is largely an unknown quantity herself but with an undeniably strong government and business résumé and a reputation for being able to bring disparate people and interests together to do good work - notably on public policy matters like poverty and affordability. The choice here seems to be between a known but unreliable incumbent - with an undoubted edge in direct experience - and an uncertain but impressive challenger who at a minimum would bring a fresh air of collaboration to the dais.

The Place 4 race, to replace Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley, has attracted six candidates and will likely go to a run-off. The three substantive candidates - Laura Morrison, Robin Cravey, and Cid Galindo - are all clearly qualified, boast extended experience in public policy and local government, and will be fighting it out to run again in a few weeks. Cravey has the longest local history and a longstanding cultural identity with an increasingly remote Austin-acious resonance. Morrison is the designated champion of neighborhoods who wants to prove that can translate to populism rather than provincialism. Galindo is the urban planner who has founded his campaign on professional expertise and directly engaging the city's future. Your choice will depend on which of those strengths best belong on this particular council.

Those are inevitably misleading thumbnails, but after myriad public forums and coverage here and elsewhere, I suspect most of us enter the voting booth with something like these efficient capsules in mind. I hope what the News staff offers you today will help you engage that moment with a sense of what's best for all of us.

The Long Shadow of Wal-Mart

Place 1 candidates differ on development, environment



BY LEE NICHOLS

No one would argue that City Council Member Lee Leffingwell is without accomplishments. In his first term, the Place 1 incumbent can point to his work on a water conservation plan, moving forward the new water treatment plant, revisions to the Save Our Springs Ordinance, and a ban on coal-tar sealants on parking lots. Going forward, he's looking at reducing plastic-bag use in retail outlets, merging the various police forces, and upgrading the state of acute mental-health care in Austin.

But there is a difference between just doing something as a public official and doing the best possible job. That's the skeptical message presented by Leffingwell's challenger Jason Meeker, who argues that Leffingwell has fallen short. Meeker points most specifically to the shortcomings of Leffingwell (and the rest of the council) in the fight to prevent the construction of a Wal-Mart at Northcross Mall.

Considering recent history, Meeker will have to make his case overwhelmingly; the recent Democratic primary suggests that Austin voters remain quite reluctant to turn out local incumbents. And while one recent poll showed Leffingwell at less than majority support (among three candidates), his numbers were still almost three times Meeker's. The money imbalance was even greater, with the incumbent enjoying a 14-to-1 fundraising advantage as of March 31.

Conventional wisdom reflects that the third candidate, Allen Demling, is the also-ran, as he arrives with no résumé of high-profile activism or political experience. Sporting a shaved head, long beard, and an emphasis on bicycling, he could easily be written off as this year's Keep Austin Weird candidate. But while the holder of a master's in mechanical engineering may not wear a suit and tie, he's quite coherent when he talks about maintaining Austin's cultural uniqueness and improving mass and alternative transportation, and accordingly, he garnered the endorsement of the League of Bicycling Voters. Demling may eventually grow into a formidable candidate, but in the short term, voters are likely to consider the 41/2-year resident of Austin a bit too inexperienced.

The Argument Continues

While Demling hasn't directly attacked Leffingwell, Meeker has been swinging at the incumbent since he first hinted he was running, when his decision grew from his role as spokesman for Responsible Growth for Northcross. He has been both cheered and vilified for that activism, which concluded with an unsuccessful court case alleging that city staff erred in approving Lincoln Property's site plan for redeveloping the moribund mall. The city spent almost half a million dollars retaining the law firm of Scott, Douglass & McConnico – some are angered that the city spent that much tax money fighting its own citizens; others blame RG4N for forcing the city into the expenditure.

Meeker insists that his real opponents are "City Hall insiders" presumably backing Leffingwell. "I'm not running because of what Wal-Mart wants to do with my neighborhood," Meeker said in February. "I'm running because these kinds of things are going to keep happening in neighborhoods all over Austin. I am running because if something like this happens to your neighborhood or to your small business, you need someone on the inside for you, who will listen to you, and who will work for you, and who will fight for you. You don't have that now.

"My criticism, not just of Lee Leffingwell but the entire council, is that no public effort was made to push back on the developer to work with the citizens," Meeker later told the Chronicle. "Mike Martinez and Lee Leffingwell put out a 60-day moratorium [in 2006] for negotiations to occur between Wal-Mart, Lincoln Property, and the citizens. Nothing occurred during that 60-day period. Nothing. I'm not laying that at the feet of Lee Leffingwell and saying that he didn't do enough - I don't know that Lincoln Property wasn't willing to do it but what I'm saying is that the entire council, including Lee Leffingwell, didn't publicly stand with the neighborhoods and say, 'Look, nothing's happening."

The project "met all the requirements of city code," replied Leffingwell. "They didn't need any zoning changes; they didn't need any variances; they were completely compliant. In that case, the staff is required by law to approve the site plan. ... We had no discretion in that case.' Critics argue that city staff dragged its feet on the Big Box Ordinance - which in theory might have blocked the Wal-Mart had it been enacted in time - and that the council, Leffingwell included, sat on its hands. Leffingwell has responded that "some things just take that long," and, "If the staff held it back, I have no knowledge of it." In any event, with the ordinance now in place, with Leffingwell's support, future big-box projects will be subject to greater public review.

Meeker has also offered two centerpiece proposals: the creation of a Department of Neighborhoods and an Office of Public Advocate. Seattle; Louisville, Ky.; and Portland, Ore., have neighborhood departments, and on his website, Meeker lifts the Seattle office description and substitutes "Austin": "The Department of Neighborhoods works to bring government closer to the residents of Austin by engaging them in civic participation; helping them become empowered to make positive contributions to their communities; and by involving more of Austin's underrepresented residents, including communities of color and immigrants, in civic discourse, processes, and opportunities." "Wouldn't that be a great way to tackle many of the problems we've recently faced?" Meeker asks.



Meeker proposes the public advocate as a new elected office. "The officeholder would be an ombudsman, or go-between, for the citizens and the city government. The council members would still answer to citizens, of course, and respond to their requests. ... In many ways, the Office of Public Advocate would be a 'council monitor' like the Office of Police Monitor."

Running the Numbers

Leffingwell also addresses development issues. "We can absorb more density in the city limits, Downtown, while still supporting the Capitol view corridors and Lady Bird Lake and protecting existing neighborhoods." On the council, he has also been a strong advocate of city support for social services. "They fill a need that is absolutely essential in our city, providing a safety net, where others - the federal and state governments have sort of constructed some big holes in that net, and we have to pick it up." The issue has special meaning to him - shortly before his election in 2005, his wife, apparently struggling with depression, committed suicide. "Two years ago it was pointed out, and I was one of those who pointed it out, that we had zero emergency psych beds, public, in the city of Austin. We're the only city in Texas that was in that situation. ... We now have a continuum of care programs, which the city is participating in to provide emergency psych programs." With a recession looming and sales-tax revenues slipping, the next council could well be faced with harder budget choices and social services standing in line behind public safety and infrastructure.



On budgetary matters, Meeker attacks two of the initiatives of which Leffingwell is most proud: the water conservation plan and the new water treatment plant. Leffingwell calls the plan to reduce usage by 10% over the next 10 years "aggressive," but Meeker says: "We need to take a hard look at some of the decisions that right now are before us. If we had a more aggressive program ... in doing so, we could push off the building of the water treatment plant. That's \$500 million at least. That extra money that you'd be spending on your water bill, that's money in your pocket that can be spent on local business." Meeker derides it as a "1 percent per year" program; Leffingwell took offense: "It's a 10 percent reduction over 10 years, and most of the savings would be realized in the first few years."

More broadly, Leffingwell says the budget needs to be considered as a whole. "What are we going to do if we have a shortfall? That's the \$64,000 question," he asks. "Obviously, the city has to balance its budget every year. We don't have any latitude on that. Tax increases are not really an option [because of state law restrictions]. ... Obviously, worstcase scenarios, we have to include a couple of things. Number one, we do have what's called a budget stabilization fund. That was good, prudent financial planning by the people who established that fund a few years ago. It contains about \$40 million or so. ... We could dip into that some, especially if we can look ahead and see that this is probably going to be a short-lived recession. But ultimately, we would have to look at cuts in services like we did in early 2000. ... I don't have a cookie-cutter answer for you."

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UPCOMING CANDIDATE FORUMS

The City Council candidate forums endurance test continues. Soldier on!

Capital Area Democratic Women Forum: Thursday, April 24, 11:30am; Nuevo Leon, 1501 E. Sixth

East Austin Forum: Tuesday, April 29, 6:30pm; Southwest Key, 6002 Jain Ln.

South Central Area Command Crime and Safety Forum: Thursday, May 1, 6:30pm; City Council chambers, City Hall, 301 W. Second

Early voting for the May 10 election begins Monday, April 28, and continues through Tuesday, May 6.

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An Uncertain Hand

A pair of wild cards in Place 3

BY KATHERINE GREGOR

What do you think of Jennifer Kim?

The Place 3 City Council contest has become a referendum on the first-term performance of the incumbent. Concerns expressed about Kim focus less on her positions and more on her "me-first" style. The issue that could decide the race: Does Kim retain any political legs to stand on to be effective in another term?

Prime challenger Randi Shade has said she decided to challenge the incumbent because she heard widespread dissatisfaction with Kim's accessibility, collegiality on the dais, and job performance. Shade's campaign refrain: "We can do better." At candidate forums around town in recent weeks and on her campaign website (**www.randishade.com**), Shade stresses her own people skills in unflattering contrast to Kim. Shade's message: To get things done, you have to work well with others; I do, and Kim does not.

Those criticisms have sparked feisty retorts from Kim, who says she's learned from her mistakes (though she doesn't itemize them) and spunkily defends her own job performance. "I have a strong voting record of being pro-neighborhood, proenvironment, and pro-small business," she states on her website (www.standingupforaustin.com). In brief, it's true. On the

campaign trail, Kim has come across as smart, poised, articulate, and well-versed on policy details. She's a voice for thirtysomething women and the first Asian-American on council – reason enough to keep her around for some voters. By contrast, Shade's campaign persona has been warmer, more open, and down-to-earth; she talks about her most recent stint as an at-home mom more often than her Harvard MBA.

Not viable as a candidate is third-runner Ken Weiss. He lacks an identifiable base of support, exudes no charisma on the stump, and has raised virtually no campaign funds. At press time, his bare-bones website (www.weiss forplace3.com) had no content other than a plea for money. He says his difficulties with city staff over business regulations moved him to run for office. His declared views on the issues are middle-of-the-road and his solutions vague; in forums he touts support for environmental protection and small businesses and disdain for toll roads. The job qualifications he cites include a long tenure in Austin, experience grunning small family businesses, Texas Army National Guard service, and "has been married for over five years." In this day and age, that is a major accomplishment!

Kim's Record

In truth, on the issues, Shade and Kim are more alike than dissimilar. Kim's voting record shows that her council votes have been generally well-aligned with the concerns and values of Austin as a community. In that sense, she's been a good representative. Her main campaign talking points: keeping Austin affordable, protecting the environment, protecting neighborhoods, keeping Austin livable, and keeping Austin economically vibrant. Local hot buttons, to be sure. Shade's stated priorities: growth that prioritizes public benefits, equal opportunity, fighting poverty, a city government that welcomes and taps citizen activism, reaching out to Austinites.

"I will actively seek your input, rather than relying on you to visit me, and you will continue to see me at meetings, town halls, and community forums after I am elected, not just while I am campaigning," Shade has said, taking a swipe at Kim's recent upsurge in voter love. "I see accessibility as the most important aspect of a council member's job. I decided to challenge the incumbent in Place 3 specifically because of her reputation for inaccessibility. The best way to change the perception that City Hall is not listening to citizens is to prove that perception wrong through action."

Some left-leaning groups around town do think Kim has been listening. She's won the endorsements of the Sierra Club, Central Labor Council, and hardcore progs like Gus Garcia, Brigid Shea, and Robin Rather. "She has been there for us when we needed her, and she has taken initiative on behalf of the working people," said Jack Kirfman, a board member of the Central Labor Council. "Jennifer has been responsive to our concerns."

Kim has shown she's not afraid to disagree with – and even publicly criticize – her council colleagues, which has sparked some lively debates on a council sometimes prone to inaction or safe unanimous votes. On affordable housing, for example, she recently pushed council to amend its vision for redevelopment of the Downtown Green Water Treatment Plant site. Kim listened to community advocates, then advocated for their

concerns; as a result, the city's request for proposals from master developers requires affordable housing.

On the other hand: While Kim's stump speech always cites her sponsorship of the Affordable Housing Incentives Task Force as a top accomplishment, the recommendations produced by the task force did not provide a sound community solution. Some members were disappointed in her lack of hands-on involvement; for example, she didn't get advocates the housing market data necessary to support higher developer contributions. Then she let the Downtown recommendations languish for nearly a year (to the frustration of task force members) without council action; amid ambivalence from both staff and community advocates, council chose not to adopt them permanently.

Why don't Kim's bright ideas translate into power on the council? This gets to the heart of the Jennifer Kim problem. In strategic terms, all council action is a team sport. To actually make a difference for citizens, a council member must build relationships, allies, and supportive coalitions – both in the community and at City Hall. Shade has accurately pointed out Kim's weakness in this area; as a council member, she has alienated many, starting with the colleagues she needs to get a resolution passed. As a result, much of the smart cam-

paign money around town, and some key endorsements – notably, the firefighters, police association, and EMS workers – have moved from Kim to Shade.

An attentive reading of council dynamics over the past year makes it clear that Kim has lost the full trust and respect of her colleagues. She has a track record of repeatedly letting them down, blindsiding them, switching her vote unannounced – sometimes even as they're sitting on the dais. Her unpredictable shifts on policy votes have made Kim an undesirable cosponsor for initiatives; no one can count on her to stay the course, as she's shown she may suddenly flip on an issue. As Shade suggests, Kim's "blowing in the wind" positions often appear motivated by self-interest or winning votes at the polls rather than deeply held convictions. Kim has been lead spon-



sor or co-sponsor on few successful policies of real substance. At this point, Kim herself has diluted the power of her council vote, because no one can count on it, in counting to four ... the number of votes required make policy. In the City Hall version of seven-card stud, Kim's colleagues must reach for a full house, because they can't safely bet on four-of-a-kind. Having thus isolated herself, how can Kim be effective in a second term?

In the Shade

These problems have led many voters to take a serious look at newcomer Shade – who seems to have a yard sign on every block in town. According to the Burnt Orange Report, an April 16 IVR Poll of 517 likely City Council voters showed Shade just ahead of Kim; each had about 25% of the vote, with 11% for Weiss, and 37% still undecided.

A UT Plan II grad and 18-year Austinite who lives in Clarskville, Shade has been successful as a high tech entrepreneur and a nonprofit executive director. In 2007 she graduated from the Aspen Institute's Henry Crown Fellowship Program – which prepares civic leaders for community-minded public service. Although Shade is at home in the business world, her involvements have all tied back to community needs. Her long service record earned her the coveted Austin Under 40 community service award in 2003.

A theme running through her professional career: driving corporate dollars to community nonprofits to help those in need. Her company Charitygift was a Robin Hood endeavor; it provided a vehicle for companies to "gift" their corporate friends with charitable contributions instead of the usual holiday fruitand-cheese basket. As executive director of the Austin Entrepreneurs Foundation, she worked to set aside high tech company equity for community giving. It's not surprising then that one Shade campaign platform plank addresses how the city of Austin (and public safety) should work more closely with local nonprofits (and their donors) to help bring people out of poverty.

As the polished incumbent, Kim has excelled at campaign appearances. She can be both impressive and charming in person. By contrast, newcomer Shade is still a political amateur who's blurry on the talking points. Some observers who have seen her speak at numerous candidate forums report they still don't have a clear fix on how Shade would vote as a council member. Like the *Chronicle*, groups such the West Austin Democrats and Better Austin Today have had a hung jury on whether to endorse Kim or Shade. Such ambivalence makes it hard to predict the outcome in this race and could even depress voter turnout – unless one candidate plays late-hand aces.







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I'm running for Austin City Council Place 3 because I believe I can do a better job than the incumbent has done, particularly with respect to protecting Austin's environment. If you'll elect me to serve our community on the Austin City Council, I will:

- Work to direct more resources toward purchasing additional water-quality protection land over the Edwards Aquifer, and to better protect the land we already own.
- Work to promote specific initiatives to conserve water, save electricity, cut carbon emissions, and dramatically reduce waste and expand recycling in conjunction with the Zero Waste Initiative and the Austin Climate Protection Plan.
- Work to make Austin the "renewable energy capital" by expanding our use of renewable energy sources and promoting the growth of clean energy companies.
- Work to promote urban density over sprawl development and to deliver viable regional mass transit options, including an affordable passenger rail system.
- Work to make Austin's new plastic bag initiative a success, and to champion a full local ban on plastic bags if voluntary reduction doesn't work.
- Work to promote effective local electronic waste strategies and to encourage additional electronics producer take-back legislation, including for televisions.
- Work to ensure strict enforcement of the Save Our Springs ordinance, which I proudly supported in 1992 and still strongly support today.

I'm not just talking the talk. I'm proud to be running a "green campaign" by using all recyclable signs and materials, carpooling whenever possible, and purchasing carbon credits with campaign funds to offset our energy consumption – something the incumbent has not agreed to do!

If you care about protecting Austin's environment and believe -like I do - that we can do better, I ask for your vote for Austin City Council Place 3.

www.RandiShade.com



"Randi has strong environmental values and will be an effective champion for expanding our use of renewable energy. I'm proud to give her my vote for City Council."

- Chip Wolfe, Board of Directors, Solar Austin

"Randi is a smart and effective leader, and she cares about protecting our environment. I trust her to do what's right for Austin. Please join me in voting for Randi Shade."

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> - Susan Rieff, Executive Director, Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center

"Randi has the vision and energy to promote environmental culture and values to the greater Austin community."

 Paul Robbins, Environmental Activist and Consumer Advocate

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Political advertisement paid for by Randi Shade for City Council, PO BOX 301479, Austin, Texas, 78703, Joe Pinnelli, Treasurer. This campaign has not agreed to comply with the contribution and expenditure limits of the Austin Fair Campaign Ordinance, Accordingly, no public funding will be utilized.

Six-Card Stud

It's a wide-open Place 4 race

BY WELLS DUNBAR

With Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley's retirement, her term-limited Place 4 has drawn six candidates – half seasoned hands, half jokers. The crowded game means a June run-off is probably on the table. Here's a breakdown of the players, the cards, and the handicapping.

Robin Cravey

"What I am really representing is the grassroots of the city," says attorney and environmental activist Robin Cravey. A practicing attorney, poet, and small publisher, Cravey traces a lineage to the Save Our Springs-era council of the early 1990s, having worked for council members Max Nofziger and Daryl Slusher. "It's important we have a vision for where we want to take the city over the next 20 years," Cravey says, before naming three priorities: to "keep Austin green" by creating a "grand metropolitan parks and trails system," to "bring back affordability," and to "make the city walkable and bikeable with a good public transit system. ... If we do these things again, Austin will be a hometown again instead of a commuter town."

A fervent environmentalist and founder of the Friends of Barton Springs Pool, Cravey says that to protect green space and curtail sprawl, "we're going to have to build taller and closer together," both Downtown and along major arterials. Cravey's bullish on the amount of affordability that needs to be built in, calling for city-incentivized projects to reserve half the total units at affordable rates and half at market rate. He hopes to help spur this on by potentially relaxing compatibility standards on affordable projects. "We have a substantial amount of public property Downtown, which should have taken affordable housing or middle-class housing. We should not lease it out for high-end condos," Cravey says, so baristas and musicians working Downtown can live there, too. Cravey also calls garage apartments an easy way to increase density without "messing with the fabric of the neighborhood at all" - he calls the McMansion home-size rules "a step backwards, on that front."

Concerning transportation, Cravey has earned the endorsement of the League of Bicycling Voters for his proposal to expand Austin's bikeways and trails. He believes rail is important but argues that Capital Metro should prioritize improvement of its bus system; as a council member, he hopes to sit on the Capital Metro board of directors.

While Cravey hasn't garnered Laura Morrison's endorsements or Cid Galindo's cash, he's optimistic about his chances. "Cid's gonna run a high-dollar campaign, and Laura's gone negative already," he says. Cravey feels his grassroots support will carry him to victory. "There's probably gonna be a run-off – if I'm in the runoff, I think I win."

Cid Galindo

"The most powerful tool the city has – that council controls 100 percent – is to control zoning," Cid Galindo says. For this selfdescribed New Urbanist and green builder, how land use addresses Austin's growth in the coming decade is paramount.

Galindo traces traffic, affordability, and environmental woes all to sprawl. To direct future growth, Galindo has proposed a series of "town centers" along the State Highway 130 corridor. He's laid out several ambitious plans, all grounded in land use: a call for "the nation's greatest urban park" in the heart of Austin and an ordinance allowing transfer of development rights in the Barton Springs Zone.

While zoning and land use excite Galindo, he doesn't describe himself as an academically trained urban planner but as a "number-crunching" MBA. Under the umbrella of the family business, the Galindo Group, he worked with property-management groups, a bank, and a fitness club in Bryan, Texas, before moving to Austin around 2000 and getting involved with the Downtown Austin Neighborhood Association and the Downtown Austin Alliance. He says he then became



"self-educated" on development and land use through the Congress of the New Urbanism (his "2035 Sustainable City Initiative" was published for the recent CNU meeting held here) and his time on the city Planning Commission.

Galindo pragmatically approaches other issues. "We don't have a goal-oriented affordability plan," he says. Believing the market produces housing in the 80% to 120% median family income range, he says the city should "trade entitlements for affordability" to get more housing in the 60% to 80% range. Below 60% MFI, he advocates "pure public subsidy" in the form of tax credits and community land trusts. With social-service orgs stretched thin, Galindo (who serves on the board of the social-service agency Caritas of Austin) wants a one-time, 10% increase in the city's social-service budget. But with the city looking to control spending, he acknowledges tough decisions: "It may be some of the things at the bottom of the list get dropped off until next May." Additionally, Galindo, who was endorsed by Austin's public safety unions, has called for 2.5 police per thousand citizens (we currently don't meet two per thousand). As for cost, Galindo calls the increase dependent on meeting certain benchmarks and says "we move incrementally to that goal." With tangible improvements, he believes, "It's an easy sell to the public."

A slightly harder sell has been Galindo's politics. He's been attacked (by Laura Morrison supporters) as having voted in the 2004 Republican primary and for contributing to Republican candidates; his father, Ramiro Galindo, is on the board of the conservative Texas Public Policy Foundation. A self-described





independent, Galindo says: "I don't think it's an issue the majority of Austin voters are concerned about. It's a nonpartisan race, and I'm the only nonpartisan in it."

Laura Morrison

Laura Morrison jokes that she has two special skills quite handy for council members: her career in disaster management and her recent regimen of tap-dancing lessons. While it's a lighthearted wisecrack, the disparate fields exemplify the two sides of Morrison's work for Austin and city neighborhoods: her ability to ably approach contentious policy questions like the McMansion Ordinance and the agile song and dance that work requires.

Morrison *is* a disaster-management consultant, having drafted preparedness plans for pandemic flu outbreaks; prior to that, she spent 12 years with Lockheed Martin overseeing engineering for the Portuguese and U.S. air forces. (Asked about working with a defense contractor, she says, "I didn't intend to stay as long as I did.") Morrison is best known for her work with the Austin Neighborhoods Council, the consortium of neighborhood associations that grew in size and influence during her tenure. During that period, Morrison also served as co-chair of the McMansion task force, whose home-size restrictions were adopted by council.

THAT GIRL CAN SING

You know it's campaign season when perennial candidate Jennifer Gale leads a room of Realtors in a rendition of "You've Lost That Lovin' Feelin'," Gale, after a brief hiatus to run for council in Dallas, is back in Austin and on the ballot to fill Place 4, currently held by outgoing Mayor Pro Tem Betty Dunkerley. At a council forum held by the Real Estate Council of Austin, Gale not only played song lead but also promised to field a National Football League franchise for Austin. So far, Gale, a transgender, homeless former Marine, has 108 friends on her MySpace page, which touts her run for mayor and notes that her favorite films include Tootsie and Mrs. Doubtfire. - Kimberly Reeves



A stout neighborhood advocate, Morrison is vexed that the city sometimes ignores neighborhood plans. "We have thousands of citizens going through this process, whether they're legally binding or not. It's bad policy to ignore it." A Morrison win would renew focus on the "neighborhood liaison" positions on city staff allocated under the last city budget, which haven't exactly materialized. She also supports drafting a comprehensive growth plan for the city.

Morrison's not a single-issue candidate. Noting that "growth's not paying for itself," on transportation issues, Morrison favors congestion-relief measures like traffic calming (which she considers currently underfunded) while developing longer-term responses. With the city looking for cost savings, Morrison suggests carefully monitoring the current round of public safety negotiations and "holding the line" on cost-drivers there. "Clearly, we need an effective police force," she says, but ultimately, she hopes for a greater buy-in to social-service support agencies "to break the cycles of poverty and [income] disparity. ... We start investing in that; we get a huge return on investment

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"What I am really representing is the grassroots of the city." – Robin Cravey

 both financially and in terms of improving our quality of life."

On affordability, Morrison (who serves on the HousingWorks policy committee) calls for "a fuller discussion with more information." "Where do we live? How do we get around? How are we going to ensure necessary affordability levels?" she asks. "There's no silver bullet," she says, but "the tools that we do have we need to use more aggressively." She wants implementation of the 25% affordability requirement for transit-oriented developments, a jump-start to the delayed Eastside homestead preservation district, and exploration of federal tax credits.

Moreover, Morrison thinks her consensusbuilding skills will be a welcome addition to the dais – where no doubt, she'll be dancing as fast as she can.

Bottom of the Deck

Of the remaining Place 4 candidates, perennial candidate Jennifer Gale has the most name recognition, having previously run (several times) for council - and mayor, senator, governor, and school board. Gale is known for her chipper, singsong moments at City Council meetings, if not her policy positions: banning buildings over four stories and swelling the council size to 30 members. Sam Osemene is a parole officer pursuing a graduate degree from UT-Austin. Fond of quoting the Federalists, the Ron Paul-supporting Osemene has called for very limited local taxation; lately he's taken to attacking his opponents as corrupt. Ken Vasseau is an apartment locator who has acknowledged running for council in order to raise his business profile. His seven-point platform calls for "issuing municipal bonds at low rates" to pay for public safety services and finding "a solution to the panhandling epidemic."

Partisan Values or Expertise?

ACC board, Place 1 poses an interesting choice for voters

BY LEE NICHOLS

In theory – and on the ballot – municipal races are nonpartisan. But party ties could figure heavily into the Austin Community College board of trustees Place 1 race.

No, Harrison Keller did not make a mistake when he filed his papers – he is fully aware that he is running for the board of *Austin* Community College. And he knows how a good percentage of this city's liberal electorate feels about his boss, the controversial Republican House Speaker Tom Craddick. The research director for the House is hoping voters can see that he and Craddick are not the same person.

Tim Mahoney, by contrast, is unmistakably a Democrat. He cut his political teeth as a journalist under Jim Hightower at *The Texas Observer*, and the list of supporters on his website reads like a who's who directory of Austin's liberal political establishment.

Unsurprisingly, their approaches to the office are completely different. Keller is all about nuts and bolts, a data man with an academic's focus on implementing best practices for successful educational outcomes. Mahoney views the office as political in nature, with community outreach as a board member's primary duty. (A third candidate, ACC student Mike Reid, appears to have stopped campaigning.)

"My job is to deliver the best information possible so people can make good decisions," says Keller. That's pretty much the history of his professional career - prior to his current tenure at the Capitol, he worked for UT's Charles A. Dana Center, a think tank on education strategies. "ACC needs to position itself in the center of the educational discussion in Austin. ... It needs to take more responsibility for enhancing educational opportunity. Half the kids in this area will go to ACC. Many of these kids will need developmental educational classes. If they need that, their chances of completion are nearly zero." To remedy this, Keller says, ACC needs to work on partnerships "to make sure high school students have high-quality senior year options." He says that "not a single school in Texas" is using the best-practices strategies that he has researched to these ends, including making "more and better use of technology," "easier on-ramps to education," and "doing a better job on affordability," not just making school cheaper but also making the costs more predictable.

Mahoney says he doesn't necessarily disagree with Keller's focus but that it's misguided for a board member. "That sounds like a great community college president," Mahoney says, suggesting Keller is seeking the wrong job. "There's a huge disconnect here on what is possible. I appreciate best practices for the U.S., but it's telling that they're not being used in Texas. ... To put the core duty for these programs on ACC instead of UT misses the

Keller is all about nuts and bolts, a data man with an academic's focus on implementing best practices for successful educational outcomes. Mahoney views the office as political in nature, with community outreach as a board member's primary duty.

point of what a community college is." The better strategy, he says, is outreach and "how you create a demand for an effective educational system. If we can't make the school districts perfect, we have to make the community more engaged." He also asserts that Austin already has a model for supplementary education programs in the Capital Idea program promoted by the Austin Interfaith community group, which provides mentoring, child care, and career-placement services for students.

Keller says that's just more of the same and not wise at a time when a recent Austin Chamber of Commerce study says that ACC's current enrollment goals will not keep up with regional population growth. "We're exploding," he says. "ACC has set modest goals. They'll succeed and pat themselves on the back. ... But when you're in a growth mode, you have the opportunity to do innovative things." His ideas, he says, "are not theory; they're being deployed around the country but not in this state."

Mahoney counters that Keller's thinking is too "linear" and that the better strategy is "embracing the community." "Saying that the determination of success is based on your high school classes is not enough. You have to find out what to do to help every kid have a successful life."

However worthy Keller's ideas may or may not be, he has a political image problem to overcome. The Burnt Orange Report, a partisan Democratic blog, attacked Keller on March 28, disputing his assertion that he's an independent. The blog pointed out not only that Keller is employed by Craddick but also that he has written policy papers for the conservative Texas Public Policy Foundation. The thrust of the papers cited is that public school funding should be tied to student performance, an idea that has been stringently fought by teachers unions. Since education policy was a key reason that Republicans have lost three House seats in Travis County over the past four years. we asked Keller how he expects Austin voters to react to this. "Look," he said, "I'm a policy wonk, not an ideologue." To prove this point, he criticizes both those on the left who say more money could solve educational problems and those on the right who say higher standards and accountability are the cure for disadvantaged students. "Both of these positions are overly simplistic and distort the relationships among standards, accountability, and fiscal resources," he wrote in TPPF's 2003-04 "Legislators' Guide to the Issues."

Mahoney, for his part, didn't make too big a deal of Keller's past in a candidate's meeting with the *Chronicle*. "I thought it was common knowledge," Mahoney says. "He admits he's voted Republican."

continued on p.38

The Uncontesteds

Voters will actually decide four seats for the ACC board on May 10, but Place 1 is the only contested seat. Places 2, 3, and 5 will be occupied by the following:

Place 2: John-Michael Cortez will replace John Hernandez, the current board chair. A public outreach specialist for Capital Metro, the McNeil High and UT graduate has served on a variety of boards including Austin Partners in Education, Liveable City, the city's Zoning & Platting and Planning commissions, and AISD's Task Force on Strategic Plan and as outreach director for U.S. Rep. Lloyd Doggett.

Place 3: Incumbent Nan McRaven was elected to the board in 2002 and is currently vice chair. According to her biography on the ACC website, she is Texas state director of the Trust for Public Land and previ-

ously worked for Freescale Semiconductor and Motorola, as vice president of the Austin Chamber of Commerce, and as director of personnel and budget for Travis County. She has taught at ACC as an adjunct teacher and at UT's LBJ and business schools.

Place 5: Raul Alvarez knows the ins and outs of elected office, having served on the Austin City Council 2000-06. Since June 2007, he's been grassroots community coordinator for AISD's Office of Redesign. "My work with AISD has heightened my understanding of the broad range of educational needs in our community," said Alvarez when he announced his run for the seat, "and I believe that by serving on the ACC board, I can use my knowledge of our community's diverse needs and my experience in public service to help make the community college branch of our educational system even stronger." He'll be filling out the unexpired term of Rafael Quintanilla, who is moving out of the district.

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Don't Forget the Children

AISD races and bond proposals

BY RICHARD WHITTAKER

Before Superintendent Pat Forgione retires next year, another longstanding figure in Austin Independent School District will step down: District 3 trustee Johna Edwards. After eight years representing North Central Austin, including a turn as board secretary, Edwards is leaving her seat open to be fought over in the May 10 elections by two local parents: Christine Brister and Jerry Garcia.

Edwards describes District 3 as "a district that really believes in public schools," whose parents are "hard workers - and that can be a good thing and a bad thing, because they don't complain." While much of AISD's attention has understandably been focused on population increases in South Austin and underinvestment in East Austin, District 3's 11 campuses have their own pressures. Ten have majority Hispanic student populations, with 30% to 76% of students at limited English proficiency and 78% to 97% economically disadvantaged. There is a 40% mobility rate, as families often change apartments, and children consequently switch schools, with inevitable disruption to their education. And, as in much of AISD, there's serious overcrowding. "Even though we have placed an undesignated elementary in the area, we don't have a clue where the dirt is," Edwards said, meaning an available tract of land for a new school.

Brister is no stranger to AISD's planning processes. As a parent member of the Lanier Vertical Team, she serves on the District Advisory Council and has recently been appointed to the 2009-10 Calendar Task Force. She was also appointed in 2006 to the Facility Use and Boundary Task Force and has been a member of the campus advisory councils and parent/teacher/student organizations at Cook Elementary and Burnet Middle schools. "Someone called me an education insider, but that's not really true, because it's been at the campus level," Brister said. With three sons who have graduated in District 3 and a fourth about to enter high school there ("We've always tracked Cook, Burnet, Lanier," Brister explains), she added, "The DAC has given me a different perspective."

Garcia, by contrast, has never been a PTA officer. But he argues he's the best fit for the district. He was raised in a blue-collar, bilingual Laredo family that highly valued education, and in 2004, he and his wife made a major decision: With their third child entering Bryker Woods Elementary in neighboring District 5 and two elder sons heading for Burnet, he would leave his job as a human resources manager at the state comptroller's office and become a stay-at-home father. "It's very important to me as a father figure to spend some time with my boys," he said. While he has not held an elected position in the district, he points to his involvement in activities like Little League sports and to his Democratic Party credentials. He was founding member of the Capital Area Progressive Democrats, is a former Travis Co. Democratic Party Precinct 248 chair, and has been endorsed by the University Democrats and the Central Austin Democrats.

Brister and Garcia agree on many issues, not least that multilingual community outreach and getting parents out of their cars and into the classrooms are vital for the district. Garcia argues that, while his sons are in school, he will be able to dedicate much of his day to campus visits and community outreach, giving him more time to collect data and get better grounded in the issues from a grassroots level. For Brister, the No. 1 issue is more pressing: the selection of a new superintendent. Forgione "was hired for his specific skill set," she said. She says that with concerns about student attainment and lowperforming schools like Johnston High and Pearce Middle potentially facing closure while greater AISD faces constant growth, "We need someone with a track record of turning these issues around and who can communicate really well with the community."

When it comes to improving the district, Garcia has a straightforward approach, saying the trustees need to listen to teachers. "They're the ones we're trusting our children with

when we drop them off at school," he said. The trustees' job, he argues, isn't to micromanage but to maximize the dollars that get to the classroom and explain to the community why that money is being spent. "Economic development begins in the classroom," he said.

Brister sees a more comprehensive role for AISD. "We have to look at the whole child. Not just their ability to learn, but what affects their ability to learn," she said. With nine out of 10 students at Burnet on reduced-price or free lunches, she added, "We have children who are hungry, children who are witnesses to domestic abuse or [have] been involved in domestic abuse, children who miss school because they are babysitting their siblings." While she applauds the use of parent support, she suggests there may be more of a role for bilingual support staff and social workers in some cases.

As a parting gift, Edwards had some advice for the eventual winner: "In the middle of a \$343 million bond or a \$700 million budget or talking about thousands of employees," she said, "you don't forget the child."

Three Uncontested Incumbents

While Brister and Garcia are fighting for the right to represent AISD's District 3, three other seats will be filled by returning, unopposed incumbents. Outgoing trustee Edwards gave some insight into the allure of the board. "When I was elected in May 2000, I got to hand my child his diploma," she said, adding that she will miss the rewards of serving the community. But giving up nearly every Monday night (and often the early hours of Tuesday) – plus the site visits, the mentoring, the wading through the 4-inch stack of paperwork delivered every Thursday – all for no pay, with no staff beyond one board secretary, and often

little thanks: Those things she may not miss. So why do incumbents stick around?

District 5 (Central) trustee and current board President Mark Williams is finishing his first term and stresses that he feels a degree of continuity is essential, especially while AISD looks for a new superintendent. At-Large Position 8 trustee Annette LoVoi (also a resident in District 5) escaped a competitive race when District 6 parent Kendrah McDonald filed paperwork in March but withdrew less than a week later because of child-care issues. As for why she's returning, LoVoi said, "There's three issues: Finding a new superintendent, finding a new superintendent, and finding a new superintendent." That replacement, she argues, has to be a fit for the district's visions of diversity and sustainability.

In District 2 (Southeast), Sam Guzman is the new kid on the board, having won the 2007 race to finish off Rudy Montoya Jr.'s unexpired term. Montoya left the board early because, after 11 years as a trustee, he could no longer balance that position and his new job as head of the attorney general's information technology division. Since winning last May's special election with 68% in a four-way race, Guzman feels he's gotten positive feedback from the community. More importantly, pressing issues

from last year, like the threatened closure of Johnston High and overcrowding at Linder Elementary, are still issues. "It's just a continuation of what I started when I first ran," he says.

AISD School Bond Propositions

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A performing arts center, 100 acres of real estate, and new classrooms and locker rooms for Anderson High. When working out what to include in the May 10 bond election, AISD's board of trustees initially followed the lead of the volunteer Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee, turning the committee's recommendations into what are now Propositions 1 and 2. But those three big-ticket items above, bound together as the \$82 million Proposition 3, might best be described as "stuff the board of trustees added." Explaining their inclusion, AISD board President Mark Williams said, "Proposition 3 is about thinking about some of the future needs of the district. It's important to act now and to have these facilities in place."

Keen that Proposition 3 not be written off as a list of vanity projects, Williams calls it "a hodgepodge of three very important items": \$40 million for a districtwide, 1,200- to 1,500-seat performing arts center, \$32 million for land for a future high school in South Austin, and \$10 million for fine-arts facilities and classroom additions at Anderson High.

The most controversial and costly item is the PAC. But the debate centers not on whether the district needs one but when to build it. In 2004, voters already approved \$8.8 million in partial funding for a \$15 million PAC – but that money was dependent on private matching donations that never materialized. The 2008 Citizens' Bond Advisory Committee did not originally include it in its recommendations because, even with wide community support for the idea, the lack of solid plans or a location

made it too speculative (as committee member Mark Yznaga said in January, "The PAC is not cooked; it's just not ready to go"). But, in spite of spiraling construction costs and the lack of a site, the board then felt it had to consider the matter again. "Robert's Rules calls for us to deal with unfinished business first," said Williams. "The board took a step back and said, 'We're not going to make a specific recommendation, but the population has convinced us there is a compelling need.""

Currently, for big performance events, the district often has to use unsuitable facilities like the echoey Delco Center, where it held the All-City Band Festival, or spend money to rent nondistrict facilities, as with last November's Fall String Festival in Zilker Park. The district could also start attracting statewide University Interscholastic League events it previously had to pass on - something Williams says is odd for the city that calls itself the live music capital of the world. For those concerned about money, bringing events in-house could end pricey venue rental and cut the ever-rising cost of transporting kids out of district for events. Plus, if a land donor is found, that could save \$5 million allocated for property and potentially be the matching funds that unlock the \$8.8 million from 2004. "This is a facility that we can rent out, so it can be a moneymaker," said AISD spokeswoman Kathy Anthony, noting that Georgetown ISD's 1,207-seat Klett Performing Arts Center has hosted the Georgetown Symphony Society and the Elision Saxophone Quartet this year.

In earlier discussions, Proposition 3 almost became a live performance package, with \$10 million for auditoriums for Lanier and McCallum high schools. But that cash was moved into Proposition 1 as an essential renovation, making the \$10 million for Anderson seem out of place here. Williams says this arrangement reflects the original Citizens Bond Advisory Committee decisions by not bundling board proposals in with the committee's recommendations, while still highlighting a great need. Anderson currently has 28 traveling teachers, almost three times as many as any other school; this package would pay for 12 new classrooms and four labs to help reach the state's new science graduation requirements. If passed, there will also be renovations for the fine-arts facility, including proper musicalinstrument storage. Again, this is just dealing with the school's expansion. "This is an older school, and like an older house, you didn't build enough closet space," said Williams.

But \$32 million for land for a new high school (just the land, not the buildings) raises questions about long-term planning. A high school needs 75-100 acres, and there were concerns from both the committee and the board that construction within the district leaves few suitable plots. Buying the land now, the trustees say, hedges against rising property prices and means more site choices. But Williams argues, this does not mean there is no pressing need. The district faces heavy growth to the south (with Akins, Austin, Bowie, and Travis highs already overcapacity), which its demographers predict will continue "This could become a 100,000-child district," said Williams. "We have to start planning for the future."

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LETTERS @ 3AM

Globalization in the Flesh

BY MICHAEL VENTURA

Watch documentary footage of the 1960 Democratic National Convention that nominated John F. Kennedy - remembering that many in 1960 were troubled deeply that the Oval Office could be the prize of an upstart. rich, Catholic Irish-American. Scan the 1960 convention floor: There are no women. Well, I didn't use a magnifying glass; there might be half a dozen, so amend that to read: There are nearly no women, and certainly no women with speaking parts (as Hollywood would say). The California and New York delegations may have harbored the odd Chinese- or Japanese-American and the rare Jew (also with no speaking parts); Harlem's Rep. Adam Clayton Powell Jr. was one of the few African-Americans with a voice. But overall, the 1960 Democratic Convention was overwhelmingly WASP.

The nomination and election of John F. Kennedy was, at the time, rightly considered a significant expansion of the American identity. Still, in 1960, no one dreamed they'd live to see an African-American or a woman nominated for the presidency. There were no automated phone menus back then, but if there had been, no one would have dreamed they'd have to push 1 to hear the message in English or that labels in supermarkets would be in English and Spanish. What many did dream was that by the year 2000 - a distant, magical realm - American problems like racism, poverty, and perhaps even war would be things of the past. No one imagined that those problems would mix and multiply into a dizzying complexity beyond the range of 1960s modes of thought.

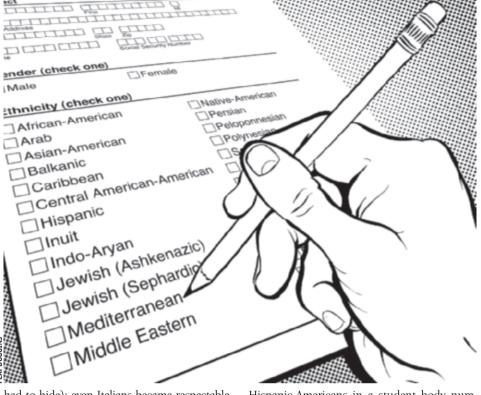
In 1960, the American identity was embodied by the likes of John Wayne and Marilyn Monroe, Jimmy Stewart and Katharine Hepburn. The America that counted traced its roots to northern, Protestant Europe (except for those wild Irish). WASPs were *American*. Everyone else had to prove their credentials. We saw who counted in the TV commercials of the era: If you sold anything on TV, your salespeople looked 100% WASP. According to Madison Avenue, and many others, everyone who wasn't WASP must certainly want to be.

Since the 1920s, non-WASP immigration had been managed by severe quotas. Asians, as well as Southern and Eastern Europeans, were no longer welcomed with open arms. In New York City, many of my generation were the children and grandchildren of immigrants. The city's non-WASP population was mostly Italian, Jewish, and Puerto Rican. Also among the non-WASPs were African-Americans many of whom had grandparents who'd been born into slavery - and the well-established Irish. As a kid. I considered myself white, but if my little brothers and I, with our Sicilian olive skin, went to the American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan, we were considered "spics" – a word we'd thought applied only to brown-skinned, Spanish-accented Puerto Ricans (whom we called "PRs"). A street kid knew that identity depended on what street you walked - in your own neighborhood, you were a normal American; everywhere else, you were not quite.

Anyway, it was clear who the real Americans were – they looked like people in the movies and on TV, who, with rare exceptions like Sidney Poitier and Anthony Quinn, almost all looked WASP. Jews were more frequent on TV, where they were allowed as long as they were funny. Jews who were serious actors had to change their names – like Jacob Julius Garfinkle, whose screen name was John Garfield. It was okay for ballplayers and boxers to have Italian names, but Italian singers took WASP surnames: Dean Martin and Tony Bennett. Frank Sinatra was a hero in every Italian and Sicilian household in part because he kept the pretty vowels of his family name.

The unspoken but widely held assumption of immigrants, their families, and WASP-Americans alike was that we non-WASPs weren't supposed to change America; America was supposed to change us. We were supposed to live up to the WASP ideal.

Through the tumultuous changes of the Sixties and Seventies, the prevalent assumptions about ethnic assimilation proved surprisingly sturdy. African-Americans made progress (of a kind); anti-Semitism became much less prevalent (or



had to hide); even Italians became respectable. By the end of the Seventies, the identities of women, African-Americans, and even gays had changed drastically, but the WASP ideal still ruled. In the Eighties, with immigration restrictions all but gone, the American identity began to be transformed. By the time we reached that once magical realm, "the year 2000," the WASP ideal was decidedly uncool, and everything to do with the concept of "American identity" had gone so completely haywire as to become indecipherable. Most of us are more confused about our national identity now than seemed possible half a century ago.

Where are we going? What is the America to come?

No one dare say for certain, but there are indicators. I suspect it'll look something like this:

A friend teaches third grade in a fairly affluent, liberal private school in the San Fernando Valley. Not a decade ago, this school was overwhelmingly white, mostly of the WASP variety, with only a handful of Asian-, African- and

Hispanic-Americans in a student body numbering about 350 from kindergarten through 12th grade. Knowing my interest in such matters, this friend recently sent me an ethnicity breakdown of her 25 third-graders: Irish-Iraqi, Puerto Rican-Mexican, WASP-Japanese, Sicilian-WASP, WASP-Native American Peruvian-Guatemalan, WASP, Jewish-WASP, Mexican-WASP, Jewish, WASP, Nigerian-WASP, Irish, Jewish, Scot, Armenian, Mexican-WASP, Korean-Chinese, WASP-Jewish, Irish-English, WASP-Filipino, Swedish, Chinese, Colombian-Irish, Jamaican-Jewish - all affluent little American citizens. By the standards of 1960, when neither Jews nor Southern Europeans were considered really white, the white-nonwhite ratio in that class is 6-white-to-19nonwhite; by today's standards, the class is 11 white and 14 nonwhite (or non-Euro, if vou prefer). Even more telling, only nine (out of the 25) aren't mixtures of some kind.

If the Mexican-WASP grows up to marry the Korean-Chinese or if the Irish-Iraqi grows



up to marry the Jamaican-Jew, and if (as is certain) many of their offspring marry likewise - well, in the America to come, the roots of any one family are likely to span the world and include a dizzying number of races, ethnicities, and traditions, plus every religion! In two or three generations, purely "white" or Euro-rooted Americans will be rare exceptions where once they were the rule and where once they ruled.

That's the future, our future, and it's a future our present "multicultural" and "melting pot" platitudes won't suffice to grasp. In the multimulti-ethnic family, the effort to "know thyself" and be true to that self will involve many more variables than anyone in 1960 could have dreamed. The identity parameters of the Jamaican-Jewish-Irish-Iranian married to the Chinese-Lakota-African-Hispanic, with their two Jamaican-Jewish-Irish-Iranian-Chinese-Lakota-African-Hispanic children, will be ... different. The globally referenced society they will inhabit will be utterly different from the Euro-American assumptions that once meant "America."

Globalization isn't only something that's happening to our economy. In one more generation, and certainly in two generations, it will be clear that globalization is happening to us - to our bodies, our families, our psyches.

In 1950 James Baldwin wrote a stunning, visionary prophecy: "The world is white no longer, and it will never be white again." But even Baldwin couldn't grasp, in the context of his time, the enormity of what he was saying. He spoke of African-Americans standing equal to Euro-Americans. The Jamaican-Jewish-Irish-Iranian-Chinese-Lakota-African-Hispanic person of, say, 2040, whose child will add two or five or eight new ethnic hyphens to the line - to a point where few will be able to remember how many and how varied are the roots they embody - will of necessity think in a range unimaginable to us. Each will contain, literally, in their skins and spirits, the heritage of the entire world. In Western countries, and then elsewhere, the so-called "pure" ethnicities will be more and more rare, and a different consciousness of what it means to be human may emerge.

I say "may," because our flaws are terrible and stubborn, and one never knows. But a person whose very flesh spans all of history and geography may, just may, develop a consciousness that does the same.

A version of this piece will appear in the May/June issue of Psychotherapy Networker.









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austinchronicle.com | APRIL 25, 2008 | THE AUSTIN CHRONICLE | 41

Join us for Special Pre-concert Entertainment and Dinners featuring The Driskill, Jasper's, Truluck's, & Whole Foods Market!



JUST ADDED BADDED BADDED Dr. John B/1 with dinner by The Driskill Hal Ketchum w/Truluck's 6/13 Iluminada & Friends w/Whole Foods Sinbad w/asper's 6/27 R n R (Rick Braun & Richard Elliot) w/Whole Foods 7/19 Ottmar Liebert w/The Driskill 7/27 Hiroshima w/Jasper's 8/2 Bobby Caldwell w/Truluck's 8/15 Paula Poundstone w/Whole Foods 8/29 Colin Hay w/jasper's 8/30 Spyro Gyra w/The Driskill 9/12 Yellowjackets w/ Mike Stern w/Whole Foods 9/21 Yellowjackets w/ Mike Stern w/Whole Foods 10/3 Reiko Matsui w/The Driskill 12/1 Diane Schuur w/Tnuluck's 1/23/09 Re Sax Pack w/Jasper's 2/6/09 Richie Havens w/Whole Foods 1/16/09 Tango Fire w/The Driskill 2/11 Diane Schuur w/Tnuluck's 1/23/09 Net Sax Pack w/Jasper's 2/26/09	The Following Shows Presented by:		
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WINN The Pulitzer Prize & 4 Tony Awards A Parable **By John Patrick Shanley** Directed by Steven Dietz Starring Janelle Buchanan, Jamie Goodwin Sydney Andrews and Angela Rawnā Now Thru "A superb new drama ... with the May 11th! compelling structure of an old Hurry, Seats are fashioned detective mystery!" Going Quickly! - The New York Times 75TH ANNIVERSARY SEASON TICKETS BY PHONE! 476-0541, x1 or zachtheatre.org \mathbf{N} AUSTIN MUSEUM OF ART 20 TO WATCH IN AUSTIN

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Matthew Rodriguez, Brigadier Bobobramble, 2208, Mixed media installation, 72 x 42 x 42 inches, Courtesy of the artist

The exhibition, catalogue, and tour are presented by Wentwood Capital Advisors.



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the arts listings

Butler School of Music For this John Adams, a King

John Adams' name is on everyone's lips these days, but if you think all the chatter is about Paul Giamatti in a tricorner hat, you haven't been inside the Butler School of Music at the University of Texas. There, the buzz is all about John Adams *the composer*, who will be at the school in the flesh this week as the latest participant in the school's Visiting Composers Series *and* the latest recipient of the Eddie Medora King Award for Musical Composition, an honor given to a composer with a distinguished body of work that comes with a \$25,000 prize.

There's considerable cause for excitement. Of the many noteworthy composers brought to campus by this program - including previous King Award recipients John Corigliano, George Crumb, Chen Yi, and Joan Tower -Adams has had the deepest impact on the culture at large, one of the few composers in the last half-century who's known for writing contemporary concert music even outside the field. People who have not heard his work know of his operas Nixon in China and The Death of Klinghoffer, and his tribute to those who died on 9/11, On the Transmigration of Souls, earned him a Pulitzer Prize for music and a Grammy Award for Classical Contemporary Composition. In a profile for The New Yorker, gifted music critic Alex Ross called Adams "the most vital and eloquent composer in America" and said that his

music, "unlike so much classical composition of the last 50 years, has the immediate power to enchant." It is "a cut-up paradise, a sequence of familiar elements arranged in unfamiliar ways. A gaudy Hollywood fanfare gives way to a trancelike sequence of shifting beats; billowing clouds of Wagnerian harmony are dispersed by a quartet of saxophones."

Naturally, the Butler School of Music is taking Adams' visit as an opportunity to play in that cut-up paradise. During his three days at UT (April 28-30), three concerts will feature Adams' compositions: the UT Symphony Orchestra on Monday, New Music Ensemble on Tuesday, and the UT Wind Ensemble on Wednesday. While the selections to be performed don't include any of his operatic or choral work (no Nixon, no Transmigration, and no Doctor Atomic - sigh), they otherwise provide a worthy survey of Adams' first 15 years of work: an orchestral work (the exuberant Short Ride in a Fast Machine), a work for orchestra and voice (the darkly lyrical The Wound-Dresser, a setting of Walt Whitman's Civil War poem), a solo piano work (the hypnotically minimalist Phrygian Gates), and a variety of chamber works (the serene Christian Zeal and Activity with its looping recorded preacher's voice; the frenetic, Looney Tunes-inspired Chamber Symphony; and the big-shouldered, pulsing Grand Pianola Music). It's that pulsing quality that appeals to New Music Ensemble director Dan Welcher:

"There's always a sense of internal division. I love that and also his love of form." As Adams will attend rehearsals for all the ensembles, students will have a chance to hear insights into the pieces from the composer himself.

Adams' schedule also includes a master class in composition, a conducting seminar, and a lecture, which is open to the public (Monday, April 28, 4pm, in the Choral Room, Music Building). He will be presented with the King Award during the New Music Ensemble concert. See below for the concert programs; all start at 8pm in Bates Recital Hall. For more information, call 471-5401 or visit www.music.utexas.edu. – Robert Faires

Monday, April 28

Symphony Orchestra performs Adams' *The Wound-Dresser* (1989), plus Brahms' *Piano Concerto No. 1 in D Minor* and Ravel's *Rapsodie Espagnole*. Featured soloist: Anton Nel, piano. Gerhardt Zimmermann, conductor; Richard McKay, guest conductor.

Tuesday, April 29

New Music Ensemble performs Adams' *Christian Zeal and Activity* (1973), *Phrygian Gates* (1977), and *Chamber Symphony* (1992). Featured soloist: William Doppmann, piano. Dan Welcher, conductor.

Wednesday, April 30

Wind Ensemble with the Choral Arts Society, Concert Chorale, Women's Chorus, and Men's Chorus perform Adams' *Short Ride in a Fast Machine* (1986) and *Grand Pianola Music* (1982); plus *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff. Featured soloists: Suzanne Ramo, soprano; Jeffrey Jones-Ragona, tenor; and William Lewis, baritone. Jerry F. Junkin, conductor, Wind Ensemble; James Morrow, conductor, Choral Arts Society; Suzanne Pence, conductor, Concert Chorale; James Henderson, conductor, Women's Chorus; John Wiles, conductor, Men's Chorus.

Austin Arts Hall of Fame Class of 2008

.....

The Austin Critics Table has named the seventh group of individuals to be inducted into the Austin Arts Hall of Fame. As with the previous honorees, these seven Austinites have made significant contributions to the community over many years – some as artists, some as educators, some as patrons, some as administrators, some as a combination of these, but all as friends of and advocates for the arts. The 2008 class of inductees includes:

Margie Coyle (Cap City Comedy Club) – manager, comedy advocate

Stan Haas (TeamHaas/Nelsen Partners) - architect

Don Howell (The Public Domain Theatre/Austin Shakespeare Festival) – patron, producer, actor

Craig Hella Johnson (Conspirare) – conductor, vocalist, composer, company founder

Joe and Teresa Lozano Long (Long Center for the Performing Arts, Austin Symphony, Ballet Austin, Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum, Austin Lyric Opera, et al.) – patrons

Tina Marsh (Creative Opportunity Orchestra) – vocalist, composer, company founder

The new Hall of Famers will be recognized at the 2007-08 Austin Critics Table Awards ceremony, to be held on Monday, June 2, 7pm, at Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research. -R.F.



Ladies Are Funny Festival Are ladies ... funny? Girls Girls Girls insist, 'Yes, yes, yes.'

Of course, ladies are funny. If they're comedians and they're good at what they do, ladies are funnier than Christopher Hitchens in a tutu. Easily. And, sure, the idea of Ballerina-Drag Hitchens (now with matching accessories, from Hasbro!) may be comedy gold, but there are women out there who are comedy plutonium, who will drop such a heavy laugh-bomb on your ass, you'll be known as Ground-Zero Pants for years to come.

There are plenty of these funny women in Austin, even. Several of them are in the improv group Girls Girls Girls, the XX-chromosomed cabal responsible for the Ladies Are Funny Festival, which is taking over the Hideout Downtown this weekend. But, listen, it's not just local women who will be staging their humorous best for your laughter and applause; the LAFF brings women in from all across the country, so you don't have to travel to New York or Boston, say, to see some of what's offered up there. Because, the point is, it's here.

But who comes up with this shit in the first place? "It organically happened accidentally," says Julie Lucas.

"It did accidentally organically happen accidentally," agrees fellow trouper Kacey Samiee. "We had a group of ladies – SuperOvum, from Tulsa [Okla.] – who were going to come and do a show with us," says Andrea Young, "and then it turned into, 'Hey, let's make a festival happen!'"

"There were all-women comedy festivals in Chicago and New York that don't happen anymore," says Mo Daviau, "and we felt that Austin needed one."

"This is our sophomore year," says Shana Merlin, "and it's bigger and better than last year. We did a national call for submissions and got more than 20 applications, even though we only have eight or so slots, so we had to turn people away."

And what's the farthest away performers are coming from? "New York," say Merlin and Samiee.

- "Chapel Hill [N.C.]," says Madeline Malka. "Tempe, Arizona." "Houston," suggests Daviau.
- The Girls (Girls Girls) laugh, delighted.

Is there a more lovely sound than a group of women laughing in delight? That's a question that falls into the subset called "rhetorical." Girls Girls Girls fall into the subset called "improv," and they stretch that form by doing impromptu musicals based on audience suggestions, but that's not the only sort of funny at LAFF.

"Thursday night is a full stand-up night," says Young. "That's new this year. After that, it's mostly improv, because, since we're an improv group, our tastes tend to run that way. But there are a few sketch acts, too."

"The Skinny Bitch Jesus Meeting, from Brooklyn," says Samiee. "They're sketch."

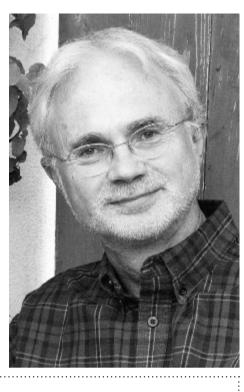
"And we've got some monologues," says Lucas. "We've got *The Dick Monologues* on Saturday."

"We've got a discussion panel on Women in Comedy that afternoon, too," says Daviau.

"Yeah," says Merlin, grinning, "we've got a bit of everything this year." Yeah, they do, these female improvisers and their annual festi-

val. And much of it will be funny. Because, you know, ladies are. – Wayne Alan Brenner

The Ladies Are Funny Festival runs April 24-26 at the Hideout, 617 Congress. For details, see Arts Listings, p.80, or visit **laff.austinimprov.com**.



The Electric Exchange

Theatre, dance, music, and film meld and get supercharged in the Fuse Box Festival **BY ROBERT FAIRES**

Fuse Box guru Ron Berry with a projected image of festival artist

Andee Scott

The walls are coming down.

The barriers that for centuries have stood between different kinds of art - keeping the visual arts apart from dance and classical music apart from theatre and everyone apart from everyone else in their nice, discrete disciplines - are being yanked down nowadays like it's Berlin, 1989. Dancers are making moves in galleries, and visual artists are slinging paint at the ballet barre; opera singers are cozving up to comedians, and rock musicians are belting out tunes in legit musicals. The kinds of cross-discipline collaborations that used to be so rare that the artists engaged in them seemed like spies, furtively sneaking over the wall into an opposing camp, are rapidly becoming commonplace. When you have Spank Dance Company dancers being painted by artists in the Austin Figurative Gallery, the UT Performing Arts Center developing the musical Marathon with music-scene mainstays Jesse Sublett and Darden Smith, Zach Theatre packing the cast of the Daniel Johnston musical Speeding Motorcycle with music community stars, Ballet Austin and Arthouse teaming up to get Trenton Doyle Hancock's Vegans dancing in Cult of Color: Call to Color, and Austin Lyric Opera sitting down with Esther's Follies to rewrite Die Fledermaus, all in less than a year, it's evidence that our city's artists are hard at work demolishing the old cultural dividers.

And no one is smashing away at those walls harder, faster, and with more glee than Ron Berry. As artistic director for Refraction Arts Project, Berry has been the instigator for a number of memorable cross-disciplinary projects, such as a stage adaptation of The Metamorphosis that not only integrated live theatre and video but was supplemented by the Kafka Museum, an installation including sculptures, writings, audio works, and other creations by local artists riffing on the writer. The North Project was even grander in scope, transforming the entire Blue Theater into an installation that explored the idea of "north" through video of the aurora borealis, a troupe of dancers moving incredibly slowly in front of a 15-foot-tall time-lapse film of a Finnish village, an actor posing as the Russian proprietor of the world's northernmost bar, audio

interviews with people who live above the 60th parallel, a small room in which visitors could isolate themselves and type out their own ideas about what "north" is, and more. But Berry's crowning achievement may be the Fuse Box Festival, an annual event meant to bring together under the same presentational tent, as it were, new and experimental works of theatre, music, dance, film, and - especially - any combination of those forms in an artistic hybrid.

Initially, most of the artists included in the festival were from Austin, but the idea was always for Fuse Box to include artists from outside the city who could share a way of working that perhaps wasn't being seen locally, yet. Four years ago, it was just two artists from New York City, dancer Laura Quattrochi and sculptor Agata Olek, collaborating with local painter/video artist Thúy-Vân Vu on the work Box 7.1. This year, some half of the 75 artists and companies that are part of Fuse Box hail from places other than our town, places like Denton; Houston; New Orleans; New Mexico; Utah: Portland, Ore.: Minneapolis: New York City; London; Paris; Mexico City; and all across the Great White North. It's indicative of the way Fuse Box has grown, and grown quickly, in the brief time it's been in existence.

In fact, the festival has consistently expanded its offerings every year even as it has condensed the length of time in which it's cramming the ever more extensive roster of festival events, making it an ever more concentrated arts extravaganza, a supercharged cultural showcase. What started with three plays, five performance pieces, five visual-art installations, and one dance/ video collaboration spread out over a month is, in its fourth year, more than three dozen different projects of all kinds packed into just 10 days - and it's become harder and harder to identify the pieces as belonging to particular disciplines because more and more of them combine elements of two or more art forms, such as:

• The Haymarket Project, which utilizes puppets by TroublePuppet Theater, music by Lauren Gurgiolo, and projections by Lettuce Turnip Media to revisit the deadly 1886 rally in Chicago and the trials and executions that followed it:

continued on p.46

endless ocean endless sky **SATURDAY, APRIL 26**

Tahni Holt (Portland, Ore.) Music Lab, Studio B, 500 E. St. Elmo

8:30PM

We Three Kings Written and conceived by Emilie Whelan (New Orleans) and Meryl Murman (New York City) and featuring the art of NoLa Rising (New Orleans) 400-B W. Alpine (in back)

10PM

Neal Medlyn's Lionel Richie Opera Neal Medlyn (New York City) Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

We Three Kings

Written and conceived by Emilie Whelan (New Orleans) and Meryl Murman (New York City) and featuring the art of NoLa Rising (New Orleans) 400-B W. Alpine (in back)

11:30PM

Mistress Stephanie & Her Melodic Cat Stephanie Stephens, Adam Sultan (Austin) Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th

Premiere with composer/musician Graham Reynolds (Austin) Arthouse at the Jones Center, 700 Congress

7PM

LSM + NLF Power dance trio Little Stolen Moments (Austin) Women & Their Work, 1710 Lavaca

Cult of Color: Call to Color String Quintet

9PM Five in the Morning Rotozaza (London)

Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

8PM Danse Macabre

Spank Dance Company in collaboration with the Austin Figurative Gallery featuring Mari Akita, Ellen Bartel, Caroline Sutton Clark (Austin) Austin Figurative Gallery, 301 Chicon

endless ocean endless sky Tahni Holt (Portland, Ore.) Music Lab, Studio B, 500 E. St. Elmo

Five in the Morning Rotozaza (London)

Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd. **9**PM

La guerre de la travailleur

Erick Michaud and Erin Curtis (Austin) Blue Theater/Mass Gallery, 916 Springdale

10PM

Neal Medlyn's Lionel Richie Opera Neal Medlyn (New York City) Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

Extravaganza #3

Austin Video Bee presents a special performance and video showcase Victory Grill. 1104 E. 11th

Rotozaza (London) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd. **Terrible Things**

Field Guide: Dance in the U.S., Part 1

Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Emily Johnson (Minneapolis), AI Le Razer and Lorn

6PM

8PM

MacDougal (Austin)

endless ocean endless sky

Terry Plumming (Chicago/Austin) Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

Music Lab, Studio B, 500 E. St. Elmo

Tahni Holt (Portland, Ore.)

Typewriter Chorus

Five in the Morning

Lisa D'Amour (New York City/Austin/New Orleans) and Katie Pearl (Austin), with choreography by Emily Johnson (Minneapolis) Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

continued on p.46



SUNDAY, APRIL 27

6PM

endless ocean endless sky Tahni Holt (Portland, Ore.) Music Lab, Studio B, 500 E. St. Elmo

7PM Typewriter Chorus Terry Plumming (Chicago/Austin) Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

7:30PM

We Three Kings Written and conceived by Emilie Whelan (New Orleans) and Meryl Murman (New York City) and featuring the art of NoLa Rising (New Orleans) 400-B W. Alpine (in back)

8PM

Terrible Things Lisa D'Amour (New York City/Austin/New Orleans) and Katie Pearl (Austin), with choreography by Emily Johnson (Minneapolis) Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

endless ocean endless sky Tahni Holt (Portland, Ore.)

Music Lab, Studio B, 500 E. St. Elmo

9PM We Three Kings

Written and conceived by Emilie Whelan (New Orleans) and Meryl Murman (New York City) and featuring the art of NoLa Rising (New Orleans) 400-B W. Alpine (in back)

12MID

Twilight of the Little Boxes Church of the Friendly Ghost (Austin) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

MONDAY, APRIL 28

8PM

The Living Whale: A Marathon Misreading of Moby Dick Initiated by Ben Coonley, James Fotopoulos, and Spencer Parsons Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

12MID Twilight of the Little Boxes Church of the Friendly Ghost (Austin) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd

• La guerre de la travailleur, for which installation artist Erin Curtis has transformed the Mass Gallery into a faux hospital lobby, where visitors can watch a performance by collaborator Erick Michaud on video monitors;

• *Typewriter Chorus*, Terry Plumming's experimental writing exercise in which participants sitting at typewriters type what they hear as they're read to from multiple texts by multiple individuals;

• Reggie Watts, the classically trained pianist and jazz singer who interweaves improvised music with stand-up comedy;

• *We Three Kings*, a work-in-progress from the Cripple Creek Theatre Company and NoLa Rising in which New Orleans-based performers, musicians, and street artists mix fiddles, flashlights, laptops, and night lamps to evoke a dreamlike vision of life in the Crescent City;

• *endless ocean endless sky*, which features a performance by Portland, Ore., movement artist Tahni Holt that takes place on an inflatable iceberg designed by architect Andrew Kudless.

And that's just the tip of the inflatable iceberg. The 2008 festival boasts return visits by

TUESDAY, APRIL 29

6PM The Proximator Michael Agresta (Austin) Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

8PM "5th World and Shush" (short) L. Blackhorse Lowe (New Mexico) Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30

7PM

Woman's Work: Reconstructions of Self, Program 1 Andee Scott (Austin) Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

8PM Inside the Dreaming Machine 4ms Pedals (St. Louis)

Pump Project, 702 Shady Ln.

Blue 60

60 pieces in 60 minutes featuring 60 of Austin's best performers, writers, filmmakers, musicians, and visual artists Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

THURSDAY, MAY 1

7PM Stacked Cow and Other Dances Hijack (Minneapolis), Scott Heron (New Orleans) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

7:30PM

Woman's Work: Reconstructions of Self, Program 2 Andee Scott (Austin)

Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside 8PM

Cape Disappointment

The Debate Society (Brooklyn) from writers Hannah Bos and Paul Thureen and director Oliver Butler Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

Cardo

CFW Poet Agency (Mexico City), directed by Iván Buenader Mexican American Cultural Center, 600 River St.

8:30PM

Vicious Dogs on Premises Witness Relocation (New York City) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd. 9:30PM Reggie Watts (Brooklyn) Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

10PM

Field Guide: Dance in the U.S., Part 2 tEEth (Portland, Ore.), Elsewhere Dance Theater (Austin), Jordan Fuchs (New York City) & Sarah Gamblin (Denton), Heather Maloney (New York City) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

FRIDAY, MAY 2

6PM B Scene

In conjunction with Refraction Arts and Fuse Box Blanton Museum of Art, Congress & MLK

The Haymarket Project

Lauren Gurgiolo, Lettuce Turnip Media, TroublePuppet Theater (Austin) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

7:30PM Woman's Work: Reconstructions of Self.

Program 1 Andee Scott (Austin)

Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

8PM Cape Disappointment

The Debate Society (Brooklyn) from writers Hannah Bos and Paul Thureen and director Oliver Butler Blue Theater, 916 Springdale

8:30PM

Stacked Cow and Other Dances Hijack (Minneapolis), Scott Heron (New Orleans) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

9:30PM Reggie Watts (Brooklyn) Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

10PM

Vicious Dogs on Premises Witness Relocation (New York City) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Extravaganza #3 Austin Video Bee presents a special performance and video showcase Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th

the Minneapolis dance sensation Hijack and the Debate Society, a New York City theatre company, both of which electrified audiences at the fest last April. The lauded London company Rotozaza makes its Austin debut, bringing two widely acclaimed works: the enigmatic *Five in the Morning*, in which three swimmers follow commands delivered by disembodied

toward a meditative state. Former Austin resident Neal Medlyn returns with an opera (!) loosely based on Richard Strauss' *Arabella* but composed entirely of songs from the Lionel Richie greatest-hits album *Back to Front* – in the order in which they appear on the album. Playwright/performer Lisa D'Amour is also coming back to town to work with longtime

It's become harder and harder to identify Fuse Box projects as belonging to particular disciplines because more and more of them combine elements of two or more art forms.

voices, and the daring *Etiquette*, which invites two people at a time to sit in a public cafe wearing headphones that feed them lines and actions to perform. (People who have done it say it's perspective-altering.) From St. Louis comes 4ms Pedals, bringing a "Dreaming Machine" sound installation consisting of an army of Furbys and other plastic electroanthropomorphs, flashing lights, and audio stimulation that combine to take the viewer collaborator Katie Pearl (*Anna Bella Eema*, *Slabber*, *Dress Me Blue/Window Me Sky*) on a piece that involves molecules, memories, and marshmallows – 600 of them. Austin dancer Andee Scott is bringing to a close a fouryear project in which she commissioned five women choreographers from around the world to create a solo for her and spent a month with each of them learning the piece; she'll perform all five and show video documentaries of the

SATURDAY, MAY 3

NOON Hope to See You There Sean Ripple (Austin)

Sean Ripple (Austill) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Vicious Dogs on Premises Witness Relocation (New York City) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

4PM Stacked Cow and Other Dances Hijack (Minneapolis), Scott Heron (New Orleans)

Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Field Guide: Dance in the U.S., Part 2 tEEth (Portland, Ore.), Elsewhere Dance Theater (Austin), Jordan Fuchs (New York City) & Sarah Gamblin (Denton), Heather Maloney (New York City) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Woman's Work: Reconstructions of Self,

Program 2

Andee Scott (Austin) Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

7PM

Fuse Box Collaboration Project: "Double Fantasy" Jared Steffensen (Utah) & Terry Plumming (Chicago/ Austin); Lisa Choinacky (Austin) & Jake Borndal (New York City); Armando Miguelez (Mexico City) & Lauren Tietz (Austin); Céline Foussadier (Paris) & Chris Cuellar (Austin); Mary Magsamen/Stephan Hillerbrand (Houston); Kirk Lynn (Austin) Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

8PM

Graham Reynolds & Brannen Temple (Austin) Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

Toneburst 7

Church of the Friendly Ghost & Rick Reed (Austin), with Naught for 3, Steve Marsh, Dromez, Jacob Green/Josh Ronsen, Bright Duplex, James Eck Rippie, Brent Fariss Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Cape Disappointment

The Debate Society (Brooklyn) from writers Hannah Bos and Paul Thureen and director Oliver Butler *Blue Theater, 916 Springdale*

10PM

Reggie Watts (Brooklyn) Rollins Studio Theatre, Long Center, 701 W. Riverside

process. And filmmakers Ben Coonley, James Fotopoulos, and Spencer Parsons (a frequent *Chronicle* contributor) are launching a threeyear project in which they oversee the adaptation of all 137 chapters of Herman Melville's *Moby Dick* to film, with each chapter assigned to a different filmmaker. (See "A Whale of a Tale Goes 21st Century," Screens, p.58.)

What you'll find as you spend a little time with the Fuse Box schedule (www.refractionarts. org/fusebox/calendar.shtml) is that each project has its own strange spark that attracts and fascinates, if only by making you wonder how the devil someone ever thought of such a thing. Put all these sparks together, and you have a charge that's almost irresistible, not just to audiences but also to artists, bringing them together and establishing - at the risk of overloading the old electricity metaphor here - a current that flows throughout all disciplines to generate new kinds of power and light. If you need to know why Fuse Box is different from the thousand other festivals in Austin now, that's it. And that kind of electricity is what happens when the walls come down.

ge Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd. Minneapolis dance sensation Hijack Debate Society, a New York City the pany, both of which electrified audier

ONGOING

Etiquette Rotozaza (London) April 24-May 3, Monday-Friday, 10am-10pm; Saturday-Sunday, 10am-6pm Cafe Mundi, 1704 E. Fifth #100

Evolution Sonnet Blanton & Natalie George (Austin) April 24-May 3 Salvage Vanguard Theater, 2803 Manor Rd.

Changarrito Maximo Gonzalez (Mexico City) April 24-May 3 Various times and locations around Austin

Extravaganza #3 Austin Video Bee April 24-May 3 Victory Grill, 1104 E. 11th

Fuse Box Collaboration Project: "Double Fantasy" April 24-May 3 Big Medium Gallery, 5305 Bolm #12

Inside the Dreaming Machine 4ms Pedals (St. Louis) April 26-May 3, Saturday-Sunday, 1-6pm; Monday-Friday, 5-7pm; Saturday, May 3 (circuit-bending workshop), 2pm *Pump Project, 702 Shady Ln.*

"Notes on a Collaboration: *Cult of Color: Call to Color*" Trenton Doyle Hancock (Houston) Through April 27, Thursday, 11am-9pm; Friday, 11am-7pm; Saturday, 10am-5pm; Sunday, 1-5pm *Arthouse at the Jones Center, 700 Congress*

"Nothing Lasts Forever"

Yoon Cho (Austin) Through May 10, Monday-Friday, 9am-6pm; Saturday, noon-5pm

Women & Their Work, 1710 Lavaca "Poutine Never Sleeps" James Patterson, Alex Produkt & Kathleen Weldon, Christopher Ross, Scott Harber, Peru Dyer, Clint Eagleson, Patrick Thompson, Felix Labrona Berube (Canada) April 24-May 10, Tuesday-Saturday, noon-6pm April 24, 7-10pm (opening reception) Gallery Lombardi, 602 W. Seventh Ste. A

 "It's Like a Machine, and It's Meant to Be Repeated"
 Michael Mellon (Oakland, Calif.) and Jacques Louis Vidal (New Haven, Conn.) May 3-31, Wednesday, 7-9pm; Saturday, noon-5pm May 3, 7-11pm (opening reception)
 Okay Mountain, 1312 Cesar Chavez Ste. B



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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 Keyboardist Chick Corea, bassist Stanley Clarke, guitarist Al Di Meola and drummer Lenny White are reuniting to kick off their first tour together in more than 25 years at the Paramount Theatre.



SVT presents **Intergalactic Nemesis** -- May 9 It's *Star Wars* meets *Raiders of the Lost Ark* with a little of *The Incredibles* thrown in for good measure!

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Riding the 'Wave'

Bud Shrake compacts a far-flung, storied career in his new collection BY SPENCER PARSONS

"There are people who go to New York as professional Texans," Edwin "Bud" Shrake says. But I'm just an accidental Texan. By which I mean I didn't want it, but I wasn't ever trying to get away from it." Nevertheless, he's one of the most important writers that Texas has produced, according to Steven L. Davis, assistant curator for the Southwestern Writers Collection, author of Texas Literary Outlaws, and editor of new Bud Shrake collection Land of the Permanent Wave. "He's always had an instinct to be in the thick of the action," says Davis. "As a sportswriter he became friends with the men in Dallas who owned the football teams ... and that gave him access to the world of the oil tycoons, you know, with the gold-plated toilets and all that, as well as the very reactionary political currents ... which on its own would be great for a novelist. But you know, at the same time, he was a regular patron at Jack Ruby's nightclub and dating the star stripper, and his friends were sort of the beatniks of Dallas.'

Shrake has experienced a lot more of Texas in his 50-year career than most writers could imagine, and his writing has been equally varied, from pounding out police blotters to bringing New Journalism to the pages of *Sports Illustrated*, from long-form magazine essays to novels (*Strange Peaches*, *Custer's Brother's Horse*) to feature films, not to mention coauthoring Willie Nelson's autobiography and the golfers' bible, *Harvey Penick's Little Red Book. Land of the Permanent Wave* brings all these streams together while folding in personal letters and fascinating excerpts from unproduced screenplays. The book reads more like an accidental autobiography than an introduction for the uninitiated, and one suspects that even if he didn't want that, he wasn't exactly trying to get away from it, either.

Austin Chronicle: Sportswriting has been a constant throughout your career. Has sports been a useful lens for you to look at other subjects, or is it something else?

Bud Shrake: Sports to me was always a good gig. I was a police reporter for a long time. Covered all kinds of things. But I'd look over at the sports department, and they were all laughing, and half of 'em were drunk. They were all

having a good time, and also, they traveled. I'd look over at those guys and think: "Well, they've got the deal. If I'm gonna work for a newspaper" – which is something that I really love to do – "but if I'm not gonna be a foreign correspondent in Paris working for the *Herald-Tribune*, then I wanna be a sportswriter." You know, because you get to go to New York and L.A. and wherever, and all you gotta do is watch football or something and write about it. That's fun.

I thought of myself as a novelist who did sportswriting. But I never thought of myself as being a screenwriter. I just did it. You know, the first one, my wife and I went to see Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid, and we were in a bar later talking about it, and you know, it was a huge, popular movie. And I said, "Well, veah, I liked it; I liked it a lot," but I said, "If that's so popular, I think I can write a script that good." And she said, "No, you can't." And I said, "Well, I'll show you." And I went back home, and within two to three weeks, I wrote that script [Kid Blue]. I didn't know what I was doing. And I sent it to my agent in New York, and she called me up and said, "This is the worst script I ever read." And I said, "I want a second opinion," and she said, "Yeah, okay, I'll send it to a friend of mine, an agent in Los Angeles, and she won't be as kind to you as I am." So it went to this agent in L.A., and she gave it to this producer, Marvin Schwartz, and he took it in to Daryl Zanuck at 20th Century Fox, who sat there, read the script, picked up the telephone, and put it into production. And I thought, "This is the easiest thing I've done in my life!" I didn't realize then what a long shot that was, how lucky I was. You know, all those ponds of alligators you gotta jump over. And then, you know, I quit Sports Illustrated. AC: Why?

BS: Well, my hero there, my rabbi, André named Bundini B Laguerre, he was the managing editor, and he'd Muhammad Ali v been Charles DeGaulle's press

been Charles DeGaulle's press secretary, been in the French underground. Remarkable, remarkable man. Every new play in New York, he'd seen it, [would] talk to you about it in a bar. Any new novel of any importance, he'd read

it. Smoked maybe about 12 big Cuban cigars and drank a quart of scotch every day and somehow managed to run a magazine, turned Sports Illustrated from a money-loser into a profit-maker. We looked at ourselves as The New Yorker of sportswriting. And so André, the first 10 years I was there, he let me have time off to write novels and movies and stuff. And sent me on glamorous assignments all over the world. ... André had run the magazine for writers and photographers at the top. But they had a change in power at Time Inc. They put marketing at the top, and writers and photographers dropped down a few notches, and they got rid of André. And when they got rid of André, the handwriting was on the wall for guys like me. And about that time, Columbia hired me to adapt a bestselling novel called Nightwing. It was supposed

to be Columbia's answer to Jaws. So I quit. Which was kind of funny, because it turned out *not* to be Columbia's answer to Jaws. To me, it was about oil interests tearing up the Hopi and Navajo reservations. But to Columbia, it was only about vampire bats, and it was just a big mess. One time, we were having a meeting in the executive dining room at Columbia, and they had hired this guy, Carlo Rambaldi, who built King Kong, to make the vampire bats. And he brought in a big one that he was really proud of. It would flap around the room and shit. But they got real mad at him; the head of Columbia yelled at him, "Goddammit, Carlo, you made our bats too big!" And I thought what a great title that would be: *You Made Our Bats Too Big ...*

AC: There are a lot of connections between the different things you write – how one of your subjects in a Sports Illustrated piece becomes a character in one of your novels.

BS: You know, with writing fiction, [it's] a hard thing to talk about, because, you know, philosophers and scientists have never agreed on what human consciousness is. Or whether it even exists. But human consciousness is where fiction writers have their office. It's where you go to work. It's required somewhat for all fiction - but some fiction is more heavily based on autobiography. Strange Peaches, when a friend of mine read it, he said: "I've read 300 pages. Where does the fiction start?" ... There are novels that are just purely imaginative, and those are the ones where human consciousness is totally in charge. All fiction writers you talk to - well, all of the good ones at least - say they hear voices. Like Kipling said: You wait, you listen, and you obey. ...

And so fiction writers hear these voices, but then the question becomes: Where do these voices come from? Are they just crazy, or what? And you'd be surprised at the answers from various writers where these voices come from. David Milch [creator of *Deadwood*] told me that his voices come from the body of Christ, and he didn't explain it to me, and I don't know what that's supposed to mean, but what it means to me is that he doesn't know either. Actually the best explanation I ever heard comes from a guy named Bundini Brown. ... It was his job to help Muhammad Ali work himself into this psychic

extra

For more of Spencer Parsons'

interview with Bud Shrake, visit

www.austinchronicle.com/books.

frenzy to take on this guy that everyone was afraid of, Sonny Liston. He came up with: "Float like a butterfly, sting like a bee. The hands can't get what the eyes can't see." At any rate, his explanation to me was

that the brain is like a radio: It both sends and receives ... and some people's radios pick up different waves of knowledge in the ether, waves for arithmetic or for artistic creativity or for music and like that. You just have to be tuned into these different waves, and he said to me, "You're tuned into these storytelling waves." He would say that you can always see about 15 percent of the universe, but 85 percent of it is dark matter and dark energy. And in that 85 percent is all the knowledge of all the stories that ever happened. The molecules are made up of the stories captured in the ether. And if you're tuned in right, they'll come into your receiver, and for me, that's as good an explanation as anybody has ever come up with.

The Southwestern Writers Collection at Texas State University will host an evening devoted to Bud Shrake and his new collection, Land of the Permanent Wave: An Edwin "Bud" Shrake Reader, on Saturday, April 26, at the Wittliff Collections in the Alkek Library on the Texas State campus. A 6pm Champagne and chocolate reception will be followed by a 7pm reading by G.W. Bailey from the new book, with a booksigning afterward. Admission is free, but attendees are encouraged to RSVP. For more information, see www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu.

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Thinking Independently at BookPeople



IT'S A JUNGLE OUT THERE AMANDA MARCOTTE Wednesday, April 30 7 PM Perseus Book Group

BookPeople is very excited to welcome Amanda Marcotte: local writer, blogger, feminist and all-around-kick-ass lady! She will be here tonight to present her new book It's a Jungle Out There: The Feminist Survival Guide to Politically Inhospitable Environments. With her tongue-in-cheek and middle finger in the air, Marcotte draws on her personal experience in dealing with anti-feminist to give intelligent and funny advice to women. Join us tonight at BookPeople and find out how you can take the fight to the Man.

Other Great Women's Studies:

THE GIRLS WHO WENT AWAY - ANN FESSLER

Penguin USA

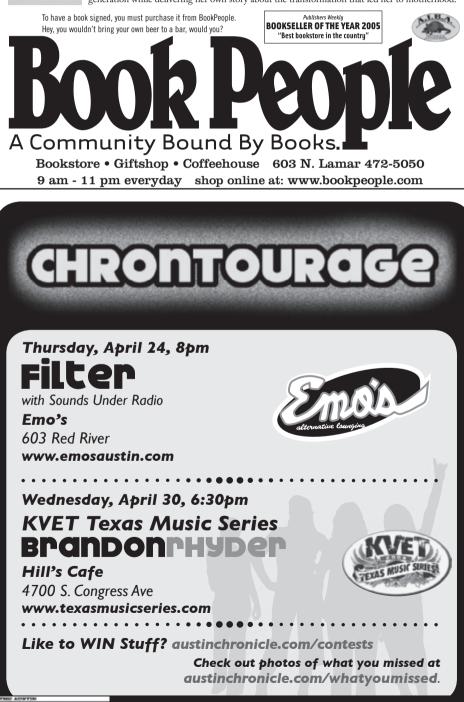


In this deeply moving and myth-shattering work, Ann Fessler brings out into the open the astonishing untold history of the million and a half women who surrendered children for adoption in the decades before Roe v. Wade.

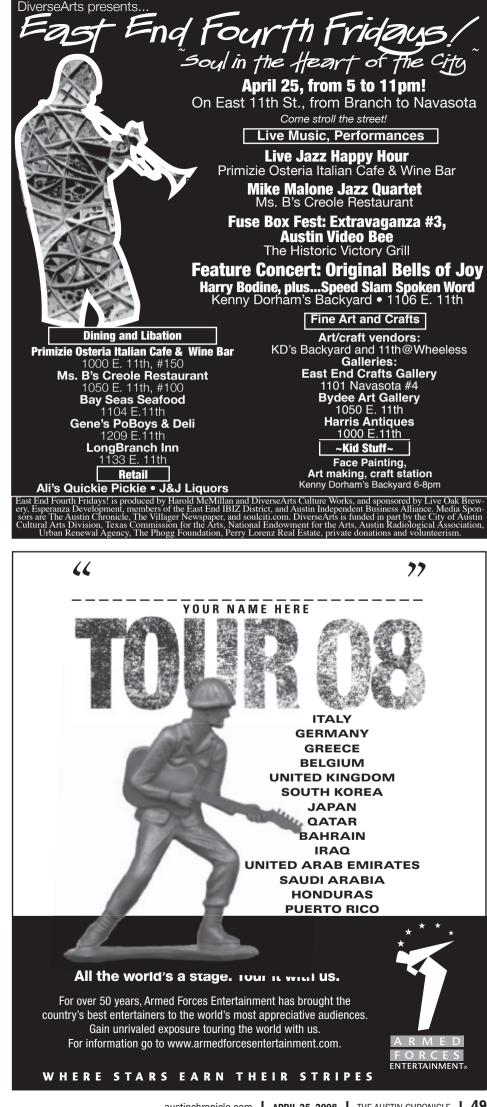
BABY LOVE - REBECCA WALKER

Penguin USA

In this very smart memoir, Walker explores some of the larger sociological trends of her generation while delivering her own story about the transformation that led her to motherhood.



austinchronicle.com/chrontourage



the arts :: STYLE AFTER A FASHION BY STEPHEN MACMILLAN MOSER

PIES & DOLLS If you don't think Valley of the Dolls is the greatest movie ever made, then, well ... you're just wrong. Last Tuesday's VotD benefit (yes, um, it was for me) at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz was spearheaded by my beloved sister, Margaret, who worships this movie as much as I do, and introduced by fellow VotD fanatic, dear friend Joel Mozersky. Many friends showed up, but I was surprised at how many of the

makes, she just can't please her greedy sociopathic ingrate

says: "Personally, Veda's convinced me that alligators have the

right idea. They eat their young." Tickets are \$30 and can be

slut of a daughter, Veda, of whom Eve Arden's character

people there I did not know. But like Helen Lawson sings in the movie, "It's my yard, so I will try hard to welcome friends I have yet to know."... Mildred Pierce, starring Joan Crawford in her 1945 Oscarwinning performance, is being shown on Sunday, May 4, 2pm, at the Alamo Drafthouse on South Lamar (note that it has been moved from the Alamo at the Ritz). The fundraiser (um, for me again) is a pie social, hosted by my fellow Chronicle cohort, food critic, and author Virginia Wood and will feature extraordinary pies donated by so many different bakers and restaurants and all the Amv's Ice Creams you can eat. There will be quite a few surprises unveiled as well, but the real star of this event is the movie. Poor Mildred. No matter how many pies she

purchased at www.originalalamo.com.

(Front, l-r) Sarah Swindell, Karen Sallis, Kristin Ernst; (back) Anne Elizabeth Wynn's daughter Larkin, Kimberly Thomsen, and Maria Groten at Red, Hot & Soul

> her for the rest of the evening... Then I dragged Natalie to the Octopus Club's big fundraiser ArtErotica, an event that's always a sexy, eye-popping experience. This year's party brought in more money than any previous ArtErotica. Of course it did: There were naked people everywhere - on the walls and in the flesh!

WEEK IN REVIEW Okay, it's the season for the Social

Olympics here in the Swish Alps, and I am suited up and

ready to slalom through my calendar. Seems like there are always at least two things to attend every night. Last

Thursday was Austin Gay & Lesbian International Film

Festival's big fundraiser, Bloom, on the rather blustery fifth

floor pool level of the new AMLI Downtown. The party "DTDMMLF?" Poor thing had no idea what her friend meant. Silly girl. It means, "Does this dress make me look fat?" I ran into glamorous local singer-songwriter

Natalie Zoe, whom I've known since I was, um, 17, and hijacked at ArtErotica

Mark Erwin, Natalie Zoe, and Lew Aldrich

AGENDA Thursday, April 24, 7-10pm, you know Estilo will be showing faaabulous new things at tonight's Through the Looking Glass, their spring fashion show... Friday, April 25, 8pm, UT's graduating seniors show their fashion designs at the Frank Erwin Center with a preshow exposition at 5:45pm. Free!... And for real style, see me at the crack of dawn on Saturday, April 26, dressed in some form of Seventies drag. I'll be working at pit stop No. 1 for the Hill Country Ride for AIDS. But don't let that scare you from riding or supporting the ride - run to www.hillcountryride.org, and sign up to ride, volunteer, or support the riders.

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

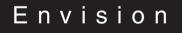








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food

WINES OF THE WEEK: STE. MICHELLE WINE ESTATES

Occasionally you come across a big company filled with the passion of a small one. These are places to treasure, because they have huge resources, can buy raw materials in quantity, and they are usually willing to make a substantial investment in making new ideas come to life. One of the best is Washington's Ste. Michelle Wine Estates.

They own or distribute 19 wineries, including Chateau Ste. Michelle, Columbia Crest, Col Solare, NorthStar, Villa Mt. Eden, Erath, and Stag's Leap. Instead of creating a monolithic, top-down organization, company leader Ted Baseler sees Ste. Michelle as a string of pearls, each winery separate and independent but held together by the invisible string of the corporation. Nice analogy.

That concept trickles down to **Columbia Crest**, the best large winery in the U.S., where winemaker Ray Einberger has teams working independently on each wine. That way, workers invest their own enthusiasm in making a wine they can be proud of. Stem to stern, Columbia Crest wines are bargains, whether you're drinking the \$8 Two Vines wines or the \$13 Grand Estates wines. If you're new to the two lines, try getting a Merlot or Shiraz from each to get an idea of where your extra money goes.

It's a little more dicey to try to make a bargain \$75 wine, but winemakers Marcus Notaro and

Renzo Cotarella have figured it out with **Col Solare**. Notaro works for Ste. Michelle, and Cotarella works for the Italian company Marchese Antinori, whose world-famous Solaia wine runs north of \$150 per bottle. The goal is to use fruit from Red Mountain in the high desert of Central Washington to make a wine as profound as the Solaia. I think Col Solare accomplishes that goal.

Washington is the most exciting wine area in the U.S. right now. Luckily, both Columbia Crest and Col Solare are widely available. The Columbia Crest is in almost every grocery store in town, and the Col Solare is available at better wineshops. – Wes Marshall



EVENT MENU APRIL 24-MAY 1

▶ The **Umlauf Garden Party**, Austin's loveliest outdoor benefit, takes place tonight at the **Umlauf Sculpture Garden & Museum** (605 Robert E. Lee Rd., 462-6050). Guests can stroll through the peaceful sculpture garden at twilight, sipping wine and sampling signature dishes from 21 of Austin's top restaurants while enjoying the music of the **Nash Hernandez Orchestra**. Silent-auction items will include custom terra-cotta pots designed by Austin notables and celebrities, plus a Texas landscape painted by featured artist **Gordon Fowler**. Tickets are \$100 at the museum store and selected **Twin Liquors** outlets and \$115 at the door. Thursday, April 24, 6:30-9:30pm.

54 IMPERIA/VINO VINO **56** RESTAURANT ROULETTE



GLUTEN-FREE PIZZA DOUGH

Celiac disease, also known as gluten-intolerance, is one of the most common chronic health disorders in the Western world.

As more Americans are finding out they're intolerant of gluten – a very small protein found in wheat, barley, and rye – the demand for gluten-free foods is increasing exponentially.

Gluten Free Kneads, headed by **Georgia Hutton** and **Erika Leakey**, is a small Austin company that has stepped into the gap. They specialize in frozen gluten-free doughs that the consumer can bake at home, and their newest product is a frozen, New York-style pizza dough. Each package contains two 10-inch rounds, and the dough is specially formulated not only to be glutenfree but to bake to the proper consistency in a conventional home oven.

These little pizza doughs are easy to use, easy to store, quick to make, and virtually indistinguishable from conventional, wheatbased pizza dough. The texture is crisp on the bottom and chewy and breadlike underneath the toppings. The outer crust is somewhat crisper and more crackerlike than a restaurant pizza; still, my pizza-connoisseur husband absolutely loved this crust and had no perception it was gluten-free. Other pizza connoisseurs agree: Local restaurants the **Brick Oven Restaurant** in South Austin and the **Grove Wine Bar** have recently added Gluten Free Kneads pizza dough to their menus.

Gluten Free Kneads also makes seven kinds of frozen, ready-to-use cookie and brownie dough, including such favorites as chocolate-pecan chip, snickerdoodle, peanut butter, and Triple Chocolate Blast. Recently the company was approached by Disney World Florida to make an entirely allergen-free cookie for the amusement park. After much experimentation, Gluten Free Kneads formulated a cookie that is not only gluten-free but also contains no casein, soy, egg, nuts, corn, or potato. They landed the Disney World contract and are also making these cookies available to the general public. This completely allergen-free cookie dough is available in three flavors: lemon, cinnamon, and cocoa. (All cookie doughs: \$12,50 a package.)

Gluten Free Kneads products are available via www.glutenfreekneads.com, at Whole Foods Market, and at Peoples Rx North Lamar, South Lamar, and West Lake.

– Kate Thornberry

FOOD-O-FILE

BY VIRGINIA B. WOOD

In the off-with-my-head department, when I wrote recently about the Austin chapter of Les Dames d'Escoffier International (April 11), I neglected to mention that Cathy Cochran-Lewis was one of the original founders of the local chapter, along with Joan Wood and Johanna Brown. I regret the omission. Whole Foods Market global public relations team member Cochran-Lewis is one of the busiest women we know - in addition to her work with Les Dames, she's just returned from the annual convention of the International Association of Culinary Professionals, where she was named president for the coming year. Congratulations, Cathy!... Chado Tea Market owner Tony Ingargiola wrote to announce he closed up shop in West Lake Hills this week and is moving his operation lock, stock, and teapot to a new space in the **Triangle**, just across from Triangle Park. It's no secret that the Triangle is one of the hottest shopping and dining destinations in the city these days it should be a great spot for Ingargiola's charming shop. He hopes to be open in early June... The recent announcement that the venerable Texas Showdown Saloon (2610 Guadalupe) is soon to close caused some consternation among Chronicle staffers with personal attachments to the longtime Drag mainstay. We're told the Showdown, once the site of the legendary punk club Raul's, has fallen victim to Austin's rapidly escalating property values. and the location is destined to be redeveloped for a more profitable use... There were a couple of really good Earth Day stories that unfortunately didn't arrive until after last week's deadline. We were impressed to hear that HEB gave away 150,000 reusable "green" shopping bags statewide on April 22, handing them out to customers who brought in at least five plastic bags for recvcling at their neighborhood HEB groceries. Last year at St. Edward's University, the food service provider Bon Appétit

Management Co. recognized Earth Day by serving a meal prepared from as many locally sourced products as possible. This year, April 22 was Low Carbon Diet Day, changing the focus from simply buying local to considering the overall carbon footprint of the foodstuffs being served. The lunch menu was conceived with an eye toward reducing the carbon emissions of the meal by 25% - an admirable goal... We're sad to report the passing of Austin natural foods pioneer Reed Murray, 57, who died April 15 in a motorcycle accident. In the early 1980s, Murray merged two local yogurt companies to form White Mountain Foods and subsequently built one of the largest natural foods manufacturers in the Southwest. His quality natural food products were among the first locally produced artisan foods sold at Austin food co-ops, health-food stores, and the fledgling Whole Foods Market. Throughout his nearly 40-year residence in Austin, Reed actively supported sustainable, environmentally friendly technologies and resource management. He is survived by a large circle of loving family and friends, who gathered to celebrate his life at Mercury Hall on Tuesday, April 22. We extend our condolences to them all. While we regret his loss, it seems particularly fitting that Reed was laid to rest on Earth Day.

Dallas and Austin chef/restaurateur Kent Rathbun, owner of Jasper's (11506 Century Oaks Terrace #128, 834-4111), has created a four-course menu to pair with the wines of Sonoma, Calif.'s Robledo Family Winery. Lorena Robledo will be on hand to present her family's award-winning wines. Tickets are \$75 per person, plus tax and gratuity. Reservations are required. Monday, April 28, 6:30pm.

Enjoy a seven-course Italian feast prepared by chef Louis Ciola at Ciola's Italian-American Restaurant (1310 RR 620 S., 263-9936, www.ciolas.com). Seating is limited, so call for reservations. \$45 per person. Thursday, May 1, 7pm.



IMPERIA 310 Colorado, 472-6770 Monday-Thursday, 4pm-12mid; Friday, 4pm-1am; Saturday, 5:30pm-1am; Sunday, 5:30pm-12mid www.imperia-austin.com

Located in the very heart of the Warehouse District, Imperia opened last fall to quite a bit of fanfare. The space it occupies was completely remodeled by designers Dick Clark and Joel Mozersky, and the end result is truly gorgeous. Black, cream, and chrome combine to create a dining room that is austere without being cold and elegant without feeling formal. Drama is achieved through understatement, and the effect is both bracing and soothing, like a perfect cocktail. Ahhhh, cocktails: This is where Imperia excels. The cocktail menu is inventive, and the cocktails themselves are compellingly good. The raspberry-lychee martini (\$9), adorned with a fresh raspberry-stuffed lychee fruit, sparkles with the tiniest of ice flakes and is delicately restorative. The Asian pear martini (\$9), a lovely chartreuse color with a circular slice of fresh Asian pear floating within, is slightly sweeter but equally unique, and the ginger mojito (\$9) exemplifies the fusion concept perfectly, the ginger adding a spicy note to the cold tartness of the Cuban favorite. Imperia has a discriminating and appropriate wine list, but the cocktails fascinate and are remembered days later with longing.

Both dim sum and small plates are offered as appetizers, and the portions are comparable. The Sea Bass Kushiyaki Skewer (\$13), recommended by our server, was outstanding: soft, *perfectly* cooked sea bass, marinated and grilled with a sweet miso-based glaze. The Firecracker Shrimp (\$9) were also a favorite, the crisply fried shrimp wrapped in lettuce leaves and served with a sublime fresh-citrus dipping sauce. The yuzu-crusted oysters (\$12) were acceptable but unremarkable and rather small, but the Thai chicken satay (\$8),

made entirely of rubbery dark meat with an imperceptible curry, was actually *dreadful*. The appetizers covered the entire range of merit, from heavenly to unpalatable, and this pattern continued throughout the meal.

Entrées at Imperia are generously portioned, so much so that most can be comfortably split. I had my heart set on the shrimp and lobster pad thai (\$34), and I was not disappointed. There were lovely huge chunks of lobster and enormous shrimp, and all the ingredients of this complex dish were melded together in a perfect balance. The Imperia Dragon Rib (\$29), highly recommended by our server, was the hit of the table. This gigantic braised beef rib was so tender that it could be eaten with chopsticks, and the flavor was extremely savory and rich. It was without exception the best beef rib I have ever tasted. The Korean rib eye (\$29) was perfectly grilled, and the wok-flashed chive blossoms that accompanied it were an ideal complement. Our particular rib eye steak was, unfortunately, cut on the thin side and unpleasantly gristly; less than half of it was edible.

For vegetables, we tried the eggplant and the long beans. The Hot and Sour Japanese Eggplant (\$7) was delightful: julienned eggplant, sautéed to crisp perfection in a tangy and fiery sauce. It would make a convert of the most hardened eggplant hater. The Thai long beans with pork cracklins (\$9) were the opposite of delightful: withered and chewy, with an off flavor. We sent them back, and they were replaced, but from the same batch. The server gets points for trying to fix the problem, but on a busy weekend night, the problem couldn't really be fixed.

For dessert, we tried the banana cake, the Yin Yang Pots de Crème, and the Molten Chocolate Cake. After stuffing ourselves so ridiculously, the desserts would have had to be veritable works of genius to get our attention ... and, happily, they were!

The Pots de Crème (\$7), served with coconut cookies, were white chocolate ginger and wasabi chocolate, and both were velvety, rich, and amazing. The hint of ginger in the white chocolate and the hint of wasabi in the dark chocolate were just sufficient to enhance the flavors. The Molten Chocolate Cake (\$8) was achingly, bitterly chocolate and served with a scoop of house-made fresh coconut ice cream. Nevertheless, the banana cake (again, recommended by our server) was hands down the winner. The cake is steamed rather than baked, giving it a light, moist texture. Topped with the fresh coconut ice cream and crumbled coconut cookies, it was superlative. We completely finished all three desserts, even though we were no longer even remotely hungry. They were *that good*.

The service, in all areas and at every moment, was first-rate. It is truly a stellar staff. From the hostess to the server to the bartender, all were not only friendly but genuine and extremely knowledgeable, as well.

The fact that some of the dishes were unsatisfactory didn't ruin the evening, as we were all sharing and tasting each dish. But the unevenness of the quality goes a long way to explain why many Austinites adore Imperia and others are less than thrilled. As it happened, the same member of our party ordered the chicken satay, the long beans, and the rib eye, and had she been condemned to eating only what she personally ordered, certainly she would never return. I ordered the sea bass, the Firecracker Shrimp, and the pad thai, and if I had sampled only my own choices, I would have thought, equally mistakenly, that Imperia was perfection itself.

Competition is fierce is the restaurant business, and the stakes go up as you ascend the price scale. When folks are laying out serious bucks, there is an expectation of excellence. If that expectation is disappointed often enough, the resulting word of mouth can break an otherwise superior establishment. Imperia is a worthy restaurant, deserving of lasting success; without greater attention to consistency, it may elude them.

– Kate Thornberry

VINO VINO

4119 Guadalupe, 465-9282 Retail: Monday-Saturday, 11am-12mid; Sunday, 3-10pm Restaurant: Monday-Saturday, 6pm-12mid; Sunday, 6-10pm www.vinovinotx.com

Every once in a while, something comes along that's like a gift from Bacchus for wine lovers. Such is Vino Vino, one of the hybrid wineshop/ wine bar/eateries popping up around Austin.

Vino Vino has a friendly feel. About half the crowd is local Hyde Park people. The low lights, cozy seating, and beautiful bar are relaxed, while the uptempo music and crowd chatter add a little liveliness.

As you can guess from the name, wine is the driving force, but once you see the beautifully displayed wall of wine, you'll understand these guys are serious about their vino. Not only serious, but passionate. Wine guy Jerry Reid is tireless when it comes to ferreting out obscure and delicious wines. Like the 2006 Coenobium (\$42), made in extremely limited quantities by Cistercian nuns in Central Italy. It's a blend of Verdicchio, Trebbiano Toscano, and Grechetto that makes a gorgeous white wine for Texas food, full of white pepper and almond aromas.

The food we tried is similarly inspired. The carpaccio (\$10), with fennel, capers, and truffle oil, is simple, relying on prime fresh ingredients for its quality. We were amazed at the quality of the gravlax (\$12), the best I've had in Austin, until we found out the chef worked at Aquavit in New York, every day turning 40 sides of salmon into gravlax. Practice makes perfect.

Owner Jeff Courington has also been around the Austin restaurant scene for years, working at Mezzaluna, Hudson's on the Bend, and Cafe Bleu. He's been at Vino Vino every time I've been there, and he's not just counting the money – he's doing most of the scut work. Both my wife and I thought Vino Vino's bathrooms were not only beautifully designed (why don't restaurateurs think about this more often?) but also spotlessly clean. We asked Courington to compliment whomever cleans them, and he said in his Big Spring brogue, "You're lookin' at 'em."

Comfy, great wines, surprisingly good food, reasonable prices – we'll be back. – Wes Marshall







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RESTAURANT ROULET

ESTIMATED MEAL COST PER PERSON

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

DOWNTOWN

- AMERICAN CAFE, PUB GRUB: MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Seriously, really, really good fish and chips, and we love the bargain-price herd's pie. 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747 . ed shep
- AMERICAN CAFE: KATZ'S DELI & BAR New York. New York! Austin's own posh-nosh, a sit-down deli for the late-night crowd. 618 W. Sixth,
- BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: LITTLE CITY Popular coffee shop's nearest campus location, informally known as Itty Bitty City. Vast drink selection and happy hour specials as well as a top-notch bakery. **916** Congress, **476-2489**.
- BRAZILIAN: FOGO DE CHÃO Take one look at the massive ribs and open-flame rotisserie as you aradise. They also have a terrific salad bar. 309 E. Third, 472-0220.
- CAJUN/CREOLE, PUB GRUB: SHOAL CREEK
- SALOON A Cajun oasis next to Shoal Creek, with great South Louisiana chow, ice-cold beer, and a warm and fuzzy ambience. It's the friendliest sports bar in town. 909 N. Lamar, 474-0805. www.shoalcreeksaloon.com. \$\$ FINE DINING. STEAKHOUSE: SULLIVAN'S STEAKHOUSE The perfect meal here is the 24-ounce Cowboy Ribeye, along with their justi-
- 300 Colorado #200, 495-6504 www.sullivansteakhouse.com. \$\$\$\$ INTERIOR MEXICAN: MANUELS Somehow Manuels manages to be chic and casual at the same time. It continues to be our favorite
- ITALIAN PIZZA: BRICK OVEN RESTAURANT Serves some of the best home-style, thin-crust pizzas with a personal touch. 1209 Red River,

JAPANESE: SUSHI GEISHA Popular with both tour ing and local bands, this spot offers perfectly decent sushi at relatively low prices. The Spider Roll is a standout, but don't miss the vegetarian choices. 616 E. Sixth, 480-2211. www.sushigeisha.com. \$\$

- MEDITERRANEAN: MÁLAGA TAPAS & BAR Austin's only full-time tapas bar offers a good core selection of the real thing, along with an excellent list of fairly priced wines and sherries 208 W. Fourth, 236-8020. www.malagatapasbar.com. \$\$
- 406 W. 17th, 479-0598. www.dogandduckpub.com. \$



- BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE: HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR Grab a satisfying coffee drink, some homemade pastries, and a breakfast taco, and enjoy the lovely, tree-shaded patio Mediterranean specialties, courtesy of Ararat, are available as well. 2401 E. Sixth #104. 476-6262. www.hotmamacoffee.com. \$
- BARBECUE: LEWIS' BAR-B-Q Step up to the window of this unassuming concrete shack for a juicy chopped-beef sandwich or a link of smoky sausage; then have a seat at the picnic tables. 1814 Harvey, 473-2225. \$
- INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: LAS CAZUELAS Look for a dozen egg dishes for early risers, as well as machacado and nopales, enchiladas potosinas, and plenty of Tex-Mex standards. 1701 E. Cesar Chavez, 479-7911. \$
- MIDDLE EASTERN: THE PYRAMIDS Chicken shawarma wraps, moussaka, and Lebanese iced tea convinced us to come back for dinner, and dinner is what convinced us to keep coming back for more. 6019 N. I-35, 302-9600. \$\$
- SEAFOOD, SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: MR. CATFISH Everything is made from scratch here. Catfish and seafood dinners with side dishes come in different sizes, depending on your appetite. 1075 Springdale, 927-6666. www.mrcatfish.com \$
- SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: MAXINE'S SOUL KITCHEN Look for beef tips, chopped steak brisket, and other multiple-napkin treats that stick to the ribs as well as the soul. 2931 E. 12th, 220-3650. \$
- TEX-MEX: BEJUCO'S RESTAURANT Cabrito, enchiladas, tamales, and chile rellenos. Not open 24 hours, like the sign outside says, but you can get three squares a day there. 2711-A E. Cesar Chavez, 476-7878. \$\$
- TEX-MEX: PORFIRIO'S TACOS Taco shop serving breakfast and lunch. Carne guisada is their specialty. 1512-B Holly, 476-5030. \$
- TEX-MEX: TAQUERIA ARANDAS #1 Mexican break fasts, sweet horchata, and the sunny red-andwhite interior could whisk the fog out of anyone's morning brain. 3518 E. Seventh, 389-3834. \$

LAKE

PLATE

3

- BARBECHE: SMOKY I'S BAR-B-O A definitive Texas barbecue joint with a smoking pit out back, window service, and picnic tables. Meat is available by the sandwich, the plate, or the pound, and it's still BYOB. 7008 RR 620 N., 331-4888. \$\$
- FINE DINING: THE EMERALD RESTAURANT This cozy, candlelit cottage has been known for more than 20 years for voluptuous European meals with ample cuts of meat, fish, and fowl and a lengthy, expensive wine list to match 13614 Hwy. 71 W., 263-2147. \$\$\$\$
- TEX-MEX: FLORES MEXICAN RESTAURANT Still offering delicious grilled items, affordable lunch specials, friendly service, and good margaritas. 1310 RR 620 S., 263-9546. www.floresmexican.com \$\$

safari your way through the menu of tasty and exotic stews, starches, and appetizers. **15608** Springhill #102, 251-4432, 913-1095, \$\$ AMERICAN CAFE TAKEOUT: IASPER'S GOURMET BACKYARD CUISINE This Dallas-area transplant offers big hospitality and big flavors. Try the Maytag Blue Cheese Potato Chips. 11506 Century Oaks Terrace #128, 834-4111. www.jaspers-restaurant.com. \$\$ AMERICAN CAFE: DAVE AND BUSTER'S Order a

AFRICAN: T'S CAFE Go with a small army, and

NORTH

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

- CHINESE: FIRST CHINESE BBO The style of cooking is Cantonese, the interior is bright and clean, and the portions are generous. Look for a wide diversity of ingredients and delicious egetarian options. 10901 N. Lamar #401, 835-8889. \$
- CHINESE: GOLDEN WOK The freshly cooked dim sum is served all the time as well as from carts at lunch and on weekends. Otherwise, find American Chinese standards, but a tea menu, desserts, and a full bar will bring you back. 500 Canyon Ridge, 228-3688. www.golden-wok.com. \$\$
- FINE DINING, INTERIOR MEXICAN: FONDA SAN MIGUEL Popular Nueva Cocina cuisine, which takes traditional Mexican ingredients and gives them a French spin. Try the white-cheese queso 2330 W. North Loop, 459-4121. www.fondasanmiguel.com. \$\$\$\$
- INTERIOR MEXICAN, SEAFOOD: LA MOJARRA FELIZ Authentic Mexican seafood specialties by way of Acapulco and Veracruz, served in a smal but brightly decorated space. Cold beer, spicy micheladas, and superfresh seafood are hard to beat. 8624 N. Lamar, 491-6961. \$
- PAN-ASIAN: CHON SOM Go for the ahi tuna tapas or for a New York strip. The presentation is beautiful, and so are the prices. 2013 Wells Branch Pkwy. #109, 989-5559. www.chonsom.com. \$\$
- SOUTHWESTERN: IRON CACTUS NORTH In addition to stacked enchiladas, the extensive menu offers hearty steak, chicken, and shrimp dishes treated with combinations of Southwestern and Interior Mexican spices. 10001 Stonelake Blvd., 794-8778. www.ironcactus.com. \$\$
- VIETNAMESE: PHO HOANG The broth here is terrific, but it is meat-based, so this isn't a choice for vegetarians. Some say they serve the best pho in town. 2521 Rutland, #400, 339-6002. \$\$

NORTH CENTRAL

- AMERICAN CAFE: HYDE PARK BAR & GRILL Gotta have those batter-dipped fries, we know But this spot at the fork in the road does other things very well, too, such as fish, chicken, and beef. 4206 Duval St., 458-3168. www.hydeparkbarandgrill.com. \$\$
- BARBECUE: POK-E-JO'S SMOKEHOUSE The newest location of this Fifth Street favorite has the same great grub. Don't miss the desserts. 1000 E. 41st (Hancock Center), 302-1200. www.pokeios.com. \$
- CHINESE: SHANGHAI RESTAURANT The 168-item menu contains enough to satisfy any crav-ing, from the usual favorites to some exotic Cantonese offerings. 6718 Middle Fiskville, 458-8088. \$\$



ww.motheregansirishpub.com. \$\$ 472-2037. www.katzneverkloses.com. \$\$

- www.littlecity.com. \$
- walk in the door, and know this is a carnivore's www.fogodechao.com. \$\$\$\$
- fiably famous wedge of iceberg, slathered with a decadent blue-cheese dressing.
- place for value-priced drinks and appetizers. Look for live music on Sundays. *310 Congress*, *472-7555. www.manuels.com. \$\$\$*
- 477-7006, www.brickovenrestaurant.com, \$\$

- PUB GRUB: DOG & DUCK You'll find free Wi-Fi. several hi-def TVs, and a friendly waitstaff. They also have the best fish and chips in Austin with many, many beverage options to accompany it.

34THSTREETCAFE.COM

KORFAN: 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: THE CAPTAIN'S SEAFOOD & OYSTER BAR A full range of both fried and broiled seafood. Especially popular are the oyster of 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 afford able 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 din ners a try. The hot and sour soup rocks, and the lunch specials are delicious, big, and cheap. 7601 N. Lamar Ste. I, 451-2464. \$

SOUTH

AMERICAN CAFE: KERBEY LANE CAFE Offers famously fabulous breakfast, lunch, and dinner and is a favorite of the late-night set. 2700 S. Lamar, 445-4451. www.kerbeylanecafe.com. \$\$

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE, DELI/SANDWICH SHOP: GARDEN DISTRICT COFFEE HOUSE The eats are predominantly Cuban, including sweetly rich and delicious coffee drinks and piping hot empanadas. An assortment of grill-pressed sandwiches are offered too, including an extra piggy ham and roast pork, Wi-Fi ready, 2810 S. Congress, 462-2473. \$

BARBECUE: CHIEF'S BBO & GRILL If Mom's bar becue sauce doesn't bring you back. Joe Bob's Beans will. You'll also feast on ribs, brisket, sausage, turkey, ham, and barbecue bologna. 7811 S First #104 444-BFFF \$\$

BURGER JOINT: SANDY'S FROZEN CUSTARD & ROOT BEER The cool relief of a chocolate-vanilla swirl cone, the neon sign, not to mention the sinful smell of decades of sublimely greasy burgers transport us back in time 603 Barton Springs Rd., 478-6322, \$

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

w.haohaoaustin.com. \$\$

CHINESE: CHINA EMPEROR Definitely try the General Tso's chicken, featuring a sinus-clearing spice rating. The hot and sour soup also leaves pleasant, peppery afterburn 111 W. William Cannon #312, 443-2922, \$\$

INTERIOR MEXICAN, TEX-MEX: MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Funky little joint with the brightly decorated patio is the heart and soul of South Austin. Arrive early! Hundreds of breakfast-taco variations, great migas, great hot sauce, full bar. 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261. www.tacoxpress.com. \$

INTERIOR MEXICAN: AL PASTOR Mexican cuisine at low prices and the relaxed setting make this a great place for a quick, no-hassle meal. 1911-A E. Riverside, 442-8402. \$

PIZZA: SOUTHSIDE FLYING PIZZA If Neapolitan style goodness with a semolina crust strikes your fancy try this nizza. Italian hoagies calrones, and stromboli are also recommended Don't forget the healthy and reasonably priced salads 2206 S Congress 442-4246 www.southsideflyingpizza.com. \$ PUB GRUB, SOUTHERN/DOWN-HOME: THE WARFHOUSE SALOON Play pool watch sports on two large flat-screens and 22 regular-sized TVs, and enjoy moderately priced drinks. The buffet on Tuesdays and Fridays offers a wide variety of main courses and sides 509 E. Ben White, 443-8799. www.warehousesaloon.com \$\$ VEGETARIAN/VEGAN: CASA DE LUZ Follow the walkway through herbs and flowers to the invit ing airy dining room for food that is organic in

season, vegan, and all-natural. 1701 Toomey, 476-2535. www.casadeluz.org. \$\$

UT

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

BAKERY/COFFEEHOUSE TEXAS FRENCH BREAD The bright, comfortable dining room is popu lated with students enjoying Hyde Park Fudge Cake, Hobbit Bread, hearty sandwiches, soups and salads. Great for breakfast. 2900 Rio Grande, 499-0544, www.texasfrenchbread.com. \$

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

DELI/SANDWICH SHOP. DELIVERY: FOOD HEADS Morning fare consists of cappuccino, espresso, pastries, and breakfast tacos. By lunchtime, you can choose from a staggering array of sandwich es, soups, salads, and side dishes. 616 W. 34th, 420-8400. www.foodheads.com. \$

FINE DINING: MANSION AT JUDGES' HILL Gracious decor, rich draperies, deluxe furnishings, and balanced, well-chosen seasonal flavors make this the perfect choice for any occasion. 1900 Rio Grande, 495-1800. www.mansionatjudgeshill.com. \$\$\$\$

MIDDLE FASTERN PIZZA: ITALIAN LONGHORN **PIZZERIA** You can enjoy Middle Eastern fare such as falafel, gyros, dolmas, and tabouleh at this popular pizzeria. 415 W. 24th. 457-4992. \$

PIZZA: NIKI'S PIZZA Consistently good, crisp Slices of the Big Apple, sold alone or in a pie. Niki's is one of the best pizzas in town, served up with modest panache. **2021 Guadalupe** (Dobie Mall. second floor). 474-1876. \$

PUB GRUB: SHOWDOWN SALOON Three TVs burgers and wings, and nine premium micro brews on tap make this a great place for hangout with friends and w atching sports. 2610 Guadalupe, 472-2010. www.showdownsoftexas.com \$

TEX-MEX: CHANGOS Making fresh tortillas right before your eyes, they offer great mahi fish tacos, al pastor, and pork in chipotle Get a fresh-fruit *liquado* on the side. 3023 Guadalupe, 480-8226. www.changos.com. \$\$ THAI: THAI KITCHEN The Drag location of this respected local Thai restaurant chain is popular with student diners - the authentic food is fresh, spicy, and affordable. 3009 Guadalupe, 474-2575. www.thaikitchenofaustin.com. \$\$

WEST

AMERICAN CAFE: JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Not just for that morning cup o' brown brew, Austin Java offers an array of sustenance, plus luscious desserts. 1206 Parkway, 476-1829. www.austiniava.com. \$

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

BARBECUE: COUNTY LINE ON THE HILL They will bring you a big platter of sweetly sauced beef tibs, tender brisket, and peppery sausage with all the trimmings until you tell them to please stop. 6500 Bee Caves Rd., 327-1742. www.countvline.com \$\$

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

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

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

BURGER JOINT: WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Hand-cut fries, chocolate-cinnamon shakes, and live music on the weekend draw a comfortable mixed crowd. 600 N. Lamar, 472-5400. www.waterlooicehouse.com. \$\$ CHINESE: SUZI'S CHINA GRILL Count on Suzi

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INTERIOR MEXICAN: JORGE'S This laid-back. family-friendly restaurant has returned to its tradition of low-key popularity with friendly, oldschool-Austin service and unpretentious, good food and drink. 2203 Hancock, 454-1980. www.tacosgarcia.com/Austin.php. \$\$

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TEX-MEX: SANTA RITA CANTINA Fresh sauces, rotisserie meats, and a friendly atmosphere make this a welcome addition to Austin Tex-Mex. 1206 W. 38th, 419-7482. www.santaritacantina.com. \$\$



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60 TIM AND ERIC'S AWESOME SHOW 62 TV EYE 86 FILM LISTINGS



'Big' in Japan, but What About Austin? The Alamo Drafthouse testmarkets a Japanese oddity

Japanese pop culture's longtime love affair with transformative everypeople who yearn to be bigger, faster, and stronger than the workaday, wage-slaving salarymen has never been so literally and strangely reimagined as it is in Hitoshi Matsumoto's *Big Man Japan*. An audience favorite at last year's Fantastic Fest, it's now making its U.S. theatrical debut in a limited test run here in Austin – courtesy of Magnolia Pictures and the Alamo Drafthouse – before expanding to New York and Los Angeles. (Matsumoto and Magnolia got here first, but they're not going to be the last to utilize the city as a test market: Sony Pictures Classics just announced they'll debut the Duplass brothers' *Baghead* here on June 13.)

"Matsumoto is the biggest television star in Japan," explains fan and Big Man Alamo Tim League, "and although Magnolia had already bought the film at the Toronto fest, they weren't at all sure how to market it to an American arthouse audience, because as crazy as this film is, it's also very dry. Later, at Sundance, I pitched them the idea of opening it in Austin and doing the local marketing in-house, which is what we've done: cut a trailer, did a press kit, all that stuff."

Yeah, but like Alamo stalwart Crispin Glover – no stranger to the surreal himself – once said, "What is it?"

It is comedy; it is drama; it is cultural critique. Director Matsumoto stars as a doleful, depressive semisuperman who, when he's not bemoaning his lot in life, can morph into a towering, purple-briefed behemoth via the local power plant. Retained by the government for pauper's wages, Japan's big man does battle with an increasingly freakish procession of equally mammoth invaders, even as he is openly mocked by the press, the populace, and his ex-wife. Part live-action, part CGI, and altogether odd, Matsumoto's epic plays like a dire, existentialist Woody Allen riff by way of *Infra-Man*, with a story that couples monster-mash mad-action with a very Japanese sort of postmillennial, comic anomie. Improbably, it works. But will it work outside of Austin?

"You have to explain, a little bit, what the movie is and who this guy is," says League. "The first time I saw it, in Toronto, the audience had no clue whatsoever that after a relatively slow, documentary-esque opening, the film switches gears and suddenly there's a gigantic animated bald man in a diaper and a bad comb-over attacking Big Man Japan. You've got to let the audience in on the joke, to a degree. Which is what we're doing, hopefully." – Marc Savlov

Big Man Japan begins a limited run at the Alamo Drafthouse South Lamar on Thursday, April 24. For more information, visit www.originalalamo.com.

A Whale of a Tale Goes 21st Century Herman Melville hoot nite at the Fuse Box Festival



When you decide to adapt a literary epic about a massive sperm whale, then there's really no question as to size: Go big. That's just what filmmakers Ben Coonley, James Fotopoulos, and Spencer Parsons (a frequent *Chronicle* contributor) intend to do with a Fuse Box Festival event titled The Living Whale: A Marathon Misreading of *Moby Dick*. The trio, who met at the now-defunct Cinematexas, is commissioning dozens of filmmakers and multimedia artists to tackle each of *Moby Dick*'s 135 chapters, plus the epilogue and an etymology. They figure it'll take about 25 hours, give or take, to screen (in one sitting) the omnibus film, but that's three years and three festivals down the line: In the meantime, they're putting together a more informal kickoff, with work-inprogress chapters, live performances, and Orson Welles ghosting about for a night that, according to Parsons, "is maybe more about getting out to sea with this thing than anything else." Expect the waterlogged puns to fly unfettered, along with inventive and experimental art plus homage. *— Kimberley Jones*

The Living Whale: A Marathon Misreading of Moby Dick takes place Monday, April 28, 8pm at the Blue Theater (916 Springdale). Tickets cost \$10. For more information, visit www.refractionarts.org/fusebox.



Benh Zeitlin Benefit

One thing that keeps filmmakers returning to South by Southwest year after year is the way the festival follows the fortunes of the films and makers it showcases not just during nine days in March but throughout the year. In the case of Benh Zeitlin, 25-year-old director of this year's Wholphin Award-winning short, "Glory at Sea," one wishes it could be for any other reason than raising funds for medical care and associated expenses, after he suffered a fractured hip and dislocated pelvis in a car accident on the way to his SXSW screening.

"It's so important to help out a filmmaker in a situation like this," says SXSW shorts programmer Lya Guerra, "and to continually support all our filmmakers – especially the shorts filmmakers who don't get so much money or attention. It's in that spirit that we're sponsoring the screening, but it's also great to be able to show such a great lineup of films by Behn's collaborators at Court 13. Those filmmakers have such heart, which makes it the best kind of benefit because it's also just a great show." Initiated by exiting SXSW film producer Matt Dentler, the April 29 benefit screening in Austin is mirrored by a separate Rooftop Films fundraiser for Zeitlin this Saturday at Lincoln Center's Walter Reade Theater in New York City. The Austin screening takes place April 29, at the Alamo Ritz at 7pm and 9:30pm, at a ticket price of \$10. Donations can also be made to Court 13 at www.court13.com. — Spencer Parsons

FILM NEWS

BY JOE O'CONNELL

DENTLER DASHES; PIERSON STEPS UP

Bid a fond farewell to 28-year-old wunderkind Matt Dentler, who leaves the helm of the South by Southwest Film Festival for a gig running marketing and programming operations for Cinetic Digital Rights Management, an offshoot of John Sloss' Cinetic Media. And say howdy to Janet Pierson, a four-year Austin resident and current vice president of the Austin Film Society, who steps into big shoes with a big film background of her own. "I'm going to miss Austin and the film community here," says Dentler. "I think it's the right time for me to get a change of scenery, and hopefully I can make Austin proud from New York City." Pierson credits him with putting SXSW on the map "in a louder and bigger way" during his tenure. Pierson has been a film force since the late Seventies, first leading the Cold Spring Film Workshop, then working as assistant director of New York City's Film Forum. She and husband John Pierson served as producer reps on such influential independent films as Richard Linklater's Slacker, Spike Lee's She's Gotta Have It, and Michael Moore's Roger & Me. "Austin has welcomed us so strongly," she says. "I took this [iob] to nurture and care for something I already love in a place I've come to love. I hope to do service to what Matt built and keep it exciting and vital."

ALAMO RITZ GOES ON BOOZE CRUISE

I'm looking forward to drinking a Caucasian soon at the Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz with the announcement that booze has joined the menu at the theatre already known for buckets of beer and most excellent pizza. It makes sense with the tent-pole Alamo's move to Sixth Street and marks the theatre as the only one in town serving mixed drinks. And it also leads to some interesting upcoming theme drinks: scotch flights for Iron Man, tequila for the ¡Three Amigos! sing-along in honor of Cinco de Mayo, cosmopolitans for the big-screen release of Sex and the City, and martinis for Master Pancake Theater's take on the James Bond classic Goldfinger. I'm feeling woozy already.

AND THE REST ...

Todd McMullen, cinematographer for NBC's Friday Night Lights, has optioned Godforsaken, a script based on the true story of American atheist and activist Madalyn Murray O'Hair, with plans to shoot and direct... IFC Films will launch the doc Before the Music Dies, which had its world premiere at SXSW 06, on iTunes on June 2... Upstart premieres its short film "The Sea Captain" in Bastrop on April 27. Directed by Conor McAnally, the short stars McAnally's mother, Irish stage and screen star Ronnie Masterson (Angela's Ashes). The script was an Upstart contest winner written by Austin's Steve Warren and produced by Carolyn Banks... The CW's series pilot Austin Golden Hour will indeed shoot in Los Angeles despite an Austin setting (and name).

Sent tips to filmnews@austinchronicle.com



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There's something sweet about watching Tim Heidecker and Eric Wareheim channel Jan and Wayne Skylar, a tanned, vest-clad "Married News Team." "Uncomfortable" could also describe a lot of the duo's comedy. The reluctant film school graduates' aversion to traditional filmmaking was embraced by Adult Swim, which picked up their animated series Tom Goes to the Mayor in 2004. Heidecker played Tom, the bumbling entrepreneur, while Wareheim was the man-child mayor of a chain-mall hell called Jefferton. The show attracted a cult following, which was then treated last year to the live-action Tim and Eric Awesome Show, Great Job! With nods to the absurdia of Monty Python and the interwoven sketch of Mr. Show (whose co-creator, Bob Odenkirk, executive-produced), Awesome Show's 15-minute barrage takes the current cult of comedic discomfort and doses it. Season one, just released on DVD, is a circus of special guests (Weird Al Yankovic, Michael Cera) and characters like Dr. Steve Brule (John C. Reilly), a glassy-eyed news channel "expert" and Casey (played by Heidecker), a physically repulsive cable-access singer. Last year, the two also debuted *Tim and Eric Nite Live*, an Internet talk show that streams on SuperDeluxe.com. With season two of Awesome Show currently airing, Heidecker and Wareheim are taking the show live, no doubt with lots of fake vomit. We spoke to them about why not everyone gets their brand of humor.

Austin Chronicle: Your characters are pretty out there.

Tim Heidecker: They're subconscious. A lot of them come from ... I don't know. They are pretty sick.

Eric Wareheim: Sick and dark and demented.

Half the characters on the show are real people who have come into our lives. When Tim and I were in college, we befriended a lot of older men and did film projects with them or just hung out. We've always been drawn to those sort of eccentric people. **AC:** A lot of the people on Awesome Show seem like you might have found them wandering around the grocery store or something.

Heidecker: We've been experimenting with that for a few years, since *Tom Goes to the Mayor*. Using real people as background just seemed much more natural. We were going for that awkward cable-access feeling, people who really shouldn't be on TV being on TV.

AC: And a lot of your sketches spoof bad cable access or ridiculous products, like the Cinco MIDI Organizer.

Wareheim: It's stuff that really, really makes us laugh. For example, we just saw this commercial for a device Sharper Image is putting out that looks like it was made on our show as a joke – you play these instruments with your hands in a virtual environment, and the Cinco products are just that tweaked to another level. We're obsessed with the idea of advertising, people pushing themselves, infomercials, actors trying to make it.

Heidecker: And also products that are way more complicated than they should be.

AC: The culture of TV right now is so focused on making people feel disgusted. What you see every day must provide fodder for the show.

Heidecker: Oh, yeah. We watch a lot of TV. I watch TV late at night, when all the good stuff comes on.

AC: Did you want Awesome Show to be more fast-paced?

Wareheim: It's not something we necessarily wanted. That idea actually came before *Tom*, when it was the *Tim & Eric Variety Show*, and *Tom Goes to the Mayor* was just one of the 10 ideas that we came up with for it. So it was a natural progression to a more performance-based show. **Heidecker:** *Tom Goes to the Mayor* was a great training ground for us. I don't think we would have made a good *Awesome Show* if we hadn't done *Tom* first. We learned how to manage a show, how to write, and we had to make Adult Swim confident enough in us to create a show that's very hard to pitch.

AC: Right. I couldn't see it on any other channel. **Heidecker:** I think it would be a disaster. **AC:** John C. Reilly is ridiculous as Dr. Steve Brule. Is that his character? **Heidecker:** Yeah, he came up with the name. All the stuff you see in the first season was done in a day, and the stuff from the second season was as well. We're all just cracking up behind the camera because he's so good, but we try not to prepare too much. We want to get the mess-ups and slurring of the words.

Wareheim: He recently did one new thing about teaching kids different body parts. We did one 15-minute take, and it was genius – truly uncomfortable. The kids were really freaked out.

AC: Has living in L.A. changed what you write? **Wareheim:** We have such a resource of amazing actors who are dying to be on TV, so that helps. And being saturated by advertising and a lot of bullshit kind of fuels us to do a little commentary on it.

Heidecker: But the livin' is easy!

AC: Is there a married news team there?

Wareheim: There's a billboard I pass every day, and the whole news team has tans very close to Wayne Skylar's. But once you live here, that's just part of your landscape.

AC: How much work is taking the show on the road, keeping in mind what translates and what doesn't?

Heidecker: We're kind of writing a whole new show from what we did last year on the road. It's a different set of skills – rehearsing and picking what video clips are good for a big crowd.

Wareheim: It's nice to do the show once a year and take a break from making one. You get a different energy from people there to see comedy, so you get this group reaction that's really just an awesome feeling.

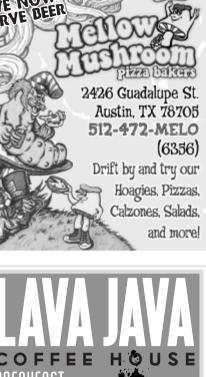
AC: You seem to like jokes about the body and bodily fluids. "Double chin comedy," I think you call it on the DVD.

Heidecker: Every once in a while we throw in a poop joke and get silly, because the show is about that, too. Pee and poop and farts and vomit – those are the essentials. The first jokes!

The Tim and Eric Awesome Show, Great Job! tour will appear at a sold-out show at the Parish on Wednesday, April 30. The first season of Tim and Eric Awesome Show, Great Job! is now available on DVD. For more information, see www.timanderic.com.







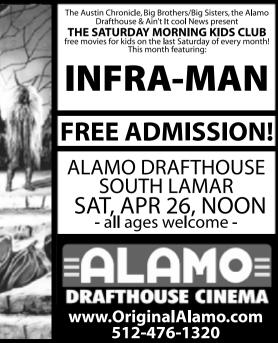
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screens

TV EYE Imported Goods

BY BELINDA ACOSTA

Since the writers' strike ended, it's been a long wait for existing series to resume their runs. They've been trickling back to exclaims of, "Oh yeah, that show." It's not that we didn't miss them; it's just that we found something else to do, someplace else to find our TV fix.

Don't get me wrong – I'm happy to see new episodes of **The Office**, **30 Rock**, and others. But since the TV industry, loath to change how it does business, operates for the most part on a standard seasonal schedule, it's hard to get excited about something that has a short shelf life (only four, maybe five episodes left before summer hiatus). I'm already ready to fall under the thrall of the next new thing. Here are a few of the highlights that have us (okay, me) looking past the present and into the future:

In production: U.S. versions of **Kath & Kim** (originally from Australia) and **The Thick of It** (from Great Britain). It should be interesting to see how these series translate. *Kath & Kim* is a screamingly funny comedy about a mother and daughter who live together; the mom is a partying divorcée, while the daughter is bitter and jealous of her mother's carefree life. With **Molly Shannon** attached, I have high hopes. The original *The Thick of It* followed a career politician who spent more time trying to spin his gaffes and missteps than actually doing government business (see "TV Eye," May 19, 2006). The U.S. version has **John Michael Higgins**, **Alex Borstein**, **Oliver Platt**, and **Michael McKean** attached. Other remakes of UK shows for U.S. TV include **Father Ted** and **Life on Mars**. The former is about three priests and



Aussie comedy *Kath & Kim* is set to get an American makeover this fall with Molly Shannon and Selma Blair.

their housekeeper who live in a remote (i.e., quirky) community. The latter is about a detective who travels back in time to the 1970s following a car accident. This series is very popular, though for the life of me, I don't know why. Maybe I'll like the U.S. version better, but for me, blending a cop drama, sci-fi, and the 1970s together makes for a mighty unappealing mix.

Trends: More series developed in foreign markets, namely Canada and Great Britain. In order to save production costs, networks are eyeing series and bringing them wholesale to U.S. television with little or no niggling (as in shunting the location of the series far into the background). Industry insiders think U.S. audiences will embrace the series. I think it depends on the series. Two of the higher profile series include CTV productions **Flashpoint** (coming to CBS) and **The Listener** (headed to NBC). American audiences will recognize **Enrico Colantoni** (*Veronica Mars, Just Shoot Me*) in the former; he plays a police detective who is part of an elite team of negotiators who use their wits and power of persuasion to defuse tense hostage situations. *The Listener* is about a paramedic who discovers he's telepathic.

Business: A new venture set for a fall 2009 launch promises to make TV "available for consumers any way they want it." The unnamed venture is a team effort by Viacom, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, and Lions Gate to create content and make it available on demand on TV and on the Internet, according to an April 21 article posted on Variety.com. Look for a lot of new ventures to come and go as everyone tries to figure out how to tap into the TV viewing audience that doesn't want to be tied down to their TV.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. As always, stay tuned.

Local Screens

Clay Nichols from local site **DadLabs.com** dropped me a note to share that the Web series he produces with **Troy Lanier** and **Brad Powell** got some love from the 12th annual Webby Awards. Considered the "Oscars of the Internet," the Webby Awards recognize excellence on the Internet in all forms (websites, interactive advertising, film and video, mobile websites). DadLabs got an official "honoree distinction" nod following attention from the 2008 Yahoo! Video Awards as Best New Uploader of 2008, according to Nichols.

It's easy to see why DadLabs has garnered attention. Bright, funny, and definitely dad-friendly, the series offers tips to new fathers on the care and feeding of that cute little bundle of joy without all the gooey fawning usually found elsewhere. More about them in a future "TV Eye." In the meantime, check them out at **www.dadlabs.com**.

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



BENH-E-FIT FOR BENH ZEITLIN April 29 - 7pm & 9:30pm At the Alamo Ritz Downtown

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WORLD WELLNESS WEEKEND, the health, wellness, and sustainable living festival returns to Austin. This year, The Austin Chronicle will be distributing a special pullout supplement devoted to this event in our MAY 31ST ISSUE.

World Wellness Weekend May 31-June 1 C

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS FOR THE EVENT INCLUDE:

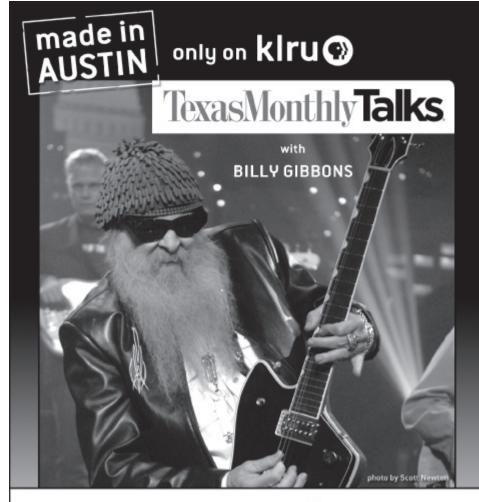
Marianne WILLIAMSON, named one of 50 most influential baby boomers by Newsweek

The master of relationship wellness, JOHN Gray, author of Men Are From Mars, Women Are From Venus

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66 JOE NICK PATOSKI/WILLIE NELSON**72** PHASES & STAGES**98** MUSIC LISTINGS

OFF THE RECORD

music news

BY AUSTIN POWELL

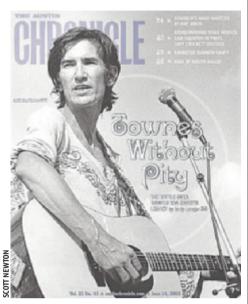
FOR THE SAKE OF THE SONG

"It's finally over," exclaims Jeanene Van Zandt, the court-appointed executrix of Townes Van Zandt's estate, in regard to her longstanding battle against Kevin Eggers, whose Poppy and Tomato labels put out the majority of Van Zandt's work. The infringement lawsuit revolved around more than 80 Van Zandt compositions that Eggers claimed a 50% interest in, as well as his re-release of 14 TVZ albums through Tomato Music Works Limited following the songwriter's death on New Year's Day 1997. On March 31, six years after the Chronicle first looked into the matter ("Townes Without Pity," June 14, 2002), the U.S. District Court granted Jeanene Van Zandt; her two children, William Vincent and Katie Belle; and Austin's J.T. Van Zandt injunctive relief against Eggers, restraining him from reproducing or distributing any of Van Zandt's songs.

"Kevin had to be stopped, and I'm the only human being on this earth who has the money or is willing to do whatever it takes to protect Townes' kids," says Jeanene, who plans to reissue No Deeper Blue, In the Beginning, and Poet: A Tribute to Townes Van Zandt on the family's **TVZ Records**. "He can never have anything to do with Townes Van Zandt."

The fight is far from over, though, since Eggers plans to appeal the decision.

"She illegally took the copyright in her name when it should have gone to the children," counters Eggers. "In doing so, she put the copyrights at risk, and they should now

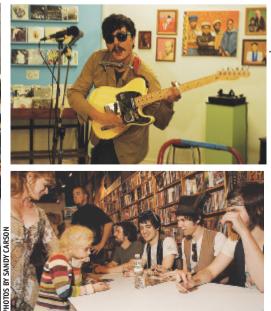


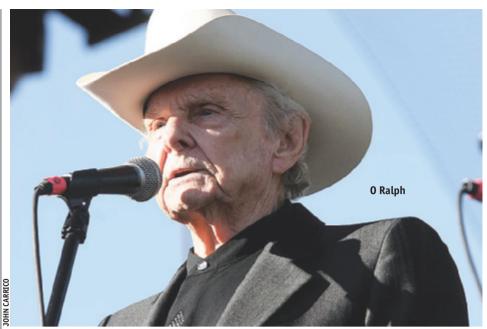
fall into public domain." J.T. Van Zandt, the songwriter's oldest son and local musician in his own right – product of Townes' first marriage – could not be reached for comment.

Then there's still the issue of the Van Zandts' March 2006 out-of-court settlement with Kevin's brother, Harold Eggers, TVZ's longtime road manager, who documented hundreds of live performances over a period of two decades. The agreement, which Jeanene's lawyer Kevin Brown of Fritz, Byrne, Head & Harrison PLLC, likened to a divorce settlement, essentially granted the Van Zandts eventual control over all of Harold's mastered recordings (once certain undisclosed obligations were met), while Harold retained a 50% ownership interest in seven of the albums at issue and a royalty interest in the remaining recordings. Both parties have found fault with the agreement but declined to offer specifics about the case. That trial is presently set for July 14.

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OLD TIME PICKIN'

No one artist could better encapsulate the legacy and purpose of the 21st annual **Old Settler's Music Festival** than **Ralph Stanley**. On Saturday the bluegrass patriarch, flanked by son **Ralph II** and grandson **Nathan**, ensured the circle in Driftwood would remain unbroken through **Stanley Brothers** classics like "Angel Band" and "I'm a Man of Constant Sorrow," but it was his a cappella "O Death" that sent chills into the long, good night.

LIVE ON THE 88s

Pinetop Perkins was admitted to a hospital last week after suffering an allergic reaction to some medicine, but any doubts regarding the health and vitality of the 94-year-old pianist were eased with his historic *Austin City Limits* taping last Sunday. Donning a red-striped suit and matching fedora and backed by an all-star supporting cast that included guest emcee harpist **Willie "Big Eyes" Smith**, **Double**

THE CHRONIC 🔆

According to cameos in the film *Half Baked*, **Snoop Dogg** is a "scavenger" smoker: "Someone who never has weed of their own, but as soon as you smoke it, here they come." **Willie Nelson**, on the other hand, is the "you should have been there" type: "They love talking about the old days back when weed was grass." The *Chronicle*'s own **Andy Langer** got blazed with both a few years back ("Puff Puff Give," July 15, 2005), but last Sunday the two chronically enabled artists celebrated **4/20** together in Amsterdam, duetting on the Nelson rarity "**Superman**." According

HIGH FIDELITY

Hundreds of independent music retailers, including 13 local outlets, from Backspin Records to DJ Dojo, joined together to celebrate Record Store Day on Saturday, serving as a friendly reminder of everything that iTunes can't offer: insightful service and debate, in-store performances, and most importantly, the warmth of vinyl. Highlights included Panic at the Disco's in-store signing at Waterloo Records (bottom right), Pennsylvania's the Shackeltons and their raucous gig at End of an Ear before Nic Armstrong (top right), and Musicmania's daylong DJ sets (left).

Trouble's Chris Layton, and guitarists Derek O'Brien and Gary Clark Jr., the 2007 Grammy recipient closed his set with the song that said it best, Muddy Waters' "Got My Mojo Working." Last week, Andy Uhler's profile of Perkins for KUT's *Texas Music Matters* won the Edward R. Murrow award recognizing excellence in electronic journalism. The program can be heard at www.kut.org.

to www.willienelson.com, the two were shooting a video and "collaborating creatively in just about every which way." On Wednesday KGSR commemorates the Red Headed Stranger's 75th birthday with a live broadcast and tribute, beginning at 8pm and featuring performances from his daughter Paula Nelson, as well as Ray Benson, Joe Ely, Alejandro Escovedo, Ray Wylie Hubbard, and Black Joe Lewis, among others. Patty Griffin and Iron & Wine are also scheduled but not confirmed. For an excerpt from Willie Nelson's recent biography, see "Cosmic Cowboy Souvenir," p.66.

RANDOM PLAY

Succeeding **Dale Watson**, local roots songstress **Shelley King** officially began her one-year term as the **state musician of Texas** on Saturday. She's the first woman appointed to the position.

Roddy Howard, an early booster of the **Continental Club** and one of the original owners of the **One Knite**, the 1970s blues joint replaced by **Stubb's**, died last Wednesday, April 16, of an apparent heart attack. He was 60.

The Hacienda Brothers' Chris Gaffney, 58, whose local status can be measured by the credentials to his 1995 solo outing, *Loser's Paradise* (Lucinda Williams, Rosie Flores, Ian McLagan), succumbed to liver cancer last Thursday. A benefit and tribute, featuring Ted Roddy, the Iguanas, and Dave Insley is scheduled for May 25 at the Oaks in Manor.

Celebrate the 75th birthday of LIE NELS

with classic Willie albums on sale & a new biography!

Shiner welcomes biographer **Joe Nick Patoski** Friday, April 25th at 5pm signing copies of Willie Nelson: An Epic Life



WILLIE NELSON JOE NICH PATOSH

TLLIE NELSO

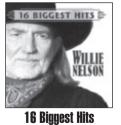
On sale now by Willie...



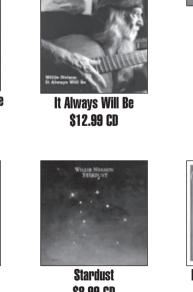
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Last of a Breed

Hill Country scribe Joe Nick Patoski joins the Family

"He's the most

BY DAN OKO

It may not be Willie World, but author Joe Nick Patoski has leveraged his own slice of Texas heaven just beyond the banks of the Blanco River outside of Wimberley. Former contributing editor to Texas Monthly and biographer of tragic Lone Star music legends Selena and Stevie Ray Vaughan, Patoski delves into a character with a little more life to him in his latest book: Willie Nelson.

"He's the most important Texan of the 20th and 21st century," says Patoski, who first interviewed Nelson in 1973. "That's why I've written this book."

Not particularly tall, Patoski possesses an impish smile and a lithe build honed by years of swimming in that nearby river.

"Whatever you want to project on him, more often than not, he's that thing," Patoski continues. "You can say he's your favorite weed-head. And, oh yeah, he is that, and Willie doesn't mind saying he's part of

[the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws]. He's also friend to the family farmer. So yeah, he's that. He's a country traditionalist. Yeah, he's that. But he's completely outside the box.'

With thin lips and a friendly manner, Patoski's slight physique recalls the figure cut by William "Willie" Hugh Nelson, born 1933 in Abbott, Texas, a small community just north of Waco. Patoski's rambling Hill Country home sits on a small rise surrounded by oak and prickly pear, an enormous barbecue pit worthy of television's Lone Star paterfamilias Hank Hill set right off the walk to the front door. He and his wife, Kris, have moved the washer and drier out of the back room to create for him a modest, makeshift office, sparsely decorated but well-stocked with shelf upon shelf of CDs and boxes of books, including a crate of his new biography of Nelson, titled simply enough Willie Nelson: An Epic Life.

"I was going for a lot of context," says Patoski. "I can't get inside his head - he's already done that; he wrote his autobiography. There was a need for a little distance. The distance let me make him a little more of a character.'

At 56, Patoski's a few years younger than his subject, who turns 75 important Texan of the this month, but he's old enough to have been 20th and 21st century," through the wringer a savs Patoski, who first time or two. He's managed bands, including interviewed Nelson in Joe King Carrasco, whose artwork decorates his liv-1973. "That's why I've ing room; critiqued for the local daily; covered written this book." environmental issues for The Texas Observer; been

> a stringer for Rolling Stone; profiled many musicians for No Depression; and supplied text for photographer Laurence Parent's breathtaking books on Big Bend and the Texas Coast published by the University of Texas Press. Weighing in at more than 500 pages, An Epic Life arrives just in time for the round of celebrations that will accompany Nelson's birthday at the end of April.

> Written with the cooperation of Willie's friends and family, the book remains unauthorized, meaning its subject had no control continued on p.68



Cosmic Cowboy Souvenir 'Willie Nelson: An Epic Life,' excerpt: 'Austin, 1972'

BY JOE NICK PATOSKI

The hippie chick didn't hesitate when the Open Road camper pulled over to offer her a ride just outside of Kerrville. The woman looked old enough to vote, but barely. She was certainly not the down-and-out variety of hitchhiker who once populated the sides of highways. She was a genuine Texas hippie chick – straight, long hair below her shoulders, no makeup, tight tank top, no bra, denim cutoff shorts, sandals, stash bag, macramé belt, redolent of patchouli oil, the whole package sunbaked and radiating an I-don't-give-a-shit attitude. She just wanted a ride to Austin.

The men in the camper required no discussion among themselves before pulling over to fetch the young woman with her thumb pointing east.

To the hippie chick, the men in the Open Road camper appeared to be older guys in their thirties and forties who looked sorta like bikers but sorta not, a rough bunch showing signs of wear and tear maybe, but

with a modicum of cool, although they sure weren't hippies like she was. And yet, the aroma of righteous weed wafting from inside the camper got her attention before she even stepped inside.

A high time was had by all on the ride through the Hill Country. The country singer and his band and the hippie chick got along just fine. She was dropped off in the caliche dirt parking lot of a body shop near the corner of South First Street and Barton Springs in South Austin, just across the Colorado River from downtown, at the Armadillo World

Headquarters, an old National Guard Armory that had been transformed into a hippie concert hall, beer garden, and cultural center.

Like the Avalon and the Fillmore in the San Francisco Bay Area, the Armadillo was all about the music and a shared tolerance for marijuana and psychedelic drugs. But unlike San Franciscans and hippies just about anywhere else, Texas hippies also embraced Lone Star and Pearl Beer and country music as a part of their twisted heritage. The Armadillo had already brought in a parade of talent that would otherwise have bypassed Texas, includ-

As the 1960s faded into the 1970s, the 251,808 residents of the capital city of Texas led a wonderfully simple, sheltered, semi-idyllic existence.

ing Ry Cooder, Little Feat, Captain Beefheart, Taj Maĥal, Dr. John the Night Tripper, and Frank Zappa. But there was a definite twang to many of the touring acts, such as the Flying Burrito Brothers, the New Riders of the Purple Sage, Bill Monroe, and especially Commander Cody & His Lost Planet Airmen.

They were younger musicians raised on rock & roll but inspired by the country music their parents grew up with, a movement defined by the seminal 1968 album Sweetheart of the Rodeo by the California folk-rock band the Byrds. This version of country was considered safe by hippies rather than the antithesis of the counterculture, which is how most mainstream country was regarded by the young hipsters.

The Armadillo and a smaller club in West Lake Hills, west of town, called the Soap Creek Saloon, where Doug Sahm ruled the roost, continued on p.70

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HEAR TEXAS HERE! NOW ON OUR LISTENING STATIONS: GREAT NEW MUSIC FROM THE LONE STAR STATE



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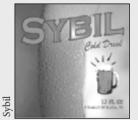


BRUCE HUGHES Shorty Hughes (The Resentments, Scabs, ex-Bob Schneider) bangs out 20 cosmic pop snapshots on this highly anticipated follow-up to *Bluebird*. Ranging from quiet acoustic to junkyard soul, from drunken cabaret to shimmery bubblegum, a

kaleidoscope of Hughes' ever-expanding vision.



VICTOR CAMOZZI 3 Peso Cigar Outlaw country circa now. Victor Camozzi flips the bird to convention so he can get it on with the truth in all it's messy, crazy, awkward beauty. \$9.99 CD



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Anew Revolution can chalk up their songwriting chops to years woodshedding in everything from dive bars to monster outdoor festivals to ultimately recording *Rise* in L.A with notoriously razor-sharp producer Murdock (Avenged Sevenfold, Godsmack). \$12.99 CD



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THE WAILING WALLS Long Live the Infidel Long Live the Infidel is a storyless, never to be performed rock musical incorporating theatrical but intimate pop/rock with noisy bombast. Every song is melodically fetching, sure to leave the listener humming along well after the song is over.

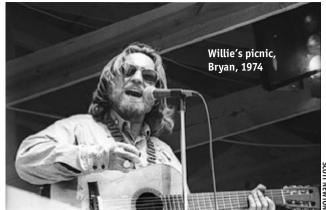
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ETHAN MASTER OF THE HAWAIIAN UKULELE So Real If you listen to this curiosity for 15 seconds, your mind will likely be blown to the point of purchase. These are the new hits, and they're right here from Austin, TX. \$9.99 CD

WATERLOO HAS BEEN PICKED AS ONE OF THE TOP 3 RECORD STORES IN *ROLLING STONE'S* "BEST OF ROCK 2008"

MUSIC :: JOE NICK PATOSKI :: FROM P.66



over which incidents were included or how he's portrayed. Patoski also penned the notes accompanying Sony Legacy's new Nelson box set, One Hell of a Ride ("Phases & Stages," April 4), another effort to bottle the country music maverick's genius and secure his place in pop.

Patoski found his entrée into music criticism when he decamped from his parent's home in Fort Worth and found a job at the Minneapolis equivalent to Waterloo Records. the Electric Fetus. As the cosmic cowboy era dawned, Patoski found encouragement from critical godhead Lester Bangs at the

now-defunct music magazine Creem. Nelson had just released Yesterday's Wine, while Doug Sahm had already introduced a generation of Texans to flower power with his outfit the Sir Douglas Quartet. Patoski first drew a bead on Nelson during his

childhood in Fort Worth, where his parents moved when he was 2. Nelson was a familiar fixture from the Panther Hall broadcasts of The Ernest Tubb Show.

"I had been a Doug head already. He was the first hippie who dressed as a cowboy," Patoski remembers. "But I knew Willie by osmosis, because in 1961, 'Hello Walls' was as much a Top 40 hit as it was a country hit. Every two weeks, it seemed like, Willie was coming down. I didn't know he was up in Nashville, but his money was being made in Texas, and he was getting played on Texas country radio. Then, in Minneapolis, someone turned me on

LANDMARK WILLIE

BY JOE NICK PATOSKI

AND THEN I WROTE

His first album, recorded for Liberty Records, 1961-1962, in Nashville and Los Angeles, showcases Willie as a distinctively hip, almost fully formed vocalist who happens to be covering his own songs.

LIVE COUNTRY MUSIC CONCERT

Released by RCA in 1965, this captures Willie live at Panther Hall in Fort Worth, his home away from home during his Nashville years, backed by Johnny Bush and Wade Ray, covering the Beatles' "Yesterday" and his own "I Just Can't Let You Say Goodbye," a deliciously twisted telling of a murderous crime of passion committed by a scorned lover.

to Yesterday's Wine, and man, it was deep. You could tell something was going on."

In a biographical setup that presages Nelson's arrival in Austin, Patoski writes: "It wasn't just that Yesterday's Wine was too weird for RCA. 'Willie was way too weird for Chet [Atkins, the producer],' observed Cowboy Jack Clement. ... Chet Atkins had kept country music alive when rock & roll took over the sales bins. The Nashville Sound he helped create kept

churning out product with enough hits to justify his position. But there was no way he was going to have hits on all the acts he produced and Willie was proof."

In short order, Nelson was "Gone to Texas," as was Patoski, who was done with the Minnesota winters. By then, he'd caught the Allman Brothers Band shortly before guitarist Duane Allman's death and was wellprimed for the conflagration of honky-tonk and Southern rock that sent Nelson's career into international orbit. Patoski attended shows at the Soap Creek Saloon, Armadillo World

Headquarters, and the Austin Opry House, but it's to the author's credit that he resists inserting himself into the middle of the story.

Not that Patoski didn't sample the same strange stew that fortified and attracted songwriters such

as erstwhile gubernatorial candidate Kinky Friedman, Kris Kristofferson, Waylon Jennings, and Bob Dylan - who remains unknowable in Patoski's account - a mixture seasoned with pills and powders, mushrooms, marijuana, and not a little bit of Lone Star Beer.

"Willie had such a history before then," says Patoski. "You could stop his recording history at '72, and it's still fascinating. But unlike the San Francisco sound, the sound that blew up in Austin in the 1970s is still playing out today."

And thus, a peculiar twinned history began as the Red Headed Stranger emerged from his

Cut for RCA in 1971, Yesterday's Wine may have been a commercial flop, but it was eons

His first album for Columbia, issued in 1975,

was a wholly original Gothic Old West saga built

performer and songwriter for the first time, RHS

Memphis producer/performer/soul-definer

Booker T. Jones and Willie H. Nelson met on a

beach in Malibu in 1978 and discovered their

shared appreciation for hits from the Great

on ballads that were performed simple, spare,

and stark. In the role of producer as well as

ahead of its time - a cosmic concept album

YESTERDAY'S WINE

about life, death, and eternity.

is Willie's "My Way."

STARDUST

RED HEADED STRANGER

WILLIE NELSON: AN EPIC LIFE by Joe Nick Patoski Little, Brown and Co., 567 pp., \$27.99

"He was a musician but more than a musician." writes Joe Nick Patoski near the

end of his excellent new biography of Willie Nelson. The portrait that Patoski paints of Nelson on the threshold of the musical icon's 75th year is one of a tenacious maverick who constantly bucked trends and authority by remaining true to his roots, family, music, and, most of all, friends. As with many living biographies, Patoski seems slightly dismissive of the younger Nelson's indiscretions, his tempestuous marriages and affairs, rough corral of conning confidants, and freewheeling lifestyle,

proving Willie as much loved for his faults as in spite of them. From his scrapping early days bounding determinedly out of Abbott. Texas, to his frustrated career in Nashville to his finding home among Austin's cosmic cowboys in the 1970s, Nelson never wavered from his sense of self or pursuit of a good time, even as his fortunes rose and

the American landscape. Patoski, in turn, first tracked down Nelson for a third-rate music magazine called Zoo World.

"I would write for anybody," he says.

The epic story that's emerged 35 years later, however, isn't derived from said icon spilling his guts. Rather it's reporting born of decades of newspaper and magazine work, Patoski consulting library records to see where the family started and where Willie's itinerant mother and ne'er-do-well father ended up. Speaking with sister Bobbie, best friend Paul English, and a host of other musicians, Patoski goes both long and deep in his coverage of his Nashville exile to become an iconic figure on topic's musical career. Some may complain, in



American Songbook that they both grew up with in Texas and Tennessee. The result transcends country and soul music and elevates Willie to American icon status.

PANCHO & LEFTY

With Merle Haggard, issued in 1985 by Columbia, P&L stands out among the slew of collaborative adventures Willie embarked upon once Pedernales Studio was up and running adjacent to the Cut N' Putt golf course. Ray Charles, Julio

fell. Like his subject's, Patoski's prose drifts equally poetic and folksy, his eye for place and ear for Nelson's unique style vibrant, while his research in cataloging the revolving cast of Family and interviewing sources runs

deep. Most illuminating

is his understanding of

the scenes that mark

Nelson's career, espe-

pistol-packing outlaw

buddies and newfound

hippie following, result-

with the Armadillo World

Altamont-esque disaster

of 1976's annual picnic

The episodes, however,

nating loyalty to friends,

become testament to

Nelson's nondiscrimi-

extending equally to

boosting Charley Pride

as to supporting thug-

gish associates, and

his legacy is one of

in Gonzales, Texas.

ing in both his fallout

Headquarters and the

cially the underlying tensions between Nelson's

WILLIE NELSON

JOE NICK PATOSKI

enduring generosity and uncompromising integrity. Coming full circle, Patoski closes his narrative with Nelson's purchase of his childhood church in Abbott. Willie at the pulpit as elder statesman, outlaw poet, and international superstar but with the same mischievous Texas grin as the boyhood "Booger Red." - Doug Freeman

fact, that for an unauthorized biography, private dirt is in short supply. The author reasons that if a topic didn't apply to Nelson's music, he left it alone for someone else to exhume.

"All I'm trying to do is lay down a marker," Patoski explains. "When we go back to the Seventies and Eighties, and I talk about it a little bit, it was beyond wild - and I wasn't privy to all the wildness. I allude to it enough, and I talk about it enough. It was crazy. I hope the people around him take the time to do their own books, because they've got insight I'll never have.'

Joe Nick Patoski will sign copies of Willie Nelson: An Epic Life at Waterloo Records, Friday, April 25, 5pm.



Iglesias, Faron, Lefty, Leon, Ray, Bush, Dolly whom didn't he record with other than Streisand? - were all memorable efforts. He and Merle doing Townes Van Zandt was simply the best.

SPIRIT

The album Willie did in 1995 for Island prompted Willie to retool his live sound to where the audience appreciates the subtler dynamics, such as Willie's guitar picking, which is more out-front than ever before.

In short order, Nelson was "Gone to Texas," as was Patoski, who was done with the Minnesota winters.



CHRONICI



When life gives you lemons, you get to meet

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music :: WILLIE'S EPIC LIFE :: FROM P.66



were the touchstones of the Austin version of the country-rock culture, where long hair, blue jeans, cowboy hats, boots, good pot, cold beer, and cheap tequila fit together naturally. If a line had been drawn in the sand, hippies and cowboys in Austin were hopping over it.

Willie had been noticing a few longhairs showing up whenever he played Big G's in Round Rock, some of them asking to hear chestnuts like "Night Life," "Fraulein," and "San Antonio Rose." He'd been touring all over the world trying to find his audience, and here they were, looking for him. When he started hanging out in the clubs of Austin, he realized hippies who dug cool music were everywhere. He also noticed a style, or lack thereof.

"It became apparent the audiences were dressing down," he said. "At the [Grand Ole] Opry, everybody dressed up, wore suits and ties. At the Armadillo and places like that, nobody dressed up. I felt out of place being dressed up."

He adapted quickly, letting his hair grow long, growing a beard, dressing onstage in blue jeans, tennis shoes, and T-shirts, with a bandanna around his neck or head. It was no big deal to Willie. "I'd already done that," he said, pointing out that jeans, casual shoes, T-shirts, and bandannas had been standard issue in Abbott, like they were everywhere else in Texas when he was growing up. Hippies were the new adapters. As the 1960s faded into the 1970s, the 251,808 residents of the capital city of Texas led a wonderfully simple, sheltered, semi-idyllic existence. Set on the banks of a river that had been dammed into a string of narrow lakes where the Hill Country descended into the coastal plains and prairies, Austin was easily the most beautiful city in a state often dismissed by out-of-staters as plug ugly. Its older neighborhoods were lush with oak and pecan trees. A natural spring

elegant fiddle-dance instrumental "Westphalia Waltz," which paid tribute to Central Texas's German heritage. Collins fiddled with perhaps the best-known musician in Austin, Kenneth Threadgill, a disciple of Jimmie Rodgers, the Blue Yodeler. Mr. Threadgill hosted folk music hootenannies at his North Lamar gas station beer joint in the mid-1960s, which were popular with a cabal of University of Texas students, including a future rock and blues singer named Janis Joplin and her friends Powell St. John and

A very loaded Jerry Jeff kept trying to grab Willie's guitar Trigger and play it, which irritated Willie to no end, finally prompting him to grab it from Jerry Jeff and pound him with his fists until Jerry Jeff was crumpled on the floor.

less than a mile from downtown functioned as the city's main public pool. Several lakes were within a 30-minute drive of Congress Avenue.

Austin didn't have the deep musical past of Dallas, Houston, Fort Worth, or San Antonio, since its population was historically smaller than even Waco's. There were some local stars among the country bands that worked the area during the 1940s and 1950s, among them Cotton Collins, who wrote and performed an Travis Rivers – all three would enjoy careers in music in San Francisco during that city's hippie heyday in the late-1960s.

Two Austin acts made it onto the national charts in the 1950s – Ray Campi, a young rockabilly crooner and bassist, and the Slades, a doo-wop group that included the blind pianist Bobby Doyle. By the mid-1960s, a small but very hip rock & roll scene spawned the 13th Floor Elevators, a pioneering psychedelic band

led by a screaming Travis High School dropout named Roky Erickson that had a national Top 40 hit, "You're Gonna Miss Me," distinguished by an electric jug, long before psychedelic became part of the music vocabulary. The Elevators and like-minded rock bands worked rooms such as the Old New Orleans, the Jade Room, and Mother Earth around the UT campus.

Austin was also a steady payday for the Top 40 and soul cover bands tapping into the lucrative fraternity and sorority party circuit around UT, a scene controlled by booking agent Charlie Hatchett that included young players such as Don Henley, who would later be the linchpin of a popular band known as the Eagles, and country rocker Rusty Wier.

Four Austin performers were capable of drawing 1,000 crazed hippies and college students at the drop of a cowboy hat: Michael Murphey, a flaxen-haired singer-songwriter from Dallas, who had the two best-selling albums in Austin, Geronimo's Cadillac and Cosmic Cowboy Souvenir; B. W. Stevenson, another Dallas folkie, whose husky voice powered several national hits, notably "My Maria," which reached No. 1 on Billboard's adult contemporary chart; Willis Alan Ramsey, a singer-songwriter-guitarist who also came out of Dallas, whose debut album showcasing exquisite ballads informed by country music was released on Leon Russell's Shelter Records, gaining him instant cachet with a hip audience; and Jerry Jeff Walker &

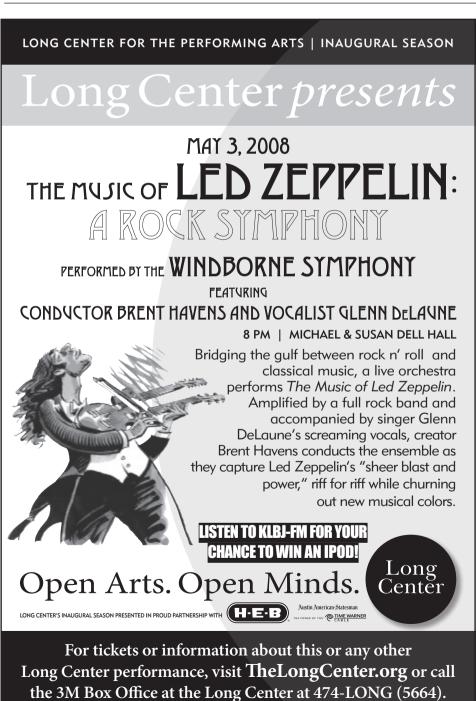
the Lost Gonzo Band, whose live recording *Viva Terlingua!*, made in the old dance hall in the Hill Country hamlet of Luckenbach (pop. 3) with hay bales for baffles, set the standard for Texas-style country-rock. Jerry Jeff himself was the culture's icon, the out-of-control Gonzo "Scamp," prone to extended bouts of extreme drunkenness, especially when under the additional influence of a new drug on the scene called cocaine. He became something of a role model for throwing televisions into swimming pools and wrecking hotel rooms with more vigor than a British rock band.

"With Murphey I generally knew where he was coming from," said Herb Steiner, the pedal steel guitarist who played with both stars. "Jerry Jeff was an unguided missile."

Shortly after meeting Walker, Willie Nelson experienced that unpredictability firsthand at a guitar pulling late one night in Bastrop, east of Austin. A very loaded Jerry Jeff kept trying to grab Willie's guitar Trigger and play it, which irritated Willie to no end, finally prompting him to grab it from Jerry Jeff and pound him with his fists until Jerry Jeff was crumpled on the floor. As he picked himself up, he looked up at Willie and slurred, "I remember now. You're the same son of a bitch that knocked me down last night for the same reason."

Whenever Jerry Jeff wanted audiences to hear his lyrics, he worked Castle Creek, the former Chequered Flag, a listening room one block from the state capitol that booked singersongwriters such as Guy Clark, Townes Van Zandt, Rusty Wier, and B. W. Stevenson. At Walker's request, a friend from Florida named Jimmy Buffett started sitting in between sets in the 300-seat room until he earned his own gig. Castle Creek provided inspiration for a song he wrote called "(Wasting Away in) Margaritaville," which would be his calling card when he played in stadiums to tens of thousands of wannabe islanders in floral-print shirts.

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IN-STORE PERFORMANCE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 30TH AT 5PM

See them later that night at Emo's!

Part swampy juke joint brawlers, part smooth Philly warehouse doo-wop crooners, a sprinkling of wild-eyed, demon-haunted art hustler, and a hint of punky kindergarten playroom Pollyannas, Man Man bring their incomparable vision of "pop music" to bear with *Rabbit Habits*.

Rabbit Habits \$12.99 CD





PORTISHEAD Third (Mercury/Island)

Mid-1990s Britain yielded some questionable pop pap, but Portishead was an exception. Singer Beth Gibbons, guitarist Adrian Utley, and multi-instrumentalist Geoff Barrow no doubt spent the last decade trying to shake a short-lived genre (trip-hop) that never really fit them. Smartly, the Bristol trio's first studio album since 1997 is free of the chopped samples and noir soundtracking that trademarked their sound, allowing them to create dissonance more organically. There's always been a spinning paranoia under Portishead's music, uncertainty never far from Gibbons' lyrics, and that hasn't been lost on Third. The unsettling "Hunter" unfurls like something out of a David Lynch movie, Gibbons purring, "My thoughts are taking over." Her matchless voice remains another instrument and now, free of the witchiness that dominated 1997's eponymous sophomore LP, she shines ethereal in the warm synth tide of "The Rip" and "Nylon Smile." The oscillations of Silver Apples are carbon-copied on midalbum standout "We Carry On," and from there, Third really starts droning, if you don't count throwaway banjo ballad "Deep Water." "Machine Gun" is Portishead's most jarring song yet, a stream of rapid-fire drum beats that smells like Germany 1981, and a psychrock influence weaves into "Small," which rides a killer organ line and allows them to jam. Closer "Threads" brings it back to Portishead's old gloom and doom, Gibbons wailing, "I'm always so unsure," over fuzzy, foreboding riffage. Ten years later, they've managed to capture our paranoid times and sound transcendent as well.

THE BLACK KEYS Attack and Release

(Nonesuch) The Black Keys' Nonesuch debut. 2006's Magic Potion, sounded a bit diluted

and formulaic. Enter Brian Burton, better known as Danger Mouse, the beat scientist behind Gnarls Barkley, whose shape-shifting production - from the swelling organ of moody opener "All You Ever Wanted" to the backward guitar in the heavy blues of "I Got Mine" - results in the Akron, Ohio, duo's most diverse and subtly psychedelic work to date (just check the flute solo on "Same Old Thing"). Originally conceived as a collaboration to include the late Ike Turner, Attack and Release retains the anguished soul and ghostly

DVDNDS

THE CLASH Revolution Rock (Epic/Legacy)

Five years after Joe Strummer's death and 30 years after the Clash's debut, the band's alternating pattern of genius releases and nearmisses balances out here. Last winter saw the definitive

Strummer bio-doc, Julien Temple's The Future Is Unwritten (the DVD hits stores in June), burnish the band's righteous legacy. Now, Revolution Rock follows up, dealing 22 live shots spanning 1977-83. Producer Don Letts of Big Audio Dynamite pulled much of the previously unseen footage from his personal archives, which, side by side with excerpts

chill of its inspiration, particularly in "Lies" and the banjo-laced "Psychotic Girl," while "Oceans and Streams" sways like Junior Kimbrough's Chulahoma. Burton's masterful production proves most evident on "Remember When (Side A)," which slows the classic Thickfreakness of its B-side counterpart to half-speed and treats it with eerie, haunted-house effects. All the Keys needed was a bit of black magic. **** Austin Powell

R.E.M.

Accelerate (Warner Bros.) Brooding disaffection about these Accelerate-d end-times peaks on "Until the Day Is Done," introduced in the lyrics



accompanying R.E.M.'s 14th album with Sinclair Lewis' co-opted anti-Bush sloganeering. Strangling jangle trademarks the Athens, Ga., trio's opening triptych, sealed by "Supernatural Superserious," first cousin to Automatic for the People smash "Man on the Moon." Where the previous indelible minored in ill-fated loon Andy Kaufman, here Harry Houdini plucks the rabbit out of Michael Stipe's skullcap - protection from Peter Buck's raw nerve-endings guitar. Accelerate isn't Lifes Rich Pageant, however. The moody flair of "Houston" and buzzing desperation that suffocates the title cut better reflect the group's musical temperament. As 34 minutes advance, songs get longer and less interesting ("Sing for the Submarine"), but "Horse to Water" stomps, and "I'm Gonna DJ" ("at the end of the world") doesn't decelerate. This time, really, "It's the End of the World as We Know It," only nobody feels fine. ***

– Raoul Hernandez

ALLISON MOORER Mockingbird (New Line)

Honey-haired Allison Moorer follows her sister Shelby Lynne's lead for a set of mostly covers. While Lynne feted only

Dusty Springfield, Moorer's sixth album features material by women celebrating their strength. The premise allows Mrs. Steve Earle a wide berth to explore a sweep of styles and emotions, choosing tunes from the unlikely combination of Patti Smith. Joni Mitchell. Ma Rainev. and Chan Marshall. As with her past work, the

OLUTION

from docs like his own Westway to the World and vintage films such as Rude Boy, plugs into the electric fury and ferocious energy that drove the Clash. It's all DIY, of course: sporadically shoddy sound and off-kilter cameras, plus an awful narrative supplied by Zane Lowe of the BBC that fortunately comes as optional. Scorchers include the reggae standard "Police and Thieves," "London Calling" from the group's

legendary stand at Bond's NYC (more footage is apparently being restored for eventual release), beautiful bassist Paul Simonon taking over frontman duties in L.A. on "Guns of Brixton," and a deuce from NBC late-night, "This Is Radio Clash" and "The Magnificent Seven." Tom Snyder's interview extra is also worth a gander. – Dan Oko

real attraction is Moorer's voice, an instrument that's muscular yet distinctively dulcet as well. Nina Simone's "I Want a Little Sugar in My Bowl" and Rainey's "Daddy, Goodbye Blues" are exceptionally effective for a singer whose work has long tilted toward country. With only one self-penned song, the title track, Moorer's songwriting career is seemingly on hold. The effortless Mockingbird proves she doesn't need to write to make music that's all her own. (Allison Moorer opens for hubby Steve Earle at the Paramount Theatre, Sunday, April 27.) – Jim Caligiuri ***

SANTOGOLD (Downtown)

Santi White has been hailed as visionary, creative, genre-bending, and inventive - America's answer to M.I.A. - but despite Santogold's

bloggorific buzz, her eponymous debut, while diverse, is no revolution. Aside from dubbedup standout "Shove It," the Philly native and former A&R rep forgoes 24 karat for gold filler. Opener "L.E.S. Artistes" could be a Yeah Yeah Yeahs outtake, "Creator" and "Unstoppable" water down Maya Arulpragasam's politics, "My Superman" oozes Siouxsie Sioux, and "I'm a Lady" sews the three into a well-dressed, hypnotic frock. It might seem lazy to pull the comparison card, but the inflections are impossible to ignore. Santogold's nothing more than catchy, simple, dance-worthy trivia that the kids will probably eat up with both hands whether on the dance floor, falling in love, breaking up, trying on American Apparel deep-Vs. or experimenting. There's nothing offensive to speak of, just pure product. Don't let the "indie" label fool you. Darcie Stevens

THE DYNAMICS Version Excursions (Groove Attack)

Jamaican music gets labeled green for reasons beyond the island's preoccupation with collie herbs. After all, no

other country's musical community does more recycling. Riddims and sounds are continually and liberally borrowed and patched back

BEATBOX

The Roots

outdo themselves on eighth LP Rising Down (Def Jam), ?uestlove & Co. welcoming new bassist Owen Biddle into the mix of their most band-centric effort yet. Featuring spots from a whopping 12 outsourced MCs, jump-started by straight fire from Mos Def on the

infectious title cut,

Rising strips down

for the a cappella

"@ 15" and souls

out on the Wale-

featured "Rising

Up." Showstopper

"75 Bars (Black's

Reconstruction)"

proves the Philly





crew would've been just fine without all the help. Over Deadringer-esque beats ("Beautiful Humanity." "The Cure"). Portland, Ore.'s Braille dials up Pharcyde stylings on The IV Edition (Syntax/Koch), nodding to the Beasties' Check Your Head with the organ-funked "ADDvice." Flexing lyrical muscle, the Re-Up Gang's Malice brings "the realest shit I ever wrote - not Pac inspired; it's crack pot inspired," on We Got It for Cheap, Vol. 3. The Clipse clique trades even bars with Philly heads Sandman and Ab-Liva on Raekwon's "Rainy Dayz," Obie Trice's "Cry Now," and Dame Grease-produced "20k Money Making Brothers on the Corner." With Ab-Liva and Sandman's two Cheap solo tracks, as well as the latter's Philadelphia Ego mixtape, the other half of the Re-Up proves they're more than simply Clipse sidemen. Edmonton, Alberta's Cadence Weapon drops geek-hop "In Search of the Youth Crew" with Afterparty Babies (Epitaph), an album dedicated to those conceived after Ma and Pa got loaded. Running parallel with what's popping in the Rhymesayers camp, the neurotic Cadence stays industrial, and, though his energy's to be applauded, the results are nearly annoying. - Chase Hoffberger

together, tracks reborn in a rub-a-dub style, while nearly every 7-inch single has an alternate version on the flip side. The Dynamics' Version Excursions follows in this timeless tradition - reduce, reuse, recycle. The French-based quintet reworks a dizzyingly diverse collection of tracks from the Rolling Stones, Led Zeppelin, and Bob Dylan to Wilson Pickett and Prince. The Dynamics manage to forge it all into a coherent, understated, soulful album, though no word on how much they dropped on licensing. The cooled-out Curtis Mayfield classic "Move On Up" is insanely good, and it's hard to believe the White Stripes' "Seven Nation Army" wasn't penned in Kingston after hearing this dubbedout cover. ***

- Audra Schroeder

**

MIES



CHUCK SHEPHERD ΒY



"News of the Weird" cited a police report last May that an unidentified man in Guelph, Ontario, had committed at least three incidents of approaching women and asking to be kicked in the groin. After seven such incidents, Jarrett Loft, 28, pleaded guilty in March 2008 to one count and was sentenced to 60 days in jail. Loft offered no explanation for his behavior other than that he was "curious." One victim, saving that she feared what Loft might do if she refused, repeatedly kicked him between the legs, after which he thanked her and rode off on his bicycle.

LEAD STORY

Lawyer confidentiality rules kept one man improperly on death row for 10 years and a probably innocent man in prison for 26, according to news that surfaced in January (in Virginia) and March (in Illinois). Daryl Atkins (sentenced to death in 1997) was the victim of probable prosecutorial misconduct, according to his co-defendant's lawyer, Leslie Smith, who said he witnessed the misconduct but could not report it because a lesser sentence for Atkins would have exposed his own client to greater punishment. In Illinois, Alton Logan was convicted of a murder during a 1982 robbery. However, shortly afterward, Andrew Wilson admitted to his lawyers that he was the murderer, but bar association rules prohibited them from revealing that. When Wilson died in 2007, the lawyers went public, and Logan's case has been reopened.

THE ARISTOCRATS!

1) Mayor Art Madrid of La Mesa, Calif., apologized in February for an incident the week before when police found him, along with a female city employee, passed out about 10:30pm. Madrid was lying on the sidewalk near a sport utility vehicle, the woman was in the driver's seat with her legs sticking out the open door, and vomit littered the area. 2) A patient reporting for an appointment with dentist Norman Rubin in Smithtown, N.Y., in March told the New York Post that Rubin was in the otherwise-empty office passed out, drooling, with a gas mask on his face. (Rubin later told the Post, in defense, that it was, after all, his lunch hour.)

THE CONTINUING CRISIS

• Dirk Opalka (whose fox scored 96 of 100 possible points) won best in show at the World Taxidermy Championships in February in Salzburg, Austria, beating more than 100 competitors in the art of stretching animal skin over fake bodies so the critters look better than they ever looked alive. The attention to detail was astonishing, according to a dispatch in Der Spiegel, on such features as a stag's nostrils, a hyena's lips, a hamster's whiskers, the neck length of a female peregrine falcon (precisely 5.5 centimeters), and the proper rosiness of a bat's anus.

• In March, the Tokyo High Court reversed the conviction of pinup model Serena Kozakura, who had been found guilty of kicking a hole in the door of her former boyfriend's apartment so she could break in and scream at him. Kozakura had appealed, claiming that the man had made the hole himself, and as evidence, explained that she could never have squeezed through it, anyway, because her breasts are too big. That argument apparently won the day, creating enough "reasonable doubt" to overturn the verdict.

• Two German air force sergeants were suspended in December after being caught in a side venture selling sausages based on an old family recipe requiring human blood. Their first batches were made with their own, but as they began mass-producing, they had allegedly asked their colleagues, because, according to instructions from one of the men's grandmothers, all blood must be "fresh." "Do not use too many bread crumbs," she had written, "but if the blood starts to curdle, stir in a teaspoon of wine vinegar.'

Court documents revealed in March that federal Judge Eduardo Robreno had fined New York mortgage banker Aaron Wider and his lawyer \$29,000 for using variations of the "f" word 73 times (thus, about \$367 per usage) during a contentious deposition he gave in a lawsuit brought by GMAC Bank.

• Several psychotherapists told The New York Times in February that treatments are being developed for people who are excessively worried about their own carbon emissions being responsible for global warming. More than 120 therapists are now listed as specialists in the field on Ecopsychology.org, and schools such as Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Ore., have created courses on counseling such patients.

FAMILY VALUES

Cutting-Edge Parenting: 1) Sheriff's deputies in the Orlando area were on the lookout in March for two women who, according to surveillance video from the Magical Car Wash, had pulled into a stall and deposited coins but then proceeded only to scold and then pressure-wash a small child. 2) Aron Pritchard, 27, was convicted of child endangerment in March in Hutchinson, Kan., after a jury declined to accept his explanation for his girlfriend's kids, age 2 and 3, being burned in a hot clothes drier. Pritchard said he was just trying to show them they could have fun without necessarily spending money.

LEAST COMPETENT CRIMINALS

Not Ready for Prime Time: 1) Two boys, 12 and 14, were quickly arrested in Port St. Lucie, Fla., in March when they tried to rob a woman who was working at a counter behind protective glass in an office by picking up the convenience phone and threatening her, implying that they had a gun. The woman was in no danger because of the protective glass, but besides that, the place they had chosen for the hit was a regional office of the Port St. Lucie Police Department. 2) Donald Baker, 51, was rearrested in March in Peterborough, Ontario, when he called the police department to request a wake-up call for his court appearance the next morning; amazed at his audacity, police ran a records check and found an additional arrest warrant on him.

UPDATES

• Good Friday in the Philippines town of San Pedro Cutud has meant, for more than 20 years, that two dozen men will line up to be nailed to a wooden cross for a few minutes each to mark their penitence for sins of the previous year (although this year, the government issued an advisory recommending getting tetanus shots and using only sterile nails). Ruben Enaje, 47, was first in line once again (the 22nd time in 23 years that he has been crucified) and, once again, screamed in agony for five minutes at the 6-inch nails driven into both palms and both feet while he lay on the cross. Before the crucifixions, dozens of other men punished themselves by whipping their backs bloody, using bamboo rods.

Visit Chuck Shepherd daily at newsoftheweird.blogspot.com (or www.newsoftheweird.com).

Send your Weird News to: Chuck Shepherd, PO Box 18737, Tampa, FL 33679 or weirdnewstips@yahoo.com. ©2004 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE





calendar **C** OMMUNITY p.74 +

this week

COMMUNITY LISTINGS

(PLUS HIGHLIGHTS FROM ARTS, FILM, AND MUSIC) BY JAMES RENOVITCH THURSDAY, APRIL 24 - THURSDAY, MAY 1

() RTS p.80 +

Enter the Dragon

[SEE SATURDAY, DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL & RACES]

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) The Way It Is Fest Red 7 B-Boy City 15 The Parish Michelle Shocked Cactus Cafe Pong, the Horsies, Darling New Neighbors Continental Club

ILM p.86 + M. USIC listings p.98

Saturday

ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO PREVENTING **PAIN** Come and learn new, holistic ways to prevent and manage pain and arthritis. Register by April 24. 5pm. USA Kung Fu Academy, 4327 S. First, 892-3366. Free.

AN EVENING WITH BUD SHRAKE See "Riding the 'Wave,'" Books, p.48, for more information on this celebration of a legendary Texas author. 6pm. Alkek Library, Texas State University-San Marcos, 512/245-2313. Free. www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu.

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

ARTOPIUM'S LOVE IN Body painting, henna tattoos, art, live and DJed music, fire and belly dancing, and all within walking distance of Eeyore's Birthday. 2pm-1am. Pearl St. Co-op, 2000 Pearl. \$5. www.rovingfestival.com.

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

AUSTIN TIME EXCHANGE An alternative-currency club that lets you trade skills and services instead of money - now meeting twice weekly: Ventana del Soul (1834 E. Oltorf), Tuesdays, 7:30pm; MonkeyWrench Books (110 E. North Loop), Saturdays, 4pm. 462-0787. Free. www.austintimeexchange.org.

BARSANA DHAM MELA "Mela" translates to "gathering" and, in this case, features tabla and sarod music, traditional dance, and kids activities. The event is divided into an Indian Fair (noon-6pm) and Hindu Experience (6-9pm). See their website for a complete schedule of events. Noon-9pm. Barsana Dham, 400 Barsana Rd., 288-7180. Free. www.barsanadham.org.

CATTIN' AROUND THE CREEK SPRING BENEFIT Music, food, and wine round out this benefit for **Street Cat Rescue** which educates the public about animal overpopulation and spay/neuter options. 6-9pm. 620 Cafe & Bakery, 910 Round Rock Ave., Round Rock, 512/762-3597. \$35. www.streetcatrescue.com.

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. The deadline for the May 9 issue is Monday, April 28. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials.

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

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

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

James Renovitch (everything else): calendar@austinchronicle.com

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

Thursday BUILDING A BETTER BUDGET Learn how to over-

come debt and design a realistic spending/savings plan that will help you accomplish your short-, mid-, and long-term financial goals. 5:30-7pm. A+ Federal Credit Union, 6420 Hwy. 290 E., 421-2818. Free. www.aplusfcu.org.

CARMEN ELECTRA WALKS, MOURNS If there was a fake community listing contest I'd put my money on this one. No joke, the once Prince proté gé will be strolling down Sixth Street between Red River and San Jacinto in a mock funeral procession/carnival promoting Dos Equis. 10:15pm.

HISPANIC CHAMBER OF COMMERCE LUNCHEON & GRADUATION Come see the participants of the Hispanic Austin Leadership program throw their mortarboards and dine with leaders and future leaders of the Hispanic community. 11:30am. Holiday Inn, 8901 Business Park Dr., 462-4304. \$40 (\$30, members). www.gahcc.org.

IDENTITY THEFT SEMINAR AND SHRED Learn how to avoid getting your identity stolen while you shred those "sensitive" documents. Don't worry; all that shredded paper will be recycled. 6pm. IBC Bank, 12625 N. I-35. Free. www.csidentity.com/ibc.

LEARN SOMETHING AWESOME in this laid-back workshop where you can absorb the skills of other Austinites. Learn to make a duct-tape dress, edit a documentary, or plan an event. Warning: Some skills may be more awesome than others. 7-10pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925 Free, www.monkeywrenchbooks.org

MASSAGE SCHOOL OPEN HOUSE includes sample classes, lunch, a chair massage, and application information for this school of muscle soothing. 10am-4pm. Lauterstein-Conway Massage School, 4701-B Burnet Rd., 374-9222 x14. Free. www.tlcschool.com.

PROSPERITY EFT CIRCLE Learn to use acupressure to get rich – or get happy being poor. Mondays, 7-9pm. 8600 Brodie #236. \$10 suggested donation. freethrougheft@gmail.com www.freethrougheft.com.

SPANISH LANGUAGE FILM SERIES No subtitles for this screening of La Estrategia del Caracol, a lighthearted film about revolution and progressive politics. 8pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925, Free, www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

TEXAS SOLAR FORUM CEOs, policy-makers, and other bigwigs gather to discuss the increasing viability of solar energy. Let's get on the bandwagon now before the money and the planet dry up. For more information and to register, go to www.texassolar forum.com. Thu.-Fri., April 24-25. Capitol building. Free.

UNDERAGE DRINKING PREVENTION TASK FORCE Donald Moseman of the National Safety Council will speak of his agency's efforts to combat underage drinking. Learn about the Alive at 25 program and more. 10:30am-1pm. Howson Library, 2500 Exposition, 854-4229.

COMEDY (See Arts Listings.) LAFF: Ladies Are Funny Festival The Hideout Theatre

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

Topaz Salon, Salvage Vanguard Theater

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Quantum Hoops: The Caltech Basketball Story @ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm Super High Me @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm Two Days in April @ Alamo Lake Creek, 7:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) B-Boy City 15 The Parish Keep Austin Pagan Ruta Maya



DEMOCRATIC PARTY OPEN HOUSE FUNDRAISER Come meet elected officials who pledge allegiance to the donkey. 5:30-7:30pm. Texas Democratic Party Headquarters, 505 W. 12th #200. \$25 (\$15, mem bers). yellowdog@txdemocrats.org.

EAST END FOURTH FRIDAY begins on East **C** EAST END FOURTH PRIVAL WELL 11th from Branch to Rosewood for music, art, 2120 rolls around, hear shops, and food. When 8:30 rolls around, head over to Kenny Dorham's Backyard for the gospel sounds of the Original Bells of Joy. 5-11pm. Kenny Dorham's Backyard, 1106 E. 11th, 477-9438.

EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN MEN & WOMEN Let's get the discussion rolling, even if

the sexes do speak two different languages. 7pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. Free. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

EMANCIPET mobile spay/neuin your neighborwww.emancipet. Fri.-Sat., check-(first come, first Free

NABA AWARD LUNCHEON

website. Noon-2pm. Omni Hotel Southpark, 4140 Governors Row, 632-9384. \$40 (\$25, stu dent). www.nabaaustincentex.org.

KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

ended, and that means it's time to celebrate. Food, beverages, a big fire, music, and dancing. BYOL: Bring your own loquats for eating or share your favorite loquat recipe. 7pm. TreeFolks, 10803 Platt. www.treefolks.org.

the bike-themed movie, but spend some cash to benefit Skillshare Austin, which aims to get people together for a free exchange of knowledge and gen-

SPANISH/CHINESE CONVERSATION GROUP Fridays, 7:30pm. Formosa Art & Tea, 200 E. Pecan #5, Pflugerville, 512/989-8678. Free. www.drinkarttea.com.

TEXAS SOLAR FORUM (See Thursday 4/24.)

Las Manitas Avenue Cafe

in begins 8am served). 587-SPAY. & SCHOLARSHIP

The National Black Accountants an afternoon of

FREE DAYS This

ter clinic might be

hood today. Check

self-congratulation. And Register to attend on their

PEOPLE UNITED features a live discussion about the March and Rally for Immigrant Workers' Rights with Josefina Castillo of the American Friends Service Committee, Caroline Keating Guerra of the Austin Immigrant Rights Coalition, and Luisanna Santibañez of PODER. Allan Campbell hosts, with a weekly commentary from Rahul Mahajan. 1pm.

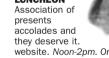
ROOT BALL FOR TREEFOLKS Planting season has

SKILLSHARE PEDAL-IN FILM NIGHT Come for eral know-how. 8pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Donations appreci-

ated. www.skillshareaustin.org.

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.)

org to find out.



CENTRAL WEST AUSTIN NEIGHBORHOOD

WORKSHOP Neighbors, businesses, and anyone with a vested interest in Central West Austin will want to chime in at this discussion of parks, community life, transportation, etc. 9am-1pm. Austin State School, NEOS Bldg. 526, 2203 W. 35th, 974-2857. Free. www.ci.austin.tx.us/zoning/central west_austin.htm.

CHARITY PANCAKE BREAKFAST Help the Central Texas Turner Syndrome Chapter by eating all the pancakes you could want. 8am. Applebee's, 7522 N. I-35, 567-5906. \$7. ctxtsc2008.googlepages.com

DIA DE LA FAMILIA Austin Community College's Latino/Latin American Studies Center presents this informational festival that reaches out to the Hispanic community. Get the facts on what higher education can do for you. 11am-2pm. ACC Riverside, 1020 Grove. Free.

C DRAGON BOAT FESTIVAL & RACES Watch as local teams go head-to-head in 40-foot-long dragon boats. Not interested in colorful boat races? There's plenty of performances, taiko drummers, dancing, martial arts demonstrations, kids activities, and more gifts from the Pacific Rim. 10am-3pm. Festival Beach, northeast corner of I-35 and Lady Bird Lake. Free. www.asianamericancc.com

EARTH DAY PAPER SHRED Bring documents to shred (don't worry, they will be recycled) and get some earth-saving tips and live music in the process. 10am-2pm. University Federal Credit Union, 4611 Guadalupe, 467-8080. Free. www.ufcu.org.

FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL

Join the Austin Symphony Orchestra for the first family event at the new Long Center. Joe McDermott, Trout Fishing in America, and the Biscuit Brothers play different nights, all accompanied by the symphony. Tue.-Thu., April 29-May 1, 6pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 482-0800. \$12 (\$8 children). www.thelongcenter.org.

C DREAM CARVERS ART EXHIBIT Sanchez

Elementary fourthgraders created colorful works based on the book Dream Carver; all you have to do is look and enjoy. A youth choir and Ballet Folklorico also perform. Reception, Fri., April 25, 4:30–6pm; exhibition: through May 16. Las Manitas Avenue Cafe. 211 Congress. 472-9357. Free. www.lapena-austin.org

the young ones

DÍA DE LOS NIÑOS

This annual celebration in Mexico has been in Austin for a decade now. This year features dance, choir, and karate demonstrations, along with hands-on educational activities, your favorite PBS characters, and bilingual storytellers. Sat., April 26, 10am-2pm. St. John Branch Library, 7500 Blessing, 974-7570. Free.

GIRLS' CHOIR SPRING TEA Nosh on English high tea while being serenaded by this talented group of young musicians. Seatings are on the hour between 3 & 5pm. Call to RSVP as seats are limited. Sun., April 27, 3-6pm. Caswell House, 1404 West Ave., 453-0884. \$25. www.austin.girlschoir.com

CHANGING LIVES YOUTH THEATRE PERFORMANCES

See the theatrical output of high schoolers who have turned the violence they've endured into art. It's all part of an outreach program to educate kids about the root of violence and how to break the cycle. Fri., April 25, 7pm. Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired,

EAST END COMMUNITY DIALOGUE This ambitious meeting hopes to build some consensus around the revitalization/gentrification of East 11th and 12th streets. Two cents needed, 9:30am-noon. Street-Jones Bldg., Rm. 400-A, 1000 E. 11th. Free.

EASTSIDE HEALTH & WELLNESS FAIR Free health education and screenings for East Austin residents. Get tested for HIV, have your blood sugar and pressure checked, and see what massage. acupuncture, and yoga can do for you physically and mentally, all while the kids play and eat healthy snacks. 10am-2pm. East Austin Wellness Initiative, 1941 Webberville, 926-6339. Free.

ECOLOGICAL LITERACY VOLUNTEER DAY Three hours of trail cleaning work equals one hour of learning about the local ecology. Check their website for a map to the park. 9am-1pm. www.hornsby bend.org, www.ci.austin.tx.us/water/cer2.htm.

EEYORE'S BIRTHDAY This annual institution still features a costume contest, face-painting, music, maypoles, and more. All you free spirits get to the park and raise some money for local nonprofits while you romp. 10am-8pm. Pease Park, Windsor & Lamar, 448-5160. Free. www.eeyores.sexton.com **EMPLOYMENT & HOUSING RIGHTS MEETING**

The city of Austin Equal Employment/Fair Housing Office gets you brushed up on your civil rights and who can help if you're the victim of abuse. Spanish interpreters will be on hand. 1-4pm. Parque Zaragoza Community Center, 2608 Gonzales. Free.

> SAFARI ADVENTURE Have the kids (ages 4-12) sign up to collect donations, or just let 'em loose for a good cause. All monies collected at this day of games and challenges go toward helping children with AIDS in Africa. Go to www. hillcountryride.org to register and get directions. Sat., April 26, noon-4pm. Krause Springs, Spicewood, 512/371-RIDE. \$25.

YOUTH 4 YOUTH THEATRE FESTIVAL Creative

middle and high school students share their theatrical creations. The stories of empowerment and self-discovery are followed by music and a reception. Sat., April 26, 6pm. Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, 1100 W. 45th, 442-8773. Free. www.theatreactionproject.org.

FATHER/DAUGHTER

DANCE Daughters ages 3 to 9 can bring their dads and learn dance steps both old and new. Sat., April 26, 6pm. Northwest Recreation Center, 2913 Northland, 458-4107. \$8, couple. www.ci.austin.tx.us/ parks/northwest.htm. SCIENCE SUNDAY

has zero gravity experiments and video footage, along with actual satellites to examine. Your kids will be floating in space. Sun., April 27, 3pm. Austin Children's Museum, 201 Colorado, 472-2499. \$3.50-5.50 (free, kids under 12 months). www.austinkids.org.

FAMILY FOSSIL FUN DAY

Paleontologists will bring their science knowledge to the little ones at this dinofest. Paleocentric arts, crafts, games, and stories round out an afternoon of looking for fossils at the dig-pit on the patio. Sun., April 27, 1-5pm. Texas Memorial Museum, 2400 Trinity, 471-1604. Free, www.utexas.edu/ tmm/events/famfossilfun.

RIGHT HERE ON THE OCEAN

FLOOR Read Shark & Lobster's Amazing Undersea Adventure, as well as other treasure tales you're bound to love. Wed., April 30, 10:30am. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050.

ESSENTIALS OF RUMI'S THOUGHTS This seminar answers the question, what would Rumi do? 9am-5pm. UT campus, Thompson Conference Center, Rm. 1.110. Free. rumiconference@interfaithdialog.org, www.interfaithdialog.org.

FIT & FEARLESS SELF-DEFENSE Taught by the only female Krav Maga black belt in Texas, this class will get you fit, confident, and teach you the basics of self-defense, 1:30-5pm, Krav Maga, Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress Ste. G-300, 441-KRAV. \$30. www.fitandfearless.com.

GARAGE SALE & BIKE TUNE-UP Bedichek Middle School observes Global Youth Service Day with this benefit for Yellow Bike Project. Snow cones, snacks, 15 vendors, and free bike tune-ups, 8amnoon. Bedichek Middle School, 6800 Bill Hughes Rd. 414-3265 Free

HOMEBUYERS' SEMINAR Is zero-down a good deal? Should I buy a home near future light rail? Come for answers to these questions and more. 1pm. Austin Community College, 5930 Middle Fiskville, 997-7653. Free. www.livinginaustin.com

KYLE COMMUNITYWIDE GARAGE SALE Expect several hundred garage sales throughout this community. Go to www.plumcreektxhoa.com for directions. Crap or treasure? You decide. 7am-1pm.

MAIFEST Come to where the maypoles scream to be wrapped. Food, folk dancing, music, and kids activities that will make everyone feel German for a day. 11am-5pm. German Free School, 507 E. 10th, 482-0927. Free. www.germantexans.org.

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.

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



THE GLASS MENAGERIE BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

DIRECTED BY TODD MARTIN One of the most profound American plaus of the modern theatre.

Gaslight-Baker Theatre ... putting the ART in Lockhart 216 N. Main St., Lockhart, TX • (512)376-5653 www.GaslightTheater.com



FRI & SAT • 8PM

APRIL 4-29

MATINEE

APRIL 19

SAT

2PM

* Fiddle Contest * Barbecue Cook-Off * Songwriting Contest

Thursday, April 24 6:00 p.m. Jam Session

Friday, April 25

5:00 - 9:00 Cajun Food 6:30 p.m. Fiddle Contest 9:30 p.m. Fiddlin' Frenchie Burke

Saturday, April 26

9:00 - 5:00	Fiddle Contest	
10:00 a.m.	Texas Songwriters' Serenade	
1:00 p.m.	Wilfred Chevis (Cajun/Zydeco)	
3:30 p.m.	Sausage Cook-Off Judging	
6:00 p.m.	Legendary Pete Mayes & the	
•	Texas House Rockers	
8:30 p.m.	Dance featuring members of	
	Ace in The Hole Band	
Sunday, April 27		

Come weekly for farms, food, and music! Austin Farmers' Market

Wednesdays 4-8pm

www.austinfarmersmarket.ora

MAYPOLE

FESTIVAL

CHARLOTTE'S WEB

A STAGE PLAY

STARRING AWARD-WINNING

ACTOR DAMIAN GILLEN.

SATURDAY

May 3rd, 2008 1-5

HAYRIDES, CLOGGERS, CRAFTS.

BISCUIT BROTHERS.

SUNSHINE GENERATION SINGERS

TICKETS AT THE GATE: \$10 A PERSON, FAMILIES \$25.

DETAILS AT PIONEERFARMS.ORG.

exit I-35 at braker lane, go east, follow the signs. 512.837.1215.

PIONEER FARMS.

at the Triangle

Sι 9:3

9:30 - 6:00	Fiddle Contest
10:30 a.m.	Barbecue Showmanship
1:00 p.m.	Patrick Murphy &
	Murphy's Law
1:00 p.m.	Barbecue Cook-Off Judging

www.fiddlersfrolics.com



FANCY NANCY SPECIAL

STORYTIME It's a Fancy Nancy Butterfly Party! Read Fancy Nancy:

Bonjour Butterfly, dress in your

fanciest outfits, and make your

own butterflies. Receive a free

Fancy Nancy fan. Sat., April 26.

11am. Barnes & Noble South,

IT GIRL COMPUTER GAME

SHOWCASE Girlstart, a nonprofit

tasked with engaging young women

in the math, science, and engineer-

ing fields, presents an exhibition of

educational video games designed

by high school students. Smart

games from smart girls. Sat., April 26, 11am-12:30pm. Silicon

916-4775. Free. www.girlstart.org.

Tommy, Cindy, and Paul perform-

ing their version of Cloudy With

a Chance of Meatballs. Sat., April

26, 11:30am. BookPeople, 603 N.

SHOW features puppeteers

Lamar, 472-5050.

Laboratories, 400 W. Cesar Chavez,

PRACTICALLY PERFECT PUPPET

5601 Brodie, 892-3493.



.....

1100 W. 45th, 442-8773. Free.

www.theatreactionproject.org.

DINOSAUR PARK Scavenge,

of the Dino Park. Sat., April 26,

10am-4pm. The Dinosaur Park,

893 Union Chapel Rd., Cedar

Creek. 512/321-6262. \$5.

www.thedinopark.com.

search, and discover the secrets

NATURE HUNT AT THE

(scheduled twice monthly) is a mandatory prerequisite. Noon-2pm. Reagan High School, 7104 Berkman, 414-2523. Free. www.skillpointalliance.org.

POLITICAL MEMORABILIA SHOW & SALE The American Political Items Collectors bring dealers from around the country to exhibit and auction their artifacts from as far back as the 19th century. Bring items for appraisal. 9am.3pm. Wyndham Garden Hotel, 3401 S. I-35, 447-8785. \$3.

POLO 4 PUPPIES FUNDRAISER Watch some polo, and the money goes to Texas Hearing and Service Dogs. 2pm. The Austin Polo Club, 13628 Gregg Manor Rd., Manor. \$25 (12 and under, free). www.servicedogs.org.

REIKI TRAINING INTENSIVE Tune in to your own healing power. Bring a sack lunch to keep your energy up. 10am-4:30pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988. Free. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

RHYTHM & BREWS Enjoy food, drinks, and music with the proceeds going to the **Dell Children's Medical Center** Foundation. See Club Listings, p.98, for the lineup. 2-5pm. Threadgill's World HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 527-7033. \$20. www.childrensaustin.org.

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

SILVER THISTLE CEILIDH & CELEBRATION Celtic music and Scottish dancing round out this celebration for Austin's youth pipe and drum band. 6-9pm. Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto, 474-1958. \$10 (free, 12 and under). www.silverthistle.org.

SUNSET VALLEY ARTFEST Local arts and crafts booths will surround you on the grounds of the Sunset Valley Farmers Market this week. This annual event features art of many media accompanied by music from the solar-powered stage. 9am-6pm. Toney Berger Center, 3200 Jones Rd., 892-1383. Free. www.sunsetvalley.org.

SUNSET VALLEY FARMERS MARKET Saturdays, 9am-1pm. Toney Burger Center, 3200 Jones Rd., 280-1976. Free. www.sunsetvalleyfarmersmarket.org.

SURVIVAL & SASS WITH ART BRAS Don't burn your bra; build a better one and support Breast Cancer Resource Center of Austin. Survivors hit the runway to show off their uniquely decorated bras straight from the rack. This second installment of Graphic also means food and drinks to keep the strutting fierce. 6-9pm. Penn Field, 3601 S. Congress Bldg. C, 544-0903. \$30. www.bcrc.org.

TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ON SLAUGHTER CREEK The Austin Ridge Riders will be working to finish a trail so that it can be opened to the public. E-mail for more information. Sat.-Sun., April 26-27 & May 3-4, 9am-1pm. bikejones2426@yahoo.com.

WORKSHOP: GOING DEEPER WITH NIA Call to register. 1-3pm. JoyMoves, 2501 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-4440. \$35. www.joymoves.com/events.

EMANCIPET FREE DAYS (See Friday.)

ART OPENINGS (See Visual Arts.) Slugfest Gallery

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Blade Runner: The Final Cut @ Alamo Ritz, 4:15pm Infra-Man @ Alamo South, noon

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) The Way It Is Fest Red 7 B-Boy City 15 The Parish Lone Star State Jam Waterloo Park Peter Brötzmann/Han Bennink Duo Victory Grill Foot Patrol, Mistress Stephanie & Her Melodic Cat Victory Grill



EARTH MONTH SERVICE-A-THON Come in for discounted cuts, colors, facials, and more, with all proceeds going to the **Gulf Restoration Network**. *Noon-5pm. Avant Garde Salon and Spa, 3405 Guadalupe, 502-8268.* www.avantsalon.com.

ETHICAL SOCIETY OF AUSTIN ESA member Ethan Love gets the discussion rolling with Ethical Dilemmas Facing the Engineering Professional. 10am. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191. Free. www.esoa.org.

FAITH & COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE Whether you want to donate food, donate your time, or both, now's the time. All to benefit **Caritas** which helps low-income individuals and families back on the road to self-sufficiency. Noon-3pm. Red River Church, 4425 Red River. www.caritasofaustin.org.

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/sankofaasafo.

KUNDALINI YOGA A free once-a-month yoga class for anyone who wants a little help focusing their mind. No experience is necessary. *Fourth Sundays*, *3pm. Yoga Yoga North*, 2167 Anderson, 380-9800. *Free. www.yogayoga.com*.

MONKEYWRENCH SIXTH ANNIVERSARY PARTY The revolution is six years in the making, and your radical bookstore is going to celebrate. That means a vegetarian barbecue followed by a MonkeyWrenchers of the Year award ceremony. Social justice never tasted so good. 5pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

Caprock Canyons State Park, on the outskirts of Quitaque in the Texas Panhandle, spotlights some of the most vivid colors imaginable in nature. The dark greens of the mountain junipers stand out in stark contrast with the bright red sandstone walls.

If you have ever visited Palo Duro Canyon State Park, about 80 miles north of Caprock Canyon, then you know the magnificence of the escarpment between the High Plains and the lower rolling plains of Central Texas. Compared with its larger sister park, Caprock Canyons is beautiful, regardless of its size.

In the smaller park, the cliff walls, some as high as 1,000 feet, rise like natural palisades guarding the streams and trails. The narrow canyous make the rock walls seem more accessible and the colors more

vibrant. The landscape is no less rugged than in the older park to the north.

The state Parks & Wildlife Department acquired the former ranch land from the estate of Theodore Geisler in 1975 and opened the park in 1982. At 15,313 acres, this is one of the largest parks in the state, and there is plenty to do within the boundaries.

For starters, the five-mile road from the new headquarters building to the farthest camping area seems to traverse universes as it slips through the canyons and into the valley of the Little Red River. The scenic overview at the midway point offers a mesmerizing view of the layered walls of the valley. It's difficult to imagine that such a small

stream could cut such a deep gash into the landscape. It's easy to imagine a village of tepees along a wide bend of the river.

Evidence in the park suggests that humans resided here more than 10,000 years ago during the Folsom period. More recently, Apache and Comanche tribes camped in the protected canyons. At one time the colorful landscape was part of Charles Goodnight's legendary JA Ranch.

At the urging of his wife, Mary Ann, Goodnight preserved the seed stock for a herd of buffalo. Their descendants moved to the park to become the official Texas State Bison Herd. An overlook behind the

headquarters, complete with spotting scopes, offers a view of the bisons' valley pasture.

The buffalo don't have access to Lake Theo, named for Geisler, but visitors are welcome to try their luck fishing for bass and catfish. A dip in the spring-fed water is a great way to cool off after hiking, mountain biking, or horseback riding on one of the park's trails.

About 25 miles of trails wind among the rock formations in the park; some of them climb to the top of cliffs, which have grand views of the canyons. The lower canyon trails follow the streambeds and are relatively easy. The more rugged trails are limited to hikers only.

In 1992, the park acquired the 64-mile railroad bed between South Plains and Estelline. Due to the lack of maintenance funds, only half

of the trail is open to the public, but it is the most scenic portion. There are access points at Turkey, Quitaque, Monk's Crossing, and South Plains. Five camping areas along the route provide water and shade. Horses can be rented from Quitaque Riding Stables (806/455-1208) with reservations.

A flat, five-mile hike from FM 689 at Monk's Crossing, south of Quitaque, takes you to Clarity Tunnel. Built in 1928, it was the last functioning railroad tunnel in Texas. It is now home to a bat colony.

The park has about 75 campsites, with about half of them equipped with water and electricity. The Little Red Tent Camping Area is the smallest and nicest of the four campgrounds, but

the South Prong Tent Camping Area is the most scenic. Bring plenty of water and shade, because there isn't much of either in the park.

Caprock Canyons State Park is about 100 miles southeast of Amarillo. Off the beaten path, it only attracts about 75,000 visitors a year. This is a hidden gem of a state park that you won't forget once you've seen it. For information, call the park at 806/455-1492 or go to www.tpwd.state.tx.us.

877th 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.



TWO HOOTS FOR THE HOUNDS Rick Broussard brings his band and a slew of others to this day of music benefiting the **Austin Humane Society**. *1-8pm. Roadhouse Rags*, *1600 Fortview*. *\$10 donation. www.austinhumanesociety.org*.

PUERTO RICAN FAMILY DAY Learn the traditional game of Batu (akin to both soccer and volleyball) followed by an areyto. Bring your maraca. 2-4pm. Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Culture Center, 701 Tillery. Free. www.conciliotainopr.org.

RONNIE EARLE, LIVE Travis County's D.A. since 1976, Earle will talk about his experiences. 11:30am. First Unitarian Universalist Church, 4700 Grover, 452-6168. Free. www.austinuu.org.

SATORI TEACHINGS: LIFE MASTERY &

MEDITATION meets weekly for Mushin meditation training and informal Q&A sessions on the principles of zen and the law of attraction. *Sundays*, 12:30-1:30pm. Austin Martial Arts Academy, 5000 Bee Caves Rd. #210, 327-2900. Free. Info@austinmartialarts.com, www.austinmartialarts.com.

SPIRITUAL PEACE PARTY Bring some money for the Longest Walk 2 (www.sacredrun.org), and get rewarded with food, prayer and drum circles, and Native American music. 1-10pm. 800 Ramble Ln., 713/397-2181. Donations appreciated. darkteer@gmail.com.

Out of town BY GERALD E. MCLEOD

FIESTA SAN ANTONIO turns the Alamo City into a 10-day party with sporting events, art shows, parades, music, and lots of food. *Through Sun., April 27. Various locations, San Antonio,* 877/723-4378. www.fiesta-sa.org.

DENTON ARTS & JAZZ FESTIVAL swings with more than 2,000 performers on six stages including the Neville Brothers, Delbert McClinton, and Brave Combo along with dance and theatre performances, fine art and craftsmen, and a children's art tent. *Fri.-Sun., April* 25-27. *Quakertown Park, Denton,* 940/565-0931. *Free.* www.dentonjazzfest.com.

GERMANFEST mixes polka, country, rock & roll, and cloggers with sausage, strudel, barbecue, carnival rides, arts & crafts and more. *Fri.-Sun., April 25-27. City Park, Muenster, 800/942-8037.* \$6-10. www.germanfest.net.

BUDA COUNTY FAIR & WIENER DOG RACES hasn't gone entirely to the dogs; it also includes six different cooking contests, arts & crafts, and

free music. Sat. & Sun., April 26-27. City Park, Buda, 512/312-1685. www.budalions.com.

SAN JACINTO DAY FESTIVAL remembers the final battle of the Texas war for independence with music, nature shows, games, food, and the largest battle re-enactment in the state. *Sat., April 26, 10am-6pm.* San Jacinto Battleground State Historic Site, La Porte, 281/479-2431. Free. www.sanjacinto-museum.org.

BLOOMS, TUNES, & GRUB offers a day of talking about plants, browsing through the greenhouses, listening to music, and sampling the barbecue. Sat., April 26, 9am-5pm. Ellison's Greenhouses, 2107 E. Stone St., Brenham, 979/836-6011. Free. www.ellisonsgreenhouses.com.

MODEL TRAIN & MEMORABILIA SHOW/SALE features operating model train layouts, vendors, and railroad memorabilia. Sat., April 26, 9am-5pm. Civic Center, 380 S. Seguin St., New Braunfels, 830/627-2447. \$6. www.hbrmsmuseum.org.

YESTERFEST rolls back the calendar to the 1800s with a tribute to the pioneers with Mexican tamales, Indian sand painting, and German farm crafts, plus lots of music, food, and games. *Sat., April 26, 9am-7pm. Downtown Bastrop, 512/303-0558.* www.bastroochamber.com.

THE FIRST THANKSGIVING in North America happened on the Rio Grande in April 1598 when Spanish explorer Don Juan de Oñate celebrated a day of feasting after crossing the Chihuahua Desert, and you can join the re-enactment. Sat., April 26, 2:30pm. San Elizario Plaza, El Paso, 915/474-4275. Free.



YOGA & DISCUSSION Get some free voga followed by a discussion of The Future of the Earth by Arthus-Bertrand. Good for the body and mind. 3pm. Carver Library, 1161 Angelina. Free

TRAIL CONSTRUCTION ON SLAUGHTER CREEK (See Saturday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Blade Runner: The Final Cut @ Alamo Ritz. 4:15, 10pm

Superman: The Movie @ Alamo Lake Creek, 7:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) Caribou, Fuck Buttons Emo's B-Boy City 15 The Parish Steve Earle Paramount Theatre



AUSTIN BACKGAMMON CLUB WEEKLY TOURNAMENT Mondays, 7pm. DoubleTree Hotel, 6505 N. I-35, 913-3361, \$10, home.austin.rr.com/ wsauer/bgbhome.html.

PRAY FOR THOSE IN UNIFORM National Day of Prayer presents this event with speakers and lectures and, of course, prayer. 11:30am. Camp Mabry, 2200 W. 35th, 782-1081. www.ndpaustin.org.

PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY PROCEDURES The League of Women Voters hosts this informal discussion on the voting process from Election and Caucus to Delegate Selection and Delegate Voting. 6pm. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar, 206-1000. Free, www.lwvaustin.org.

WHAT'S LEFT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN LEFT? Remember when Latin America was all revolutionary upheaval and violence, circa 1968? On this 40th anniversary, the Teresa Lozano Long Institute of Latin American Studies presents a two-day conference discussing what happened to the musical, political, and social movements of that time. Mon.-Tue., April 28-29, 9am-5pm. UT campus, Avaya Auditorium, ACES 2.302, 471-8418. Free. www.utexas.edu/cola/insts/llilas.

WINE BAT BLIND TASTING consists of six wines and paired appetizers. This week's theme is Champagne and sparkling wine. 7pm. Green Pastures, 811 W. Live Oak, 961-6151. \$25. www.winebat.com

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Blade Runner: The Final Cut @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm Suffering and Smiling @ Alamo Ritz, 10pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) My Chemical Romance Stubb's Joe Jackson Paramount Theatre



BENEFIT FOR BENH ZEITLIN See Screens, p.58, for more info. Tue., April 29, 7 & 9:30pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, 476-1320. \$8.25.

CRAFT CORNER Bead yourself some earrings and then wear 'em home. It's that easy. 7pm. Human Potential Center, 2007 Bert, 441-8988, \$20. www.humanpotentialcenter.org.

EFT SEXUAL ASSAULT SUPPORT CIRCLE This weekly sexual-assault support group for women incorporates EFT acupressure techniques into the healing process. Tuesdays, 7-9pm. 8600 Brodie #236. \$10 suggested donation. freethrougheft@gmail.com, www.freethrougheft.com.

SRAEL/PALESTINE IN THE NEWS UT professor Robert Jensen will discuss the facts and the stories that are part of the U.S. media's coverage of Israel and Palestine. 6pm. St. John's United Methodist Church. 2140 Allandale. www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

MEDICAID & ESTATE PLANNING SEMINARS Get the know-how to best utilize your coverage and assets. Medicare seminars: Tue.-Wed., April 29-30, 3:15 & 7:15pm both days. Estate planning seminar: Tue., April 29, 2 & 6pm. Greening Law Firm, 506 W. 15th, 476-0888. Free. www.greeninglawfirm.com.

MENTAL HEALTH PLANNING FORUM The Austin Travis County Mental Health Mental Retardation Center presents this meeting to help clarify what a Local Planning and Network Development process is exactly. What will the changes mean to you? 5:30-7pm. ATCMHMR Annex, 1700 S. Lamar. Free. marietta.noel@atcmhmr.com, www.atcmhmr.com.

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

cards with other tech-savvy individuals (I think they've reclaimed the word "geek"). Stay on the cutting edge or get out of the way. 6pm. Zilker Clubhouse, 200 Zilker Clubhouse Rd. \$25 (\$20, advance; free, mem-

WILLIE NELSON BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE No Willie. but the Love Saints will channel his spirit on this, his 75th birthday. 8-11pm. Broken Spoke, 3201 S. Lamar, 326-4260. Free.

put on your workday best, bring some résumés. and prepare to dazzle. 10am-1:30pm. WorkSource Career Center, 6505 Airport. Free. www.worksourceaustin.com

WHAT'S LEFT OF THE LATIN AMERICAN LEFT?

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Sunflower @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7pm The Films of Benh Zeitlin and Friends: A

Lover! Beerland



BRAZILIAN NIGHT Start your evening with an Acadêmicos da Ópera Samba School rehearsal and finish with Brazilian sounds from the likes of Seu Jacinto. Wednesdays, 7pm. Copa Bar & Grill, 217 Congress, 479-5002. \$3.

BUSINESS EXPANSION WORKSHOP Hear the pros and cons of opening a second location for your business from local success stories like RunTex's Paul Carrozza and Rudy's Ken Schiller.

GLBTSA DAY OF SILENCE PANEL The "SA" stands for "straight alliance." so everyone is truly welcome to this discussion at St. Ed's to commemorate the National Day of Silence. What'd ya think they were going to do? Sit there and look at one another? Thu., April 24, 7pm. St. Edward's, 3001 S. Congress, Ragsdale Center, 830/822-4961. Free. dsalaza4@stedwards.edu.

SAYING NOTHING AT ALL In a very peaceful protest to be held all day long, all over this country, students everywhere will take a vow of silence, calling for an end to the bullying and harassment of GLBT students. **Out Youth** helps co-sponsor an end to that silence, a rally on the south steps of our Capitol, with an open microphone for youth to share their experiences and stories. Solidarity, brothers and sisters. Fri., April 25. Texas Capitol, 1100 Congress, 305-8400.

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 allIII pride daddy events: the Houston Splash East Beach Party at Galveston's Apfel Park. (The color? Orange.) There is nothing like this in all of Texas. Sun., May 4, 1-6pm, East Beach. Boddeker Drive, Galveston, 832/443-1016. www.houstonsplash.com. www.mvspace.com/kkavclubbigvo

CONTINENTAL NEIGHBORS It's their first time rocking this SoCo hot spot, but it doesn't mean these

kids need any instruction. They know just what to do. Darling New Neighbors rip it open, the Horsies

keep it that way, and then Pong comes to show what a tradition looks like. It's an Austin coming-out party for local legends. Fri., April 25, 9pm. Continental Club, 1315 S. Congress, 441-2444. www.darlingnewneighbors.com

PRIDE TEXAS! Volunteers and sponsors of all stripes needed. The big news? The Pride Festival and the Pride Parade will both happen on the same day, one after the other. Oh, and the fest will feature national headliners Me'shell Ndegéocello and Pansy Division. Sat., June 14, noon, Auditorium Shores, South First at Lady Bird Lake. 474-5475, 474-4422. \$10 in advance; \$15 at the gate. info@austinprideparade.org, marianne@equalitytexas.org, www.pridetexas.org, www.austinprideparade.org.

HILL COUNTRY VOLUNTEERS It's a ride, not a race, and it's one of the most fun AIDS fundraisers of the year. But it needs help to keep it running so smoothly. Volunteers help fuel up pit stops, keep riders aware of road hazards, and even get a dinner out of it. So, let the folks at Out Youth know if you'd like to help out this year. Sun., April 26. 419-1233. matt@outyouth.org, www.outyouth.org.

ONE LAST GAY SKATE! A million lights are dancing, and there you are, a shooting star! But the lights went out. The music stopped. The quads were sorted by size and retired to the racks forever. Austin's Gay Skate Night disappeared when the rink that hosted it closed. Well, just like Xanadu, baby, we must once again honor that place where nobody dared to go, the love that we came to know for one last hurrah, this time under the bunny at Playland. One last spin. Lace 'em up. Hit the floor. Tue., May 6, 7-10:30pm. Playland Skate Center, 8822 McCann, 452-1901. \$7; rollerblades welcome, skate rental available. jsvetlik2003@yahoo.com.

HOT STEPPERS Come help decide what this LGBT salsa dancing group will do next at their Open Planning & Organizing Meeting. Sun., April 27, 5pm. Mama

8:30-11:30am. The Long Center, 701 W. Riverside. 974-7800. \$50. www.cityofaustin.org/sbdp

COALITION TO ABOLISH DEATH PENALTY MEETING Come and join the pro-life movement. 11:30am. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 441-1808. Free. www.tcadp.org.

METROPOLITAN BREAKFAST CLUB Learn about Goodwill Industries' business model. It's more than just cheap clothes. 7am. Darrell Royal Memorial . Stadium, sixth floor, 2108 E. Robert Dedman Dr., 479-9460. \$15. 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.

POETRY & FILM DISCUSSION GROUP

Wednesdays, 7:45pm. Formosa Art & Tea, 200 E. Pecan #5, Pflugerville, 512/989-8678. www.drinkarttea.com

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM LECTURE UT Law Dean Lawrence Sager, one of the nation's top constitutional scholars, will tackle this weighty topic. 4pm. Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary, 100 E. 27th, 472-6736. Free. www.austinseminary.edu.

STATE PRAYER BREAKFAST The National Day of Prayer puts its hands together for Rick Perry and other speakers, authors, and people of praver from all denominations. Reservations must be made by April 25. Wed., April 30, 6:30am (doors). DoubleTree Hotel, 6505 N. I-35, 695-0402. \$30. www.ndpaustin.org.

STRESS REDUCTION WORKSHOP Bring a chair or mat and see how hypnosis can help reduce stress without getting sleepy. Wed. & Fri., April 30 & May 2, 5:45 & 7:30pm both days. Zilker Park, 587-3882. Free. www.allthatis.biz.

TECH NIGHT Join the tech revolution. Learn or discuss Linux, open source, hacking, and other cooperative movements in the digital realm. 7-10pm. MonkeyWrench Books, 110 E. North Loop, 407-6925. Free. www.monkeywrenchbooks.org.

THIRD COAST FILM NIGHT features We Feed the World, a documentary about food and globalization. 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth,

UNDERSTANDING FIBROMYALGIA WORKSHOP Call to register by Mon., April 28, for this holistic

476-1320. \$8.25 (\$6. students/seniors).

www.thirdcoastactivist.org.

workshop. 6pm. Natural Health Center of Austin, 4701 Westgate Blvd. Ste. B-202, 892-3366. Free. www.nhcaustin.org

WALLER CREEK COMMITTEE PUBLIC

WORKSHOP Be the first to know the latest schematics of the Waller Creek redevelopment. Impress vour friends! 6:30-8:30pm, UT campus, Thompson Conference Center, 2405 Robert Dedman Dr. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/wallercreek.

YOUNG EXECS HAPPY HOUR & GIFT DRIVE

Schmooze and drink with other young professionals while doing your karma a solid by bringing a gift for Austin Children's Shelter. 6pm. Firehouse Lounge. 605 Brazos. Free. tracy@youngexecs.net, www.youngexecs.net.

MEDICAID & ESTATE PLANNING SEMINARS (See Tuesday.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) Exte: Hair Extensions @ Alamo Ritz, 9:30, 12mid

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) Bonde do Rolê Emo's Kid Koala Mohawk Plutonium Farmers, Attic Ted, Pataphysics

Chain Drive Kanye West, Lupe Fiasco Frank Erwin Center



AMIGOS FIESTA & BENEFIT All you have to do to help students volunteering in Latin America is listen to some music, eat some food, and bring some cash to donate. There will also be a silent auction to quietly whisk your donatable dollars away. 6:30-9pm. Laguna Gloria, 3809 W. 35th, 731-6129, Donations appreciated. www.austinamigos.org/fiesta.html.

BAKING BENEFIT RSVP and you'll get a top-notch baking class and the warm feeling of giving money to the March of Dimes. 6pm. The Kitchen Space, 1204 Cedar. \$50. www.theteamfitzgerald.com.

Fu's Asian House, 4615 N. Lamar, austingaysalsa@yahoo.com.

groups.yahoo.com/group/austinlgbtsalsa, www.myspace.com/austinlgbtsalsa.

UT QSA CONFERENCE Saturday kicks off with City Council hopeful Randi Shade and keynote ENDA activist Mara Keisling, plows through a full day of seminars, and culminates in Queer Prom. Fri.-Sat., April 25-26. \$10 (\$8, advance; \$5, students). www.queertx.org/qtc.

H.O.T. BEARS UNRUN Two days, parties, gatherings, and bears, bears, bears. Just think of the back hair. Swoon. Register for free, 7pm at 'Bout Time, for this fourth year of fundraising and hairballs. Pick up a schedule, and play, play, play. Bears! Cap it off with our H.O.T. Bear Contest with all proceeds from raffles and tips go to OutYouth and the Wright House. Go Papa, go. Fri.-Sat., April 25-26. Bout

Time, 9601 N. I-35, 832-5339; Chain Drive, 504 Willow 480-9017. www.heartoftexasbears.org.

SMALL BIZ DOMESTIC PARTNER BENEFITS À LA AGLCC The Austin Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce is joining up with a major insurance carrier to bring an exclusive offer to member businesses of the Chamber. This is the first time in history that the Texas Board of Insurance has approved an insurance carrier to offer group insurance with domestic partner benefits to small businesses, and, to date, only one insurer has been approved. The AGLCC this week initiated a rollout of the new insurance plan to

its member businesses. How cool is that? info@aglcc.org, www.aglcc.org/36/Small_ Business_Group_Insurance_with_Domestic_Partner_Benefits.htm.

ARARAT FEAST & BELLY DANCE Date night, all romanticlike. Belly dancing, intuitive readings, a buffet, and that ambience that soothes and melts the rest of your worries right off your back. Reservations encouraged. Fri., April 25, 7:30pm. Hot Mama's Espresso Bar, 2401 E. Sixth #104, 476-MAMA. \$15, includes three-course buffet. kelly_ararat@yahoo.com, www.myspace.com/hotmamasespresso.

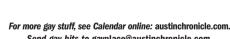
IN IT TOGETHER Oooh, TTs. Or HRC's Tuesdays Together give a reason to gather, imbibe, and meet some like-minded queerbots. Is always a good time to make good friends. Tue., April 29, 6-8pm. The Belmont, 305 W. Sixth, 457-0300. info@ hrcaustin.org.

KNT X VI Gender-bending. Can't fit it all into one box. But for six years, established Austin drag king/genderfudgin' troupe, Kings N Things have been boxin' it up big time and wrappin' it up with a bow. KNT is having its birthday bash. Cake, cock, and cause for stirs. Down theres. Join all 21 of the crew, a few out-of-town friends, and special guest emcee, Der Lancebian. Wed., April 30, 9pm. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. \$10. www.kingsnthings.org.

CHAIN DRIVEN Austin's favorite dark corner is all aglow with the majestics of melody and amazingness, handling middle-of-week blues with a bit of color. Please note. Your brain face may get rocked off by: Plutonium Farmers, Attic Ted, Pataphysics, and Ethan Master (of Hawaiian ukulele). Please note. You have been warned. Wed., April 30, 9pm. Chain Drive, 504 Willow, 480-9017.

the GAY place BY KATE X MESSER AND KATE GETTY

Send gay bits to gayplace@austinchronicle.com.



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TECH TAILGATE Meet and swap some business bers), www.austintechnologycouncil.org.

www.debrapetersmusic.com.

WORKSOURCE CAREER FAIR OK job-seekers.

AUSTIN TIME EXCHANGE (See Saturday.)

(See Monday.)

Benefit @ Alamo Drafthouse South, 7, 9:30pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) Múm The Parish

Sports by mark fagan

THE HOME TEAMS

ROUND ROCK EXPRESS For more on the Express, see austinchronicle.com/sports. Vs. Tucson: Mon.-Thu., April 28-May 1, 7:05pm. Dell Diamond, 3400 E. Palm Valley Blvd., 512/255-2255. \$6-12. www.roundrockexpress.com.

OIL WRESTLING While oil wrestling isn't exactly a sport, this slippery fundraiser will benefit the **Austin Valkyries** rugby club. Aside from gawking at the athletic ladies getting their wrasslin' on, attendees can purchase some rugby merch, too. *Thu., April 24, 9pm. Elysium, 705 Red River, 478-2979. \$7.* www.austinvalkyries.com.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Tennis Heartland Conference Tournament: *Fri.-Sat.*, *April* 25-26, *noon*. **Softball** Vs. Texas A&M International: Sat.-Sun., *April* 26-27, 1pm (doubleheader). www.stedwards.edu/athletic/athletic.htm.

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS Softball Vs. Texas A&M-Corpus Christi: Thu., May 1, 5pm (doubleheader). McCombs Field, 2001 Comal. Baseball Vs. Texas State: Tue., April 29, 6:05pm. Disch-Falk Field, 1300 E. MLK. www.texassports.com.

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY Softball Vs. Howard Payne: Thu., April 24, 5pm (doubleheader); Fri., April 25, noon (doubleheader). athletics.concordia.edu.

RECREATION & FITNESS

FEDEX KINKO'S CLASSIC Professional golf returns to Austin with locals Ben Crenshaw and Tom Kite looking to best returning champ Scott Hoch. Mon.-Sun., April 28-May 4. Hills Country Club, 26 Club Estates Parkway, 512/732-2666. www.fedexkinkosclassic.com.

BATU DEMONSTRATION They are kicking it old school at the PRFD&CC with this free demonstration of the ancient Taino game of batu. According to the press release, batu shares similarities with voleyball and soccer. Interesting. Sun., April 27, 2-4pm. Puerto Rican Folkloric Dance & Cultural Center, 701 Tillery, 251-8122. www.pfdance.org.

RUNS, WALKS, & RIDES

RELAY FOR LIFE OF CENTRAL AUSTIN Another in a series of Relays for Life, where teams take turns walking a track over a 12-hour period to remember loved ones touched by cancer and to raise money to help fight this deadly disease. *Fri., April* 25, *Tam. Texas School for the Deaf,* 1102 S. *Congress. Donations accepted.* www.austinrelay.com.

RELAY FOR LIFE OF ROUND ROCK Yet another in the Relays for Life series. Fri., April 25, 7pm-7am. Stony Point High School, 1801 Bowman, Round Rock, 512/656-4672. relay.acsevents.org.

CENTRAL TEXAS WALK-N-ROLL Walkers and wheelchair users will be walkin' and rollin' in this fundraiser for the Texas Parent to Parent and the

The **Austin Aztex** will announce their 2008 roster today, in a media event at SoccerZone North in Cedar Park. We got a sneak peek and recognized a few names that local fans may be familiar with: veteran local goalkeeper **Miguel Gallardo**; St. Stephen's Episcopal School grad **A.J. Godbolt**, who had a brief stint with the MLS's Kansas City Wizards; Round Rock's **Zack Pope**, recently drafted out of Duke University by the

Chicago Fire; and veteran defender **Beto Papandrea**, the oldest player on the squad at 32. Also making the cut: both **Wes Allen** and **Marcelino Uriarte**, the two center midfielders profiled in **Thomas Hackett**'s "Playing Through" column in the April 4 issue. Way to pick 'em, Thomas. The Aztex season opens May 3, on the road in El Paso; the first home game is May 10 against the also-brand-new **Houston Leones**.

Two draws in the first legs of the European **Champions League** semifinals this week: **Chelsea** came back to draw at **Liverpool**, 1-1, on an own goal by the normally dependable John Arne Riise, on virtually the game's final play, five minutes deep into extra time. And **Manchester United** settled for a 0-0 draw at **Barcelona**, after Man U star Cristiano Ronaldo missed an early penalty kick. Return legs are next Tuesday and Wednesday, 1:30pm, on ESPN2.

Newly elected Italian Prime Minister **Silvio Berlusconi** announced yesterday that he'd be stepping down as president of **AC Milan**, though he'll retain ownership of the troubled giant. Berlusconi also stepped down during his first two terms as PM, from 2001 to 2006.

Almost two years after the fact, **Marco Materazzi** got a public apology and undisclosed damages from British tabloid the *Daily Star* earlier this month for its report that he had goaded **Zinédine Zidane** with racist abuse before the famous World Cup **head-butting** incident of 2006. The *Star* acknowledged that the allegations were "wholly untrue." – *Nick Barbaro*

C AUSTIN ARTHRITIS WALK This national event looks to raise awareness and funds to help battle arthritis. Choose between the one-mile or three-mile walk. Dogs on leashes can also get in on the fun. Sat., April 26, 8:30-10:30am. Zilker Park Hillside Theater, 2206 William Barton Dr. www.austinarthritiswalk.kintera.org.

TEXAS ROUND-UP 10K/5K/FAMILY MILE Our state government wants you to improve your health, and the Texas Round-Up is a great way to get started. Sat., April 26, 8am. Texas Capitol, 1100 Congress, 378-0012. www.texasroundup.org.

PUTT-A-PALOOZA Take part in a putt-putt golf tourney benefiting the Austin Children's Shelter, and stick around for the live music, mascot mania, and more. Sat., April 26, 9am-12:30pm. Austin's Park, 16231 N. I-35, Pflugerville, 512/670-9600. \$25 www.austinchildrenshelter.org.

RED POPPY 5K Warm up with the 5K run/ walk and Kids K run/walk before taking in the annual Poppy Festival. Sun., April 27, 10:15am. Downtown Square, Georgetown, 512/868-2345. \$20 (\$10 Kids K). www.active.com/framed/event_detail. cfm?CHECKSSO=0&EVENT_ID=1560055.

FREDERICKSBURG WILDFLOWER 5K-10K RUN

AND WALK Participants will enjoy a lovely course through Fredericksburg as well as a children's fun run for the tykes. *Sat., April 26, 8:30am. Market Square, Fredericksburg, 830/*997-1355. www.hillcountrymemorial.com.

COLORADO RIVER WALKERS VOLKSMARCH

Choose between 5K and 10K routes along park trails through East Austin while admiring the Texas State Cemetery, Huston-Tillotson University, and Lady Bird Lake. Sat.-Sun., April 26-27, 8am-2pm. J. Snell Building, 1050 E. 11th, 928-9301. www.coloradoriverwalkers.org.

RED POPPY RIDE Choose between scenic rides of 14, 30, 45, or 62 miles to benefit the **SERTOMA** Scholarship Fund for Georgetown ISD and the Williamson County Children's Advocacy Center. Sat., April 26, 8am. Georgetown High School Ninth Grade Campus, Georgetown. www.redpoppyride.org.

W HILL COUNTRY RIDE FOR AIDS These lovely rides through the Hill Country are open to riders of all skill levels who have celebrated at least eight birthdays. Rides of 10, 50, and 70 miles are offered. Money raised will benefit the thousands of Central Texans living with HIV and AIDS. Kids are also invited to participate in the **Kids Safari Adventure**. Sat., April 26, 8:30am. Krause Springs (30 miles west of Austin), 512/371-RIDE (7433). \$55 (adults), \$35 (kids); \$25 for Kids Safari Adventure. Info@hillcountryride.org, www.hillcountryride.org.

GREEN MEANS GO 5K WALK/RUN is being held to raise funds to make UT's McCombs School of Business more environmentally friendly. *Sun., April* 27, 8am. UT campus, 303/570-2784. \$17 (\$12, *kids*) pre-registration; \$20 (\$15, *kids*) race day. **jessica.allen@bba06.mccombs.utexas.edu**, www.mccombs.utexas.edu/greenmeansgo.



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

HISPANIC POWER NETWORKING BREAKFAST Exercise those schmoozing muscles. RSVP at acalderon@gahcc.org. 7:30-9am. Casa Chapala, 3010 W. Anderson Ln. Ste. D. \$20 (\$10, members).

COMMEMORATION Professor Mira Binford presents her documentary, Diamonds in the Snow, that began with the memories of her experiences as a child hiding from Nazis. Preregistration is recommended. 7pm. Texas Hillel, 2105 San Antonio St., 735-8012 x17. Free. elainie.vasquez@shalomaustin.org, www.shalomaustin.org.

C MARCH FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS The Austin Immigrant Rights Coalition presents this rally and march demanding dignity for immigrant workers. Is that so much to ask? 4:30pm. Capitol grounds. austinirc@gmail.com.

SKIERS HAPPY HOUR Skiers gather in hopes to make trips to cooler climes. Group lift rates

anyone? Thursdays in May, 5-7pm. Brick Oven Restaurant, 10710 Research, 452-5411. Free. www.austinskiers.org.

WORKSHOP FOR WOMEN Women gather and discuss the varied roles they play and how to tap into your inner strength. *7pm. Isis Institute,* 1300 W. Koenig #180, 576-6492. \$10. withinvourreachaustin@vahoo.com.

PROSPERITY EFT CIRCLE (See Thursday 4/24.)

SPECIAL SCREENINGS (See Film Listings.) "Diamonds in the Snow" @ Texas Hillel, 7pm This American Life Live! @ Southpark Meadows, 7pm

This American Life Live! @ Tinseltown North, 7pm

MUSIC (See Music Listings.) M.I.A., Holy Fuck La Zona Rosa Slide-o-Rama Cactus Cafe Link Wray Birthday Bash Continental Club



When I was in high school and thinking about the fairy-tale college I hoped to attend, it didn't take much to send me into a swoon. If you were getting those same college brochures, maybe you know what I'm talking about. There'd be a picture of a multicultural group of friends sitting on a spring lawn, laughing, one playing a guitar; a shot of a handsome couple walking through an autumnal bower; an image of a pretty girl sitting cozily in a window alcove, reading her Norton Anthology. But what did it every time was the photograph of hale collegians sculling on a glassy river.

That, I imagined, was going to be my idyllic life. I'd scull at sunrise and at sunset. I'd scull alone, and I'd scull with seven of the greatest guys you'd ever want to meet, real Abercrombie & Fitch kind of guys, rowing together as one.

It never happened, of course. If my college really did have a rowing team, I never saw the misty river where it did its sculling.

But **Matt Knifton** (pictured) is offering me another chance. Knifton, 40, is the owner of the Texas Rowing Center, on Lady Bird Lake, about a quarter mile west of the Lamar Boulevard Bridge (parking available on Stephen F. Austin Drive). There are a lot of things I liked about Knifton right off the bat, but what I liked most is that he's no snob.

"We're like the McDonald's of rowing," he tells me after his early-morning workout. "There's always been an elite stigma to rowing, a way of maintaining class identity for the blue bloods. I've dedicated myself to overcoming that. Just show up any day of the week and say, 'I'd like to learn to row,' and in an hour you'll be on the water."

Perhaps that openness has something to do with Knifton's own experience of exclusion. After rowing for four years at the University of Texas, he tried out for the 1992 Olympic team. At 6 feet 4 inches tall, with massive shoulders and powerful legs, it would seem he had the right stuff. But he didn't make the final cut. "That was tough," he says. "I got all the experience of training for the Olympics that the other guys did – everything except the Olympics."

With no money to be made in rowing, he briefly hung up his oars for law school. But after settling into a career as an environmental attorney, he returned to the Rowing Center, where he'd worked in college, and eventually bought the outfit, building a new boathouse and dock (accommodating 60 shells, plus another 60-some canoes and kayaks, all of which are available for hourly rental). He also still competes nationally on the masters level, pulling his weight on six national championship boats.

"There's just a Zen thing that goes with rowing," he says. "The boats are really quiet, and you feel like you're flying on the water, like a bird. It's a very rhythmic motion, and when the endorphins kick in – I don't care how old you are, that feeling doesn't change."

I'm swooning again. For comments and suggestions e-mail playingthrough@austinchronicle.com.

 v2v (\$J:5, kids) race day.
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Ongoing Events

HANDS ON HOUSING BLUEBONNET BLITZ If you're handy around the house and have some time to spare, why not volunteer your skills and help the the elderly who don't have the budget for home repair. The volunteer blitz is April 27.

but volunteer anytime. E-mail kweiner@ aaimaustin.org for info.

CITY COUNCIL CANDIDATE

FORUMS feature council wannabes talking to one another and you all this week and beyond. The Capital Area Democratic Women (among others) will be giving them hell this week. See "Upcoming Candidate Forums. p.31, for times and locations

LIFECYCLE BUILDING CHALLENGE A contest for architects, designers, and students, LBC2 is looking for the next big thing in green design. Go to www.lifecyclebuilding.org for registration info and other details. Deadline for registration is June 18.

UNITED WAY GIFTS IN KIND Serving more than 80 local nonprofits, the Gifts in Kind program could use almost anything you can give. Check their website or call for a list of the most urgently needed goods and services, 225-0367, www.handsoncentraltexas.org

WOMAN'S FILM, MUSIC & LITERARY FESTIVAL needs your film, workshop, spoken word, screenplay, music, and acting abilities. Final deadline is May 6. \$20 entry fee. operations@malisite.org, www.blowinupaspot.com.

PRETTIEST TREE CONTEST There are some nice trees in Austin. But which one is the fairest of all? If you think you've seen the promised tree, then e-mail a photo to blueskyaustin@sbcglobal.net, and see if you win the \$100 prize. Entries accepted through July 1.

WALLER CREEK ONLINE SURVEY Where's the vision of the Waller Creek District headed? Visit

www.cityofaustin.org/wallercreek, and do what you can to make this area your own.

calendar → COMMUNITY → ARTS → FILM → MUSIC

TIBETAN MONK EVENTS will be happening all over town for the next 10 days. There will be a sand mandala at City Hall (for a little while anyway) along with various discussions, tea ceremonies, and more, so check out the website for pricing, a complete schedule, and your monk-sighting pleasure. www.tibetmonkstour.org

> CORPORATE **BATTLE OF THE**

BANDS Do you rock but also work for the man? Well, this benefit for Health Alliance for Austin Musicians is for you. The deadline for band registration is May 15, so get vour sellout ass in gear and e-mail vou mp3 or MySpace page to cschwarz@ ealthallianceforaustin musicians.org. \$25 registration fee. www.healthalliance foraustinmusicians.org

MEDAL OF ARTS DESIGN COMPETITION How badass would it be if your design was on the medal given to visual artists for their accomplishments? Go to the Austin Visual Arts Association website. check out the submission rules and deadlines, and be that badass. Submission deadline, June 28. \$35. www.avaaonline.org.

WALK FOR HUMAN RIGHTS Prison-rights activist Andre Latallade started walking in New Jersey (the first state to abolish the death penalty) and will end his trek at Governor's Mansion here in Texas (let's just say we love the death penalty). Offer words or donations of encouragement at his website. projectrevolution2010@gmail.com, www.myspace.com/ capitalxaka305375

EARLY VOTING You can cross civic duty off your checklist this week if you vote early for the May 10 City Council, AISD and ACC trustee, and AISD bond elections. See p.6, for Chronicle endorsements and polling locations. If you need more info on the candidates for City Council. see "What's at Stake?" News, p.17. Mon.-Tue., April 28-May 6. www.co.travis.tx.us

THIS WEEK ONLY

🔀 BALCONES SONGBIRD FESTIVAL features four days of parties, hikes, tours, workshops, and kids activities in celebration of the spring wildflowers, birds, and other creatures that make Central Texas unique. Lodging is available for those who'd like to make a weekend retreat out of it. Fri.-Mon., April 25-28. Balcones Canyonlands National Wildlife Refuge, 24518 FM 1431, just past Lago Vista, 512/339-9432. Events are priced by individual activity. www.balconessongbirdfestival.org.

COMMUNITY MUSIC FESTIVAL Community ensembles of every ilk participate in this celebration of bands that aren't looking for gigs on Red River. Jazz, Latin, Celtic, polka, and other groups play over five days at two locations. Check the website for a list of bands and a schedule. Sat.-Thu., April 26-May 1. Central Market North, 4001 N. Lamar; Scholz Garten, 1607 San Jacinto. Free. www.tcmfestival.com

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP Call to register for this six-week course for those dealing with the loss of a loved one. Call to register. May 1-June 5, Thursdays, 6:30-8pm. Westover Hills Church of Christ, 8332 Mesa, 453-4144. Free

I AM - I CAN YARD SALE Donate goods before April 25, or buy items at the yard sale to benefit Parkinson's patients. Sat.-Sun., April 26-27. 6am-4pm, 4824 Trail Crest Circle, 472-5016, www.centerformusictherapy.com





CREATURES OF HABIT

AustinVentures StudioTheatre 501 W. 3rd St. Austin, TX 78701

Sat. April 26, 2008, 2:30pm and 7pm Sun. April 27, 2:30pm

Tickets: \$20 Door, \$15 Advanced, \$10 Students/Children under 12

Contact: Cheryl@bhumndance.com www.bhumndance.com

Cheryl Copeland's new Austin-based contemporary modern company, BHumn Dance presents a concert addressing human issues related to habits.



YOGA MYTH You have to be flexible to do yoga. YOGA FACT 🐔 **Yoga makes**

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.

you flexible.

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

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F E A T U F	RED EVENTS	
APRIL : S	rivatsa Ramaswami	
MAY 16-28 D	onna Farhi	
JUNE : 0	iong Yoga	
www.yogayoga.com/events		
YOGA DYOGA		

WWW.YOGAYOGA.COM

arts listings

What happened when Robert Johnson went down to the crossroads? Did he best the devil with his sensational picking skills, or did he sell his soul to get them? Depends on who you ask.

Robert Johnson is a legend, in life and death, although that legend is clouded by so many half-



truths, exaggerations, lies, and speculation that the truth lives in them as much as any hard facts. The famed blues guitarist passed away in Mississippi on Aug. 16, 1938, at the age of 27, Robert Johnson: Trick the Devil weaves its tale through both the facts and fiction surrounding the musician's last day, making its story as much about the legend of Johnson as the man himself.

Johnson may be the title character, but Trick the Devil takes its time focusing on the bluesman: The story, like a guitar string, slackens and tightens over time. The ProArts Collective/Austin Community College Drama Department co-production opens in Georgia's Colored Juke Joint, where the proprietor and her blind friend, Stokes, are idly telling stories to each other. Their language is so rich and their banter so natural that it doesn't matter that the arrival of conflict or other characters is delayed. Likewise, the action will slow down or altogether stop to allow for a monologue. You got to tell your story, no matter how long it takes.

Storytelling is at the heart of Trick the Devil. Characters reveal themselves through their tales, they communicate through them, their relationships change after hearing one another's accounts. The most dramatic moment in the play is not when a gun is aimed at someone's heart or when it's fired or when one of the characters dies, but when

Robert Johnson tells the story of when he went down to the crossroads

And Bill Harris' script is full of beautiful phrases, metaphors that stay with you like "run like a rabbit on a reefer breeze" or "go at each other like yard dogs over a soup bone." This is sharply in contrast with the language of Kimbrough, the white professor who's been searching for Johnson and whose every other sentence is a quote from Shakespeare.

Robert Johnson, though, may be the biggest metaphor of all. Everyone wants him to be something different. Kimbrough wants him to be the dirt-poor, cotton-pickin' emblem of the South that his records symbolize instead of the well-dressed and well-spoken man he is. Georgia, despite knowing his womanizing past, wants him as a lover. And Lem, Georgia's estranged husband, wants to prove his sufferance and manhood by besting Johnson.

So who is Robert Johnson? What do we learn about him? It's fascinating that in a play about Robert Johnson's last day, most of the conflict is created by those surrounding the legendary guitarist. Who's pulling who closer to death and destruction?

Johnson, played with slick charm by Aaron Alexander, rarely lets the characters and audience inside. Mostly he wants to be let alone - just to be himself. But the two or three moments that he does open up, that you begin to question what happened at the crossroads, say more than any of his fresh words do.

Director Marcus McQuirter's staging of Trick the Devil plays out like a Robert Johnson number: strong, sweet, natural, and full of longing. With some sharp performances, most notably Feliz McDonald's portrayal of Georgia, there aren't many finer ways to get the blues. - Avimaan Svam

Theatre

OPENING

REFRACTION ARTS: FUSE BOX 2008 Ron Berry and his Refraction Arts people are doing for live theatre, it seems, what South by Southwest does for music and film and Web stuff: bringing in groups and troupes and artists from beyond the Texas borders, from across these United States and over the Big Pond, to join with fierce locals in presenting, in venues all over this city, live theatre and dance and media-enhanced variations on the performative arts. (They've got a bit of excellent film and music, too.) Fuse Box used to be rather big – now it's getting huge – and, as always, it boasts a diverse slate of performances and panels and exhi-

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SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. The deadline for the May 9 issue is Monday, April 28. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Include SASE for return of materials

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

Wayne Alan Brenner, theatre, comedy brenner@austinchronicle.com

Robi Polgar, performance art, dance, classical, dance-classical@austinchronicle.com

Ric Williams, litera, litera@austinchronicle.com

Benné Rockett, visual arts. art@austinchronicle.com

Questions? Contact Wayne Alan Brenner, listings editor. brenner@austinchronicle.com

bitions sure to provide much unique entertainment and food for thought. This is also one of those rare, multipartite mega-events that spurs Arts Editor Robert Faires to publish a complete sched-ule in his front-of-the-Chronicle section (see "The Electric Exchange," p.44), so catch it there, citizen, and know that we'll be picking up that tune right here, next issue. www.refractionarts.org/fusebox.

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AUSTIN CABARET THEATRE: NUMBER 2 Michael Holland and Karen Mack, the New York duo often dubbed the "anti-cabaret," create musical mayhem with their blend of song, medley, and comedy as they showcase songs that made it to No. 2 (but never No. 1) on the Billboard charts, Thu.-Fri., April 24-25, 8:30pm. Mansion at Judges' Hill, 1900 Rio Grande, 453-2287. \$39. www.austincabaret.org.

AUSTIN SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL: MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING The Bard's comedic "war of the sexes" gets a fresh and music-filled rendition in this ASF production, staged as a preview this weekend at R. Garriott's Curtain Theater before it goes all Shakespeare Under the Stars on the Zilker Hillside. The play's classic hijinks and lovely badinage, directed by Ann Ciccolella, are abetted by parodies of pop songs on period instruments, as composed by Steve Saugey and sung by Kirsten Dorn. Fri.-Sat., April 25-26, 8pm. Curtain Theater, City Park Road, just off 2222 & 360. \$25 (\$75, Saturday night gala with food, wine, and silent auction).

SHAKESPEARE AT WINEDALE: A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM The spring 2008 graduating class of this acclaimed program out in the Hill Country presents what is, perhaps, the Bard's best-loved play. Hey, this is where "rude mechanicals" came from, isn't it? In more ways than one. Fri.-Sat., April 25-26, 7pm. Winedale Theatre Barn, Round Top. \$10 (\$5. students), www.shakespeare-winedale.org

ON GOLDEN POND The Way Off Broadway community Players out in Leander present this Ernest Thompson family drama that you may know from the movie version, yes? April 25-May 10. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Extra show: Sun., May 4, 3pm. WOBCP Theatre, 10960 E. Crystal Falls Pkwy., Leander, 512/259-5878. www.wobcp.org

BEING HERE NOW Freddie Weber's concert/talk is an original musical comedy based on her spiritual work with Eckhart Tolle's The Power of Now and A Course in Miracles and Joel Goldsmith's The Infinite Way. Wed., April 30, 7pm. Unity Church of the Hills, 9905 Anderson Mill. 335-4449. \$20. www.unityhills.org.

CLOSING

NO ONE ELSE IN THE WOODS TONIGHT is

Rebecca Wadlinger's drama about a young, poliostricken woman inside an iron lung. The Humdrum Collective, under the direction of Erin Mever, uses a variety of theatrical methods – music, shadow, and expressive movement among them - to depict the woman's interior life and the reality of this coun-try's polio epidemic in the 1950s. Through April 26. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. The Off Center, 2211-A Hidalgo, 476-7833. \$12 (\$10, students, seniors; pay what you wish, Thursdays). www.humdrumcollective.org.

BACKYARD STORY Out at Texas State in San Marcos, they've got this clever drama set among the arthropodal and mammalian inhabitants of a back yard. A valiant spider and an intrepid fly team ing up to defeat a bat? A show for the whole family to enjoy, written and directed by Charles Pascoe. April 24-27. Thu.-Sat., 7:30pm; Sun., 2pm. Mainstage University Theatre, 430 Moon, San Marcos, 512/245-2204. \$5. www.txstate.edu.

UT NEW THEATRE features new one-act works by Soo-Jin Lee, Robert Sanchez, and Erica Saleh. Through April 26, Fri.-Sun., 8pm, Lab Theatre, Winship Bldg. 23rd & San Jacinto. Free. www.finearts.utexas.edu

ROBERT JOHNSON: TRICK THE DEVIL The last days of Robert Johnson, near-mythic Delta bluesman, are brought to life in this collaboration of ACC and the ProArts Collective, directed by Marcus McQuirter from a script by Bill Harris. Through April 27. Wed.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 3pm. Rollins Theater, Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 482-0800. \$12 (\$10, students). www.thelongcenter.org.

Robert Johnson: Trick the Devil

Rollins Studio Theatre at the Long Center, through April 27 Running time: 2 hr, 15 min

THE GLASS MENAGERIE Tennessee Williams' classic gets a staging out in Lockhart's Gaslight-Baker Theatre, under the direction of Todd Martin. Through April 29. Fri.-Sat., 8pm. Gaslight-Baker Theatre, 216 S. Main, Lockhart. \$10. www.gaslightbakertheatre.org.

ONGOING

TROILUS AND CRESSIDA Japhy Fernandes directs this Shakespeare play "in all its sci-fi comic book glory." BYOB. Through May 3. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Velvet Rut Theatre, 1612 E. Seventh. Donations accepted. Through May 3, 236-1092.

www.myspace.com/thevelvetruttheatre.

SAY UNCLE, UNCLE SILAS It's a sprightly spoof of old-timey melodrama, as the Spring Street Players stage Tim Kelly's comedy out in Bastrop. Through May 3. Fri.-Sat., 7:30pm. Bastrop Opera House, 711 Spring, Bastrop. 512/321-6283. \$10 (\$8, seniors; \$7, students; \$5, ages 14 and younger). www.bastropoperahouse.com.

MATT & 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 discover a screenplay to make a hit movie with. Tabloidable antics ensue. Directed by Blake Yelavich. Through May 10. Thu.-Sat., 8pm. Arts on Real Theatre, 2826 Real (behind Flatbed Press), 472-2787. \$27 (\$20, students, seniors). www.naughtyaustin.com

BLITHE 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. *Through 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 Pecan Street Association and iZon Eyeglass Lenses present The 30th Anniversary of The Pecan Street Spring Festival

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www.oldpecanstreetfestival.com





2008 has been a signature time for the tragic opera heroine in Austin, with Zach Theatre's Bess and Austin Lyric Opera's Carmen. The journey continues at the University of Texas with a gorgeous, maturely realized chamber setting of Carlisle Floyd's Susannah.

In the opening moments of the Butler Opera Center production, a crowd gathers to anticipate the arrival of a new preacher in a town deep within the Southern American Bible Belt. Set behind a scrim and lit with a fuzzy glow, the scene cleverly evokes the dusty heat of a late summer day. Soon the scrim is lifted, and the audience is invited into the world of Susannah, whom we first see dancing innocently with a group of men under the scornful eyes of the town's elder women. Carlisle Floyd's rich, lyrical music sets up the tragic story as a tale of

SPEED THE PLOW David Mamet's fierce and fast-talking comedy casts a gimlet eye at the ethics (or lack thereof) of a pair of slick Hollywood execs. These showbiz sharks are well-played (we easily assume; we've seen what they can do) by Ben Wolfe and Ken Bradley, under the direction of Michael Stuart and Lara Toner for Austin Playhouse. Through May 11. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 5pm. Austin Playhouse, 3601 S. Congress, Bldg. C, 476-0084. \$20 (half-price for students). www.austinplayhouse.com.

LUNCH HOUR Jean Kerr's screwball comedy about two married couples and their revealed shenanigans at a beach house in the Hamptons is directed by Jonathan Urso for the Onstage Theatre Company. Through May 4. Thu.-Fri., 8pm; Sun., 2pm. City Theatre, 3823 Airport Ste. D, 257-9832. \$10-30. www.citytheatreaustin.org.

STOP KISS Different Stages presents Diana Son's bittersweet play about love, vulnerability, and risk between two women, directed by Karen Jambon. *Through May 3. Thu.-Sat., 8pm; Sun., 7pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282.*

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-andmouse unfolds in a Bronx Catholic school in 1964. *Through May* 11. *Thu-Sat.*, 8pm; Sun., 2:30pm. Zachary Scott Theatre Center, 1510 Toomey, 476-0541. www.zachscott.com.

DINNER THEATRE

THE FALSETTOS Gary Payne's Capital City Mystery Players spoof a certain popular HBO series, in a venue featuring Italian cuisine (appropriately enough) that lets you 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. Saturdays, through May 31. 7pm. Spaghetti Warehouse, 117 W. Fourth, 404-9123. \$29.95. www.capcltymystery.com.

AUDITIONS

WHAT I WANT RIGHT NOW Different Stages is casting this Tom White play, to be directed by

Norman Blumensaadt in June and July. Seeking: men (ages 26-45) and women (ages 26-45). All ethnicities encouraged to apply. Scripts available at the ACoT offices, which is also where auditions will be held. Sat.-Sun., May 3-4, 1-3pm. ACoT, 701 Tillery #9. 453-7943.

DADDY'S DYIN', WHO'S GOT THE WILL? The Palace Theatre in Georgetown's readying this Del Shores comedy to be directed by David Sray. Prepare a two-minute monologue. E-mail for appointment; check website for details. Sat., April 26, 1-4pm; Mon., April 28, 7-9pm. Palace Theatre, 810 S. Austin Rd., Georgetown, 512/869-7469. www.thegeorgetownpalace.org.

THEATRE CALL BOARD

SUMMER ACTSI Because, we suppose, a city can never have enough festivals in a given year, the City Theatre Company is producing one that's meant to get "Austin theatre organizations and performers on stage and acting this summer." So, almost a micro-FronteraFest sort of thing. Like this: 36 performances, six performances per company, two hours for each performance to set, perform, and strike. The City Theatre stage is yours, and you get a stage manager, lighting, etc., and you keep all the box office. They're charging "just over" \$100 for a show, and the fest runs July 7-20. Sound like a deal, thespian? Check their website for details. www.citytheatreaustin.org. extremes, shifting from the sweet purity that accompanies his lead character to the severity of the townsfolk who come to fear, and ultimately destroy, her innocence.

Floyd's score, heavily informed by the hymns and folk tunes of his deep Southern roots, is at once sophisticated and accessible. *Susannah*'s setting is merely a lens through which the timeless interplay of religion, sexuality, and deceit is examined. Written in 1956, *Susannah* has peers in the mendacity of Tennessee Williams and the puritanism of Arthur Miller, placing it among the most powerful works to come out of McCarthy-era America.

Susannah is a poor young girl who lives with her brother in a country shack. Sweet and expressive, her character is soon destroyed by allegations of indecency and seduction, which are used by crooked preacher Olin Blitch to whip the townsfolk into a frenzy of religion-soaked slander. The story's web soon comes to entangle Susannah forever, when Blitch seduces her while her brother, Sam, her sole ally throughout, is away hunting. By the time Sam kills Blitch and flees town, the innocence that Susannah once knew is forever lost.

Susannah is a classic tragedy, and in the hands of director Alan E. Hicks, the production achieves some real magic. Sonja Rainey's set is among the best yet for a UT production, fully evocative of the pastoral Tennessee valley. The stage is framed by a series of trunks that implies trees or building frames depending on the setting, and as the story oscillates between the increasingly paranoid town and Susannah's simple country life, the trunks become a symbol of the interplay of truth and lies, moving from straight to crooked along with the story. Much credit is also due Darren E. Levin for the lighting design, which plays a central role in the story's transition from hopeful to ominous. These elements are mere supporting players, though, to the wonderful ensemble of artists that graces the McCullough stage.

As a whole, the ensemble achieves a strong unity as singers and actors. Phillip D. Hill displays an ominous command as the crooked evangelist Blitch. As Sam Polk, Susannah's fiery and loyal brother, Daniel Salls connects with the role from the start, making his later descent into despair and murder heart-wrenching.

The demanding role of Susannah is one that requires fine acting skill and a rich vocal palette. At just over 5 feet tall, Icy Simpson channels an authentic, confident grace for a stunning performance. As her world begins to unravel, Susannah sings, "I cain't wait till pretty things looks pretty agin." Gazing out from the stage, Simpson owns the words. A particular highlight is the mournful, lonely aria that precedes her seduction by Blitch. Here Simpson gives a tender, controlled performance, granting the audience a window into her broken heart.

In the closing moment of the opera, Susannah sits on her front porch, shotgun in hand, defending her last bit of dignity. This is a powerful and memorable sight. On opening night, the audience stood defiant, fists clenched for their Susannah. This moment was a testament to Hicks, his artists, and ultimately to Simpson, in whose hands *Susannah* was a triumph. (Note: The production is double-cast. The cast reviewed here performs again on Sunday, April 27.) – *Michael Kellerman*

Comedy

IN THE CLUBS

CAP CITY COMEDY CLUB 8120 Research #100, 467-2333. www.capcitycomedy.com.

Vinnie Brand Don't trust your sense of humor to just any old purveyor of comedy, citizen. Instead, know that you can always rely on Vinnie brand comedy for the smoothest of styles and plenty of rich, foaming lather. 99.44% pure! With Brendon Walsh. April 24-26. Thu., 8pm; Fri.Sat., 8 & 10:30pm.

Craig Shoemaker: The Lovemaster The silvertongued, stand-up playboy of this Western world returns with his smooth and wooing ways, ready to charm the pants off any ladies special enough to pique his suave, manly interest. Right? Bwa ha ha

ha! May 1-3. Thu., 7:30pm; Fri.-Sat., 7 & 9:30pm. 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 they'll bring you their friends **Junk** (as opposed to bringing *you their friends' junk*, yes). *Thursday*, 8pm. **Cage Match** Stage-rocking com-

CAFF: LADIES ARE FUNNY FESTIVAL Brought to you by local improv *wunderliebschen* **Girls Girls Girls**, this long weekend of comedy (sketch, stand-up, and, yes, improv) features some of the best funnywomen from across the state and across the nation (like: Boston, New York, Arizona) performing their inventive, twisted minds and hearts out for your delight. There'll also be afterparties (and even a panel on Women in Comedy) for further edification and/or debauchery. You can read more about the festival in "Ladies Are Funny Festival," p.43, or you can check the LAFF website, but here's the schedule to help make your weekend plans replete with the exaltations of the women:

Thu., April 24: Give it up for **Stand-Up Night** featuring Kerri Lendo, Lynette Lamonica, Patton Quinn, Holly Lorka, Mary Jo Pehl, and Selena Coppock. *8pm*.

Fri., April 25: Prepare yourself for Pom Pom Sisterhood, Adventure Squad, and Elaine (from Carrboro, N.C.). 8pm. Followed by the night's second set, with Massive Ladies (from Houston), Skinny Bitch Jesus Meeting (from Brooklyn), and Mail Order Bride (from Tempe, Ariz.). 10pm.

Sat., April 26: Women in Comedy is a panel discussion, getting serious about the funny. *3pm*. Then, come nightfall, it's the **Dick Monologues** (featuring Austin's Sarah Bird, Sarah Barnes, Marrit Ingman, and Kristine Kovach) and **Girls Girls Girls**, *8pm*. And *that* chucklehouse of champions is followed by the fest-capping hilarity of the **All Ladies Maestro** competition. *10pm*. And all these events take place Downtown, in one of our favorite venues: *The Hideout Theatre*, *617 Congress*, *443-3688*. **laff.austinimprov.com**.

edy carnage continues in the semifinals of this glory-scarred series. *Thursday*, *10:30pm*. **Proctor** brings you McNichol and May and ... **McNichol and May**, as the talented husband-and-wife duo also present **the Smoking Arm**. *Friday*, *8pm*. **That Other 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*. **Cold**, **Cold Improv** The straitlaced ColdTowne house troupe falls in with the wanton reprobates of **Midnight Society**. www.coldtownetheater.com.

ESTHER'S POOL 525 E. Sixth, 320-0553. www.esthersfollies.com.

Banana Puddin' Time It's a mixture of comedic sketches, improv, stand-up comedy, and silly songs. Free banana pudding with each paid admission! *Thursdays*, 9:30pm. \$9.95.

Esther's Follies: World Gone Wild The most popular troupe in town returns with its 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 – *ail ail ail –* 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.

The Late Night Skinny Dip Join the infamous Esther's Follies after-hours crew for a jam-packed hour of the sort of improv and sketch comedy that might be, oh, just a leeeeetle too risque for their regular audiences. (It's for ages 17 and older, to be sure.) Saturdays, through April 26. 11:30pm. \$5.

THE HIDEOUT THEATRE 617 Congress, 443-3688.
Friday: It's Threefer Madness time, in which a trio of troupes battles for supremacy. *Spm.* \$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 **Improvised Shakespeare** – said to be one hell

Improvised Shakespeare – said to be one hell of a Bardic hoot night. 8pm. \$10. Maestro is a fierce, multipartite battle for supremacy among improvisers. *Highly recommended*. 10pm. \$10.



SALVAGE VANGUARD THEATER 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.salvagevanguard.org.

Gnap! Theatre Projects Presents Every second and fourth Saturday, you'll find Austin's top troupes working the extemporaneous comedy-fu on this starry stage. Sharp, fierce, and rec-rec-recommended. Next show features the Knuckleball Now and Get Up: Sat., April 26, 10:30pm. \$10. VELVEETA ROOM 521 E. Sixth, 469-9116.

www.thevelveetaroom.com.

Kerry Awn and John O'Connell No fucking way! Kerry Awn? The dude whose lounge-lizard character, Ronnie Velveeta, the Velveeta Room is named after? And John "Laughalicious" O'Connell? Hell, the Velv's bringing out the big guns for this, their **20th anniversary weekend**. What else, they're gonna have **Matt Sadler** as emcee? In fact: Yes! Okay, okay, enough already: We're halfway there. *Fri.-Sat., April* 25-26, 9:30 & 11:30pm. \$5.

BUT WAIT – THERE'S MORE!

KICK BUTT COMEDY OPEN MIC This takes some bravery; it 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.) Wednesdays, 8pm. Kick Butt Coffee, 5775 Airport #725, 454-5425.

3,2,1 ... KILL! The comedy mavericks of **ColdTowne Theater** briefly ditch the troupe headquarters to mix their spontaneous combustion with on-the-spot filmmaking, live music, and audience suggestion for a night of improv like no other. Of course: It's at the Alamo, man. Sun., April 27, 7pm. Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, 320 E. Sixth, \$9. www.coldtwnetheater.com.

C FUNNIEST PERSON IN AUSTIN COMPETITION The yearly showdown gives you something funny to do on what might've been just another boring Monday night. Top talents and unknowns battle it out for the right to the coveted title – some hilarious, some unforgivably lame, all set on victory, their eyes weirdly ablaze with the lust for fame and fortune. Through May 12. Mondays, 8pm. Cap City Comedy Club, 8120 Research #100, 467-2333.

www.capcitycomedy.com.

COMEDY AFTER HOURS Hey, it's a new venue for stand-up comedy, based in Dave and Buster's. Like this: "Each Friday night will feature a local MC, an opener, and the headliner running about an hour to an hour and half." This week: **Jim Holder** and **Ray Burnett**. *Fri.*, *April* 25, 8 & 10pm. Dave and Buster's, 9333 Research Ste. A-600, 346-8015. \$14 (\$12, students, military).

www.comedyafterhoursaustin.com.

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

On opening night, in that instant between conductor Richard Buckley raising his arms and the first downbeat of Bizet's oh-so-familiar overture, you could sense from the pit the anticipation of a Thoroughbred at the racetrack before the bell. This was a moment that Buckley and the musicians of the Austin Lyric Opera orchestra – and no doubt all the local performers still unseen behind the curtain – were so ready for: the first performance in ALO's new home at the Long Center. So when that downbeat came, the coiled-spring energy pent up through the years of planning and waiting was released in an almost euphoric rush. The music sounded splendid, not just because it was those *Carmen* tunes that are so much candy to our ears.



and not just because the acoustics in Dell Hall make almost everything sound splendid, and not just because Buckley was drawing out the best in those musicians with the fire and precision of his baton, but because the music was being played with such purpose, a once-in-a-lifetime purpose that you won't hear in other renditions of the same score. As with the racehorse flying down the track, it said, "This is where we're meant to be."

That sentiment informed the 200 or so minutes that followed as well. While the rest of the production wasn't suffused with that initial surge of release – which could hardly be sustained for three hours – it seemed driven by something more than the usual desire to put on a good show – an energy generat-

ed by this new venue and the start of a new chapter in the company's life, perhaps. Whatever it was, it was channeled by Buckley, stage director David Gately, and chorus master Marc Erck so deftly that what could have been just another routine round with the gypsy temptress and her besotted soldier-lover pulsed with blood and heat.

Providing the latter and raising the temperature of the former rightly falls to the opera's title character, and as Carmen, Beth Clayton achieves both with an effortless sensuality. On a stage full with women in peasant blouses and skirts, she always catches your eye and holds it, not with flouncing about or any other stock gestures of the stormy gypsy school but with a striking physical presence – tall, robust, cascades of luxurious dark curls – and with a self-possession that commands attention. She doesn't have to act sexy; she simply *is* sexy. And whether she's singing – Clayton's mezzo boasts its own dusky allure – or just standing, this Carmen attracts like a force of nature. When William Joyner's Don José takes his first halting steps toward her, he's an iron filing in the grip of a magnet, incapable of resisting her pull.

Once he's in Carmen's presence, Joyner's straight-arrow soldier looks lost, as if he no longer knows where or who he is. Gone is the ramrod military posture, and with it the allegiance to his garrison and his fealty to Micaëla, the young woman he had pledged to marry. As the abandoned fiancée, Barbara Divis stands in striking contrast to her romantic rival: smaller in stature, demure in manner, and where Clayton's voice stays about as low as the hem of Carmen's skirt, Divis' strong soprano hovers above her head like the plea to heaven Micaëla offers in the aria "Je dis que rien ne m'épouvante" – a soaring moment in the production that banishes any sense of the character as bland or weak. Divis' forceful turn actually keeps alive the flame of hope that Don José might come to his senses and break free of Carmen's spell. But he cannot, of course, and upon learning that he has lost Carmen to the matador Escamillo – Luis Ledesma, aglow with manly bravado and vigor – Joyner's Don José becomes truly lost, his face a glazed mask of madness. And so we come to the death foretold in the cards read by Carmen at the opera's outset. It's what she knew was coming, what we all knew was coming.

The same may be said for ALO's production overall. This is not a *Carmen* for new discoveries or reconsiderations of the characters or themes. It's a *Carmen* that seeks to do justice to the story and the music, to give us this popular work that we know so well in such a clear, uncluttered way. Fueled by a sense of occasion and purpose, it satisfies. This is indeed where ALO is meant to be. - *Robert Faires*



Slow Foods Austin & Texas Culinary Academy Presents SLOW FEAST at Green Gate Farms Fine Dining in the Field Celebrate and savor local food at its source. Join some of Austin's top chefs Saturday May 17, 2008 for a magical evening: an elegant 7рм-10рм outdoor dinner of fresh produce and pork prepared and served in a historic 8310 Canoga Avenue farm setting just 8 miles east Purchase tickets online at: of downtown Austin. www.austindiscoveryschool.org See: www.greengatefarms.net

Real Ale

SWEET LEAF

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Dance

CREATURES OF HABIT New contemporary company in Austin BHumn Dance presents a dance concert addressing the way everyday rituals confine people to a lack of growth and get in the way of their goals. The show, featuring premiere works by Cheryl Copeland, is set to music from Apocalyptica, Sinead O'Connor, Aphex Twin, and Penguin Cafe Orchestra. *April* 26-27. Sat, 2:30 & 7pm; Sun., 2:30pm. AustinVentures, 501 W. Third. 813/380-6510. \$20 (\$10, students, children). www.bhumndance.com.

DANCE INTERNATIONAL: AUSTIN BALLROOM

DANCE FESTIVAL A celebration of ballroom and Latin dance includes Urs Geisenhainer and Agnes Kazmierczak, U.S. Ballroom finalists, who will teach workshops (Sunday) and perform. Plus, a live orchestra backs you for dancing or for viewing demonstrations. See website for details. Sat., April 26, 1-10:30pm. Texas Union Ballroom, UT campus, Texas Union, 24th & Guadalupe, (for workshops), 32-CLASS (for workshops). \$18 (\$15, in advance; \$12, UT students). www.dancein.org.

TWO LEFT FEET

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES WITH TWYLA GRACE

Twyla of Twyla & the Twilight Star Ensemble teaches ongoing classes in belly dance. Call or write for details. *Mon. & Wed., 8:30-9:30pm, 12687 Research at Oak Knoll, 971-0188.* www.twylabellydance.com.

BELLY-DANCE CLASSES Learn traditional and

classical Egyptian techniques in this fun and fast-paced class. Contact Drakon for details. 512/750-7037. \$13 per class; \$66 for six classes. www.desertpassion.com.

ARIEL DANCE THEATRE: NEW MODERN

CLASSES Taught by Andrea Ariel. Open to all levels. *Tuesdays*, 7-8:30pm; *Thursdays*, 7:15-8:45pm. *Knabele Studio*, 701 W. Seventh. 458-4258. \$12.

ESTUDIO FLAMENCO Flamenco dance classes, centrally located. Beginners: Saturdays, noon-1pm. Intermediate: Saturdays, 1-2:30pm. 2801 W. 45th. 382-1366. Fees vary. 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 website for details. *Tapestry Dance Company studios*, 2302 Western Trails. www.tapestry.org.

AUSTIN INTERNATIONAL FOLK DANCERS Learn a variety of couples and line dances from around the world before giving it a whirl during the open dance session. Beginners and experienced dancers welcome. No partner required. Saturdays, 7:30pm (lessons); 8:15-11pm (open dance). Hancock Recreation Center, 811 E. 41st, 481-9362. \$5. www.aifd.cc.

SPEAKEASY: SALSA LESSONS Combining the classic sultry moves and one of Austin's fave hangouts with live Latin music. *Wednesdays*, 9pm. Speakeasy, 412 Congress, 47-PARTY. Free. www.speakeasyaustin.com.

DANCE OFF ATX: CALL FOR ENTRIES ilovemikelitt, a local Austin group that produces various events celebrating creative lifestyles, announces a call for entries for Dance Off ATX, which will feature a revue and friendly dance-off competition. Dancers of all styles and skill levels are sought. First, sign up on the event website. Dance Off date: *Thu., May 1, 9pm-2am. United States Art Authority,* 512 W. 29th, 480-9562. www.llovemikelitt.com.

Classical Music

OPENING

UT SCHOOL OF MUSIC Susannah The Butler Opera Center presents Carlisle Floyd's opera of small-town life, brimming with religion, passion, gossip, and vengeance. Conducted by Garret Keast, directed by Alan E. Hicks. Fri., April 25, 8pm; Sun., April 27, 7pm. McCullough Theatre. \$17 (\$10, students). Middle East Ensemble and Early Music Ensemble in Concert Middle East Ensemble Bereket joins the Early Music Ensemble to perform works by classical composers Mozart, Gluck, and Lully as they interpreted Turkish Ottoman music, alongside works by Ottoman classical composers Mesut Cemil Tel, Abdül Kadir Meraghi. Fri., April 25, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall. Free. UT Symphony Orchestra The program includes "Rapsodie Espagnole," by Ravel; "The Wound-Dresser," by visiting composer John Adams; and Piano Concerto No. 1 in D Minor, Op. 15 by Johannes Brahms, featuring pianist Anton Nel. Gerhardt Zimmermann conducts. Mon., April 28, 8pm. Bates Recital Hall. \$10 (\$5, students). **Bach Cantata Project** This fine series concludes with Himmelfahrts-Oratoriu, BWV 11. Tue., April 29, noon. Blanton Museum of Art, MLK & Congress. \$7 (\$5, seniors, \$3 students; free, members, UT ID-holders, ages 11 and younger). 471-5401. www.music.utexas.edu.

A. MOZART FEST: KIDZKONZERT Great music for the young and young at heart. *Fri., April 25, 9:45am. First Baptist Church of Austin, 901 Trinity, 371-7217. Free for children and chaperones.* www.amozartfest.org.

ST. EDWARD'S UNIVERSITY Infinite Spaces Multiple artistic disciplines are highlighted: orches-

Information and the second second

PRIDE AND PREJUDICE The Tapestry Singers, Austin's only all-women chorus, present a stirring production that gives voice to a people's struggles for freedom and the triumph of the human spirit. Sat., April 26, 7:30pm. Hope Presbyterian Church, 11512 Olson. 258-9117. \$12 (\$8, students, seniors). www.tapestrysingers.org.

AUSTIN SINGERS: INSPIRED BY THE STAGE Music inspired by great plays or from inspirational Broadway composers makes up this two-act performance. Part one: choral works based on Shakespearean text; part two: colorful works of the Great White Way. Sat., April 26, 8pm. St. Michael's Episcopal Church, 1500 Capital of TX Hwy. N. Sun., April 27, 4pm. St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th. 314-5532. \$15 (\$12, seniors; \$5, students). www.austinsingers.org.

CONSPIRARE CHILDREN'S CHOIR: AN OPEN

BLOSSOM The young songbirds return with a concert bursting with beautiful images derived from stories and poems, including works set to music by Andrea Ramsey and Craig Hella Johnson. Also: works sung in French or by French composers, including Faure and Debussy, and a few American folk songs to round out the evening. Sat., April 26, 7pm. St. Martin's Lutheran Church, 606 W. 15th, 476-5775. \$10 (\$5, students). www.conspirare.org. **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH: SCHUBERT'S MASS**

FIRST IDENTIFY CHURCH: SCHUBERT'S MASS IN G The Schubert Mass, features the Sanctuary Choir and soloists, accompanied by strings and the 56-rank Casavant sanctuary organ. Louise Kemp Avant directs, and Dr. David Weigle plays the organ. A homily by the Rev. Dr. Roger Panynter, senior pastor, will punctuate the movements of the Mass. Sun., April 27, 11am (part of services). The First Baptist Church of Austin, 901 Trinity, 476-2625. Free. www.fbcaustin.org.

A. MOZART FEST: WILLIAM DOPPMANN

Legendary pianist Doppmann performs Mozart's Adagio in B Minor, K.540; Schubert's monumental Sonata in B-flat; and Liszt's electrifying Sonata for Piano. Sun., April 27, 3pm. The First Baptist Church of Austin, 901 Trinity, 371-7217. \$25-35 (\$12, students). www.amozartfest.org.

AUSTIN SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA: FAMILY MUSIC FESTIVAL Welcome to the first fun-filled, fast-paced full-family event at the new Long Center, in which ASO and some of the biggest names in kids' entertainment (kids young and old, that is) drop in for three days of music and merriment. Joe McDermott with a guest appearance by Joe Scruggs. Tue., April 29, 6pm. Trout Fishing in America Wed., April 30, 6pm. The Biscuit Brothers Local lights Dusty and Buford bring Symphony Barn from Old MacDonald's Farm to the stage for a festival finale. Thu., May 1, 6pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 476-6064, 888/4-MAESTRO. \$12 (\$8, children). www.austinsymphony.org.

CLOSING

AUSTIN LYRIC OPERA: CARMEN In 2001 ALO staged a daring version of Bizet's smoldering story in the old City Coliseum. Now, about a hundred yards away, ALO reprises this audience favorite as its grand opening production in the brand-new Long Center. Rinat Shaham set the marker for all future Austin performances then, and mezzo-soprano Beth Clayton, "six feet tall and stunning," according to The New York Times, looks set to equal the feat. Sung in French with English supertitles. Thu., April 24, 7:30pm; Sat., April 26, 7:30pm. Long Center for the Performing Arts, 701 W. Riverside, 472-5992, 800/31-OPERA. \$26. www.austinlyricopera.org.

Visual Arts

EVENTS

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART Expert Perspective: UT Department of Art & Art History faculty members discuss their work. *Thu., April 24, 12:30pm.* **UT Faculty Chamber Ensemble:** Performing works by Beethoven, Handel, and others. *Sun., April 27, 3pm.* **Bach Cantata Project:** A joint venture between the Blanton and the UT School of Music Choral Program. *Tue., April 29, noon.*

UNITED STATES ART AUTHORITY: MILLER'S RENAISSANCE Original art by C.Q. Miller, with live performance by electro-acoustic cellist Steve Bernal. Thu., April 24. 512 W. 29th, 480-9562.

OPENING

SVT: DOUBLE REALITY EXHIBITION Conceived and curated by Ron Berry and Jade Walker, the Fuse Box Collaboration Project pairs five Austinbased artists with an artist from a different geography and media. Reception: *Fri., April 25, 6pm.* Exhibition: *April 24-May 3. Through May 3.* 2803 Manor Rd., 474-7886. www.salvagevanguard.org.

SLUGFEST GALLERY: WAR BIRDS It's corvids en rampant and more, as Slugfest hosts Dale Clifford's evocative woodcuts of bellicose avians. Recommended. Reception: Sat., April 26, 6-9pm. Exhibition: Through May 31. 1906 Miriam, 477-7204. www.slugfestprints.com.

CLOSING

WALLY WORKMAN: ERIN CONE This is a sort of homecoming, as the (brilliant, nonpareil) Cone began her career at the Workman Gallery in 2001 – soon after she graduated from UT. The show's not recommended for everyone, only for those who can appreciate the combination of stunning portraiture with the very pinnacle of visual design. Personally, we're transfixed by the beauty represented here. *Through April 30. 1202 W. Sixth, 472-7428.*

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.

TEXAS FOLKLIFE GALLERY: PASATIEMPOS DE LA FRONTERA Images from El Paso/Juárez borderlands by Chicano narrative photographer Chuy Benitex, 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.

THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND ARTIFICIAL EPHEMERATA Take a curator-led tour of the Impermanent Collection, a glorious train wreck of forms of collection. Saturdays, 1-4pm. 1808 Singleton, 320-0566.

www.mnae.org/collection/ghosts.php.

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. *Through April 26. 2832 E. MLK*, 322-2099. *Free.*

TIRU GALLERY: LUMIERE Photographs by Suzanne Short and Carol Hayman, and selected crafts from Ana Brasil. *Through April 26*. 3701 *Guadalupe*, 773-6684. www.tirugallery.com.

PUMP PROJECT: PHOTOCOMMUNICATIONS features new work in photography and digital media, from the Photocommunications majors at St. Edward's University. *Through April 24.* 702 Shady Ln. www.wearephotography.org.

ART ON 5TH: 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY Austinites and tourists alike continue to applaud the colorful and eclectic gathering of local, Texas, national, and international artists on display in this multiple winner of *The Austin Chronicle*'s "Best Gallery" award. Opening weekend features discounts and a silent auction, with proceeds benefiting Mobile Loaves and Fishes. *Through April 26. 1501 W. Fifth,* 481-1111. www.arton5th.com.

ONGOING

EYE CONTACT ART showcases the work of Joshua Garcia and others. 12400 Amherst #102, 825-8577. www.eyecontactart.com.

AUSTIN GALLERIES: 20TH CENTURY MASTERS

Original lithographs, etchings, intaglios, and screen prints by Marc Chagall, Salvador Dalí, Pablo Picasso, and more. 1219 W. Sixth.

CORONADO STUDIOS The Serie Project, a nonprofit Latino arts organization hosted by Coronado Studios, produces, promotes, and exhibits serigraph prints created by diverse artists. *6601 Felix*, 385-3591. www.serieproject.org.

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 Ephemerata), Jules Buck Jones, Baseera Khan, Andrew Long, Kurt Mueller, Jill Pangallo, Scott Proctor, Matthew Rodriguez, Shawn Smith, Xochi Solis, Sarah Sudhoff, 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: SWAN SCHOOL; THE MATRICULATION Ali Fitzgerald's second solo exhibition here uses drawing-based sculptures, dioramas, and site-specific installations to explore victimization and violence within an adolescent caste system. 2109 Cesar Chavez, 496-0687. www.artpalacegallery.com.

ARTAMICI FINE ART GALLERY is featuring work by artists from Argentina, Mexico, Chile, and Peru; paintings by Augustina Rodriguez, Oscar Riquelme, and Pablo Taboada; drawings by Gilberto Ramirez; and metal sculpture by Augusto Brocca. 78 San Marcos, 457-0171. www.pablotaboadastudio.com.

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.avenueeallerysoco.com.

BLANTON MUSEUM OF ART The Blanton's popular **UT Faculty Triennial** exhibition resumes in the new museum. This year's guest curator is James Elaine of UCLA's Hammer Museum of Art. Exhibition: *Through June 8*. **The Language of Prints** explores the medium as a uniquely rich and collective system of expression, a language, with distinctive principles, persistent tendencies, and shared processes. Planned to coincide with the annual meeting of the Print Council of America, the first ever in the state of Texas, the show will feature 100 of the collection's finest and most distinctive prints. Exhibition: *Through Aug. 17. MLK & Congress*, 471-7324. www.blantonmuseum.org.

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.

BIG MEDIUM: BEAT Photographer and filmmaker Christopher Felver has documented outstanding figures of the Beat Generation for more than three decades. You know: Kerouac, Ginsberg, Ferlinghetti, Baraka, all that wordy crowd. This exhibition presents images from Felver's newest book. Also: a screening of several of his short films. 5305 Bolm. www.bolmstudios.com.

THE CATHEDRAL OF JUNK is approximately 60 tons of junk wired together over 15 years to form intricate towers and rooms in the back yard of a South Austin home. Hours: *Sundays*, *11am-2pm*, or *by appt*. *4422 Lareina*, 299-7413. www.keepaustinweird.com.

CRL: UT MFA THESIS XIII This show opens at the future home of UT's Visual Arts Center – *not*, please note, at the current venue run by Creative Research Lab in Flatbed World Headquarters. And it's a helluva fine show, too, displaying the work of 13 soon-to-be MFA'd studio artists. *Through May 2. UT's Art Building, corner of 23rd and San Jacinto. 2832 E. MLK*, 322-2099.

D BERMAN GALLERY: MALCOLM BUCKNALL A chameleonlike eclecticism has characterized the artist's work, but the common thread in Bucknall's compelling revisionist imagery is an animal-human mix. Imagine Delacroix was a Furry. *Through May* 17. 1701 Guadalupe, 477-8877. www.dbermaneallery.com.

DESIGN CENTER OF AUSTIN: BIKE ART EXHIBITION This show uses artistic expression to explore Austin's love of bicycling. Through May 31.



Dale Clifford's fierce corvidian woodcuts, coming this weekend to Slugfest Gallery

3601 S. Congress Bldg. C, 441-5540. www.designcenterofaustin.com

DIBONA STUDIO Oil paintings and "sculptural tattoos" by Joyce DiBona. 404 W. Milton, 851-2646. FRANCOIS PHOTOGRAPHY GALLERY 309-B Bowie, 320-0072.

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.

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 tradi-tional 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, 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.

NEW EAST GALLERY: REJI THOMAS Thomas' commercial work vividly illustrates her skill for sand-blasting, hot-glass casting, and welding glass pieces that distinguish her from her contemporaries. Through May 31. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. www.diversearts.org.

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 boundar ies and birth smorkin' labbits by the truckload. Through May 3. 1516-B S. Lamar, 440-8318. www.samopc.org

STENSRUD STUDIO Carol Stensrud's figurative and abstract paintings are on display with the wood, stone, and found-object sculptures of Teddy Fernandez. 1601 Eva, 448-9637.

WOMEN & THEIR WORK: NOTHING LASTS FOREVER One of AMOA's "20 to Watch," Yoon Cho uses video and digital photography to examine the ways we constantly create and re-create our identities. Through May 10. 1710 Lavaca, 477-1064. www.vooncho.com

YARD DOG: MIKE MILLER The artist uses vintage photos to create his silhouette collages in this show called "The Other Side of Anonymity." Through May 18. 1510 S. Congress, 912-1613. www.varddog.com

SPACES

DECOLA & EUSEBI GALLERY Stained and leaded glass and mosaics. 701 Tillery Ste. A-11, 389-2266. www.decola-eusebi.com

GUTTERKITTY STUDIOS: THE AUSTIN FIGURATIVE PROJECT 102 Krebs. ohlerkingpaintings@yahoo.com

FLIPNOTICS: BRIAN GILBERT The artist's "Guilty Pleasures." Through May 9. 4600 Guadalupe, 380-0097. www.flipnotics.com.

LAS MANITAS AVENUE CAFE: DREAM CARVERS Artwork by fourth-grade students from Sanchez Elementary. Reception: Fri., April 25, 4:30-6pm. Exhibition: Through May 16. 211 Congress, 472-9357.

COLOR VIXENS: THE LOVE SERIES New work from Jackson Baugh. Reception: Thu., April 24, 8-10pm. 1509 S. Lamar #400, 851-2070. www.topazsalon.com

WESTS This inaugural exhibition features artwork by Dan-Ramone Vivan Chavez, Raquel Reyes, and others. 408 Josephine.

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.

LOVEJOYS: CALL FOR ARTISTS This popular pub is looking for 2-D artists to hang work on their walls. Send them an e-mail, or call between 4 and 8pm. 477-1268. marshall7734@yahoo.com

TINY BRIGADES ART SHOW @ THE OPERA

HOUSE Open participation and interpretation. Anyone can enter; amateurs encouraged! The only requirement is that the artwork be "tiny." All media accepted. Deadline: May 2. Entry fee: \$5. 440-1401. leah.theoperahouse@gmail.com

CALL FOR ARTISTS The 2008 "Salon des Refuses" exhibition at Blackbird Fine Art Studio in East Austin is accepting entries. Entry fee: \$18. Deadline: May 17. 236-9022. blackbirdfineart@yahoo.com.

ART IN PUBLIC PLACES 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.

DIVERSITY PHOTO-DOCUMENTARY CALL FOR **MODELS** Ricardo Acevedo seeks models for **US**, a portrait project documenting Austin's multiracial families, couples, and individuals. Exhibition scheduled for July. 1601 E. Fifth #106, 477-9438. freaksamor07@yahoo.com.

Litera

READINGS, SIGNINGS, AND PERFÓRMANCES

AMANDA MARCOTTE The local writer, blogger, feminist, and all-around kickass lady slashes through her new book, It's a Jungle out There: The Feminist Survival Guide to Politically Inhospitable Environments, Wed., April 30, 7pm, BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

IRWIN A. TANG discusses his Asian Texans: Our Histories and Our Lives. Tang led the efforts of 20 writers and researchers over the course of five years to produce this landmark of Texas history and Asian-American history. Tue., April 29, 6:30pm. Austin History Center, 810 Guadalupe, 974-7400. Free. www.cityofaustin.org/library.

LITERARY HAPPY HOUR WITH KEVIN

BROCKMEIER The author of The View From the Seventh Layer hangs with wine and cheese and conversation. Tue., April 29, 6pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. \$5 (free, with a purchase of Brockmeier's latest work). www.bookpeople.com.

KEVIN BROCKMEIER The award-winning fantasist unfolds his latest collection of stories, The View From the Seventh Layer. Highly recommended. Tue., April 29, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050, www.bookpeople.com.

BUD SHRAKE celebrates his new Southwestern Writers Collection reader, Land of the Permanent Wave. The event features a Champagne and chocolate reception, G.W. Bailev (currently starring as Lt. Provenza on TNT's The Closer) reading from Shrake's work, and a booksigning with Shrake and editor Steve Davis. (See Books feature "Riding the " p.48.) Sat., April 26, 6pm. Alkek Library, Wave. Texas State University-San Marcos. 512/245-2313. Free, www.thewittliffcollections.txstate.edu

BETH BAKER wrinkles and crinkles in her Old Age in a New Age: The Promise of Transformative Nursing Homes. Sat., April 26, noon-1pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. A-105, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com

FRANCES HUNTER presents her novel To the Ends of the Earth, winner of the Writers' League of Texas manuscript contest. This historical novel is based on the Lewis and Clark expedition. Sat., April 26, 3pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

ALTERNATIVE RADIO presents media analyst Sut Jhally, author of The Codes of Advertising, on the political economy of commercial television. David Barsamian hosts. Fri., April 25, 2pm. KOOP Radio 91.7FM. www.koop.org.

MAYOR'S BOOK CLUB AT CITY HALL Ishmael Beah talks about his A Long Way Gone in the big event of the mayor's annual book-club celebration. Highly recommended. Fri., April 25, 6pm. Austin City Hall, 301 W. Second, 974-2220. www.ci.austin.tx.us.

CLAUDIA SMITH AND DAN BOEHL read from story collections in an evening titled "A Peculiar Feeling of Restlessness: Four Chapbooks by Four Women." Fri., April 25, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. A-105, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com

NEBULA AWARDS MASS AUTOGRAPHING Plenty of authors to put their John (Carter) Hancock on your texts. See the website for details. Fri., April 25, 5:30pm. Omni Hotel Downtown, 700 San Jacinto, 476-3700. www.sfwa.org/awards/2008.

JAMES DONOVAN digs up some new dirt at Little Big Horn in A Terrible Glory, his look at Custer's defeat and its causes. Thu., April 24, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com.

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

BARBARA BERGIN ties off her Endings, a novel of a physician driven by tragedy into a nomadic lifestyle. This event is part of a book fair fundraiser for the Westbank Community Library. Tue., April 29, 7pm. 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., April 28, 6:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

BOOKWOMAN BOOKGROUP dances in the Bee Season by Myla Goldberg. Thu., April 24, 7pm. BookWoman, 5501 N. Lamar Ste. A-105, 472-2785. www.ebookwoman.com.

NEW & NOTEWORTHY CLUB serves up gold cyanide in Gabriel Garcia Marquez's Love in the Time of Cholera. Mon., April 28, 7pm. BookPeople, 603 N. Lamar, 472-5050. www.bookpeople.com

AUSTIN WRITER'S BLOCK is a mutually supportive writing group. Also: writing exercises. *Tuesdays*, 4:30-6:30pm. La Madeleine, 3418 N. Lamar, 653-7872. www.austinwritersblock.com

SEMINARS AND WORKSHOPS

DISCOVERY SPEAKER SERIES Dave McNeely may or may not do a whitewash on one of the most effective and bullying politicians Texas has ever known, in Bob Bullock: God Bless Texas. (And God help us, since he helped usher in the age of George Bush.) Thu., April 24, 7:30pm. Barnes & Noble Westlake, 701 Capital of TX Hwy. S., 328-3652.

OPEN MICS

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

- Thom the World Poet, from "Starting This Day"

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 FULL SPRING SWING 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).

ACC'S STUDENT LITERARY GATHERING features Becky Liendo, a creative writing student at ACC and poetry editor for the Rio Review, ACC's student liter ary publication. Open mic follows. Hosted by John Herndon. Mon., April 28, 7pm. Java Lounge at Austin Java, 1206 Parkway, 828-9368. www.austinjava.com.

REMEMBERING HUFF The Austin Poetry Society's Fourth Thursday Open Mic celebrates the life of the poet laureate of Hyde Park, Albert Huffstickler. Those of you who knew Huff, bring poems about him or by him or inspired by him. This edition also features young and new members to APS but all are invited to read. Thu., April 24, 7-9pm. NeWorlDeli, 4101 Guadalupe, 451-7170. www.newworlddeli.com.

THE POETRY KARAOKE ORCHESTRA backs

your poetry on the porch, with hosts lvanho 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.rutamava.net.

RUTA MAYA POETRY This is one of the longest running weekly open mics in Texas. Countless poets from all over the world have visited this storied stage. Hosted by David Bates. Tuesdays, 6-9pm. Ruta Maya, 3601 S. Congress Ste. D-200, 707-9637. www.rutamava.net.

THE AUSTIN POETRY SLAM Mike Henry and a rotating crew of slam ninjas captain the crew that has all the best of stand-up, pomo 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.

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. However you choose to make the night: Bring it! Mon., April 28, 6-9pm. The Vortex, 2307 Manor Rd., 478-5282. \$2 (\$1 for readers). www.vortexrep.org.

MISCELLANEOUS

MORE POETRY! or how sorrow speaks of tendrils of love so tenuous & if we you yes & even those who cannot speak of love without a dark emptiness gathered like a seam too tightly drawn pinched eroded scars so knotted that one cannot see a face they have faces & when we rub the ashes into the stone the embers cold & there is no memory of fire here let me lead you into this soft water blue as any heaven & there is only this sorrow & this shadowy love burning for us the stars Namaste. Vava 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. Through Aug. 3. Harry Ransom Center, 300 W. 21st, 471-8944. www.hrc.utexas.edu.

POEM OF THE ISSUE

these windows? open them! your door? open! mind? open again! when air ideas and water washes through now to connect to earth and fire too where is the sun? who knows? those clouds are close



The Animation Show 4

D: Various. (NR, 87 min.)

Most screenwriters would swear on a stack of Syd Fields that causality is the building block of good narrative, and the artists on display here seem to have taken that lesson to heart, building their shorts on calamitous cause and effect, on rose petals and



acid tabs snowballing toward catastrophe. The hallucinogen figures in Stephan Mueller's "Mr. Schwartz, Mr. Hazen, and Mr. Horlocker," one of the most ambitious shorts in this fourth incarnation of the popular omnibus roadshow, which was co-founded by Mike Judge and Don Hertzfeldt in 2000 (Hertzfeldt bowed out this year, and the program is the lesser without the animator and his pained stick figures

rocketing from wounded to scabrous to existentially wrecked). The German-made "Mr. Schwartz ..." shadows – with Tarantino-like swagger, time jags, even a kinky red ball gag – one cop investigating a noise

complaint, and it's one of many international shorts on the slate. Other entries hail from England (Matthew Walker's hat-in-hand romancer between a polar bear and a penguin, "John and Karen," and his sublime "Operator," about a man trying to get the big guy's digits from Information – "The God. Capital G.") and Australia (three black comic "Psycho Town" shorts from Dave Carter, commissioned especially for The Animation Show) and Japan (the spastic "Usavich," tracking two bunnies in a Stalag 17 setup). Part of the joy of the program is its all-inclusiveness; there's room here for the dirty-bird chortles of "Yompi the Crotch-Biting Sloup" and the earnest, goshwow inventiveness of PES's "Western Spaghetti" (which reimagines dinner with Pixie Stix pasta and dollar-bill basil) and Georges

New Reviews

BABY MAMA

D: Michael McCullers; with Tina Fey, Amy Poehler, Greg Kinnear, Dax Shepard, Romany Malco, Sigourney Weaver, Steve Martin, Maura Tierney. (PG-13, 96 min.)

One of these days the talents of Tina Fey will become apparent to me and I'll be able to look back at her time on Saturday Night Live, her current hit sitcom 30 Rock, and Baby Mama and see the comic genius everyone else apparently already sees. Until then, I'm at a loss: Every time I see her, I can't help thinking she looks like she'd rather be anywhere but onscreen - unconvinced and uncommitted, as if she never entertained the possibility of being a star and so hadn't really prepared herself for the responsibility. Which is a problem for a movie like Baby Mama, in which every scene begins when Fey enters a room and ends when she leaves it. As Kate Holbrook, a successful 37-year-old executive with no social life but a burning desire for a baby, Fey is supposed to be the solid (if insecure) sun around which a whole solar system of eccentrics revolves, including Fey's former SNL cast mate Poehler as Angie, a lower-class brat whom Kate hires to be her surrogate, and Martin as Kate's blissed-out, ponytailed boss at Round Earth Organic Market, who rewards his employees for their good work with "five minutes of uninterrupted eve contact." Instead, Fey is perpetually tentative,



Schwizgebel's "Jeu" (channeling Oskar Fischinger, M.C. Escher, and Leni Riefenstahl); room, even, for the occasional dud (the wannabe noir "Key Lime Pie" is gorgeous to look at but a long narrative yawn). At 20-plus entries, the program slightly blurs in its haste and expanse, but even that is addressed in Julian Grey's elegiac adaptation of former poet laureate Billy Collins' "Forgetfulness," which perfectly marries the mournful words – "Long ago you kissed the names of the nine Muses goodbye and watched the quadratic equation pack its bag" – to equally mournful etchings that erase before our eyes. It's a lovely, tender short, a moment of quiet in an overstuffed but superlative program. – *Kimberley Jones*

★★★≯ Alamo Ritz

either unwilling or unable to throw herself into the role of a no-longer-young single woman with a pounding biological clock, a natural neuroticism, and parental paranoia that I'm guessing is supposed to come off as absurd and satirical but is probably par for the course in modern Yuppie America (if there isn't already a stroller with air bags on the market, it's only a matter of time before there is). In Fey's defense, writer/director McCullers doesn't help her much, shifting the tone of his screenplay between boorish bathroom humor, corny musical montages, and forced emotional confrontations without much concern for logic or consistency. That's a shame because when Angie unexpectedly moves into Kate's apartment, the opportunity is there for some meaty class-conflict humor: the shallowness of the trendy upwardly mobile versus the stubborn cultural provinciality of the America's Funniest Home Videos-loving lower-middle-class, set against a backdrop of impending motherhood. But, just like it is in the world of SNL that Fey, Poehler, and McCullers sprang from, the choice gets made time and again to aim not for the high road but for the great, big, fat, juicy, unchallenging, uncontroversial middle ground, where everybody's laughing but nothing is all that funny. - Josh Rosenblatt ★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

BIG MAN JAPAN

D: Hitoshi Matsumoto; with Matsumoto, Riki Takeuchi, Ua. (NR, 113 min., subtitled)

Midnight madness doesn't begin to describe this strange Japanese import. A popular favorite at numerous festivals (including last year's Fantastic Fest in Austin), the film is a modern superhero story that combines elements from Japanese monster movies, mockumentaries, comedies, and downright demented CGI fantasies. Matsumoto, a huge TV celebrity in Japan, directs, co-writes, and stars in the movie as Dai Sato, a nondescript, downbeat, middle-aged man, who in the opening scenes has an offscreen camera crew inexplicably following him around and asking him questions. It's hard to imagine anyone being interested in this lug, much less a camera crew. Like other workaday salarymen in Japan, he complains about not being paid enough, and his modest digs are proof of that statement. He's separated from his wife and sees his daughter rarely. He's employed by the Ministry of Defense and he's always on call. But until we see what he actually does, the viewer is mystified by what the videographers sees in Sato. Then he gets the call, and races off to the nearest electrical power station and, after electrodes are attached to his body, he transforms into the giant superhero Big Man Japan, who wears nothing but purple underpants and a Don King-style haircut. The baddies he faces are bizarre inventions that seem like they're somebody's hallucinogenic outpourings on bad drugs: There's an evil-eye monster that is essentially a walking eyeball and a strangling monster with a bad comb-over that can uproot buildings by encircling them with his expandable arms. As always in Japanese monster movies, the populace accepts the existence of these unearthly creatures as part of the normal fabric of life, although they are beginning to tire of Big Man Japan, whom they accuse of causing a nuisance and losing his edge. Even his agent (Ua) is frustrated with him and implores him to wear advertising on his body to pay the rent. Even though the film has many very funny moments (the sight of the big purple underpants pinned wallto-wall for Sato's transformation into Big Man Japan and the wacky closing credits. for example), Matsumoto generally plays the film straight - all the better to sustain the illusion created by this strange blend of documentary realism and pure fantasy. The effects are reasonably well-created, though hardly transparent. The last 15 minutes of the film spins out into unimaginable realms. Fans of this kind of stuff will leave smitten; those accompanying them to the theatre will have a pretty good time too. (See "'Big' in Japan, but What About Austin?," on p.58 for more.) - Marjorie Baumgarten ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

CHAPTER 27

D: J.P. Schaefer; with Jared Leto, Lindsay Lohan, Judah Friedlander, Ursula Abbott, Mark Lindsay Chapman, Jeane Fournier. (R, 84 min.)

As brilliant as Robert De Niro is, he'll always have to answer for the fact that it was his performance in Raging Bull that put the idea into actors' heads that psychological verisimilitude could be attained through simple weight gain. Leto is only the latest in a long line of pretenders to pack on the pounds in an effort to convince viewers of his dedication to a role, in this case Mark David Chapman, the obsessive Beatles fan who shot and killed John Lennon outside the Dakota apartment building in New York City in December 1980. Hiding behind a brand-new belly and a couple of extra chins, and sporting a dark mop of greasy unkempt hair, Leto does look a lot like Chapman, and God knows he works hard to capture all the man's delusional paranoia and jaded disappointment. Wandering the streets of New York with a head full of voices - some benevolent, most less so - and his nowfamous copy of The Catcher in the Rye, he's the portrait of modern urban disaffection and misguided hero worship. But Leto isn't De Niro in Raging Bull. Leto isn't even De Niro in Meet the Fockers. And despite all his obvious effort and admirable Stanislavskian immersion - the sweaty, nervous tics, the explosive mood swings, the breathy voiceovers - his Chapman is pure cinematic affectation, a compendium of great movie madmen of the past. It's as if, like Leto himself, Chapman is channeling De Niro, only this time it's his Travis Bickle, a loner stalking the mean city with a handgun and a cosmic sense of moral disgust. (Writer/director Schaefer drives this point home at the film's climax, placing his antihero in front of a mirror with a gun in his hand gasping, "I am Holden," instead of "You talkin' to me?") What's unfortunate about Chapter 27 is

that in its rush to be a character study, it misses a golden opportunity to explore the subtle line between fandom and obsession (after all, Chapman wasn't the only person freezing on the streets outside the Dakota day after day, waiting to touch the hem of Lennon's garment), a topic that is rich in artistic and philosophical possibilities, especially in our age of ever-increasing tabloid lust. The presence of Lohan – a celebrity whose every move is tracked by the media like an endangered species of hawk - only serves to highlight the point that the truly fascinating story behind the murder of Lennon wasn't Chapman's madness (and certainly not his weight) but the depths of our celebrity mania and the influence we're willing to concede to personalities larger than our own. - Josh Rosenblatt ** Dobie

DECEPTION

D: Marcel Langenegger; with Hugh Jackman, Ewan McGregor, Michelle Williams, Maggie Q, Natasha Henstridge. (R, 108 min.)

Not reviewed at press time. Busy New York City power brokers partake in a decadent sex club that has no strings attached. But wouldn't you know it? There turns out to be someone pulling some lethal strings. – Marjorie Baumgarten Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

88 MINUTES

D: Jon Avnet; with Al Pacino, Alicia Witt, Amy Brenneman, Leelee Sobieski, Benjamin McKenzie, Deborah Kara Unger, William Forsythe, Neal McDonough. (R, 106 min.)

Attica! Attica! Everyone involved in the creation of this muddled, joyless, and deadly dull serial killer-meets-forensic psychiatrist snoozefest should be forced to spend - at the very least - 88 minutes behind Attica's bars. Personally, I'd petition for the full 106-minute running time of the offense in question. Either way, throw the book at 'em, Dano. Pacino's fall from grace to Iconic American Actor Most Likely to Appear in a Mediocre Movie reaches its nadir here, following several other ill-conceived roles in Two for the Money, Gigli, and S1mOne - all to varying degrees crimes or misdemeanors (although we'll allow, as exculpating evidence of good faith, that Pacino's upcoming turn in Harold Becker's remake of the late Jules Dassin's masterful Rififi could very well restore the star's former luster). And, of course, Pacino's weathered features and the gravelly timbre of his snake-oil smooth voice remain seductive as ever. As for 88 Minutes, however, it imparts little more than a dull patina of prechewed, procedural formulas to the Pacino CV. Here he's Jack Gramm, a Seattle forensics professor whose testimony has sent a buggy mug by the name of Forster (McDonough, creepy enough) to the death house. As Forster's execution time approaches, Gramm gets a mysterioso cell call which imparts the news that he, too, has only 88 minutes to live. Add to that the fact that a series of copycat crimes utilizing Forster's m.o. have just come to light, and a surfeit of suspects – among them Witt as one of Gramm's students, and a raggedy-hot university dean (Unger) - and the film quickly devolves into a by-the-books skein of rhetorical questions that call into question both his character's testimony and the actor's ability

calendar → COMMUNITY → ARTS → FILM → MUSIC

Openings

The Animation Show 4 (NR)

Baby Mama (PG-13)

Big Man Japan (NR)

Chapter 27 (R)

Deception (R)

Harold & Kumar Escape From Guantanamo Bay (R)

The Life Before Her Eyes (R)

My Blueberry Nights (PG-13)

Tashan (NR)

The Visitor (PG-13)

Ratings

- $\star\star\star\star\star$ 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

+

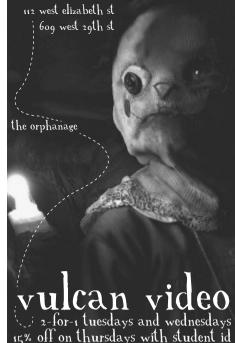
to pick a decent script. For myself, Pacino's last iconic performance was as the motormouthed, leering Father of Lies in *The Devil's Advocate*. True enough, he devoured both scenery and co-stars whole. (You've got to wonder what Keanu Reeves tasted like. I'm betting on "wet cardboard.") But he made for a frighteningly famished foil. In *88 Minutes*, he's about as hungry as a Seattle raindrop, and that's just plain hell. – *Marc Savlov* ★ Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

EXPELLED: NO INTELLIGENCE ALLOWED

D: Nathan Frankowski. (PG, 90 min.)

Make Ben Stein some more money (and get a good, mordant chuckle while you're at it) by checking out this loopy, factually befuddled documentary that should manage the not-inconsiderable feat of insulting Christians, Jews, Muslims, and those nutty sci-guys who go in for Darwin by way of bad teeth and Einsteinian hair styles. Expelled begins with the interesting if not exactly accurate hypothesis that legitimate, well-respected members of the American scientific community are systematically being blacklisted and shorn of their university positions simply for mentioning, in any context other than the negative, the notion of "intelligent design." Any currency that the film might offer from here on out, however, is obliterated - often entertainingly so - by having Stein, a former Nixon





MARFA FILM FESTIVAL MAY 1 - 5, 2008

Under the Marfa stars with the Alamo Drafthouse Rolling Roadshow:

THERE WILL BE BLOOD (on the set where it was made) Dennis Hopper presents THE LAST MOVIE David Byrne's TRUE STORIES (late show dance party) Robert Mitchum in NIGHT OF THE HUNTER (new print) Deborah Kerr in the THE INNOCENTS

All archival 35mm prints

Plus an amazing line up of shorts, docs and narrative films from around the world. Schedule, tickets and passes: www.marfafilmfestival.org

Showtimes

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE AT THE RITZ 320 E. Sixth. 476-1320 The Animation Show 4: Fri, 7:25, 9:45, 12mid; Sat, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid; Sun, 4:45, 7:25, 9:45; Mon, 7:25, 9:45; Tue, 7:25pm; Wed-Thu (5/1), 7:25, 9:45 SXSW: The Films of Benh Zeitlin and Friends: A Benefit: Tue, 7:00, 9:30

Terror Thursday: The Beast Within: Thu (5/1), 12mid Big Screen Sci-Fi: Blade Runner: The Final Cut: Sat, 4:15pm; Sun, 4:15, 10:00; :00pm r Extensions: Wed, 9:30, 12mid

Exte: Hair Exte Just Can't Get Enough: The New Wave Sing-Along: Thu (5/1), 9:30pm Weird Wednesday: The Molesters: Wed, 12mid

Master Pancake: Planet of the Apes: Fi-Sat, 7:00, 10:15 Music Monday: Suffering and Smiling: Mon, 10:00pm 3rd Coast Activists: We Feed the World: Wed, 7:00pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE LAKE CREEK 13729 Research

219-8135. *Baby Mama: 12:30, 3:30, 7:25, 10:15 *The Forbidden Kingdom: 12:15, 3:00, 7:20, 10:10 *Forgetting Sarah Marshall: 12:20, 3:15, 7:15, 10:10 Leatherheads: 12:05, 3:05, 7:10, 10:00 TV @ the Alamo: Lost: Thu (5/1), 9:00pm

We the Nation Loss: Init (5) 1, 3:00µm Smart People: 12:25, 3:20, 7:05, 10:20 Street Kings: Fri, 12:35, 3:25, 10:05; Sat, 12:35, 3:25, 7:10, 10:05; Sun, 3:25, 10:05; Mon, 12:35, 3:25, 7:10, 10:05; Tue, 12:35, 7:10, 10:05; Wed, 12:35, 3:25, 7:10, 10:05; Thu (5/1), 12:35, 3:25 sdav: Student Confidential: Thu (5/1), 10:00pm Tromatic Thu

Superman: The Movie: Sun, 7:30pm

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE SOUTH 1120 S Lamar 476-1320

Big Man Japan: Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30pm; Mon, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30; Tue, 11:25am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30pm; Wed-Thu (5/1), 4:50, 7:45, 10:30 7.40. 10:25pm

- ue, 1122am, 2103, 4:50, 7:45, 10:30pm; wed-hul (971), 4:50, 7 Dr. Seuss Horton Hears a WhiCF Fri-Sun, 11:10am; Tue-11:10am *Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri-Sun, 11:15am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:40, 10 Mon, 4:45, 7:40, 10:25; Tue, 11:15am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:40, 10:25pm Wed-Thu (5/1), 4:45, 7:40, 10:25 The Grand: 5:15nm
- Interview Sci 100 PM Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:05, 7:00, 9:30, 11:55pm; Mon, 4:05, 7:00, 9:30; Tue, 11:00am, 1:35, 4:05, 7:00, 9:30pm; Wed-Thu (5/1), 4:05, 7:00, 9:30

Kids Club: Infra-Man: Sat. 12:00pm Leatherheads: Fri. 3:50, 7:10; Sat. 3:50pm; Sun-Thu (5/1), 3:50, 7:10

AFS: Sunflower: Tue, 7:00pm

 Xaria Sumower: ue, 1.00pm
 Xaria The Unforeseen: Fri-Sun, 1:25, 10:00; Mon, 10:00pm; Tue, 1:25, 10:00; Wed-Thu (5/1), 10:00pm

Wed-Int (5/1), 10:00pm **Young@Heart:** Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:05, 9:40pm; Mon, 4:20, 7:05, 9:40; Tue, 1:40, 4:20, 9:40; Wed-Thu (5/1), 4:20, 7:05, 9:40

ALAMO DRAFTHOUSE VILLAGE 2700 W. Anderson, 476-1320. ALLING DIATHOOSE VIELAGE 2100 W. Anderson, 470-1320. Tuesday matinee "Baby Day" shows (first show of the day) are intended for parents and children aged infant to 6 years old. ***Baby Mame:** Fit-Sat, 145, 430, 730, 10:00, 11:55; Sun, 145, 430, 730, 10:00; Mon, 430, 730, 10:00; Tue, 145, 430, 730, 10:00; Wed, 430, 730, 10:00; Two (51), 1:45, 430, 730, 10:00 **V Party:** Battlestar Galactica: Fit, 12mid Factoritier for a carb Marchelf E Sat 1:05, 245, 700, 950, 11:55; Sun, 1:05, 246, 700

IV Party: Battlestar Galacitia: Fri, 12mid *Forgetting Sarah Marshalt: Frisst, 1:05, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50, 11:55; Sun, 1:05, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50; Mon, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50; Tuu (3:05, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50; Wed, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50; TW (5:1), 1:05, 3:45, 7:00, 9:50 **IV** @ the Alamo: Lost: Thu (5/1), 10:00pm The Rocky Horror Picture Show: Sat, 12mid Smart People: Fin-Sat, 1:30, 4:10, Sun, 1:30, 4:10, 9:45; Mon, 4:10, 7:15, 9:45; Tue, 1:30, 4:10, 7:15; Wed, 4:10, 7:16, 9:45; Thu (5/1), 1:30, 4:10, 7:15 Z1: Fri, 4:00, 1:10, 1:25; Sat, 1:10, 0:400, 7:11, 10:25; Thu, (5/1), 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:25; Tue, 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:25; Sat, 4:00, 7:10, 10:25; Thu (5/1), 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:25;

ARBOR CINEMA @ GREAT HILLS 9828 Great Hills Trail (at Jollyville), 231-9742. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesdays

The Counterfeiters: 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55 Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed: 12:50. 3:15. 5:30. 7:45. 9:50 Expelled: No intelligence Allowed: 12:50,3:15,5:30,7:45,9:3 The Life Before HeT Syss: 12:30,2:40,5:10,7:20,9:45 Miss Pettigewe Lives for a Day: 12:10,2:20,4:40,7:00,9:20 My Blueberry Hights: 1:00,3:30,6:50,9:30 Smart People: 12:40,3:00,5:15,7:50,1:0:05 The Visitor: 12:00,2:30,5:00,7:30,1:0:00 Young@Heart: 12:05,2:35,4:50,7:10,9:40

BARTON CREEK SQUARE (AMC) Barton Creek Square mall (MoPac and Highway 360) 306-9190 Matinee discounts available before 6pm on weekdays and before 4pm Friday through Sunday and holidays.

 Baby Manaz Fri-Sun, 10:25am, 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:05pm;
 Mon-Thu (5/1), 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:05
 Deception: Fri-Sun, 12:20, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20; Mon-Thu (5/1), 12:15, 2:50, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20; Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Sun. 10:00am. 12:00. 2:00. 4:05pm

Dr. Seuss Horizur, and S. Wilds: In-Sult, 10:00an, 12:00, 2004, 405pm, Mon-Wed, 12:40, 2:45, 4:50, 7:05, 9:10; Thu (5/1), 12:40, 2:45, 4:5088 Minutes: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 12:55, 3:25, 5:55, 8:25, 10:55pm; Sun-Thu (5/1), 12:55, 3:25, 5:55, 8:25, 10:55

The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri-Sun, 10:15am, 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:10, 10:40

Mon-Thu (5/1), 1240, 31:0, 540, 81:0, 10:40
 Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri-Sun, 10:30am, 11:45, 10:0, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 6:00, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45, 11:00pm; Mon-Weid, 10:0, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45, 11:00p; Thu (5/1), 1:00, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 7:15, 8:30, 9:45, 11:00p; Thu (5/1), 1:20, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 7:15, 8:30, 1:100p; Thu (5/1), 1:20, 2:15, 3:30, 4:45, 7:15, 8:30, 1:100p; Thu (5/1), 1:230, 3:05, 5:30, 8:30, 10:55
 Leatherheads: Fri-Weid, 1:2:45, 5:40, 10:35; Thu (5/1), 1:224, 5:40
 Min's Island (closed captioned): Fri-Sun, 10:10am, 1:2:5, 2:40, 4:55
 Porn Wight: Fri-Sat, 11:30am, 1:56, 4:20, 6:10, 8:20, 10:30pm; Mon-Weid, 1:2:0, 2:40, 4:55
 Prom Wight: Fr-Sat, 11:30am, 3:25, 8:20pm; Sun-Weid, 3:25, 8:20; Thu (5/1), 1:225pm
 Street Kings: Fri-Sat, 1:30m, 3:25, 8:30; 10:35 pm; Mon-Weid, 1:2:0, 2:40, 4:55
 Zi: Fri-Sat, 1:1:30m, 3:25, 8:30; Nu (S:20, 10:30pm; Sun-Weid, 1:50, 4:00, 6:10, 8:20
 Street Kings: Fri-Sat, 1:30m, 3:25, 8:30; 10:35 pm; Mon-Weid, 1:2:5, 2:5, 3:5, 8:05, 10:35; Thu (5/1), 1:2:25, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35; Thu (5/1), 1:2:26; Thu (5/1), 1:2:25, 5:35, 8:05, 10:35; Thu (5/1), 1:2:25, 5:35, 8:05; 10:35; Thu (5/1), 1:2:25, 5:35, 8:05; 10:35; Th

21: Fri-Sat, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45pm; Sun-Thu (5/1), 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45 Under the Same Moon: 3:00pm

CINEMARK CEDAR PARK 1335 E. Whitestone, 800/FANDANGO. *Baby Mama: Fri, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 *Deception: Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 11:15am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:03, 0:45, 9:15; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:10, 3:10, 4:20, 5:30, 6:45, 9:15; 2:10, 3:10, 4:20, 5:30, 6:45, 9:15; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:10, 3:10, 4:20, 5:30, 6:45, 9:15; *88 Minutes: Fri, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00; Sat-Sun, 11:25am, 2:00; Sat-S *The Forbidden Kingdom: Fri, 2:15, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 11:30am, 2:15, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:15, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30

*Forgetting Sarah Marshali: Fri, 2:30, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40; Sat-Sun, 11:45am, 2:30, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:30, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40

8.00, 10:40pm, Morthill (3) 1) 2:30, 3:20, 3:20, 3:00, 10:40
Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: Fri, 3:00, 5:25, 8:10, 10:45; Sat-Sun, 12:10, 3:00, 5:25, 8:10, 10:45; Mon-Thu (5/1), 3:00, 5:25, 8:10, 10:45
Leatherheads: Fri-Wed, 1:55, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05; Thu (5/1), 1:55, 4:40

Nim's Island: Fri, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:20, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30 Prom Night: Fn, 2:50, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 12:30, 2:50, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:50, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55

Street Kings: Fri-Wed, 7:40, 10:25

FOR LIPDATED SHOWTIMES SEE

austinchronicle.com/film.

21: Fri, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45; Mon-Thu (5/1), 4:10, 7:00, 9:45

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FRIDAY, APRIL 25 - THURSDAY, MAY 1 GATEWAY THEATRE 9700 Stonelake, between Capital of Texas

Highway and Highway 183 in the Gateway shopping center,

b) Section Motion Testing at Minicipation (12:00, 210, 742) 88 Minutes: Fri-Mon, 11:50am, 12:45, 2:30, 3:25, 5:20, 6:55, 7:55, 9:30, 10:35pm; Tue, 11:50am, 12:45, 2:30, 5:20, 6:55, 7:55, 10:35pm; Wed, 11:50am, 2:30, 3:25, 5:20, 7:55, 9:30, 10:35pm; Tur (5/1), 11:50am, 12:45, 2:30, 5:20, 6:55, 7:55, 10:35pm 88 Minutes (open captioned): Tue, 3:25, 9:30; Wed, 12:45, 6:55; Thu (5/1), 3:25, 9:30

88 Minutes (open captioned): Tue, 3:25, 9:30; Wed, 12:45, 6:55; Thu (5/1), 3:25, 9:30 The Forbidden Kingdom: 11:45mn 12:40, 2:20, 3:20, 5:00, 6:50, 7:35, 9:25, 10:15pm Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri-Wed, 11:45am, 12:20, 12:55, 2:25, 3:00, 3:35, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:40, 10:10, 10:40pm; Thu (5/1), 11:45am, 12:20, 12:55, 2:25, 3:00, 3:35, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:40, 10:10pm Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: 12:05, 2:40, 5:05, 7:40, 10:25

ratoria & Numar Escape from Guantanamo espr. 12:05, 2:40, 50:05, 1:40, 10:2 Leatherheads: 65:09, 9:25 Nim's Island: Fri, 3:15, 6:45, 9:20; Sat, 12:35, 6:45, 9:20; Sun, 3:15, 6:45; Mon, 3:15, 9:20; Tue-Thu (5/1), 12:35, 3:15, 6:45, 9:20 Nim's Island (open captioned): Fri, 12:35 pris, 54, 54, 9:20 Nim's Island (open captioned): Fri, 12:35 pris, 54, 3:15 pris, Sun, 12:35, 9:20; Mon, 12:35, 6:45 Prom Night: 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:20, 9:55 Comment Water Uncol: 2:e5, 7:40

IMAX THEATRE Texas State History Museum (1800 N. Congress),

IMAX THEATRE (EX8S State History Museum (Loov N. Congress), 936-fMAX.
 Dolphins and Whales 3D: Tribes of the Ocean: Sun, 4:00pm; MonThu (5/1), 11:00am, 4:00pm Grand Canyon Adventure 3D: Rher at Risk: Fri-Sat, 12:00, 3:00; Sun, 3:00pm; MonThu (5/1), 12:00, 3:00, 5:00
 Sea Monsters 3D: A Prehistoric Adventure: Sat-Thu (5/1), 2:00pm
 Shine a Light: The IMAX Experience: Fri-Sun, 5:00, 7:40; MonThu (5/1), 7:40pm
 Texas: The Big Picture: Fri-Sat, 10:00pm; Sun, 1:00pm; MonThu (5/1), 10:00m, 1:00pm
 U2 3D: Fri-Sat, 9:40pm; MonThu (5/1), 6:00pm

LAKELINE STARPORT Lakeline Mall at Highway 183 and RR 620,

Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: 11:50am, 2:50, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30pm Nim's Island: 12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:05

Disception: 12.303 (2:40, 5:20, 5:00, 10:40 Dis Seuss' Horton Hears a Whol: 12:00, 12:30, 2:15, 2:45, 4:30, 5:05, 7:00, 9:35 Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed: 11:45am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:25, 10:10pm The Forbidden Kingdom: 12:15, 1:00, 3:10, 4:20, 7:10, 7:40, 10:00, 10:35

Hordd & Kumar Escape from Quantanamo Bay: 11:50am, 12:00, 10:30 17:35, 8:10, 10:15, 10:45pm Opera: La Fille du Régiment: Stat, 12:30pm Leatherheads: 7:15, 10:20

Prom Night: Fri-Wed, 12:00, 12:25, 2:15, 2:45, 4:40, 5:15, 7:05, 7:55, 9:30, 10:30; Thu (5/1), 12:00, 12:25, 2:15, 2:45, 4:40, 5:15, 7:55, 10:30

MILLENNIUM THEATRE 1156 Hargrave, 472-6932. Located within

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Whol: 11:45am, 2::00, 4:20, 6:35, 9:05pm *88 Minutes: 136, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45 *Expelled: No Intelligence Allowed: 11:50am, 2:25, 5:05, 7:30, 10:05pm *The Forbidden Kingdom: 1:15, 1:55, 4:00, 4:45, 6:45, 7:25, 9:30, 10:15 *Torgetting Sarah Marshalt: 11:40am, 1:30, 2:20, 4:15, 5:00, 7:00, 7:45, 9:45, 10:30pm *Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:00 Opera: La Fille du Régiment: Satt, 12:30pm, Sun, 2:00pm Leatherheads: Fri, 1:20, 4:05, 6:55, 9:55; Sat-Sun, 6:55, 9:55; Mon-Wed, 1:20, 4:05, 6:55, 9:55; Thu (5/1), 1:20, 4:05, 9:55 Nim's Island: 10:20, 2:30, 4:55 Mim's Island: 10:10 Pt distability, 1:45, 4:20, 6:45, 9:15

College Road Trip: Fri-Sat, 10:30am, 12:30, 3:15, 5:15, 8:15pm; Wed-Thu (5/1), 10:30am, 12:30, 3:15, 5:15pm

TINSELTOWN NORTH North I-35 and FM 1825 (Pflugerville),

*Baby Mama: 12:15, 2:05, 2:50, 4:40, 5:25, 7:15, 8:00, 9:50, 10:35

Deception: 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20 **Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!:** 11:45am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:35, 9:05pm

Nim's Island (in DLP digital): 1:45, 4:20, 6:45, 9:15

Street Kings: 1:10, 3:55, 6:40, 9:25 Superhero Movie: 12:30, 2:45, 5:10, 7:35, 10:10

21: 12:50. 3:55. 6:50. 10:05

*Drillbit Taylor: 3:20, 6:40, 9:15

daily before 6pm.

Baby Mama: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Street Kings: Fri-Wed, 7:10, 9:40; Thu (5/1), 7:10pm 21: 12:45, 4:00, 7:05, 9:50

Prom Night: 12:10, 2:35, 4:55, 7:15, 8:00, 9:35, 10:20

NCM Fathom: This American Life Live !: Thu (5/1), 7:00pm

special event" ticket prices apply to Indian films

Tyler Perry's Meet the Browns: 12:20, 2:55, 5:30, 7:55, 10:25 Under the Same Moon: 1:25, 4:10, 7:05, 9:50

TINSELTOWN SOUTH South I-35 at Stassney, 326-3800. \$10

Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Sat-Sun, 1:35, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05; Mon-Thu (5/1), 4:20, 7:20, 10:05

The Spidewick Chronicles: Fri, 4:15, 7:05, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:25, 4:15, 7:05, 9:30; Mon-Thu (5/1), 4:15, 7:05, 9:30

Mon-Inu (3/1), 4:20, 7:15, 10:15 Street Kings: Fri, 4:00, 4:45, 7:00, 7:45, 9:50, 10:25; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 4:45, 7:00, 7:45, 9:50, 10:25; Mon-Thu (5/1), 4:00, 4:45, 7:00, 7:45, 9:50, 10:25

Mon-Thu (5/1), 4:30, 8:30 00,000 B.C. *1, 3:55, 4:40, 6:45, 7:40, 9:55, 10:35; Sat-Sun, 1:05, 1:45, 3:55, 4:40, 6:45, 7:40, 9:55, 10:35; Mon-Thu (5/1), 3:55, 4:40, 6:45, 7:40, 9:55, 10:35 21: Fri, 3:50, 4:33, 6:50, 8:15, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 1:50, 3:50, 4:35, 6:50, 8:15, 10:10; Mon-Thu (5/1), 3:50, 4:35, 6:50, 8:15, 10:10

WESTGATE 11 South Lamar and Ben White, 899-2717. Discounts

Baby Mama: 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00 Deception: 11:45am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:25, 9:55pm Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Whol: 11:40am, 1:50, 4:05pm 88 Minutes: 12:20, 2:55, 5:25, 8:00, 10:30 The Forbidden Kingdom: 11:33am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:25, 10:05pm Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fi-Wed, 11:30am, 12:05, 2:05, 2:40, 4:40, 5:15, 7:15, 7:50, 9:50, 10:25pm; Thu (57), 11:30am, 12:05, 2:05, 2:40, 4:40, 5:15, 7:15, 7:50, 9:50, 10:25pm; Thu (57), 11:30am, 12:05, 2:05, 2:40, 4:40, 5:15, 7:15, 7:50, 9:50, 10:25pm; Thu (57), 11:30am, 12:05, 2:05, 2:40, 4:40, 5:15, 7:15, 7:50, Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: 12:15, 2:50, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 Leathertheads: 12:10, 2:25, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15 Simart People: 12:25, 5:20, 10:10 Street Kings: Fi-Wed, 7:10, 9:40, Thu (5/1), 7:10pm

*Drilbit laylor: 3:20, 6:40, 9:15 *88 Minutes: Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:10, 7:10, 10:10; Mon-Thu (5/1), 4:10, 7:10, 10:10

*George A. Romero's Diary of the Dead: 3:10, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35 Shutter: 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20

Stop-Loss: Fri, 4:20, 7:15, 10:15; Sat-Sun, 1:15, 4:20, 7:15, 10:15; Mon-Thu (5/1), 4:20, 7:15, 10:15

*Tashan: Fri, 6:30, 9:45; Sat, 3:15, 6:30, 9:45; Sun, 3:00, 6:15, 9:30; Mon-Thu (5/1), 4:30, 8:30

335-4793. Discounts daily before 6pm; all day Wednesday. Baby Mama: 11:45am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:50, 10:25pm

Deception: 12:30, 3:00, 6:50, 9:35 Dr. Seussi Horton Hears a Whof: 12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:55 88 Minutes: 1:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50 The Forbidden Kingdom: 12:50, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00 Forgetting Sarah Marshall: 12:40, 4:10, 7:00, 9:40

METROPOLITAN South I-35 at Stassnev, 447-0101.

416-5700 x3808. Baby Mama: 12:10, 2:35, 4:55, 7:25, 9:50

Street Kings: 12:25, 2:55, 7:10, 9:40

Decention: 12:30 3:00 6:50 9:35

Superhero Movie: 12:00, 2:20, 4:50

Baby Mama: 11:55am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:25pm Decention: 12:05, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40

Never Back Down: 7:20, 10:05 Nim's Island: 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:45, 10:10

The Ruins: 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 8:05, 10:30

NCM Fathom: This American Life Live!: Thu (5/1), 7:00pm

Superhero Movie: 12:15, 2:35, 4:55

512/989-8540.

21: 7:15. 10:10

21: 12:25, 3:05, 7:05, 9:45

Deception: 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:50, 10:30

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: 12:00. 2:10. 4:25

speechwriter-attorney and current pop-

culture personality, drolly snark his way

through an increasingly bizarre series of

interviews. He speaks with both the pro-

number, the "Darwinists," who are here

best represented by Richard Dawkins,

an evolutionary biologist and author of

the bestselling book The God Delusion. Dawkins more than holds his own in a film

that, as it progresses, manages to feel

more and more like a very expensive epi-

leading questions to his subjects, there's

an obvious, predetermined answer (Darwin

bad, intelligent design good) hovering over

everything. Director Frankowski goes archi-

val-clip-happy, inserting images of every-

thing from Nikita Kruschev to the Berlin

to a Nazi concentration camp, stopping along the way to smarm off about eugen-

ics, abortion, and the perils of Stalinism.

Darwin's theory of evolution is leading us

all to a literal hell on Earth. Expelled: No

Intelligence Allowed is propaganda that'd

do Leni Riefenstahl proud (although it's

nowhere near as invitingly sensual), but it

entirely - and conveniently - overlooks the

root cause of the entire evolution vs. intelli-

gent design nondebate: Basic science edu-

cation in America has been in decline for

so long that we are now regularly ranked

European Union. Ignorance may be bliss,

HAROLD & KUMAR ESCAPE FROM

D: Jon Hurwitz, Hayden Schlossberg; with John

Not reviewed at press time. Everyone's

instead of heading for their favorite burger

Cho, Kal Penn, Rob Corddry, Roger Bart, Neil

favorite stoner pals are back; this time

joint, they are running from the law after

being mistaken for terrorists. Again, the pair exploit and confound stereotypes in

this movie that had its world premiere at

South by Southwest. - Marjorie Baumgarten

Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square,

CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round

Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway,

Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North,

D: Vadim Perelman; with Uma Thurman, Evan

case of survivor's guilt - or so it would

seem. As a teenager she experienced

a Columbine-style rampage in her high

school, and the upcoming 15th anniver-

sary of that massacre is making her more

skittish than usual. She is haunted by the

moment in which the shooter (Magaro) pre-

sented her and her best friend, Maureen

Sequestered in the bathroom when the

plumbing creates a spray of water that douses the distressing scene with a billowy sheen. The scene replays continually

in Diana's mind, with Wood portraying the

shooting starts, the two girls come faceto-face with the killer, whose slugs to the

(Amurri), with an untenable choice.

Rachel Wood, Eva Amurri, Brett Cullen, Gabrielle

Brennan, John Magaro, Molly Price. (R, 90 min.)

Diana (Thurman) suffers from a serious

THE LIFE BEFORE HER EYES

to be a crime.

GUANTANAMO BAY

Patrick Harris. (R, 102 min.)

ñ

Westgate

but encouraging it, as Expelled does, ought

Arbor, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

- Marc Savlov

far below emerging global powers such as China, India, and the entirety of the

The message is obvious if exceedingly vile:

Wall, until finally, gruesomely, Stein travels

sode of Punk'd. As Stein poses loaded and

intelligent design gang and their opposing

CINEMARK HILL COUNTRY GALLERIA 12800 Hwy. 71, 800/FANDANGO

*Baby Mama: Fri-Sun, 11:40am, 2:15, 5:05, 7:45, 10:30pm; Mon-Wed, 2:15, 5:05, 7:45; Thu (5/1), 2:15, 5:05, 7:45, 10:30 *Dec leception: Fri-Sun, 11:30am, 2:25, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35pm; Mon-Wed, 2:25, 5:15, 8:00; Thu (5/1), 2:25, 5:15, 8:00, 10:35

Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 12:05, 1:30, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:50, 9:05pm; Mon-Wed, 1:30, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:50; Thu (5/1), 1:30, 2:40, 4:15, 5:10, 6:50, 9:05

Drillbit Taylor: Fri-Sun, 11:35am, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20pm; Mon-Wed, 2:10, 4:55, 7:40; Thu (5/1), 2:10, 4:55

*88 Minutes: Fri-Sun, 11:05am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45pm; Mon-Wed, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00; Thu (5/1), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45

- Thu (5/1), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:45
 The Forbidden Kingdom: Fit-Sun, 1:105am, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 10:00pm;
 Mon-Wed, 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 110; (5/1), 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 10:00
 Forgetting Sarah Marshall: Fit-Sun, 11:10am, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10pm;
 Mon-Wed, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10pm;
 Mon-Wed, 1:55, 4:35, 7:20, 10:10pm;
 Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: Fit-Sun, 11:45am, 2:20, 5:15, 7:55, 10:25pm;
 Mon-Wed, 2:20, 5:15, 7:55; Thu (5/1), 2:20, 5:15, 7:55, 10:25pm;
 Leatherheads: Fit-Sun, 11:26am, 2:05, 4:50, 7:35, 10:15pm;
 Min's Island: Fit-Sun, 11:20am, 1:40, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35pm;
 Mon-Wed, 1:40, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35pm;
 Mon-Wed, 1:40, 4:30, 7:05;
 Thu (5/1), 1:40, 4:30, 7:05, 9:35pm;
 Mon-Wed, 1:40, 4:30, 7:05;
- Prom Night: Fri-Sun, 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55; Mon-Wed, 2:30, 5:00, 7:25; Thu (5/1), 2:30, 5:00, 7:25, 9:55
- Superhero Movie: Fri-Sun, 11:25am, 1:35, 4:10, 6:40, 9:00pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 1:35, 4:10, 6:40

21: Fri-Sun, 11:00am, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20pm; Mon-Wed, 1:50, 4:40, 7:30; Thu (5/1), 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20 Vantage Point: Fri-Sun. 7:50, 10:05: Mon-Thu (5/1), 7:50pm

CINEMARK MOVIES 8 ROUND ROCK 2120 N. Mays (Round

- CINEMARK MOVIES 5 VOUND KCC 2120 N. Md/s (ROUND Rock), 512/388-2848. Discounts daily before 5pm. The Bucket List: Fri, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:10; Sat-Sun, 11:50am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:10pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:10 Fool's Golt; Fri, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20 Sat-Sun, 11:65am, 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20 *Jumper: Fri, 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:00 Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:00, 4:45, 7:45, 10:00
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CINEMARK ROUND ROCK 4401 N. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.

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- *Harold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: Fri, 2:40, 5:05, 8:00, 10:30; Sat-Sun, 12:00, 2:40, 5:05, 8:00, 10:30; Mon-Thu (5/1), 2:40, 5:05, 8:00, 10:30
- Leatherheads: Fri, 12:50, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 10:05am, 12:50, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40pm; Mon-Thu (5/1), 12:50, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40
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CINEMARK SOUTHPARK MEADOWS 9900 S. I-35, 800/FANDANGO.

*Baby Mama: 12:35, 4:05, 6:40, 9:35 *Deception: 1:20, 4:15, 7:20, 10:20 Dr. Seuss' Horton Hears a Who!: 12:40, 3:45, 6:35, 9:45 *88 Minutes: 1:05, 4:20, 7:30, 10:15 *The Forbidden Kingdom: 12:50, 1:35, 3:40, 4:30, 6:45, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30 *The Forbidden Kingdom: 12:50, 13:53, 3:40, 4:30, 6:45, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30 *Forgetting Sarah Marshall: 12:45, 3:30, 6:55, 9:50 Pharold & Kumar Escape from Guantanamo Bay: 1:15, 3:50, 6:50, 9:55 Opera: La Fille du Régiment: Sat, 12:300m; Sun, 2:00pm Leatherheads: Hi 1:25, 4:25, 7:15, 10:25; Sun, 7:15, 10:25; Mon-Wed, 1:25, 4:25, 7:15, 10:25; Thu (5/1), 1:25, 4:25 Nim's Island: 12:30, 3:25, 7:00, 9:40 Prom Night: 1:30, 4:10, 7:25, 10:10 Street Kings: 1:00, 3:35, 6:50, 10:00 NCM Fathom: This American Life Livel: Thu (5/1), 7:00pm 21: 12:55, 4:00, 7:10, 10:05 *Under the Same Moon: 1:10, 3:55, 7:05, 9:45

DOBIE THEATRE 2025 Guadalupe (Dobie Mall, second floor), 472-FILM

- 12-11LW. **Chapter 27**: Fri, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Sat-Sun, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00; Mon-Thu (5/1), 7:30, 10:00 **The Forbidden Kingdom:** Fri, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Sat-Sun, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30; Mon-Thu (5/1), 7:00, 9:30
- Mon-Thu (5/1), 7:00, 9:30 Smart People: Fri, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Sat-Sun, 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:40; Mon-Thu (5/1), 7:10, 9:40 Zombie Strippers: Fri, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Sat-Sun, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50; Mon-Thu (5/1), 7:20, 9:50

GALAXY HIGHLAND 10 North I-35 & Middle Eiskville 467-7305 No one under 18 will be allowed in the theatre on Friday and Saturday after 7pm without an adult

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- 88 Minutes: Fri-Sat, 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45, 12mid; Sun-Thu (5/1), 12:05, 2:30, 4:55, 7:20, 9:45
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An asterisk (*) before a title means that no passes or special admission discounts will be accepted.

Changes may sometimes occur: viewers are encouraged to call theatres to confirm showtimes.

part of the teenaged Diana. Each time the film returns to the scene, the audience gets to see a little bit more of what ultimately happened. However, by the end of the film when all becomes clear, you may find yourself wishing you know less than you do because the answers the film provides are not the least bit satisfying and are, in fact, rather irritating and the source of further questions which The Life Before Her Eves does not begin to address. All of which makes it difficult to discuss in a review without disclosing the movie's big reveal, even though Perelman drops numerous overt clues along the way. The film is adapted by screenwriter Emil Stern from a novel by Laura Kasischke, but the film's texture seems to be all Perelman, who follows up House of Sand and Fog with this sophomore effort. Like that earlier film, The Life Before Her Eyes is heavy on atmospherics, though this new film is a melodrama rather than a thriller. Both films traipse inchoately through a woman's disturbed consciousness, offering themes and striations but no patterns or rationales. Yet while traipsing, both films present an almost tactile vision of each woman's unmooring. House is dark and brooding, with issues of immigration and Iranian politics lurking in its depths; Life is full of sunshine and flowers and pretty necklaces, with the topics of abortion, guilt, and massacres infusing all those flowers with the aroma of death. Thurman and Wood both deliver strong performances and make for believable versions of the same person at different stages of her life. Perelman eases the transitions between the past and the present with echoing phrases and situations, but they all seem rather pat and contrived. Does he really think that repeated refrains from the Zombies oldie, "She's Not There," won't be a dead (so to speak) give-- Marjorie Baumgarten away? ★ ★ Arbor

MY BLUEBERRY NIGHTS

D: Wona Kar-wai: with Norah Jones, Jude Law, David Strathairn, Rachel Weisz, Natalie Portman, Chan Marshall, Frankie Faison, (PG-13, 90 min.)

"The stories have all been told before," Norah Jones – the singer – croons in the opening and closing of Wong's Englishlanguage debut. Indeed, the stories told within - of heartbreak and addiction and addiction to heartbreak - uniformly have an also-ran feel to them, something I never would have accused the Hong Kong filmmaker of before. From the mind of the man who brought us fembots of the future (2046) and a lovelorn imp who breaks into her secret love's apartment to restock the fish tank and rearrange the stuffed animals (Chungking Express), we get ... the puppyfaced mope of Jones? That's Norah Jones the actress, a first-timer, who is entirely pleasant, and pleasant to look at in her retro heels, but is frankly a terrible choice to play Elizabeth, a woman undone by a straying boyfriend. She spends her nights at the diner of Jeremy (Law), who serves her the titular pie as a tentative overture to love. Still heartsick, Elizabeth disappears overnight and resurfaces as a waitress in Memphis, calling herself Lizzie; later she shows up in a Nevada casino as Beth the barmaid. You couldn't ask for more head-thumpingly obvious shorthand for one woman's identity crisis, and the script (by Wong and mystery writer Lawrence





The Films of Benh Zeitlin and Friends: A Benefit

The Films of Benh Zeitlin and Friends: A Benefit SXSW Film Festival. Benh Zeitlin, whose short film "Glory at Sea" received the Wholpin Award at this year's SXSW Film Festival, was seriously injured in a car accident en route to the film's world premiere at the fest. Zeitlin was in surgery while his film screened; the medical bills (for a

shattered hip, broken pelvis, and two sprained ankles) have added up to about \$80,000. Thus comes this benefit screening of several of Zeitlin's short films,



along with those of some of his collaborators. See p.58 of this week's Screens section for more on Zeitlin's benefit. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse at the Ritz, Tue., 7, 9:30pm.

Block) leans almost entirely on the obvious: embarrassingly open sentiment and country-song clichés (of her no-good husband, Weisz – uncharacteristically pitchy – mews, "We tried drinking our way back into love"). It all looks gorgeous, but here, too, we're in familiar territory, the Wong romantic lexicon of slo-mo and time-lapse, red-light-district gels and iconic songs on endless replay, not to mention a highfashion fetish. (That closeup of a Louis Vuitton bag nestled inexplicably on the arm

of working-class Elizabeth, followed by a shout-out in the end credits? Give me a break.) *My Blueberry Nights* can be sexy as hell, but for the first time in a Wong film, I felt duped for being so easily seduced. There are momentary pleasures, to be sure – a corker of a kiss here, an Otis Reddingbacked barroom slink there – but frankly, I'm a little weary of Wong wearing "that same old shaggy dress." – *Kimberley Jones*

TASHAN

D: Vijay Krishna Acharya; with Akshay Kumar, Saif Ali Khan, Kareena Kapoor, Anil Kapoor. (NR, 158 min., subtitled)

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Not reviewed at press time. In this highly anticipated new Bollywood film, three people travel across India on a dangerous journey during which no one can be trusted. – Marjorie Baumgarten Tinseltown South

THE VISITOR

"EXHILARATING... 'YOUNG@HEART' SENDS YOU OUT OF THE THEATER TRANSFORMED." David Ansen

"AMAZING AND INSPIRATIONAL." Richard Roeper, AT THE MOVIES WITH Ebert @ Roeper

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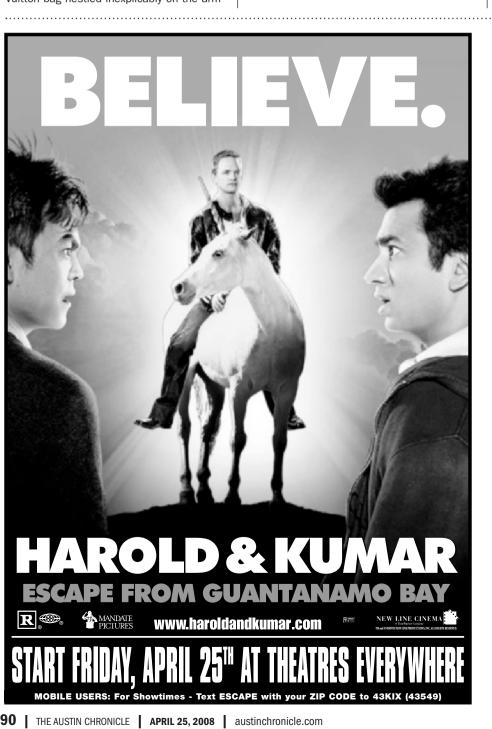
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WILL NEVER DIE

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D: Tom McCarthy; with Richard Jenkins, Haaz Sleiman, Danai Jekesai Gurira, Hiam Abbass, Marian Seldes. (PG-13, 108 min.)

McCarthy, the writer/director of 2003's The Station Agent, is back with another humanist drama, although this new one offers bridges among characters of different nationalities rather than personality types. Curiously, The Visitor is both predictable and unpredictable. Jenkins (a busy character actor who, no doubt, will be recognizable to viewers from dozens of movies, if not his role as the deceased father on HBO's Six Feet Under) is uncharacteristically cast in the lead by McCarthy (himself an actor when not writing and directing). Jenkins' role as Walter Vale is a gift that he capitalizes on fully. The character (and the film) are studies in understatement, communicating often through the absence of words or actions. Vale is a bored widower, a Connecticut university professor who can muster little interest in his students or field of study: economics. When he's sent to New York to deliver a paper he coauthored, he stays at the Manhattan apartment he once shared with his wife and still



"Diamonds in the Snow"

"Diamonds in the Snow" (1994) D: Mira Reym Binford. (NR, 59 min.) Jewish Community Relations Council. The screening, with the director in attendance, is one of the events scheduled in commemoration of Yom HaShoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day). The film is a personal account of a woman who was hidden from the Nazis by Catholic Poles. Austinite Lucy Katz, who was an infant at the time, will also be in attendance to recount her experiences being hidden by the same family of Christians. Advance registration at 6:30pm is encouraged. @Texas Hillel, Thu. (5/1), 7pm.

owns. To his surprise, he discovers the place is occupied by a young Muslim couple: Tarek from Syria and Zainab from Senegal. He naturally evicts the two, but then follows them down to the street to return something they had left behind in the apartment. Next thing we know, all three are back in the apartment, Walter having recanted his initial decision all of which is nicely conveyed to the viewer through elision, by letting us fill in the blanks of Walter's emotional journey. We may think we know where this is going: Hard-hearted economics prof reclaims his soul through his interaction with these illegal immigrants, who are full of life and artful enterprise (Tarek is a drummer and Zainab designs jewelry).



Well, yes and no. Change occurs, but not necessarily in the ways you might expect. McCarthy's approach is much truer to life, in which people enter and depart another's personal orbit without causing earth-shattering alterations in behavior or relationships. By definition, that means that not much occurs in The Visitor, yet it is never uninteresting to watch. These actors, along with Abbass as Tarek's mother, are all skilled in the art of communicating emotions wordlessly. I don't know that everyone will find a drum circle as liberating as these characters do, but The Visitor is definitely a film that marches to its own drumbeat. - Mariorie Baumgarten

First Runs

*Full-length reviews available online at austinchronicle.com. Dates at end of reviews indicate original publication date.

COLLEGE ROAD TRIP

D: Roger Kumble; with Martin Lawrence, Raven-Symoné, Kym Whitley, Donny 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 metroplex, 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 ★ Millennium

THE COUNTERFEITERS

D: Stefan Ruzowitzky; with Karl Markovics, August Diehl, Devid Striesow, Martin Brambach, August Zirner, Veit Stübner, Sebastian Urzendowsky. (R, 98 min., subtitled)

Morality is the subject of this Austrian film, which won this year's Oscar for Best Foreign Film. Salomon "Sally" Sorowitsch (Markovics) is a Russian Jew in Germany before the Second World War who puts his keen artistic eye and hand to use as a forger: he has no desire to make art when making money is so much more lucrative. These scruples serve him well after he is busted for counterfeiting and sent to the Sachsenhausen concentration camp, where he is made the head of a special unit of currency counterfeiters, in a project based on the true story of Operation Bernhard, in which the Germans planned to destabilize international economies by flooding the market with bogus British pound notes and American dollars. The prisoners' dilemma over whether to assist the Germans and thereby ensure their continued survival is the heart of the movie, which keeps the focus on moral imperatives rather than the physical ravages of the camps. (04/11/2008) – Marjorie Baumgarten ★★★★ Arbor

evan rachel wood



Regal Cinemas Arbor Stadium 8 @ Great Hills Jollyville Rd. N of Great Hills (800) FANDANGO (684)

U2 3D

U2 3D (2008) D: Mark Pellington and Catherine Owens. (G, 85 min.) Filmed in Argentina during U2's Vertigo tour, This is a landmark film for its creative use of the medium. It helps that U2 is equal to the magnitude of the 3-D format, and on the IMAX screen, these Irish rockers really rattle and hum. (*) IMAX Theatre, Fri.-Sat., 9:40pm; Mon.-Thu. (5/1), 6pm.

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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 every thing 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 Who-ville 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 South, Barton Creek *** Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

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-god-like 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 1980s 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 ★ Hill Country Galleria, Tinseltown South

THE FORBIDDEN KINGDOM

D: Rob Minkoff; with Jackie Chan, Jet Li, Michael Angarano, Liu Yifei, Collin Chou, Morgan Benoit, Li Bingbing. (PG-13, 113 min.)

Pairing these two martial-arts legends (Chan and Li) in a story that is essentially one long homage to the great Shaw Brothers films of yore allows The Forbidden Kingdom plenty of leeway for comic moments (courtesy, as always, of Chan) and some seriously kickass fight scenes (choreographed by Kill Bill's Yuen Woo-ping). There's also plenty of the traditional wire work and not nearly as much CGI (which almost always feels like a cheat in the fantastical world of traditional Hong Kong knockabouts) as you'd expect. The plot is negligible, but that's fine since it's really only a way to get from one set-piece to another. Li, playing both a grave monk and the outlandishly entertaining Monkey King, and Chan, riffing on his own character of the Drunken Master of blotto-fu. play dueling Mr. Miyagis to Angarano's Kung-fu Kid, and the results are respectable if not classic. (04/18/2008) - Marc Savlov ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek

Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Dobie, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate



FORGETTING SARAH MARSHALL

D: Nicholas Stoller; with Jason Segel, Kristen Bell, Mila Kunis, Russell Brand, Bill Hader, Jonah Hill, Jack McBrayer, Paul Rudd. (R, 112 min.)

Written by and starring Freaks and Geeks alum Segel, Forgetting Sarah Marshall has Freaks creator Judd Apatow as producer, whose particular brand of comedy is both knowing and sweetly perplexed. Despite its instantly forgettable title, Forgetting Sarah Marshall is the perfect vehicle for Segel, who thus far hasn't really found a comic niche to call his own. His regular-joe features make him perfect for "buddy" parts, but there's a wildly neurotic and needy gleam lurking behind that facial facade. It's that semihidden male vulnerability - along with his ability to be utterly naked, literally, on camera – that makes his performance in what might otherwise have been a boilerplate romantic comedy feel so fresh and vital. (Not that fresh and vital, but still.) He plays a guy who's dumped by his girlfriend (Bell) and ships off to Hawaii for some heartbreak therapy, not realizing his ex is staying at the same resort with her new beau (Brand). (04/18/2008) - 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, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

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-lessdisturbing 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

Sunflower

Sunflower (2005) D: Zhang Yang; with Joan Chen, Fan Zahng, Gao Ge, Haidi Wang, Liu Zifeng. (NR, 129 min.) Austin Film Society: Ascending Dragon – Films of Greater China. The inner dynamics of one post-Cultural Revolution family is observed over the course of 30 years of social change. @Alamo Drafthouse South, Tue., 7pm; \$4, AFS members free.

through with a sort of nihilistic humanism that ultimately unsettles more than the lurching undead themselves. (02/29/2008) – Marc Savlov ★★★↑ Tinseltown South

THE GRAND

D: Zak Penn; with Woody Harrelson, Cheryl Hines, Chris Parnell, Ray Romano, Dennis Farina, David Cross, Michael McKean, Richard Kind, Gabe Kaplan, Werner Herzog, Judy Greer, Estelle Harris, Andrea Savage, Barry Corbin, Shannon Elizabeth, Jason Alexander, Hank Azaria. (R, 104 min.)

There's a lot of truly hilarious material in The Grand, a semiscripted, semi-improvised movie about several characters who are competing in a Las Vegas championship poker tournament. A 20-minute package of those funny bits would be priceless, but at an hour and 45 minutes, The Grand is stuffed with too many unproductive improvs and actual poker-playing to be of sustained interest. Spoofing the recent phenomenon of televised poker tournaments (of both the professional and celebrity varieties), The Grand aims to do for poker what Best in Show did for canine competitions, but director Penn's film unfortunately takes home no blue ribbons. Consisting mainly of character guirks and back stories, The Grand has very little plot to speak of but enough characters to populate at least three separate movies. But really, why worry about measly details when deliciously funny moments are scattered about with such carefree abandon? (04/04/2008)- Mariorie Baumgarten ★★↓ Álamo Drafthouse South

LEATHERHEADS

D: George Clooney; with Clooney, Renée Zellweger, John Krasinski, Jonathan Pryce, Stephen Root. (PG-13, 114 min.)

Nearing 50, Clooney is still almost improbably puckish, but this picture - his third directorial effort - isn't quite as fleet. Set in the 1920s, when the nation was still recovering from the Great War, Leatherheads charts the awkward birth of professional football. Leatherheads comes practically gift-wrapped in goodwill - it's a celebration of an American pastime (if not the American pastime) and a loving nod to the screwballs of yore. The film is appropriately scored, well-acted, and possessing of a handful of truly transportive moments. It's awfully agreeable - so why doesn't it entirely work? I think it's a question of comic timing. This kind of backward-glancing, even ga-ga-ing, material begs for barmy, and barmy begs for no brakes, but Leatherheads takes a full half-hour of stops





and starts to find its footing. Even then, it skips from fizzy water to flat tap from scene to scene. (04/04/2008) - Kimberley Jones

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Alamo Drafthouse South, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

MISS PETTIGREW LIVES FOR A DAY

D: Bharat Nalluri; with Frances McDormand, Amy Adams, Shirley Henderson, Lee Pace, Mark Strong, Ciarán Hinds. (PG-13, 92 min.)

The Blitz was not all chip-rationing and stiffupper-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

NIM'S ISLAND

D: Jennifer Flackett, Mark Levin; with Abigail Breslin, Jodie Foster, Gerard Butler, Michael Carman. (PG, 95 min.)

Boys adventure stories are a dime (store novel) a dozen, but girls adventure tales are rare things indeed. Nim's Island, which is adapted from Wendy Orr's young-adult novel, comes to the rescue with its South Seas setting and message to girls of all ages about the need to become the heroes of their own life stories. The film details the parallel adventures of Nim Rusoe (Breslin), a motherless girl who lives on an otherwise deserted South Pacific atoll with her scientist father (Butler), and Alexandra Rover (Foster), a San Francisco agoraphobe who writes adventure novels about the escapades of her imaginary alter ego, Alex Rover (an Indiana Jones-type fellow who is also incarnated by Butler). It's lovely to watch Foster in this role, taking a comedic breather from all the high-tension thrillers she's been appearing in of late. Breslin tones down the perky effusiveness of her Little Miss Sunshine character and proves her versatility. (04/04/2008) - Mariorie Baumgarten Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill *** Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Lakeline, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North, Westgate

PROM NIGHT

D: Nelson McCormick; with Brittany Snow, Scott Porter, Jessica Stroup, Dana Davis, Collins Pennie, Johnathon Schaech, Idris Elba, James Ransone. (PG-13, 88 min.)

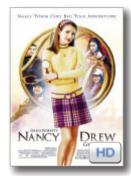
This do-over of the 1980 *Prom Night* isn't so much an improvement over the original as lousy in a whole new direction, a nearly bloodless slasher film with fewer surprises than a broken jack-in-thebox. It's blandly scripted by J.S. Cardone, who adds nothing new to a genre that has already expired and been resurrected more times than Jason Voorhees. *Hairspray's* Snow plays high school senior Donna, whose entire family was gutted three years earlier by maniac teacher Richard Fenton (Schaech), who has since been locked away, presumably, in the same inescapable madhouse Michael Myers keeps escaping from. Now, with the big night at hand, Donna, dull beau Bobby (Porter), and a quartet of their BFFs are stalked and ceremoniously exsanguinated (offscreen,

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Exte: Hair Extensions

Exte: Hair Extensions (2007) D: Sion

Sono; with Chiaki Kuriyama, Ren Osugi, Megumi Sato. (NR, 108 min.) This Fantastic Fest fave features human hair extensions with minds of their own. @Alamo Ritz, Wed., 9:30pm, 12mid.

no less), with nary a shred of suspense or even mild annoyance as the still-statutory crush'n prof carves a virtually goreless path toward his favorite co-ed. (04/18/2008) – Marc Savlov

Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Metropolitan, Tinseltown North

THE RUINS

D: Carter Smith; with Shawn Ashmore, Jena Malone, Jonathan Tucker, Laura Ramsey. (R, 97 min.) The Ruins, based on Scott Smith's bestselling

horror novel, is a riff on the perils of leaving the main trail and venturing off on one's own, especially if you're young, white, and American. Medical student Jeff (Tucker) gets a highly specialized crash course in field surgery and why cell phones are fundamentally evil little diabolus ex machinas when he and girlfriend (Malone) and their best friends (Ransev and Ashmore) end up trapped atop an ancient Mavan pyramid - along with a fellow German tourist - which harbors a dark, sinewy secret. Smith's singularly bizarre novel managed what this film cannot: fear and sympathy. Stripped of the novel's horror by its own overreliance on grisly imagery and a quartet of protagonists who you barely care about, this is not nearly as unique a horror film as it thinks it is or it could have been. (04/11/2008) - Marc Savlov Metropolitan +

SHUTTER

D: Masayuki Ochiai; with Joshua Jackson, Rachael Taylor, Megumi Okina, David Denman. (PG-13, 85 min.) Shutter 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 Blow-Up. Ochiai's "photo-montage" (a couple sees mysterious images in photographs) 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 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. (03/28/2008) - Marc Savlov Tinseltown South

SMART PEOPLE

D: Noam Murro; with Dennis Quaid, Sarah Jessica Parker, Thomas Haden Church, Ellen Page. (NR, 95 min.)

Lawrence Wetherhold (Quaid), a widowed professor at Carnegie Mellon University, is a guy who would be able to spell "dysfunctional" with ease but never recognize the word as a description of himself and his family. Lawrence is acerbic and demanding yet wholly disinterested in his students, family, and career. His daughter Vanessa (Page) is a high-school senior whose character traits are even worse than her old man's. The film is the first feature effort for commercials director Murro and novelist-turned-screenwriter Mark Jude Poirier, who make a distinctive, if not entirely successful debut. Poirier's language is often delicious, highlighted by barbs and dialogue that are as well-aimed as they are socially inappropriate, and Murro evidences none of the ADD flash that often makes commercials directors ill-equipped to handle character arcs. Yet there's something amiss in *Smart People* that fails to get a fire going among any of the characters. (04/11/2008) - Marjorie Baumgarten★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, AlamoDrafthouse Village, Arbor, Barton Creek Square, Dobie,Westgate

STOP-LOSS

D: Kimberly Peirce; with Ryan Phillippe, Abbie Cornish, Channing Tatum, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ciarán Hinds, Timothy Olyphant, Victor Rasuk, Rob Brown, Mamie Gummer, Josef Sommer, Alex Frost. (R, 112 min.) Peirce's second feature (her first was the accolade-magnet Boys Don't Cry) opens smackdab in the proverbial fog (or sand, actually) of war. Tikrit-based Staff Sgt. Brandon King (Phillippe) and the men in his squadron are headed home to the Lone Star State (much of the film was shot in and around Austin, doubling for Brazos), following a nasty sniper battle. 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. 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. (03/28/2008) - Marc Savlov ★★★ Tinseltown South

STREET KINGS

D: David Ayer; with Keanu Reeves, Forest Whitaker, Hugh Laurie, Chris Evans, Martha Higareda, Terry Crews, Jay Mohr, Cedric the Entertainer, The Game. (R, 109 min.)

Dirty cops are the kings of the L.A. streets, and no one knows that better than James Ellrov. the crime novelist who wrote the story on which this film's screenplay is based, and for which he receives credit with Kurt Wimmer and Jamie Moss. It's a tangled, gritty story full of gunfire, blood, and vicious men (both on the side of the law and against it), and, for the most part, it's an absorbing policier. Curiously, the often affectless Reeves is well-cast as a vice detective whose placid exterior cloaks a volatile temper that his . captain (Whitaker) puts to good use whenever he needs a mad dog to take care of business using methods best kept under cover from the public eye. Director Ayer brings a tactile feel to the urban grit he portrays, even though some of his imagery is rather worn. Despite its limitations, Street Kings is a solid contemporary crime drama. (04/18/2008) Marjorie Baumgarten ★★★ Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Highland, Gateway, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

We Feed the World

We Feed the World (2005) D: Erwin Wagenhofer. (NR, 96 min.) **Third Coast Activists.** The documentary examines how globalization and consolidated corporate power has affected the production of food throughout the world. @Alamo Ritz, Wed., 7pm.

SUPERHERO MOVIE

D: Craig Mazin; with Drake Bell, Leslie Nielsen, Sara Paxton, Christopher McDonald, Marion Ross, Kevin Hart, Brent Spiner, Jeffrey Tambor. (PG-13, 85 min.)

Mazin's feature debut, The Specials, is a superhero satire that affectionately winks and nods at the whole concept of what superheroes do, if anything, on their days off. That said, his new parody, Superhero Movie, blows harder than Storm from X-Men. It's a tonally confused comedy, which, for once, doesn't go far enough comedically. Featuring an earnest performance from Bell – whose riff on Peter Parker/Spider-Man is very nearly noteperfect - and an appropriately scenery-devouring McDonald (voice of The Iron Giant's G-man, Kent Mansley) as the supervillian Hourglass, Superhero Movie plays like a real (albeit really cheap) Marvel Universe knockoff that was shanghaied by the Wayans gang and then minimalized by Reducto from Harvey Birdman, Attorney at Law. Even cameos from Airplane!-er Robert Hays and Forbidden Planeteer-cum-comedy-stalwart Nielson can't supersize the yuks on what turns out to be a mere annoyance of a spoof. Bah, puny insect! (04/04/2008)- Marc Savlov ★ Hill Country Galleria, Lakeline, Metropolitan,

Tinseltown North

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 hamfisted 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) Paleolithic hunter with abandonment issues who crosses continents (maybe) to rescue his blue-eved 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

CM Round Rock, Tinseltown South





21

D: Robert Luketic; with Jim Sturgess, Kate Bosworth, Kevin Spacey, Laurence Fishburne, Liza Lapira, Josh Gad, Aaron Yoo, Sam Golzari, Jacob Pitts, Jack McGee. (PG-13, 123 min.)

One might think that characters who have the mental quickness to count cards and take the Vegas blackjack tables for tens of thousands of dollars would also have the acumen to notice that some aspects of their caper just don't add up. The filmmakers take a pass on character develop ment in favor of fluttery Vegas montages of cards, lights, money, and pretty, young faces in thrall to the gods of self-made fortunes and striking it rich. Adapted from Ben Mezrich's true account of similar events, Bringing Down the House: The Inside Story of Six M.I.T. Students Who Took Vegas for Millions, the film shows little interest in the honest reasons why a Harvard Medical School admittee, who professes that he's only in it for the \$300,000 needed to finance his education. just doesn't apply for a student loan like everybody else. 21 shares with the Las Vegas mythos the same stale temptations: empty glitz and little substance. (03/28/2008) - Marjorie Baumgarten ★★ Alamo Drafthouse South, Alamo Drafthouse Village, Barton Creek Square, CM Cedar Park, Hill Country Galleria, CM Round Rock, Southpark Meadows, Gateway, Lakeline, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South, Westgate

UNDER THE SAME MOON

D: Patricia Riggen; with Kate del Castillo, Eugenio Derbez, Mário 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-yearold 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 ★★★ Barton Creek Square, Southpark Meadows, Tinseltown North, Tinseltown South

THE UNFORESEEN

D: Laura Dunn. (NR, 88 min.)

At the heart of Dunn's documentary - which is part history lesson and part anthropological study, part geological survey and part nature special (complete with profoundly gorgeous views of Barton Springs shot in the style of the film's Co-Executive Producer Terrence Malick) - lies Austin developer Gary Bradley. Forgoing partisanship, she resists the temptation to demonize Bradley, instead looking at him as a man full of contradictions and pain. 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 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. (03/28/2008) . Josh Rosenblatt

★★★ Alamo Drafthouse South

VOUNG@HEART

D: Stephen Walker. (PG, 107 min.) A documentary about a choral group of lovable octogenarians whose repertoire includes songs by Sonic Youth and the Talking Heads? It sounds gimmicky, scary even. But despite an occasional lapse into nudge-nudge jokes about old age, Young@Heart eschews the clichés for something that we can all relate to: our own mortality. Shot

simple, this documentary spends two months with these senior citizens as they prepare for a concert. During the course of these eight weeks, the drama of everyday life runs the gamut from the comical to the heartbreaking. Songs like Bowie's "Golden Years" and the Bee Gees' "Stayin' Alive" take on an altogether different (often tongue-in-cheek) meaning when sung by someone with gray hair and wrinkles. The film suggests that the secret to growing old is to feel young, and – based on what you see in this film – there may be some truth to that platitude. (04/18/2008) – Steve Davis **** Alamo Drafthouse South, Arbor

ZOMBIE STRIPPERS

D: Jay Lee; with Robert Englund, Jenna Jameson, Roxy Saint, Joey Medina, Shamron Moore, Penny Drake, Jennifer Holland. (R, 94 min.)

The filmmakers score an A+ for the title, a popculture mash-up guaranteed to tantalize. It's reflec tive of the movie's tongue-in-cheek tone, which takes neither zombies nor strippers too seriously but exploits their commercial possibilities to the max. Zombie Strippers has two big assets going for it, apart from its amusing title; the casting of horror vet Englund (Freddy Krueger, in the flesh) as the proprietor of Rhino's, the underground strip club where most of the action takes place, and porn star Jameson (also in the flesh) as Rhino's star attraction, Kat, whose zombie transformation only increases the club's business. The action can be bloody but is mostly routine, except for the movie's pointed references to existentialist philosophers and the lonesco play Rhinocerous.

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Since the other strippers want to be like Kat, they all turn zombie and start making money hand over tit. Ultimately, the film's most eye-catching special effects are reserved for bikini waxes and implants. (04/18/2008) - Marjorie Baumgarten ** Dobie

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BY MARJORIE BAUMGARTEN

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THURSDAY **24**

Alien Blood: The Director's Cut (1999)

D: Jon Sorensen; with Rob Campbell, Penelope Dudley, Tony Hunt, Francesca Manning. (NR, 80 min.) Tromatic Thursday. An extraterrestrial on earth is forced to defend her offspring. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10pm; free.

DCI: The Countdown (2008) (NR, 120 min.) Drum Corps International presents this compilation of six full-length performances selected from the 2005, 2006, and 2007 DCI World Championship finalists, as chosen by fans. @Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, 7:30pm

Just Can't Get Enough: The New Wave Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:15pm.

Lost TV @ the Alamo, Free, but advance reservations suggested. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 9pm: 10pm.

One Dark Night (1983) D: Tom McLoughlin; with Meg Tilly, Melissa Newman, Robin Evans, Leslie Speights. (PG, 94 min.) Terror Thursday. Telekinesis and girl-gang initiation rites: Sounds like a great combo, @Alamo Ritz, 12mid: free,

Quantum Hoops: The Caltech Basketball Story (2008) D: Rick Greenwald; narrated by David Duchovny. (NR, 85 min.) The documentary chronicles the final week of the 2006 Caltech basketball season. The team was in the midst of a 21-year losing streak but had more valedictorians than players with high school ball experience. Director Greenwald will introduce the film and be on hand for a Q&A afterward. See the Score sports blog for more on the film. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm; \$8.25.

Super High Me (2008) D: Michael Blieden. (NR, 89 min.) Comedian Doug Benson investigates the controversy over medical marijuana use in this South by Southwest documentary. He goes 30 days without marijuana and then 30 days consuming as much pot as he can shovel into his body, all while performing a series of tests to determine the effects of staying on or off the grass. Along the way he encounters fellow comedians Sarah Silverman, Zach Galifianakis, Bob Odenkirk, and Patton Oswalt. @Alamo Ritz, 7pm.

Two Days in April (2007) D: Don Argot. (NR, 90 min.) Austin Film Festival. Four college football players are followed in a training facility in Florida where they mentally and physically prepare for the NFL draft. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm; \$4, AFF members free.

SPACES

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (2007) D: Tim Burton; with Johnny Depp. Helena Bonham Carter, Alan Rickman. Timothy Spall, Sacha Baron Cohen, Jamie Campbell Bower, Laura Michelle Kelly, Jayne Wisener. (R, 117 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

FRIDAY **25**

Battlestar Galactica D: Ronald D. Moore; vith Edward James Olmos, Mary McDonnell, Jamie Bamber, Katee Sackhoff, TV at the Alamo, Two episodes of the final season will screen back-to-back. Reserve tickets at www.originalalamo.com. @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

Planet of the Apes (1968) D: Franklin J. Schaffner; with Kim Hunter, Roddy McDowall, Charlton Heston. (G, 112 min.) Master Pancake. Guest come-

SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

The Austin Chronicle is published every Thursday. Info is due the Monday of the week prior to the issue date. The deadline for the May 9 issue is Monday, April 28. Include name of event, date, time, location, price, phone number(s), a description, and any available photos or artwork. Send submissions to the Chronicle, PO Box 49066,

Austin, 78765, fax 458-6910, or e-mail.

Contact Marjorie Baumgarten (Special Screenings): specialscreenings@austinchronicle.com; Wayne Alan Brenner (Offscreen): calendar@austinchronicle.com

dian Owen Egerton rejoins John Erler and the cast to help mock the original damn-dirty-ape movie ... and Charlton Heston, too. (*) @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10:15pm.

SATURDAY 26

Blade Runner: The Final Cut (2007)

D: Ridley Scott; with Harrison Ford, Sean Young, Rutger Hauer, Daryl Hannah, Edward James Olmos, M. Emmet Walsh, William Sanderson, Joanna Cassidy, Brion James, (R, 117 min.) Big Screen Sci-Fi. Cops and androids fight it out in 21st century L.A. in this Philip K. Dick film adaptation with fabulous art direction. This remastered and subtly rejggered print is most notable for its inclusion of the "scene with the unicorn," which makes abundantly clear that Ford's blade runner is indeed an android and not a human. The film remains a landmark spectacle. @Alamo Ritz, 4:15pm.

Infra-Man (1975) D: Hua-Shan; with Li Hsiu-Hsien, Wang Hsieh, Yuan Man-Tzu, Terry Li. (PG, 88 min.) Kids Club. This Japanese monster movie features a superhero cyborg. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse South, 12pm; free.

La Fille du Régiment (2008) (NR, 190 min.) Metropolitan Opera: Live in HD. Donizetti's opera is broadcast live at the Saturday screening, with an encore screening projected again on Sunday, @Tinseltown North, Metropolitan, Southpark Meadows, 12:30pm; \$22, \$20 senior, \$15 children

Planet of the Apes (1968) @Alamo Ritz, 7, 10:15pm. (See Fri., 4/25.)

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 Drafthouse Village, 12mid.

SUNDAY 20

Blade Runner: The Final Cut (2007) @Alamo Ritz, 4:15, 10pm. (See Sat., 4/26.)

La Fille du Régiment (2008) @Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, 2pm; \$22, \$20 senior, \$15 children. (See Sat., 4/26.)

Superman: The Movie (1978) D: Richard Donner; with Christopher Reeve, Margot Kidder, Marlon Brando, Gene Hackman, Ned Beatty, Jackie Cooper, Mark McClure, Glenn Ford, Valerie Perrine. (PG, 143 min.) The screening is being held in cel-

Offscreen

501 Studios: Soundstage + HD Theatre 501 Studios' historic soundstage in Downtown Austin now doubles as one of Texas' largest public theatres - with a Sony Qualia HD projector, a 28-foot screen, 180 (removable) seats, a vintage popcorn machine, and affordable rates. Need a venue for premieres, wrap parties, and concerts/ plays/performances featuring projection? This could be the place. Also still available as a soundstage/green screen. thomasallen@501studios.com.

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. Filmmakers who have resided in Texas for at least one year are eligible, and the current application is available on the AFS website. Submission deadline: June 2. www.austinfilm.org.

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

ebration of the 70th anniversary of Action Comics #1. There will be prizes for the patron wearing the best superhero costume and prizes for trivia knowledge. (*) @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 7:30pm.

MONDAY 28

Blade Runner: The Final Cut (2007) @ Alamo Ritz, 7pm. (See Sat., 4/26.)

Suffering and Smiling (2006) D: Dan Ollman. (NR, 60 min.) Music Monday. The focus of the documentary is Nigerian activist Femi Kuti, son of politicized musican and bandleader Feli Kuti. The director is one of the helmers of The Yes Men. @Alamo Ritz. 10pm: \$2.

SPACES

Dazed and Confused (1993) D: Richard Linklater; with Jason London, Wiley Wiggins, Rory Cochrane, Matthew McConaughey. (R, 103 min.) Monday Movies and Margaritas. Drink specials 5-9pm. Movie at sundown. (*) @Belmont, 8pm; free.

La Estrategia del Caracol (1993) D: Sergio Cabrera. (NR, 105 min.) Spanish Language Film Series. Colombian film about resistance; no subtitles. @MonkeyWrench Books, 8pm.

TUESDAY 20

The Films of Benh Zeitlin and Friends: A Benefit SXSW Film Festival. See p.90

Sunflower (2005) See p.92.

SPACES

Fargo (1996) D: Joel Coen; with William H. Macy, Frances McDormand, Steve Buscemi, Peter Stormare, Harve Presnell, John Carroll Lynch, Kristin Rudrud. (R, 95 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm

WEDNESDAY **BO**

Exte: Hair Extensions (2007) See p.94.

The Molesters (1963) D: Franz Schnyder; with Freddy Karsten. (R, 84 min.) Weird Wednesday. Dubbed German film explains everything about sexual perversion in a series of progressively more offensive vignettes. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid: free.

We Feed the World (2005) See p.94.

SPACES

Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom (1984) D: Steven Spielberg; with Harrison Ford, Kate Capshaw, Dan Aykroyd. (PG, 118 min.) Free.

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.

Austin Film Festival: Call for Entries The AFF seeks entries for the 2008 Screenplay and Teleplay competitions. Categories include

The Network Austin Mixer The guest

THURSDAY **O**

The Beast Within (1982) D: Philippe Mora; with Ronny Cox, Bibi Besch, Paul Clemens, Don Gordon, R.G. Armstrong, Katherine Moffat. (R, 98 min.) **Terror Thursday.** A woman is raped by a werewolf, and years later the child born of that union has predictable troubles with adolescence. @Alamo Ritz, 12mid; free.

Just Can't Get Enough: The New Wave Sing-Along @Alamo Ritz, 9:30pm. (See Thu., $4/2\overline{4}$.)

Lost @Alamo Drafthouse Village, 10pm; Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 9pm. (See Thu., 4/24.)

Student Confidential (1987) D: Richard Horian: with Elizabeth Singer, Susie Scott, Marlon Jackson, Eric Douglas, Ronee Blakley. (R, 99 min.) Tromatic Thursday. High school students are on the road to ruin. @Alamo Drafthouse Lake Creek, 10nm: free

This American Life Live! (2008) (NR, 120 min.) **NCM Fathom.** Radio and television host Ira Glass will broadcast never-before-seen material from his popular show live via satellite. @Tinseltown North, Southpark Meadows, Metropolitan, 7pm.

SPACES

"Diamonds in the Snow" (1994) See p.91.

No Country for Old Men (2007) D: Joel Coen and Ethan Coen; with Tommy Lee Jones. Javier Bardem, Josh Brolin. (R, 122 min.) Free. (*) @Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

FESTIVALS

Cine las Americas International Film Festival Last day. See "The Audacity of Promoting Necessary Cinema," April 11, for film reviews and other coverage. For complete descriptions of the films and events, see www.cinelasamericas.org Thu (4/24) @ Alamo Drafthouse South

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. Waterconservation 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 photorealistic, 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.

Shine a Light: The IMAX Experience (2008) D: Martin Scorsese. (PG-13, 122 min.) The Rolling Stones gather no moss in this Scorsese-directed concert film. In this venue you can even detect the Rolling Stones' liver spots. Check Chronicle Film Listings online for review.

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.

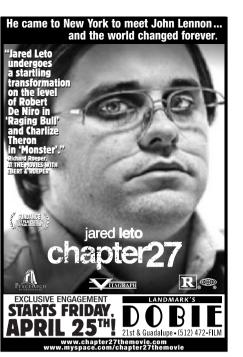
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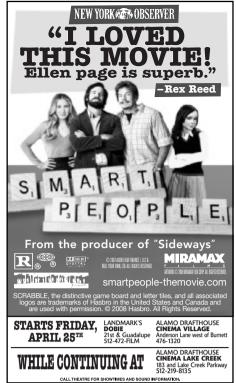
@Rounders Pizzeria, 8pm.

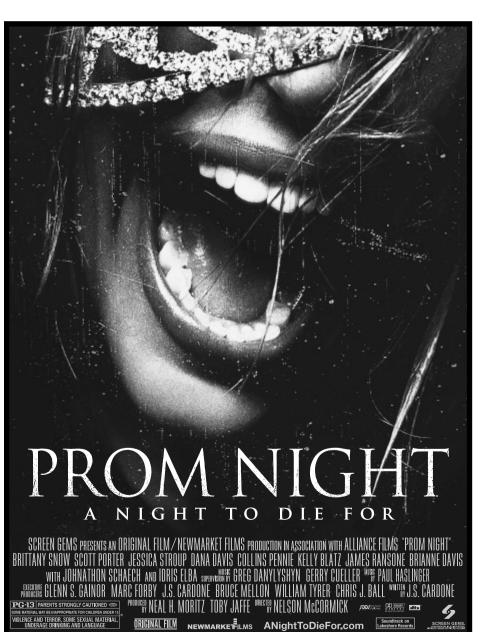
Drama and Comedy, each with a cash prize of \$5,000. You may also choose to have your script considered for the Latitude and Sci-Fi Awards, each with a cash prize of \$2,500, Early deadline: May 15. Late deadline: June 1. Also: Film entries needed. There are six competitive categories: Narrative Feature, Narrative Short, Narrative Student Short, Documentary Feature, Documentary Short, and Animated Short. See website for details. Early deadline: June 5. Late deadline: July 5.

www.austinfilmfestival.com.

speakers at this meeting will be you, the attendees. Yes, this is your chance at one-to-many communication IRL: everybody will be given a few minutes to introduce themselves, pitch their projects, their skills and their needs, seek interested partners, and so on. Then, of course, there's the usual mixing and mingling. Wed., April 30, 7pm. Mother Egan's Irish Pub, 715 W. Sixth, 478-7747. www.motheregansirishpub.com







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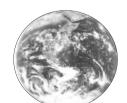
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music listings

Things have changed for Steve Earle. He left Nashville for New York City. He got married (again), this time to singer-songwriter Allison Moorer. And his 2007 disc, Washington Square Serenade (New West), chronicles those experiences, acoustic guitar balanced with cosmopolitan beats courtesy of production from the Dust Brothers' John King.

"It was really demos that grew up to be a record I didn't expect when I started the process," explains Earle by phone from Charlotte, N.C. "Some of that stuff we overdubbed real drums on; some of it we didn't. But every single song on it was arrived at by playing acoustic guitar over beats."

To reproduce that in a live setting, Earle took the unconventional step of working with a DJ on stage, though he claims comparisons to what he did at last year's Austin City Limits Music Festival may not be fair.

"John suggested we do it with turntables," he relates. "He did it at the Triple A convention in Boulder, which was last August, just before the record was released, and it worked pretty well. So then we did it at Bumbershoot [in Seattle] and ACL, and it evolved from there. Now it's a longer set, more stuff with the DJ, and there's a lot more solo things I haven't played in a while."

Those who remember 1988's rock-infused Copperhead Road might be disappointed, but the hardcore troubadour realizes he can't please everyone.

"To keep my core audience interested, I'm going to alienate people who are fans of one component of what I've done over 20-some-odd years," he says. "It's just unavoidable. I don't mean to alienate anybody. I need all the support I can get. Anybody in this business does. But I don't sell less records than I did 10 years go. I have to be pretty happy with that. At a time when the business is shrinking, I'm doing OK."

He pauses for a chuckle.

"I'm almost nervous about saying that." - Jim Caligiuri

Visit austinchronicle.com/earache for more with Earle.

Soundcheck by Audra schroeder

MY CHEMICAL

Stubb's, Monday 28

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La Zona Rosa, Thursday 1

live music

roadshows

LISTINGS p.110

·......

p.106

VENUES

p.100

Icelandic precious-

Woolite Dark Laundry

ROMANCE

Fabric Wash.

MÚM



MICHELLE SHOCKED Cactus Cafe, Friday 25

Sounds guitarist Rich Crook The Dallasite tells muscles up the power-pop. the gospel truth on lat-**KID KOALA** est ToHeavenURide.

PONG, THE HORSIES,

DARLING NEW NEIGHBORS Continental Club.

Friday 25 All-locals bucking in the stable.

LONE STAR **STATE JAM**

Waterloo Park, Saturdav 26 Cow down with Cross Canadian Ragweed,

Kevin Fowler, Eli Young Band, and more. FOOT PATROL,

MISTRESS STEPHANIE & HER MELODIC CAT

Victory Grill, Saturday 26 Fetishists unite as part of Fuse Box '08. See "The Electric Exchange," p.44.

B-Boy City 15 PARISH, THURSDAY 24-SUNDAY 27

Austin B-boys and -girls were proving inside the circle long before trite reality shows like Bravo's Step It Up & Dance started polluting the airwayes, Romeo Navarro's hip-hop carnival celebrates its 10th anniversary this year, kicking off Thursday, hosting a DJ battle Friday, and culminating with Sunday's finals in one-on-one, tag-team, and crew vs. crew breakdancing battles. www.bboycity.com. Thomas Fawcett

The Way It Is Fest RED 7, FRIDAY 25 & SATURDAY 26

For the second consecutive year, Rich Elrath of Posi Productions gathers more than 20 of the Lone Star State's most abrasive acts for a two-day hardcore showdown. Houston thrashers the Jonbenét, along with Warwolf and Condemned Unit, jump-start Friday, while H-Town's Pride Kills and Will to Live close out Saturday, both performing their last Austin shows. The real draw is the apocalyptic boom of locals Mammoth Grinder, who are even heavier and more punishing than the name suggests. - Austin Powell

Peter Brötzmann/Han Bennink Duo **VICTORY GRILL, SATURDAY 26**

Two absolute giants of European free jazz return to Austin for a rare visit. With careers extending back to the heyday of the fertile 1960s avant scene, volcanic German saxophonist Brötzmann and zany Dutch drummer Bennink are each masterful musicians who have been performing together in various combinations for decades. This Epistrophy Arts presentation continues a decadelong tradition of featuring the foremost in creative improv. 8pm. – Jay Trachtenberg

Caribou, Fuck Buttons EMO'S, SUNDAY 27

Dan Snaith's Caribou transformed from Amon Tobin-esque electronica to flower-child pop with last year's gorgeous Andorra (Merge), a shimmering collection of mild psychedelic AM tunes. On the other side of the sonic spectrum, UK noise duo Fuck Buttons was all the rage at South by Southwest 08, culling primal trances from debut Street Horrrsing (ATP), cut with VU's deathly repetition and Black Dice's absurdity.

Friday: Ethan Master of the Hawaiian

In-Stores Saturday: Brekekexkoaxkoax, Trailer Space, 6pm

Joe Jackson paramount theatre, monday 28

Forever a sharp-dressed man, Joe Jackson's latest, Rain (Rykodisc), arrives at the elegant jazz he's been hinting at for years. A move to Berlin last year may have something to do with the UK singer/pianist's mood, but with longtime drummer Dave Houghton and bassist Graham Maby along for the ride, the creator of power-pop hits like "I'm the Man" and "Is She Really Going Out With Him?" isn't slowing down, just steppin' out. Philly soul man Mutlu opens. - Audra Schroeder



<u>Steve Earle</u> PARAMOUNT THEATRE,

SUNDAY 27

Bonde do Rolê emo's, wednesday 30

Anyone who thinks of Brazil as the land of Ipaneman dream girls and Sergio Mendes is overdue for a re-education. Coachella-bound Curitiban quartet Bonde do Rolê is the sonic equivalent of capoeira, a hip-hop head-butt that layers bilingual raps over metallic samples. Putting out fire with last year's Gasolina, the recent Domino signees are on par with a five-day cachaça bender. Electro-geniuses the Death Set open. Marc Savlov

Kanye West, Lupe Fiasco **ERWIN CENTER, WEDNESDAY 30**

Never easy to predict what you're getting when Kanye's running the show, but make sure you bring your sunglasses. The never-bashful Chicago producer/MC rolls his Glow in the Dark Tour through Austin, flanked by Windy City protégé Fiasco, recently announced ACL act N.E.R.D, and Grammy-winning Barbados songstress Rihanna. Chase Hoffberger



Link Wray Birthday Bash/Slide-o-Rama CONTINENTAL CLUB/CACTUS CAFE, THURSDAY 1

Link Wray, who passed away in 2005, roared such power through his guitar that instrumental hit "Rumble" was famously banned from 1950s radio. Celebrating the 79th birthday of the power-chord pioneer, Wray's rockabilly contemporaries and acolytes - including Rosie Flores, Redd Volkaert, Eve Monsees, and 3 Balls of Fire - shake the Continental with the 13 Guitar Rumble. Across town at the Cactus. steel queen Cindy Cashdollar leads the fourth annual Slide-o-Rama with Jon Dee Graham. Gurf Morlix, and more. – Doug Freeman

> Wednesday: Man Man, Waterloo Records, 5pm Thursday: W-S Burn, End of an Ear, 6pm

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► CLUB

Ukulele, End of an Ear, 6pm

- Austin Powell

Fuck Buttons



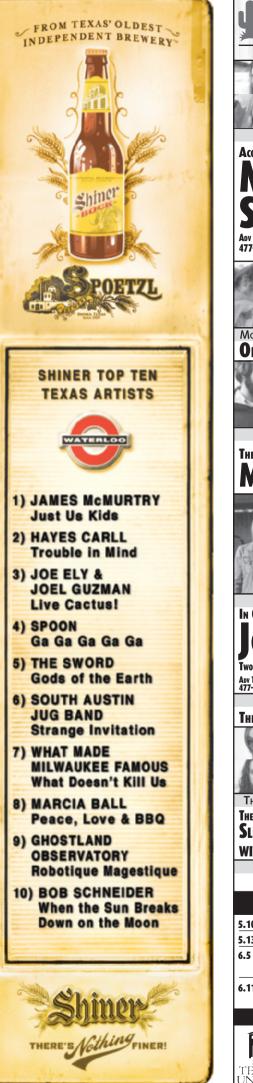
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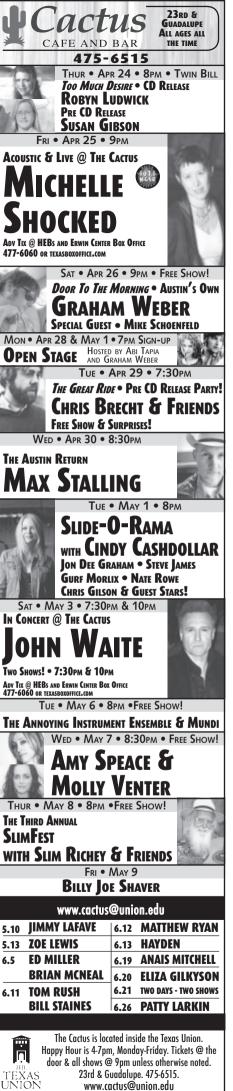
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HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR, 2401 E. Sixth #104

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA, 1206 Parkway, 476-1829

KENNY DORHAM'S BACKYARD, 1106 E, 11th, 477-9438 LA PALAPA, 6640 Hwy. 290, 459-8729 LA ZONA ROSA, 612 W. Fourth, 472-2293 LAGUNA GLORIA, 3809 W. 35th, 458-8191 LAMBERTS, 401 W. Second, 494-1500 LAS PALOMAS, 3201 Bee Caves Rd. #122, 327-9889 LATITUDE 30, 512 San Jacinto, 472-3335 THE LOADING DOCK, 708 S. Austin St., Georgetown, 512/864-2100 LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR, 629 W. Ben White, LOUIE'S 106, 106 E. Sixth, 476-1997 LOVE, 1000 S. First, 442-5683 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 MAUGUE MAE 3, 323 E. SIAUI, 4700041 MANUELS, 310 Congress, 472-7555 MARIA'S TACO XPRESS, 2529 S. Lamar, 444-0261 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., MUGSHOTS 407 F Seventh 236-0008 MULLIGAN'S, 900 RR 620 S., 263-3305 NASTY'S, 606 Maiden, 453-4349 NUEVO LEÓN, 1501 E. Sixth, 479-0097 NUNO'S NORTH, 12408 MoPac N., 837-6866 NUNO'S ON SIXTH, 422 E. Sixth, 833-5133 NUNZIA'S, 7720 Hwy. 71 W., 394-0220 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 ONE WORLD THEATRE, 7701 Bee Caves Rd., 330-9500 PARAMOUNT THEATRE, 713 Congress, 472-5470 THE PARISH, 214 E. Sixth, 479-0474 THE PARLOR, 100-B E. North Loop, 454-8965 PARMER LANE TAVERN, 2121 Parmer #1, 339-0663 PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE, 5001 E. Ben White, 444-2020 PEASE PARK, Windsor & Lamar, 974-6700 THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS, 18200 Lakepoint Cove, Point Venture, 512/267-1845 PLUSH, 617 Red River, 478-0099 POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL, 22308 Hwy. 71 W., Spicewood, 512/264-0318 PROGRESS COFFEE, 500 San Marcos, 493-0963 QUACK'S MAPLEWOOD BAKERY, 1400 E. 38¹/₂, RACK DADDY'S, 4410 E. Riverside, 389-1577 RACK DADD' 3, 4410 E. RiverSide, 389-1377 REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE, 13450 Research, 335-5115 RED 7, 611 E. Seventh, 476-8100 RED FYE, 715 Red River, 474-1084 RED FEZ, 209-B W. Fifth, 478-5120 RENAISSANCE HOTEL, 9721 Arboretum, 343-2626 RILEY'S TAVERN, 8894 FM 1102, Hunter, 512/392-3132 NDOO'DE AS CHI MANIC, 300 Adventid 407-6754 RINGSIDE AT SULLIVAN'S, 300 Colorado, 495-6504 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 SCHOLZ GARTEN, 1607 San Jacinto, 474-1958 **SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN**, 1308 E. Fourth, 478-6200 SHENANIGANS, 13233 Pond Springs Rd., 258-9717 SHOAL CREEK SALOON, 909 N. Lamar, 474-0805 SHOOTERS BILLIARDS, 11416 RR 620 N., 401-2060 SKI SHORES, 2905 Pierce, 346-5915 SOUTHSIDE FLYING PIZZA, 2206 S. Congress, 442-4246 SPEAKEASY, 412 Congress, 476-8017 SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE, 2908 Fruth,

ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH. 606 W. 15th. **STARDUST CLUB**, 11940 Manchaca, 280-8590

STUBB'S, 801 Red River, 480-8341

THE STUDIO, 5804 S. I-35, 467-7900 T.C.'S LOUNGE, 1413 Webberville Rd., 926-2200 TEXAS BAR & GRILL, 14611 Burnet Rd., 255-1300 THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ, 301 W. Riverside, 472-9304 TRAILER SPACE RECORDS & EVENTS CENTER, 2421 Cesar Chavez, 542-9001

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL, 2201 College, 443-4200 THE TRIANGLE, 4600 Guadalupe TRIPLE CROWN, 206 N. Edward Gary, San Marcos, 512/396-2236 TROPHY'S, 2008 S. Congress, 447-0969 UNITED STATES ART AUTHORITY, 512 W. 29th,

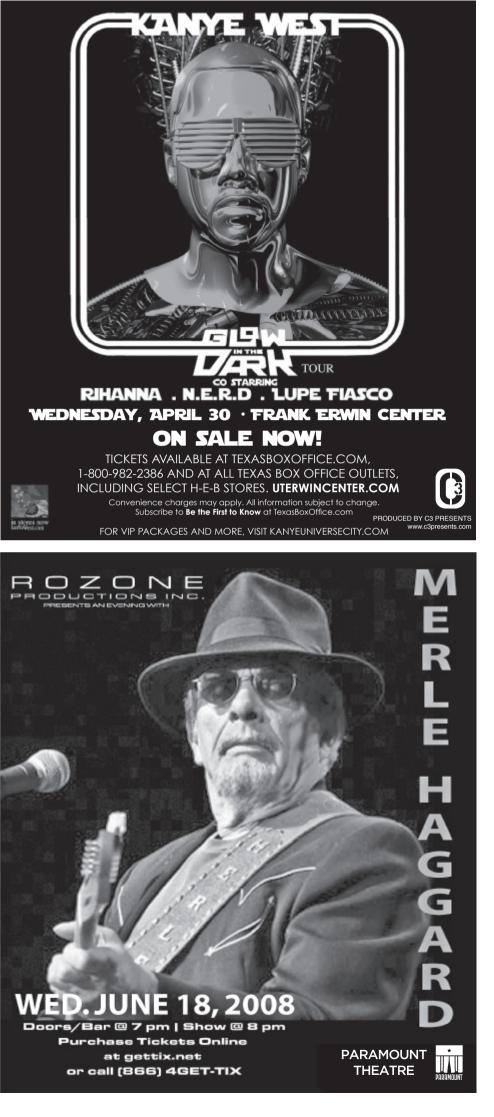
VICTORY GRILL, 1104 E. 11th, 902-5057

THE WATER TANK, 7309 McNeil Dr., 331-9831 THE WATER TANK TOO, 15821 Central Commerce, Pflugerville, 512/989-8100

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 PARK, 403 E. 15th WATERLOO RECORDS, 600-A N. Lamar, 474-2500

Z'TEJAS, 1110 W. Sixth, 478-5355









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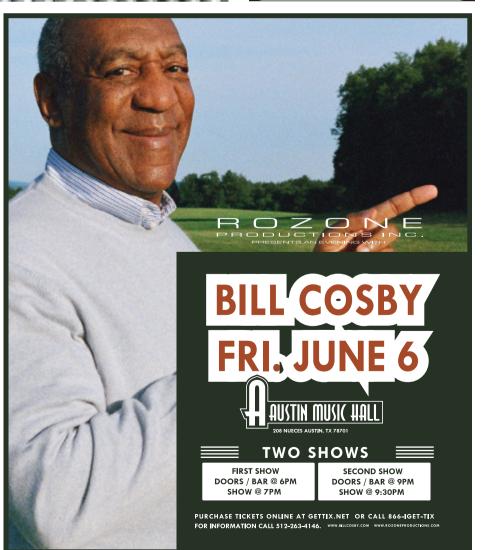
LIVE NATION











roadshows

APRIL

THU 24 Kenny Wayne Shepherd, Antone's Oliver Future, Club de Ville **Deke Dickerson & the** Ecco-Fonics, Continental Club Filter, Emo's Sputnik Monroe, Lucy's on the Square

B-Boy City, the Parish Stymie, Today is the Day, **Kill the Client, Crash**

Romeo. School Bov Humor, Red 7 Bat Castle, Engaged in Mutilating, Truculence,

Slaughterbox, Room 710 The Fundamentalists, Dave Insley's Careless Smokers, Scoot Inn & Bier Garten

Nanosmash, Trophy's

FRI 25

Marc Broussard. Antone's Haden Huse, Kendra Elliott, **Curtis Peoples, Jake** Kellen. Kim Townsend. John Chambers, Brian McRae, Lesley Sawyer, Texas Belairs, Andy Eppler, Austin Moose Lodge No. 1735

Triggermen, Beerland Michelle Shocked. Cactus

Cafe Voltaire, Ego Likeness, Elvsium

Sputnik Monroe, Emo's Fiel. Flamingo Cantina Elf Power, Mohawk

lan McFerron, Momo's 1964 Reatles Tribute

DJ Bles One, the Parish

Brother, the Parlor

See, Neighborhood Villain,

Test Pattern, Scoot Inn &

David Allan Coe, Stubb's

Club Little River Band, One World Can Can Girls Artz Rib House Theatre

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

Teen Sensations. Beerland

Lone Star Bluegrass Band,

Something Fierce, Swinging

Theresa, Slippin' Mickies,

Born Liars Headhunters

Louie's Homemade Jam,

1964 Beatles Tribute,

Paramount Theatre

B-Boy City, the Parish

Will to Live. Pride Kills.

Bitter End, Die Young,

Streetcleaner, Sudden

Flawless Victory, Seeker,

On My Side, the Golden

Cassino, Un Dia Mas, Ruta

Tristan Prettyman, Whitley,

Bennink Duo, Victory Grill

Cross Canadian Ragweed,

Hello Operator, Beauty Bar

Deal's Gone Band, Flamingo

Coalition, the Used, Army

of Me, Street Drum Corps,

James Intveld, Continental

Death, Full Contact,

Halo Down. Rock City

White Drugs, Trophy's

Peter Brötzmann/Han

Terri Fann, B.B. Rovers

Caribou, Fuck Buttons,

Rod Picott. Gruene Hall

The Harlequins. Mohawk

Paramount Theatre

Airborne, Emo's

Age, Red 7

Ese, Room 710

Waterloo Park

Icehouse

Mava

Stubb's

SUN 27

Cantina

Maya

Stubb's

MON 28

New Orleans Jazz Band,

Georgetown Courthouse

Central Market North

Square

lovita's

Joe Jackson, Mutlu. Paramount Theatre My Chemical Romance, Stubb's

TUE 29

The Easy Tease, Austin **Figurative Gallery** The Black & Whites, Beerland The Mansfields, Carousel Lounge

Yea Big + Kid Static, Emo's The Easy Tease, Java Lounge at Austin Java Múm, the Parish Landon Pigg, Stubb's

WED 30

Get to Da Choppa, Beerland Max Stalling, Cactus Cafe Man Man, Yeasaver, Bonde Do Role, The Death Set, Emo's Dimitri's Ascent, Flamingo Cantina Kanve West, Lupe Fiasco, N.E.R.D., Rihanna, Frank **Erwin Center** Kid Koala DJ Jester the Filipino Fist, Mohawk The 71's. Momo's Stephen Haas, Robert Alan Caldwell, the Parlor The Factory Party, Monument to No One, Room 710 **Toubab Krewe, John Butler** Trio, Will Hoge, Stubb's Ian McFerron, Triple Crown Man Man, Waterloo Records MAY

THU 1

The Weathermen, the Belmont Awen. Elvsium The Lonely H, Emo's The Hatch, Flamingo Cantina Kenny Chesney, Leeann Rimes. Frank Erwin Center M.I.A., Holy Fuck, La Zona Rosa

Under the Gun, Barbie & the Hookers. Red 7 **O.A.R.**, Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights. Stubb's

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for your benefit

FRI 25

Austin Humane Society Benefit w/ Coma in Algiers, the Mediums, Three Leaf, Bear Claw, Test Pattern, **Scoot Inn & Bier Garten**

SAT 26

Street Cat Rescue Benefit w/ Kit Kat & the Hardway, 620 Cafe & Bakery

Eeyore's Birthday Party & Fundraiser w/ Don Chani, Tribal Nation, El Tule, Rattletree, Pease Park

Silver Thistle Pipes & Drums Ceilidh Benefit, **Scholz Garten**

Rhythm & Brews, Dell Children's Medical Center Benefit w/ Down 1450 Band, Jenny Wolfe & the Pack, Gary Clark Jr., Threadgill's World HO

SUN 27

Benefit for Amanda w/ Casey Mcpherson, Ryan Holley, Lang Freeman, Jennifer Applequist, Johnny Goudie. Antone's

Humane Society Benefit w/ Robert Banta, the Texreys, Chrissy Flatt, Eric Hisaw, Herman the German, Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings, Rick Broussard's Two Hoots & a Holler, Roadhouse Rags

THU 01

Amigos de las Américas Benefit w/ the Crying Monkeys, Laguna Gloria

Steve Earle, Allison Moorer, B-Boy City, the Parish Paramount Theatre **Qbist, the Stoics**, Red 7 Religious Vomit. Room 710 Ledaswan, True White Sarah Dinan Band, Ruta The Jonbenét, the Dead The Beautiful Girls, Virginia

Stymie. Red 7 **Bier Garten**

Big Green Machine, Trophy's

SAT 26

Bob Cheevers, BB Rovers











Boys (1:00) ANTONE'S Topaz, Kenny Wayne Shepherd (9:00) ARTZ RIB HOUSE Butch Morgan

AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Herman the German

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB ephanie Bradley

Soultet (8:00) BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00)

BOTTICELLI'S Havilah Tower BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau CACTUS CAFE Susan Gibson CD

Release, Robyn Ludwick CD Release (8:00) **CAFE MUNDI** Giant Three (6:00) CAROUSEL LOUNGE Cliff Brown,

Ryan Young, School Police, Pillow Queens CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, LC

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Ephraim Owens Ouintet (6:30)

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Texas Renegade CLUB DE VILLE Oliver Future CONTINENTAL CLUB Mother

Truckers (6:30), Deke Dickerson & the Ecco-Fonics, Chili Cold Blood (10:00) COOL RIVER CAFE Newsboyz

(9:00) COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa

Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30) ELEPHANT ROOM Joe Cordi,

Miles Davis Tribute w/ Jeff Lofton (6:00) EMO'S Lounge: Paul Banks, Dave

Wirth, Tiny Tin Hearts; Inside: Watching the Moon, Prayer for Animals, Camp X-Ray, Prom Nite; Outside: Sounds Under Radio, Filter Chrontourage event

EVANGELINE CAFE Freddie

FLAMINGO CANTINA Sons of

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE

FREDDIE'S PLACE Graham

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TICKETS AT STRINGSATTACHED.ORG

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Johnny Gimble (6:30) HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan

the Man HEADHUNTERS Robert

Johnson's Soul, Bang **HI-LO** Trey Stapleton (10:30) THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE Mike Maven & the Good Life (10:00)

HOLE IN THE WALL Bankrupt & the Borrowers, Bridge Farmers, the Van Buren Boys (9:00) JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band

A PALAPA Brewer Nation

LAMBERTS Tiny Adventurers, Pink Nasty, Paul Minor (10:30) LATITUDE 30 Jordan Tanner

(9:00) THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, Everyday People (6:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE KTSW MR Fest w/ Sputnik Monroe, Three Leaf, Spank, Funkotron 5.00

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00) MOMO'S Nathan Hubble, Latin at

Heart, Will Evans Project, Amy Atchley, Lost Pines (6:30) MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN

Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00) NUNO'S NORTH J.T. Coldfire (7:00)

NUNZIA'S Shelton Ray & the Sting Rays NUTTY BROWN CAFE One Tire

THE OAKS Mike Davis & Alicia Gill, Greg Whitfield & Mark Dotson, the Love Band, John Downing Band, Keith Webber, Patty Finney

THE PARISH B-Boy City 15

THE PARLOR Tha Shot Shots, Hollywood Gossip PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE Mark

Jungers Band (8:00) POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL

POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRI Stop the Truck RED 7 Early: School-Boy Humor, Driver-Side Impact, Tub Ring, Crash Romeo; Inside Later: Mammoth Grinder, Faithealer, Total Failure, Kill the Client, At All Cost, Today Is the Day; Outside Later: Stymie, Saw Wheel, the Anchor, O Pioneers!!!, Mike Park (5:00) RED FEZ BreakBeatBuddha w/ DJ Manny

D I Manny

DJ Manny RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00) RILEY'S TAVERN Jeremy Steding ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE The Locals, Little Morts ROOM 710 Slaughterbox, Ayasoltec, Truculence, Engaged in Mutilating, Bat Castle RUTA MAYA Keep Austin Pagan w/ Electric Mountain Rotten Apple Gang, the Finer Things, Spiral Dance, Ozlanders, That Danned Band (8:00) Damned Band (8:00) SAXON PUB Band of Heathens,

Jeff Plankenhorn, George Devore, Dimestore Poets, Carolyn Wonderland (9:30)







GRUENE HALL Austin Collins

King of Scratch (6:00) GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Mike Barfield (9:00)

Acts are chronologically listed. Schedules are subject to

change, so please call clubs to confirm lineup. Times are given where known and are PM unless otherwise noted.

LISTINGS ARE FREE AND ARE PRINTED ON A SPACE-AVAILABLE BASIS.

HELLO CLUBS AND BANDS Club listings deadline is Monday, 9am, for that week's issue. published on Thursday, Send venue name, address, phone number, acts, and times to: Club Listings, PO Box 49066, Austin, TX 78765; fax 458-6910; phone 454-5766 x159: or

e-mail clubs@austinchronicle.com

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN JWW & the Prospectors, Dave Insley's Careless Smokers, the Fundamentalists (9:00) SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/

Billy D. SPEAKEASY JJ Usher (9:30)

SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE DJ Hobo D

TCC'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Trophy 500's (10:00) TEXAS BAR & GRILL Tin Can

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL

Lucky Strikes (7:30) THE TRIANGLE Brett McGinn, Drew Garza (7:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Bruce Curtis, the Couch, Elephant Nightmare **TROPHY'S** The Bad Motivators, Nanosmash, the Scary Mondelos, Sedium

THE WATER TANK TOO Steven Franks, Way Out West (9:00) Z'TEJAS Lucky Strikes



311 CLUB Dawn Maracle, Joe Valentine (8:30)

ABIA: WATERLOO RECORDS/ AUSTIN CITY LIMITS Austin

Collins (1:00) ANTONE'S Marc Broussard ARTZ RIB HOUSE Jerry Sires AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO.

1735 Sandstorm Picnic w/ Dr. Skoob, Andy Eppler, Texas Belaires, Lesley Sawyer, Brian McRae, John Chambers, Kim Townsend, Jake Kellen, Curtis Peoples, Kendra Elliott, Haden Huse

- BB ROVERS Dixie Beal & the Group W Bench (7:00)
- B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB The Barley Guild BACKSTAGE STEAKHOUSE & GARDEN BAR Michael Samuels (7:00)

BEAUTY BAR Prince Klassen, Shapes Have Fangs, Basic, Pataphysics













calendar + COMMUNITY + ARTS + FILM + MUSIC club listings **I** FROM FRIDAY

BEERLAND Monkeytown vs. Black

Panda, Shitty Beach Boys vs. Teeners, Triggermen vs. Apeshits THE BELMONT The Busta' Moovalators (9:00)

BESS BISTRO ON PECAN DJ

BLUE DAHLIA BISTRO Joseph La BOAT HOUSE GRILL Gatling &

BOTTICELLI'S Gina Lee & the

Brisket Boys BOUT TIME DJ Element BROKEN SPOKE Alvin Crow

CACTUS CAFE Michelle Shocked

CAFE MUNDI Bernson & Bayless, Summers (7:00) THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Greatest American Heroes, Unfortunate Heads

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Lost &

Nameless Orchestra (6:30) CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE

CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR One CLUB DE VILLE Ume, Moses &

the Burning Bush, La Snacks, Transmography

CONTINENTAL CLUB Darling New Neighbors, the Horsies, Pong (10:00) COOL RIVER CAFE Pie (9:15) COTTON CLUB Texas Fever (8:30)

DETOUR BAR & GRILL Still Sic DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the DRY CREEK SALOON Damon

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

Lucky Strikes (8:00) EL JACALITO Ritmo Tejano w/

ELEPHANT ROOM Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites w/ Ray McCarty, Beto y los Fairlanes (6:00)

ELYSIUM CTRL, Ego Likeness, Voltaire

EMO'S Lounge: Sputnik Monroe, Politics, Taunto, Crash Gallery; Inside: Black Earth, Diagonals, Attack Formation

END OF AN EAR Ethan, Master of the Hawaiian Ukulele (6:00) EVANGELINE CAFE Jim Patton &

Sherry Brokus CD Release w/ Sweet Mary, Jon Sanchez, Ron Flynt (10:00) FADO Mysterious Ways (10:00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Myrna Cabello, Fiel, Bubba Hernandez y Los Super Vatos

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Chris Montgomery, Seven O

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Sarah Temple (9:00), Izzy Cox (10:30) FREDDIE'S PLACE K'Cee Edwards

FURR'S FAMILY DINING Carlton

GEORGETOWN COURTHOUSE SQUARE Red Poppy Festival w/ Off the Record (8:00)

GRUENE HALL Robyn Ludwick, Kelly Willis (8:00)

GÜERO'S TACO BAR Bonneville County Pine Box (6:30) HANOVER'S Jeff Banks, Eric Tessmer (8:00)

HEADHUNTERS The Beaumonts, Chasing Phoenix, Streetlight Suzv. Sabbath Crow THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE

Adam Buhrman (6:15) HILL'S CAFE Clay Jeffrey

HOT MAMA'S ESPRESSO BAR DJ Bullet (6:00) JOVITA'S Guitar Girl, the Johns,

Teddy Long Band (5:30) KENNY DORHAM'S BACKYARD

The Bells of Joy (5:00) LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim

LAMBERTS Noise Revival Orchestra Experience w/ Paul Banks, Danny Malone (10:30)

LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LUCKY LOUNGE Mike Maven & the Good Life (9:00) LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Spyhop.

Newlywed, Electric Courage Badge, Pack of Wolves (8:00)

MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Leeann MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL

Latin at Heart, Vallejo MOHAWK Inside: Masonic, Loxsly,

Elf Power; Outside: YellowFever, the Black & White Years, Belaire MOMO'S Ian McFerron, Counting

Airplanes, Ryan Montbleau, Dexter Freebish, Dertybird (7:00) **MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN**

Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00) NUNO'S NORTH Jukebox Heroes,

George Devore (7:00) NUNZIA'S Tin Can Phone NUTTY BROWN CAFE W.C. Clark

PARAMOUNT THEATRE 1964

 FARAMOUNT INEATRE 1964 Beatles Tribute (8:00)
 THE PARISH B-Boy City 15 w/ DJ Spinner-T, DJ Panda, DJ Bles One, DJ Baby G, DJ Element (5:00) THE PARLOR Meryll, True White

Brother, Ledaswan PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE George

Kinney & the Cedar (8:00)

PLUSH Hump! w/ Claude 9, J.J. Lopez CD Release (10:00) POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL

PROGRESS COFFEE The Hot

RACK DADDY'S Karaoke w/

Robert Wagner (10:00) **RED 7** Inside: The Way It Is Fest w/ Stymie, Exile, Career Criminal, Neighborhood Villain, Condemned Unit, Warwolf, the Dead See, the Jonbenét; Outside: Broken Teeth

The Gospel Project

Kerrville Folk Festival 6/8

CACTUS CAFE Graham Weber

at The () Saturday Sunday April 26^{ti} April 27 Lake Travis llaywire All bands play from 7-10 pm, in our new covered Starlight overlooking beautiful Lake Travis Sunset this weekend is at 8:05 pm, so come early to get a great seat and a Perfect Margarita! Come join us for dance lessons every Monday from 7-8 pm! Cover is \$5 at the door, or free with proof of entrée purchase. www.oasis-austin.com 6550 Comanche Trail

Lombard (6: GIDDY UPS Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites, Ray McCarty (9:30)

RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00) RILEY'S TAVERN Johnny Falstaff ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Carbide, Bangladesh Are You Ready For "HIPPIE CHURCH?"



ROOM 710 Television City, Me vs. Everybody, Knocked-Out Stiffs, Deskonocidos, Roger's Porn Collection RUTA MAYA Meagan Tubb & Shady People, 45 & Tyk (6:00) SAM'S TOWN POINT Jon Emery

(9:00) SAXON PUB The Regulars (6:00)

ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Austin Humane Society Benefit w/ Coma in Algiers, the Mediums, Three Leaf, Bear Claw, Test Pattern (8:00)

SHOOTERS BILLIARDS Roman

SKI SHORES Stephen Doster & Will Sexton (6:00) SPEAKEASY Sprung (9:30)

SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE Manolo Black STARDUST CLUB Sam Bentley

STUBB'S David Allan Coe THE STUDIO All U Need (9:00) TEXAS BAR & GRILL Jeremy

THREADGILL'S WORLD HO Bob

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL Aunt Ruby's Sweet Jazz Babies (7:30) TRIPLE CROWN R.C. Banks, Crystal Creek Boys, the Skeletons

TROPHY'S Scorpion Child, Big Green Machine, Amplified Heat

UNITED STATES ART AUTHORITY Forever Changes, Poor People, Headdress, Brothers & Sisters

8.00 WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will

Sat 26

311 CLUB Brandon Gist, Joe Valentine (8:30) 620 CAFÉ & BAKERY Street Cat

Rescue Benefit w/ Kit Kat & the Hardway (6:00)

ANTONE'S Ruby Jane Smith, Bill Carter, Nelo CD Release (9:00) ARTZ RIB HOUSE Can Can Girls

AUSTIN FARMERS' MARKET DOWNTOWN Amy Cook

BB ROVERS Bob Cheevers (9:00) B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Jimi Lee

Venson BACKSTAGE STEAKHOUSE & GARDEN BAR Michael Samuels

BEAUTY BAR Many Birthdays, DJ

BEERLAND Teen Sensations Dykes of Holland, the Crack Pipes CD Release THE BELMONT Cienfuegos (9:00)

BOAT HOUSE GRILL Leo Rondeau BOTTICELLI'S Sarah Sharp BOUT TIME DJ Element (9:00) THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau

CAFE CAFFEINE Carrie Engdahl

THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke w/

CAROUSEL LOUNGE M.L. Frank

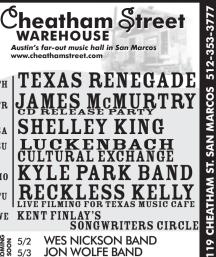
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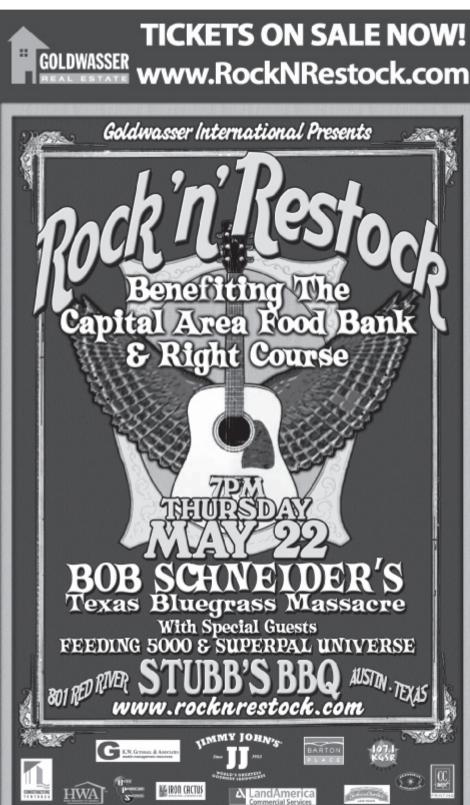
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calendar > COMMUNITY > ARTS > FILM > MUSIC

club listings 🛯 🖉 FROM SATURDAY

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Community Music Festival w/ Austin Wonder Brass, Starlight Symphony Orchestra, Comal Community Band, Passing Measures, New Braunfels Village Brass Band, Rhythm Congress, New Orleans Jazz Band, Austin Civic Wind Ensemble, Oliver Rajamani (10:00am) CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE

Shellev Kin CLEMENTINE COFFEE BAR Mark

CONTINENTAL CLUB Bo Porter (3:00), The Cornell Hurd Band, the Derailers (10:00)

COOL RIVER CAFE Jawbreaker (9.15)

COTTON CLUB The Debonaires

DELI WERKS Altar Boyz (8:30) DETOUR BAR & GRILL Ma

DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws & Outlaws

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Ouartet (8:00) EL SOL Y LA LUNA Chinampa

ELEPHANT ROOM Flyjack (9:30)

ELEPHANI KOOM FlyJack (9:30) EMO'S Lounge: DJ Hip Williams, Hello, Love, the Alice Rose, Kissinger; Outside: The Armour, Say Hello to the Angels, Born to

Lose, Cruiserweight, Dynamite

EVANGELINE CAFE Crawfish Boil Charles Thibodeaux (4.00)

FLAMINGO CANTINA Little Brian,

FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Colin Gilmore (9:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE

Plumtucker, Kevin Carroll FREDDIE'S PLACE Catch a Dream GEORGETOWN COURTHOUSE

SQUARE Red Poppy Festival w/ Blue Rail, Lone Star Bluegrass Band, the Brew, Courtney Now, Two Tons of Steel, Kelly Willis (11:00am)

GIDDY UPS Tim "Mule Train" Perry GRUENE HALL Erik Hokkanen **GÜERO'S TACO BAR** Sister Sister

- HANOVER'S David Jimenez,
- Dertybird (9:00) HEADHUNTERS Patio: Born Liars, Expiration Unknown; Inside: Slippin' Mickies, Swinging Theresa, Something Fierce, Johnny on Coke, Indofin
- HILL'S CAFE Bo Porter & His Dixie Rockets (7:30)

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Breanna Fye (9:00)

- JOVITA'S Louie's Homemade Jam
- LA PALAPA Karaoke w/ Big Jim

LAMBERTS Greg Garing & Cindy Cashdollar (6:30), the Ugly Beats, Death Valley, Nagel (10:30)

LATITUDE 30 Jabarvy (9:00) LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR

Unnamed Band LUCKY LOUNGE Matt White (9:00)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Bloodshot Pyramid, Ethereal Architect (10:00)

MAGGIE MAE'S Rick Harvey's Blues Jam (6:0 **MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL** Alpha Rev (10:00)

MOHAWK Frank Smith, Golden Bear, Til We're Blue or Destroy MOMO'S Guitar Girl, the Steps, Pretty Baby, Nakia & His Southern Cousins, Weeden (6:00) MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB

Matthew Ballard (9:00) MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN

Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (11:30am) NUNO'S NORTH Driver (8:00)

NUNZIA'S Leeann Atherton NUTTY BROWN CAFE The Eggmen

THE OAKS Izzy Cox PARAMOUNT THEATRE 1964 Beatles Tribute (8:00) THE PARISH B-Boy City 15

PATSY'S COWGIRL CAFE 3 Balls of Fire (8:00) PEASE PARK Eeyore's Birthday

Party & Fundraiser w/ Don Chani, Tribal Nation, El Tule, Rattletree (noon)

Pete Mitchell, Guy Forsyth RED 7 The Way It Is Fest W/Faithealer, Golden Age, Mammoth Grinder, On My Side, Total Abuse, Seeker, Flawless Victory, Full Contact, Sudden Death, Lie & Wait, Streetcleaner, Coptic Times, Die Young, Bitter End, Pride Kills, Will to Live

RED FEZ LaVonne, DJ Kurv (8:00, RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00) RILEY'S TAVERN Chadd Thomas

- & the Crazy Kings RINGSIDE AT SULLIVAN'S
- ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE Halo Down,

Shadow Ministry ROMEO'S GEORGETOWN Kirk

Hale (6:30) ROOM 710 Still Sic, Ese, Condemned Unit, the Bulemics, Brewtality Inc.

RUTA MAYA BlastBeat: LBJ High's Battle of the Bands (2:00), Tocada Fest II w/ Dragon Rojo, Arakle, Un Dia Mas, Cassino, Trampia (9:30)

SAXON PUB Porterdavis CD Release, Jeff Hughes & Chaparral

SCHOLZ GARTEN Silver Thistle Pipes & Drums Ceilidh Benefit (6:00)

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Anthropos School Benefit w/ Chicken Ranch Bands (9:00) SKI SHORES Danny Britt (6:00)

SouthSide FLYING PIZZA Warren Jackson Hearne, Wino Vino (10:00)

SPEAKEASY Les & the Funk Mob

SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR &

CAFE DJ EE, DJ Mookie ST. MARTIN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH Conspirare Children's

STARDUST CLUB Johnny Tequila STUBB'S Whitley, Tristan Prettyman THE STUDIO Legit TEXAS BAR & GRILL Code Blue

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Rhythm & Brews, Dell Children's Medical Center Benefit w/ Down 1450 Band, Jenny Wolfe & the Pack, Gary Clark Jr. (2:00), Jimmy LaFave (9:00)

Charlie (5:00) **GEORGETOWN COURTHOUSE**

THE MUSIC OF LED ZEPPELIN SATURDAY, MAY 3 @ 8PM THE LONG CENTER 701 W. RIVERSIDE DRIVE 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 Glenn DeLaune's screaming vocals. Tickets available at TheLongCenter.org or call the 3M Box Office at the Long Center at 474-LONG (5664)

> The Music of Led Zeppelin at The Long Center, log on to www.austinchronicle.com/contests

TREE HOUSE ITALIAN GRILL MOHAWK Frank Smith, Golden

Mirage Jazz Ensemble (7:30) TRIPLE CROWN Spank

TROPHY'S Follow That Bird!, Dans la Lune, White Drugs VICTORY GRILL Peter Brötzmann/ Han Bennink Duo (8:00), Foot Patrol, Mistress Stephanie & Her Melodic Cat (11:00)

TRAILER SPACE RECORDS

& EVENTS CENTER Brekekekexkoaxkoax (6:00)

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ruby Jane Smith (7:00) WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Danny

Fast Fingers (8:00) WATERLOO PARK Lone Star State Jam w/ Eli Young Band, Kevin Fowler, Cross Canadian Ragweed

Sun **27**

ANTONE'S Benefit for Amanda w/ Casey Mcpherson, Ryan Holley, Lang Freeman, Jennife Applequist, Johnny Goudie (9:00) ARTZ RIB HOUSE Eddie Collins

BB ROVERS Open Mic w Missoula Slim & Terri Fann (7:00) B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Irish

Tunes Session (8:00) BEAUTY BAR DJ Kon Karne, DJ Leroi, Hello Operator 'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton

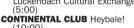
THE CANARY ROOST Karaoke

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Ray Donnelly

CENTRAL MARKET NORTH Community Music Festival w/ Chaparral Dixielanders, Silver Chaparrai Dixleianders, Silver Thistle Pipes & Drums, Hill Country Community Band, ACC Jazz Band, Los Klezmeros, Grupo Lunes, Band of the Hills, Austin Jazz Workshop (10:00am) CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Sean

Hopper Quartet (12:30) CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE

Luckenbach Cultural Exchange (5:00)



Playboyz (7:00) DOLCE VITA GELATTO & ESPRESSO BAR Paul Sonnenberg (7:00)

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Kris Kimura Quartet (7:00) ELEPHANT ROOM Marc Devine

Trio w/ Denia Ridley (9:30) ELYSIUM Regression: Retro Eighties w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice

EMO'S Outside: Fuck Buttons, Caribou; Inside: Scorpion Child, Airborne

FLAMINGO CANTINA Two Timin' Four, Channel One, Deal's Gone Band

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE David Chenu, Primm (8:00) FREDDIE'S PLACE 11-Fingered

FRIENDS Open Mic Blues Jam

BORGETOWN COURTHOUSE SQUARE Red Poppy Festival w/ Suzanne Payne, Wake Eastman, Brett & Drew, Joe McDermott, Marshall Ford Swing Band, the Sieker Band (10:30am)



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FRIDAY, MAY 2



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club listings • • FROM SUNDAY

GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Redd Volkaert (4:00) GREEN PASTURES Jacques

Vilmain (11.00am) **GRUENE HALL** Rod Picott (12:30),

Blaid Cleaves (5:00) GÜERO'S TACO BAR Chicken Strut

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA LAMBERTS Ephraim Owens, Brannen Temple, Red Young (7:00)

LOCKER ROOM SPORTS BAR Ted Hall's Blues Church & Jam (8:30)

LOVE Ginger Leigh (5:00) LUCKY LOUNGE Les & the Funk

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Melting

Social Project (9:00) MANUELS Triana (11:30am)

MANUELS Iriana (11:30am) MOHAWK Brothers O'Hair, Colour Wheel, the Harlequins (10:00) MOMO'S The Belleville Outfit, Warren Hood & the Hoodlums, Dennis Ludiker, Noah Jeffries (8:00) MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Willie Nelson Tribute (2:00) NUEVO LEÓN Mariachi Relampago (1:00)

(1:00) NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:00)

NUTTY BROWN CAFE Java Jazz

(11:00am) THE OAKS Flatcar Rattlers, the Shake 'Em Ups, Rogue River String Band, Marshall Jones & the Frontier Phrenologists (5:00)

THE OASIS The Brew ONE 2 ONE BAR Matt Creaton

PARAMOUNT THEATRE Allison

Moorer, Steve Earle (6:30) THE PARISH B-Boy City 15 THE PARLOR Glory Bound Sinners THE PIER ON LAKE TRAVIS Danny

Fast Fingers (4:00) RACK DADDY'S Karaoke Robert Wagner (10:00) RED 7 The Shot Shots, the Stoics, Crucial Mystic, Crucial Prophet, Phunk & Associates, Trinity I, Obist, 7 Seals & the Wingless

Angels RED FEZ DJ Kurupt (10:00) RILEY'S TAVERN Open Mic w/ Glenn Allen

RoADHOUSE RAGS Humane Society Benefit w/ Robert Banta, the Texreys, Chrissy Flatt, Eric Hisaw, Herman the German, Chadd Thomas & the Crazy Kings, Rick Broussard's Two Harts & e. Heller (4.00)

Hoots & a Holler (1:00) ROMEO'S Rob Greenfield ROOM 710 Religious Vomit, Los Hispanos UK

RUTA MAYA Kids Show w/ Sarah Dinan Band (10:30am), Gabe Strycharz, Kalu James (9:00)

BAR AND GRILL тие Open Mic Night FOND KISER BPM тни Bike Night TBA spm FRI Still Sic 9pm sat Ma Ferguson эрт

III3 R.R. 620 IN LAKEWAY, TX 266-2279

SAXON PUB The Resentments, Marshall Jones, the Salingers MOTHER EGAN'S IRISH PUB Matt Powell (9:00 SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D

SKI SHORES Marvin Dykhuis,

Tracie Lynn (5:00) SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR &

CAFE Mike Hooker STUBB'S Brunch w/ Sisters in Christ (noon), Outside: Street Drum Corps, Army of Me, the Used; Inside Later: Virginia Coalition, the Beautiful Girls (8:00)

Brunch w/ the Bells of Joy (11:00am) (11.00am) **TRIPLE CROWN** Open Mic w/ Pat Pankratz, Holly Aiken, Nate Hinds

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Sunday Brunch w/ Buzz Guerra WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will

Dunlap's Open Mic (7:00)

Mon 28

ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Billy Dee (3:30) ANTONE'S Chicken Strut, Flyjack

(8:00) ARTZ RIB HOUSE Sarah Elizabeth Campbell & the Banned (7:30) AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735 Rhinoroom del Norte (8:00) B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Eric

Heard Showcase BEERLAND Karaoke w/ John

'BOUT TIME Karaoke w/ Clayton

CACTUS CAFE Open Stage w/ Abi

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Blue Squeeze

CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE

Kyle Park Band CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO

Rich Demarco (6:30) CONTINENTAL CLUB Uptown

Swingsters (6:30), James Intveld (10:00) DONN'S DEPOT Chris Gage

EVANGELINE CAFE Charles

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

FLAMINGO CANTINA Funktronica

(10:00) FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE T. Jarrod Bonta (8:00) FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE

Havilah Tower, Jennifer Jackson (8:00) GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano

LATITUDE 30 Jordan Tanner (9:00) LOUIE'S 106 Kenny Luna (6:30)

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Robbie's Open Mic Night

MOMO'S Danny Fast Fingers, Suzanne Sherwin, Candiland, Sally Allen, Bukka Allen, Dustin

Welch, Jeremy Nail (6:00)

LA PALAPA Baby Dallas

Kris Kimura Ouartet (7:00)

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ

(8.00)

MOZART'S COFFEE ROASTERS John Wilson & Jolev Flowers MUGSHOTS Open Mic w/ Acoustic Odyssey (8:00)

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Ray McCarty, Rusty Trapps & the Blue Lites (8:00)

ONE WORLD THEATRE Little River PARAMOUNT THEATRE Mutlu, Joe

Jackson (8:00) THE PARLOR First Curse

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** Ritz Brothers Tap mpany (7:00)

Company (7:00) SAM'S TOWN POINT Breck's Stormy Open Blues Jam (8:30) SPEAKEASY Jonathan Terrell SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE Jason McNeely STUBB'S My Chemical Romance

THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Lee Duffy, Will Sexton, Floyd Domino, Marvin Dykhuis (8:00)

TRIPLE CROWN Ricky Stein

Tue 29

311 CLUB D-Madness (9:30) ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR Dale Spaulding (3:30) ANTONE'S Blue Tuesday w/ Derek O'Brien, Malford Milligan (9:00)

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Texas Old Time Fiddlers Jam (7:30) AUSTIN FIGURATIVE GALLERY

The Lennings, the Easy Tease (8:00)

BB ROVERS Buster Gutbucket

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Suzanne

BASTROP SENIOR CENTER The

Kitchen Pickers (6:30) BEERLAND Lost Controls, Nate Ryan & the Collars, the Black & Whites, Lover!

THE BELMONT Suzanna Choffel

BOTTICELLI'S Cincinnati Joe

BROKEN SPOKE Willie Nelson's Birthday w/ the Love Saints (8:00)

CAFE MUNDI Spectre in the Cab

CAROUSEL LOUNGE Getting Even,

the Mansfields CHEATHAM STREET WAREHOUSE Reckless Kelly (Texas Music Cafe filming)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Planet Casper w/ Casper Rawls, David Grissom, David Grissom (6:30),

Alejandro Escovedo, Frogleg (10:00) DONN'S DEPOT Donn & the

Station Masters

		MUSIC CAPITAL OF SAN MARCOS RIPLE CROWN 396-2236 / www.triplecrownlive.com
R	Th 24	Bruce Curtis Band 6pm Elephant Nightmare, The Couch 10pm
	Fr 25	The Skeletons, Crystal Creek Boys 10pm
	Sa 26	Spank - <i>Live Video Shoot!</i> 10pm
	Su 27	Open Mic w/ Pat, Holly & Nate 8pm
11	Mo 28	Ricky Stein 6pm Smarty Pants - Trivia Contest 8pm
	Tu 29	Robbie Doyen 6pm Grant Ewing Band 9pm
	We 30	Erickson 6pm Ian McFeron Band 9pm
1.1	Th 1	Mark Jungers 6pm Boonesboro & Guests 9pm
	Fr 2	Rabb Rodriguez y los Killa' Hogs 6pm Silver Pines, Falcon Buddies 9pm
ノ	Sa 3	Word Association 10pm





FREE SOMEHOW

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club listings • • From Tuesday

EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE Mark Goodwin Trio (7:00) ELEPHANT ROOM Stanley Smith (6:00), Brannen Temple Quartet (9:30)

ELYSIUM 90s Night w/ DJ Boba Fett, DJ Minimus

FMO'S Yea Big + Kid Static

EVANGELINE CAFE Brennen Leigh, Kevin Gallaugher, Greg Anderson (6:00)

FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Erik Hokkanen's Laboratory (8:00) GIDDY UPS Space Heaters

GRUENE HALL John Arthur Martinez (7:00) GÜERO'S TACO BAR Trio Indiano

HANOVER'S Kevin Havron & Steven Franks (8:30) **HEADHUNTERS** Destination Delroy, Saliva Divornium

HILL'S CAFE Singer-Songwriter Night w/ Bill Rice

JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA The Easy Tease (7:00) JOVITA'S Jiminy Crisket, Success on Saturday (6:30) LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE DJ Rapid Ric,

Boombox w/ Carlos Sosa (10.00)MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL

Russell & Mikey **MOMO'S** Randy Weeks, La Tampiquena, Something Quiet, Shawn Nelson & the Ramblers, John Wolfe (6:00)

NUNO'S NORTH Latin at Heart

NUNO'S ON SIXTH Stephanie Bradley

ONE 2 ONE BAR All-Star Jam w/ Adv Hernandez (10:00) THE PARISH Tacks, the Boy

Disaster: Mum **POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL**

PHONE

515 E. SIXTH ST. 512,494,9336

DOORS 9:00, SHOW 9:30

SONS OF SANCHO

DOORS 9:00, SHOW 9:30

CABE

DOORS 9:00, SHOW 9:30

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8

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INNER VISIONS

CHAPLAINS

DUBCONSCIOUS

RED EYED FLY Mark Hendricks RED FEZ Twist Up w/ DJ Manny (10:00)

18 AND UP Welcome

THURSDAY 04.24

ROOM 710 Invincible Czars, the Steed, Isaac the Blind, Fire Home

RUTA MAYA Poetry Open Mic, Music Open Mic (6:00) SAM'S TOWN POINT Open Mic w/

Nate Vancil (9:00) SAXON PUB Sunny Sweeney, Bruce Hughes, James Bullard SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Rae

Rae SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR & CAFE DJ Pop Noir STUBB'S Landon Pigg

TRIPLE CROWN Robbie Doyen,

Grant Ewing TROPHY'S Singer-Songwriter Showcase w/ Bill Davis, Sonny UNITED STATES ART AUTHORITY Steve Bernal (7:00) WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Will Division (7:00)

Dunlap (7:00) Z'TEJAS Kris Kimura Ouartet

(6:00)



219 WEST Breezy (7:00) 311 CLUB Mark McGuire (9:30) ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR

Sieker Band (3:30) ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Ginn Sisters (1:00)

ANTONE'S Eric Tessmer (9:00) APPLEBEE'S NEIGHBORHOOD BAR & GRILL Marty Linville

ARTZ RIB HOUSE Shelley King, Carolyn Wonderland (7:30) AUSTIN MOOSE LODGE NO. 1735

Lonesome Dave Fisher (8:00) AUSTIN'S PIZZA Natalie Zoe Jazz

Trio (8.00) B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Hosea Hargrove

BEERLAND Cage Show w/ Get to

THE BELMONT Lucascookus BOTTICELLI'S Sarah Hughes

CACTUS CAFE Max Stalling (8:30) CAFE MUNDI Owen Summers

CEDAR STREET Trent & Dave, the Spazmatics (6:00) CENTRAL MARKET SOUTH Marc Devine Trio (6:30)

CHAIN DRIVE Ethan, Master of the Hawaiian Ukulele; Pataphysics; Attic Ted; Plutonium Farmers CHEZ ZEE AMERICAN BISTRO

Jacinta (7:00) CINDY'S GONE HOG WILD Brent

Alleri (9:00) **CLUB DE VILLE** Pillow Queens, Abby Birds, the Golden Boys **THE COCKPIT CLUB** Club Inclusive w/ Julie Nolan, DJ Miah Love (9:00)

CONTINENTAL CLUB Shotgun Party (6:30), Jon Dee Graham Bastard Sons of Johnny Cash

CREEKSIDE LOUNGE Kill the DJ, Smash-Ups, Robot, DJ Alib, Ghettotech w/ DJ Orion (9:30) CUBA LIBRE Havana Nights w/

the Cadaques (8:00) DONN'S DEPOT Frank & the

Station Masters **EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE** Kat Edmonson (7:00)

Kat Edmonson (7:00) ELEPHANT ROOM Jazz Pharoahs (6:00), Crying Monkeys (9:30) ELYSIUM Mid Wave w/ DJ Pumpkin Spice, DJ Edminister EMO'S Inside: The Death Set, Bonde do Role; Outside: Yeasayer, Man Man EVANCE INC CAE Clave & Sweet

EVANGELINE CAFE Cleve & Sweet Mary Hattersley (7:00) FLAMINGO CANTINA Dimitri's

Ascent, Greg Williams FLIPNOTICS COFFEESPACE Jade

Day, Tiny Tin Hearts (8:00) FRANK ERWIN CENTER Rihanna,

N.E.R.D., Lupe Fiasco, Kanye West (7:00) GIDDY UPS Open Blues Jam w/ JJ

Slyde & Jimi Lee (8:00) GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN



Mutty Brown CAFE & AMIPHITHEATRE 512 472 0304 301 West Riverside Dr. WHEN YA SEE OUR NEON COWBOY, YOU'RE HERE! World Headquarters A Front Gale Friday 04/*L*S Texas Bluegrass Massacre \$15 advance/\$15 door 😂 Frent Ga Sat 04/26 'Betty Soo'. Lisa Mills \$15 advance/\$15 door 8:00pm **Gospel Brunch** Sun 04/2 No Cover Mon Lee Duffy & Friends Will Sexton, Joe Manuel, Floyd Domino, Marvin Dykhuis 04/28 8:00pm Indoors. Free Thurs 05/01 \$7 Cover 9:00pm 😂 Front Gale Fildav 05/02 \$15 advance/\$15 door A Front Gate is Alan Ramsey 05/03 **Allison Rogers** \$15 advance/\$15 door **Guli Coast Extravaganza**! Larry Lange & The Lonely Knights, L'Angelus 05/04 All proceeds benefit KOOP Radio 4:00-8:00pm \$10 Cover 😂 Front Gate le Greencards Fildav 05/09 Sarah Jarosz \$15 advance/\$15 door omine May 11 - Mandolin Mayhem May 14 - Shinvribs w/Kevin Russell May 18 - Paul Thorn/Angela Strehli 5/2. May 23 - Fastball May 24 - Hayes Carll May 31 - The Waybacks & The Dixie Bee-Liners www.threadgills.com *****

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UPCOMING EVENTS

THURSDAY MAY 1ST at 10 p.m.

MAY DAY SALUTE

AN A-STYLE LOUNGE EVENT with MIXES: el john, selector (of THIEVERY CORPORATION) VISUAL PROJECTION:

VJ CINEMATICS www.molotovlounge.com myspace.com/molotovlounge 719 W SIXTH ST 512.499.0600





THURSDAY, APRIL 24 LOS PLATOS 10PM DEAD PIRATE SOCIETY 11PM THE LITTLE MORTS 12AM

FRIDAY, APRIL 25 DEATH GOT KILLED 7:30PM DOWN STARES B: 30PM BROTHERHOOD 9:30PM BANGLEDESH ^{10:30PM}



SATURDAY, APRIL 26 SOUTHERN HOSTILITY SPM SET ADRIFT 10PM HALO DOWN 11PM SHADOW MINISTRY 12AM

SUNDAY, APRIL 27 BRAGGER'S BRUNCH 12PM - 3PM TED HALL'S BLUES JAM

8:30PM - 12:30AM

MONDAY, APRIL 28 LIVE BAND KARAOKE WITH THE ROCK CITY ICEHOLES 9PM-1AM

If our singer sucks, it's because its you!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL <u>30</u> FREE! HAPPY HOUR SHOW WITH ZAK BAKER & AJ VALEJO 6-8PM FREEBLEEDER 11PM

> THURSDAY, MAY 1 PURPLEROOM ^{9PM} BALL DOWN 10PM UNNAMED PROJECT FOR REVENGE 11PM TBA-MIDNIGHT

6406 N I-35 #1100 (in Lincoln Village) 512.467.7244 · myspace.com/rockcityicehouse rockcityicehouse.com MON - SUN 4PM-2AM **OUTDOOR PATIO · KITCHEN OPEN til 2AM SPORTS BAR MENU** 16 42" PLASMA FLATSCREENS, POOL TABLE & VIDEO GAMES 16 42"

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club listings 🛯 🖛 FROM WEDNESDAY

HEADHUNTERS Bad People, Prom Nite, the Homicides **HI-LO** Open Mic w/ In the Rounds

THE HIDEOUT COFFEEHOUSE

Ady Hernandez & Jeffrey David (10:00) HILL'S CAFE Matt Skinner,

Brandon Rhyder JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Travis Damron (7:00

JOVITA'S Borealis (6:30) LAMBERTS Erik Hokkanen &

His Gypsy Tribe (6:30), DJ Mel (10:30) LAS PALOMAS Javier Chaparro, Rick McRae, Terry Hale, Art Kidd (6:30)

LOUIE'S 106 Red Young (6:30)

LUCKY LOUNGE Meridianwest

LUCY'S ON THE SQUARE Electric Mavhem (9:00

MAGGIE MAE'S Patrick Fleming

MERKABA LOUNGE & GRILL Calling Jack Burton, Cameron Road

MOHAWK Rae Davis, DJ Jester the Filipino Fist, Kid Koala

MOMO'S Dan Raza, Austin Collins, Dan Dyer, the 71's, Josh Tatum (6:00) MULLIGAN'S Karaoke w/ Stormy

NUNZIA'S Joey Lavalle, Matt Giles

ONE 2 ONE BAR 80H Project

THE PARLOR Jeff Pinkus, Robert Alan Caldwell, Stephen Haas, Heather Bishop

PARMER LANE TAVERN Pete Benz

PLUSH Weight w/ the Herd POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL Open Mic w/ Fond Kiser (8:00)

REALE'S PIZZA & CAFE "Frankly" Singing w/ Ken Kruse (6:30) RED 7 Angel Von Ripper RED FEZ Atash

RILEY'S TAVERN Ryan Davis **ROADHOUSE** Karaoke w/ Billy D.

ROOM 710 Trains to Holland, Monument to No One, the Factory Party

RUTA MAYA Salsa Lessons, Cienfuegos (7:30)

SAM'S TOWN POINT Albert & the Blue Light Specials (8:30) SAXON PUB Monte Montgomery,

Meagan Tubb (8:00) SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN Austin Poetry Slam (7:00) SHOAL CREEK SALOON Eve & the

Exiles (8:30) SPEAKEASY Salsa Lessons, the

Brew (9:00) SPIDER HOUSE PATIO BAR &

Krewe

WATERLOO ICE HOUSE Ptarmigan

WATERLOO RECORDS Man Man

(5:00) Z'TEJAS Stephen Doster, Will

Thu **01**

219 WEST Acoustic Jungle (8:00) 311 CLUB Joe Valentine (8:30) ABIA: EARL CAMPBELL'S SDODTS BAD Brent Adai ABIA: HIGHLAND LAKES BAR

Manuel "Cowboy" Donley (3:30) ABIA: LEFTY'S BAR & GRILLE ON SIXTH STREET Tracy Conover

ANTONE'S lan Moore CD Release ARTZ RIB HOUSE Paul Glasse, Rick McRae, Gary Hartman

B.D. RILEY'S IRISH PUB Tumbleweed Racer BEERLAND McMercy Family

Gospel Band, Skeletons, Rick Broussard's Two Hoots & a Holler, Mr. Lewis & the Funeral Five

THE BELMONT The Weathermen BENNIGAN'S Andy Fiegal (7:00) BROKEN SPOKE Jesse Dayton

THE BROWN BAR DJ gmau CACTUS CAFE Slide-o-Rama w/

James, Jon Dee Graham, Cindy Cashdollar (8:00) **CAROUSEL LOUNGE** Wiretree

CEDAR STREET Kent Mayhew, LC

CONTINENTAL CLUB Mother Truckers (6:30), Mike Vernon, Eve Monsees, Mike Buck & Homer Henderson; Denny Freeman, Kent "Omar" Dykes, Redd Volkaert, Nick Curran, Rosie Flores, John Reed, Thierry LeCoz & Pat Collins; 3 Guitar Rumble, 3 Balls of Fire (10:30)

COPA BAR & GRILL Salsa Lessons w/ Tony, the Brew (8.00)

DETOUR BAR & GRILL Sonny Wolf DONN'S DEPOT Murphy's Inlaws EDDIE V'S EDGEWATER GRILLE

Mark Goodwin Trio (7:30) ELYSIUM Awen, Limiter, Gabhar



FLIPNOTICS AT THE TRIANGLE Matt the Electrician, Southpaw Jones (8:00) FRANK ERWIN CENTER Leeann Rimes, Kenny Chesney (7:3 GINNY'S LITTLE LONGHORN SALOON Mike Barfield (9:00) GRUENE HALL Dale Watson (8:00)

EMO'S Inside: Leatherbag, Lomita, the Lonely H, the Black; Lounge: Kitty Kitty Bang Bang Burlesque END OF AN EAR W-S Burn (6:00)

EVANGELINE CAFE Liz Morphis FLAMINGO CANTINA The Hatch

HANOVER'S Karaoke w/ Dan the Man

HI-LO Trey Stapleton (10:30) **HILL'S CAFE** Brent Allen (7:00 JAVA LOUNGE AT AUSTIN JAVA Doug Andrew (8:00)

JOVITA'S The Cornell Hurd Band

(8:00) LA ZONA ROSA Holy Fuck, M.I.A. LAGUNA GLORIA Amigos de las Américas Benefit w/ the Crying Monkeys (6:30) LAMBERTS The Ruckus (6:30),

Graham Wilkinson & the Underground (10:30) LATITUDE 30 Jordan Tanner (9:00)

THE LOADING DOCK Open Mic (7:00)

LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LOUIE'S 106 Mac Bynum (6:30) LUCKY LOUNGE Ian McLagan & the Bump Band, Mike Maven & the Good Life (6:00) MARIA'S TACO XPRESS Nathan

Hubble, Michael Clay (7:00) MOTHER'S CAFE & GARDEN

Thomas "Doc" Grauzer (6:00) THE OAKS Ebb & Flo, Rick Dinsmore & locelyn Callard, the

Love Band, Clepper George & Norm Ballinger (7:00) ONE 2 ONE BAR Malford Milligan,

Tim Dyer POODIE'S HILLTOP BAR & GRILL

Stop the Truck QUACK'S MAPLEWOOD BAKERY Marshall Jones & the Frontier Phrenologists, Infinite Partials

(9:00)RED 7 Barbie & the Hookers, Under the Gun

RED FEZ Twilight Broadcast, Weekend Warm-Up (8:30) RENAISSANCE HOTEL Lobby

Lounge: Rich Demarco (6:00) ROCK CITY ICEHOUSE 8 Ball

Down, Unnamed Project for Revenge, Fear Control ROOM 710 Whore of Babylon,

Bound, Sabbath Crow, Thunderosa

SCOOT INN & BIER GARTEN JWW & the Prospectors, Leo Rondeau, Dave Insley (9:00)

SHENANIGANS Karaoke w/ Billy D.
 STUBB'S Jonathan Tyler & the Northern Lights, O.A.R.
 T.C.'S LOUNGE Michael Holt & the Tractic E0018 (01000)

Trophy 500's (10:00) THREADGILL'S WORLD HQ Belleville Outfit (8:00) THE TRIANGLE Trey Haney (7:00) VICTORY GRILL Word/Jazz Low

Stars (8:00

See austinchronicle.com for complete listings.

RODĽ AN UNINHIBITED NIGHT CLUB FOR ADVENTUROUS COUPLES Pimps and Hookers Ball Costume Party - Saturday, April 26 Ladies, dress the part, be a tart! Earn a spot on our "Street Corner of Fame" in the Hooker of the Year contest.

www.aphroditesforum.com D.J. - B.Y.O.B. - 928-9876

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Bridge Farmers 11pm Bankrupt & the Borrowers 10pm

\$5 Cover: Silverpines 12am State Bird (OH) 11pm Dana Falconbery 10pm

\$5 Cover: Sunset 12am

Reverse X Rays 11pm Half Texan 10pm

ON THE PATIO: DJ Nimrod Cane

Lee Simmons 11pm Stacey Steger 10pm Phil Dutra 9pm

MONDAY April 28st

TUESDAY April 29nd

The Bread 11pm

Dale Beach 10pm Roger Wallace 8:30pm

til' Zam (psych, soul, r&b...)

Craig Marshall 12am

Monkey Town 12am Context Clues 11pm

Barbones Orchestra 10pm

Best Love in Town 12am

ON THE PATIO: \$5 The Austin Comedy

Trainwreck "A- List Showcase" 9pm

THURSDAY April 24th ...

FRIDAY April 25th

SATURDAY April 26th .

SUNDAY ADD 2711

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DAY, APRIL 28 • 6:3

FUESDAY. APRIL 29

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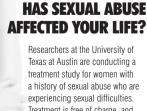
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CASHIERS Quality Seafood needs PT/FT cashiers with flexible hours. Apply within. 5621 Airport Blvd.

COOK Cain & Abel's is currently taking applications for cooks, waitstaff, and bussers. Please apply in person at 2313 Rio Grande, Austin, TX 78722

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Starting rate is \$9.00 hourly plus free shift meals. Job starts part-time weekends April through mid-May, then going Full-time end of May through end of August. Must through end of August. Must be clean cut, personable and have reliable transportation and able to work summer Holidays i.e. July 4th, Labor Day, etc.

Applications may be downloaded at westwoodcountryclub.com and returned in person to 3808 West 35th Street ask for Chris or Tony

E.O.E

WESTWOOD COUNTRY CLUB

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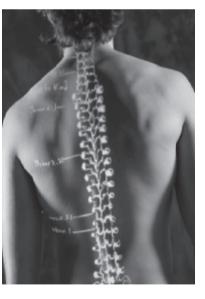
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SCHIZOPHRENIA Can tear families apart.

Gan tear fainines apart.

- Tendency towards isolation
- Hallucinations, delusions and paranoia
- Problems with concentration
- Lack of energy and motivation

INSOMNIA For the past month have you:

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- Been waking up in the middle of the night?
- Been drowsy during the day?



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SCHIZOPHRENIA

· Tendency towards isolation Hallucinations, delusions and paranoia

concentration Lack of energy and

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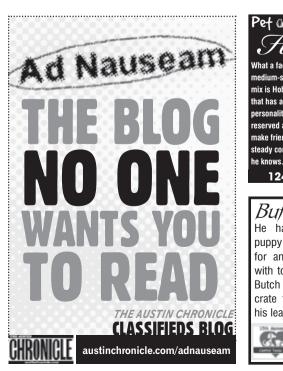
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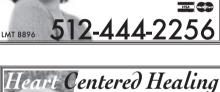
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423479 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELINQUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 126TH District Court of the 126TCI District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered 423479, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Lago Vista Independent School District-County Education District, Lago Vista Municipal Utilities District No. 1, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Famer to Market Road are plaintifs, and Greg L. are plaintiffs, and Greg L. Kernan and Michael P. Wright are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs for the sum of \$9.620.06 Dollars together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 126TH District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 17, 2001.

17, 2001. I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the defendants in and to the

following described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit Lot 6042, Highland Lake Estates, Section 6, Plat No.

51/76 as described in Volume 7078, Page 679 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$9,620.06** Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the satisfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS

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CAUSE NO. 200822653

PLAINTIFF: ROGERS, GE-

NEVA vs. DEFENDANT: ROGERS, JAMES DAVID

In the 312th Judicial District Court of Harris County, Tex-

312TH DISTRICT COURT

PUBLICATION (DIVORCE)

TO: ROGERS, JAMES DAVID.

TO: ROGERS, JAMES DAVID, whose residence and where-abouts are unknown. 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 20 days after you were served this citation and peti-tion, a default judgment may be taken against you. The

be taken against you. The Petition of ROGERS, GENE-VA, Petitioner, was filed in the Court of Harris County,

Texas on the 15th day of April, 2008 against ROGERS, JAMES DAVID

200822653, and entitled "In the Matter of the Marriage of ROGERS, GENEVA and ROG

ERS, JAMES DAVID". The sui

Respondent(s), numbered

The Court has authority in

this suit to enter any judg-ment or decree dissolving the marriage and providing for the division of property,

which will be binding on you

ISSUED AND GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL

OF SAID COURT at Houston, Texas, this the 16th day of

April, 2008.

requests DIVORCE.

THE STATE OF TEXAS

RECEIPT NO. 253378

04-15-2008

Houston, TX

County of Harris

CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the deter-mination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption. Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, April 09, 2008.

just and right.

AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MEN-DOZA

served this citation and peti-tion, a default judgment may

YOU ARE HEREBY COM-MANDED to appear and an swer before the Honorable

District Court, 261ST JUDI-CIAL DISTRICT COURT, Tra-

vis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in

Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday

days from the date of service of this citation, then and ther eto answer the ORIGINAL

eto answer the ORIGINAL PETITION FOR DIVORCE AND TRAVIS COUNTY STANDING ORDER filed in said court on FEBRUARY 5, 2008, and said suit being number D-1-FM-08-000620 on the docket of said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MARRIAGE OF ROG-FLIO CASTERD and BFATRIZ

ELIO CASTRO and BEATRIZ ALICIA-CASTRO ARIAS, and

In the Interest of ROGELIO CASTRO, CHILD".

The nature of said suit is a request to DISSOLVE the

marriage of the parties, ap

point managing and posses-sory conservators, and divide

the estate of the parties in a manner that the court deems

The Court has authority in

this suit to enter any judg-ment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will

be taken against you

Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalupe. P.O. Box 679003 (78767) By /s/ AMBER BILLY, Deputy REQUESTED BY: WILLIAM F. KEMP PO BOX 369 AUSTIN, TX 78767-0369 BUSINESS PHONE: (512)476-4567 FAX: (512)476-2040

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

CAUSE NO: D-1-GN-07-004069 To: UNKNOWN OWNERS OF LOT 1, BLOCK 2, SMITH & ABRAHAMSON SUBDIVISION Defendant(s), in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: YOU (AND Acth OF YOU) HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attor-ney do not file a written an-swer with the clerk who is-sued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next fol-lowing the expiration of 42 days from the date of issu-ance hereof, that is to say at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of Monday the MAY 12, 2008, and answer the ORIGINAL PETITION of Plaintiff(s), filed in the 345TH JUDICIAL DIS-FACH OF YOU) HAVE BEEN in the 345TH JUDICIAL DIS-TRICT COURT of Travis County, Texas, on FEBRU-ARY 5, 2008, a default judgment may be taken agains vou.

Said suit being number D-1 GN-07-004069, in which 52nd and Avenue F Church of Christ Plaintiff(s), and The Unknown Owners of Lot 1, Block 2 Defendant(s), and the nature of which said suit is as follows:

BEING A SUIT TO REMOVE

BEING A SUIT TO REMOVE CLOUD ON TITLE TO THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED PROPERTY TO WRIT. Lot. 1, Block 2, SMITH & ABRA-HAMSON SUBDIVISION, ac-cording to the map or plat thereof, recorded in Volume 4, Page 252, Plat Records, Travis County, Texas.

/s/ THERESA CHANG, District Clerk Harris County, Texas 201 Caroline

Houston, Texas 77002 (P.O. Box 4651, Houston, Texas 77210)

GENERATED BY: LEWIS. SHARON DENISE Issued at request of: ROGERS GENEVA 303 ARCHER ST

HOUSTON, TX 77009 CITATION BY PUBLICATION

next following the expiration

of twenty days after you were

ALL OF WHICH MORE FUL-LY APPEARS FROM PLAIN-TIFF'S ORIGINAL PETITION ON FILE IN THIS OFFICE, AND WHICH REFERENCE IS HERE MADE FOR ALL IN-TENTS AND PURPOSES. THE STATE OF TEXAS CAUSE NO: D-1-EM-08-Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, March 000620 To: BEATRIZ ALICIA CASTRO ARIAS and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: 24, 2008. Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may employ an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday east following the avgingting AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-MEN-DOZA

Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse 1000 Guadalune P.O. Box 679003 (78767)

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Austin, Texas 78701 By /s/ Iris Larvea, Deputy REQUESTED BY DOY FREITAG 15901 CENTRAL COM-MERCE DRIVE SUITE 501 PELUGERVILLE, TX 78660 BUSINESS PHONE: (512)252-1515 FAX: (512)252-1517

CITATION BY PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTERESTED IN THE ESTATE OF LUIS JIMENEZ, Deceased, No 88430 in Probate Court Num ber One of Travis County Texas

ZENAIDA JIMENEZ alleged heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled es-tate, filed on the 28th day of MARCH, 2008, an Appl MARCH, 2008, an Applica-tion 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 LUIS JIMENEZ, Deceased, and their respective shares

the COMMON LAW by Luke Ellis

The material in this column is for informational purposes only. It does not constitute, nor is it a substitute for, legal advice. For advice on your specific facts and circumstances, consult a licensed attorney.

DEADLINE FOR HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

What's the deadline to file for a homestead exemption? How can a homestead exemption help me?

The deadline for filing a homestead exemption is April 30. A special form is needed to apply for homestead exemptions, and it must be completed and returned to your appraisal district's office after Jan. 1 but no later than April 30. You can download the application (www.window.state. tx.us/taxinfo/taxforms/50-114.pdf), fill out the form, and send it in to your appraisal district.

If your home is your most important financial investment, think of the Texas Homestead Exemption as the bank vault that protects the home from most of your creditors. The Texas Homestead Exemption prevents the seizure and forced sale of the homestead property. Put simply, obtaining a homestead exemption provides extra legal protection because general creditors would not be able to force you to sell your homestead in order to satisfy an unpaid debt. For example, if you defaulted on outstanding credit card payments, the credit card company cannot force you to sell the house you live in so that you can pay the outstanding amount.

Saving money on property taxes is another advantage provided by a homestead exemption. The homestead exemption can save you money on your property-tax bill, because a homestead exemption reduces taxes by lowering a home's taxable value.

Not all residences, however, will qualify as a "homestead." Texas law considers the "homestead" to be the primary place of residence for a family or a single person, which essentially limits each person to one homestead. Furthermore, you must have owned the home on Jan. 1 and used the home as your primary residence as of Jan. 1 in order to claim a homestead exemption for that same year. Read previous "Common Law" columns on the Texas Homestead Exemption to learn more.

Please submit column suggestions, questions, and comments to thecommonlaw@austinchronicle.com. Submission of potential topics does not create an attorney-client relationship, and any information submitted is subject to being included in future columns

ploy an attorney. If you or your attorney do not file a written answer with the clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 A.M. on the Monday next following the expiration of twenty days after you were served this citation and peti-tion, a default judgment may be taken against you. YOLLAPE LEPERSY COM. 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 ci tation at the County Court house in Travis County, Tex

All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to ap-pear before said Honorable Court at said above mentioned time and place by filing a written answer contest-ing such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served vithin 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be re turned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 31st 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 CAUSE NO: D-1-EM-06

The Court has authority in this suit to enter any judg-ment or decree in the CHILD's interest which will be binding on you, including the termination of the parent-child relationship, the deter-mination of paternity, and the appointment of a conservator with authority to consent to the CHILD's adoption. CAUSE NO: D-1-FM-06-002520 To: AURELIO HER-NANDEZ and to all who it may concern, Respondent(s); GREETINGS: YOU HAVE BEEN SUED. You may em-

Issued and given under my hand and the seal of said court at Austin, Texas, April 18, 2008. AMALIA RODRIGUEZ-

YOU ARE HEREBY COM

MANDED to appear and an-swer before the Honorable District Court, 126TH JUDI-

swer before the Honorable District Court, 126TH JUDI-CIAL DISTRICT COURT, Tra-vis County, Texas, at the Courthouse of said County in Austin, Texas, at or before 10 o'clock A.M. of the Monday next after expiration of twenty days from the date of service of this citation, then and there to answer the MOTION FOR JUDGEMENT NUNC FOR JUDGEMENT NUNC PRO TUNC of JULIA PABLO MEDINA Petitioner(s), filed in said court on APRIL 7, 2008, against AURELIO HERNAN-DEZ Respondent(s), and sait being number D-1-FM-

suit being number D-1-FM-06-002520 on the docket of

said Court, and entitled "IN THE MATTER OF THE MAR-RIAGE OF JULIA PABLO ME

DINA AURELIO HERNAN

DIA AURELIO HERNAN-DEZ, ET AL", the nature of said suit is a request FOR JUDGEMENT NUNC PRO TUNC.

The Court has authority in

MENDOZA Travis County District Clerk Travis County Courthouse

1000 Guadalupe, P.O. Box 679003 (78767) Austin, Texas 78701 By /s/ COLON JULIO, Deputy REQUESTED BY: JULIA PABLO MEDINA VOLUNTEER LEGAL SER-

AV0508 POUND SALE

NOTICE OF SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES IM-POUNDED 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.

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.

FO THE HIGHEST BIDDER FOR CASH IN THE CITY OF AUSTIN, TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS, THE FOL-LOWING DESCRIBED MOTOR VEHICLES WHICH HAVE NOT BEEN REDEEMED BY THE OWNERS, THEREOF TO WIT;

AUSTIN POLICE DEPT., 4308 TERRY-O LANE, AUSTIN, TX 7874

081001829	****	****	TRA	L	**	*****	
081001829	1979	BARETTA	ABT	7192WM	ТΧ	MHP13286M79D	
085018254	1995	CHEV	4DR	511MLV	ТΧ	1G1BL52W1SR143111	
085018255	1996	CHEV	РΚ	60TVJ1	ТΧ	1GCCS1449T8164735	
085018267	2000	CHEV	VN	551RFJ	ТΧ	1GNDM19W2YB220248	
085018268	1987	CHEV	LL	45ZYB5	ТΧ	1GNER16K2HF182472	
085018272	1995	MERC	4DR	X92RZJ	ТΧ	1MELM50U7SA657780	
085018275	1993	LEXS	2DR	Z79GML	ТΧ	JT8JZ31XCP0014453	
085018276	1985	SUBA	SW	M40BLK	ТΧ	JF2AN53B5FE447646	
085018277	1979	FORD	RV	JCE895	0 K	E37AHDE2130	
085019086	****	****	UT	**		**********	
085019090	1999	CHEV	4DR	105VWM	ТΧ	1G1ND52M1X6247112	
085019093	1990	NISS	ΡK	1MVW34	ТΧ	1N6SD11S2LC314297	
085019096	1978	WINN	ΜH	M33FNH	ТΧ	CPL3273325622	
085019097	1987	FRHT	TR	50GNF4	ТΧ	1FUPYCYB7HP308003	
085019470	1990	PONT	2DR	H48MVW	ТΧ	1G2FS23E0LL217840	
085019473	1996	DODG	ΡK	01MPW3	ТΧ	1B7GL23X7TS556325	

VICES OF CENTRAL TEXAS 816 CONGRESS AVE., SUITE AUSTIN, TX 78701 (512)476-5550

at law in the above num-

bered and entitled estate filed on the 16TH day of APRIL, 2008, an Application to Determine Heirship and for

to Determine Heirship and for Appointment of Independent Co-Administrators and Issu-ance of Letters the said es-tate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said RANDAL M BRANS-FORD, Deceased, and their respective shares and inter-

respective shares and inter-

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 ci-

tation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Tex-

All persons interested in said

estate are hereby cited to ap

estate are hereby cited to ap-pear before said Honorable Court at said above men-tioned time and place by fil-ing a written answer contest-ing such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served

within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be re-turned unserved.

GIVEN LINDER MY HAND

AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 16th day of April, 2008.

By Deputy:/s/ Monica Limor

TO ALL PERSONS INTER-

TO ALL PERSONS IN IER-ESTED IN THE ESTATE OF MARIA LUZ RUBIO, De-ceased, No. 88453, in Pro-bate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas.

WILLIAM RUBIO and all al-

WILLIAM RUBIO and all al-legad heir(s) at law in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the 2nd day of April, 2008, an Application to Determine Heirship and In-dependent Administration and Letters of Administration in the said estate and request(s) that the said Court determine who are the heirs

determine who are the heirs

ceased, and their respective shares and interests in such

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

the date of publication of this citation, at the County Court-house in Travis County, Tex-

All persons interested in said

estate are hereby cited to ap

estate are hereby cited to ap pear before said Honorable Court at said above men-tioned time and place by fil-ing a written answer contest ing such application should they desire to do so.

If this citation is not served

within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be re-turned unserved.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND

AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 2nd day of April, 2008.

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

Travis County, Texas

County Clerk.

P.O. Box 149325.

and only heirs of the said

MARIA LUZ RUBIO, De-

estate

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS

DANA DEBEAUVOIR

Travis County, Texas

Austin, Texas 78714

County Clerk.

P.O. Box 149325,

ests in such estate.

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS AUSTIN CHRONICLE

TO: SARAH SWINNEY De-For SARAH SWINNEY De-fendant, in the hereinafter styled and numbered cause: You have been sued. You may employ an attorney. If you or your Attorney do not file a written answer with the other witten in activity of the state clerk who issued this citation by 10:00 a.m. on the Monday next following the expiration of 42 days from the date of issuance of this citation, the same being May 5, 2008, a default judgment may be tak-en against you.

CAUSE NUMBER: C-1-CV-08-003096, filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW 1

Guadalupe Street, Austin. Texas) on March 25, 2008

Given under my hand and seal of Dana DeBeauvoir, County Clerk on March 25, 2008. County Clerk, Travis County, Texas PO BOX 149325, Austin. Texas 78714-9325

Plaintiff Attorney

CITATION BY PUBLICATION THE STATE OF TEXAS TO ALL PERSONS INTER ESTED IN THE ESTATE OF RANDAL M BRANSFORD, Deceased, No. 88524 in Pro bate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas

ELEANOR HOVEY RODGERS & MCGAVOCK DICKINSON BRANSFORD alleged heir(s)

THE PURCHASER SHALL TAKE TITLE TO THE

I WILL PROCEED TO SELL AT PUBLIC AUCTION

May 8,2008 @ 10:00 AM @

1.0. DOX 143020,
Austin, Texas 78714
By Deputy: /s/ O. Ruiz
CITATION BY PUBLICATION
THE STATE OF TEXAS
TO ALL PERSONS INTER- ESTED IN THE ESTATE OF
TYRELL SETH WILLIAMS,
Deceased, No. 88418 in Pro- bate Court Number One of
Travis County, Texas.
DAYTON ANN WILLIAMS and all the alleged heir(s) at law
in the above numbered and entitled estate, filed on the
27th day of March, 2008, an Application for Letters of In-
dependent Administration
and for Determination of Heir- ship in the said estate and
request(s) that the said Court
determine who are the heirs and only heirs of the said TY-
RELL SETH WILLIAMS, De-
ceased, 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 ci-tation, at the County Courthouse in Travis County, Tex

All persons interested in said All persons interested in said estate are hereby cited to ap-pear before said Honorable Court at said above men-tioned time and place by fil-ing a written answer contest-ing such application should they desire to do so. If this citation is not served within 90 days after date of its issuance, it shall be re-turned unserved. GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF SAID COURT at office in Travis County, Texas, this the 27th day of March, 2008. DANA DEBEAUVOIR County Clerk, Travis County, Texas P.O. Box 149325. Austin, Texas 78714 By Deputy: /s/ O. Ruiz

D-1-GV-06-001680 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES QUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 200TH District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a cer-tain cause numbered D-1-GV-06-001680, wherein City of Lago Vista I.n-dependent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hos-pital District nka Travis pital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Douglas B. Scott, Stephen M. Bolton and City of Austin (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$3,500.58 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 200TH District Court of Travis County, Tex-as, on February 9, 2007. I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadaluna i the Citic 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de fendants in and to the follow ing described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: Lot 30127. Highland Lake

Lot 30127, Highland Lake Estates, Section 30, Plat No. 68/22, Travis County, Texas and being more par-ticularly described in Vol-ume 7183, Page 859 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas. County, Texas. THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$3,500-88 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. BRUCE ELFANT,

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-06-001681 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

Y VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of March, 2008 in a cer-

tain cause numbered D-1tain cause numbered D-1-GV-06-001681, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista In-dependent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hos-pital District nka Travis County Healthcare District are plaintiffs, and Lorne F. Barker, if allow and if de. Barker, if alive and if de ceased, the unknown own ers, heirs, assigns and suc-cessors of the Estate of Lorne F. Barker are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$3,665.36 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Tex-as, on February 5, 2007.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest hidder all the the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de-fendants in and to the follow-ing described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 21185, Highland Lake Estates, Section 21, Plat No. 55/59 as described in Volume 7402, Page 91 of the deed record s of Travis County, Texas . THE ABOVE SALE to be

made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$3,656.36 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. BRUCE ELFANT, CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN. TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS SECUTION SAI F ON THE PROPERTY SOLD

CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

D-1-GV-07-001569 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered D-1-GV-07-001569, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista In-dependent School District, dependent Schoöl District, County Education District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Healthcare District are plain-tiffs, and Marion E. Keely, if alive and if deceased, the unknown owners, heirs, as-signs and successors of the Estate of Marion E. Keely and Geraldine L. Keely are Geraldine L. Keely are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of plaintiffs, for the sum of \$7,275.20 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Tex-as, on January 31, 2008.

a, on the 2Th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock PM, have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de-fendants in and to the following described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 16. Block H. Emerald Lot 16, Block H, Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No. 36/2 as described in Vol-ume 6811, Page 1103 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas. THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$7,275.20 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. BRUCE ELFANT. CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS" BIDDEPS ADE FUR. THE PROPERTY THE ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY UENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-001409 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a cerday of March, 2008 in a cer-tain cause numbered GV-001409, wherein Del Valle In-dependent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12 are plaintiffs, and Bob Mitchell, If alive and if de-ceased, the unknown own-ers, heirs, assigns and suc-cessors of the Estate of Bob Mitchell, Samuel A. Harrell (In Rem Only). If alive and if de-Rem Only), If alive and if de-ceased, the unknown owners, heirs, assigns and suc-cessors of the Estate of Samcessors of the Estate of Sam-uel A. Harrell, Koko D. Harrell (In Rem Only), If alive and if deceased, the unknown own-ers, heirs, assigns and suc-cessors of the Estate of Koko D. Harrell, Homecraft East Austin, Inc. (In Rem Only), if active and if inactive, the un-known officers, directors, shareholders and owners of Homecraft East Austin, Inc., The United States of America (In Rem Only), Medical Park Orthopaedic (In Rem Only), Wells Fargo Bank Texas, NA First Interstate Bank of Tex-Wells Fargo Bank Texas, NA First Interstate Bank of Tex-as, NA (In Rem Only), Cram-er Financial Group, Inc. (In Rem Only), Texas Higher Ed-ucation Board (In Rem Only) and Alissa K. Stewart (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$5,929.37 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 3, 2002.

2002. I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock PM., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the bichest bidder all the the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de fendants in and to the follow-

ing described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit: .13 of an acre out of the Jo seph Duty Sur. 16 as de-scribed in Volume 9974, Page 763 and Volume 12036, Page 943 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$5,929.37 Dollars in favoi of plaintiffs, together with th costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. BRUCE ELFANT. CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-

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POLLOK V SWINNEY Filed in COUNTY COURT AT LAW 1 (Travis County Courthouse, corner of Tenth Street and STYLED: POLLOK V SWIN-NEY NATURE OF SUIT: PROM-ISSORY NOTE

By Deputy: /s/ Chasity Cas-taneda

ROBERT P NUNIS 801 WEST AVE STE 200 AUSTIN, TX 78701

ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-003096 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Tra-vis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-003096, wherein City of Lakeway, Lake Travis Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emer-gency Services District No. 6 and Water Control Improve-ment District No. 17 are plaintiffs, and PHLA, Inc. aka PHLA, Inc., Matrix Capi-tal Bank, FSB (In Rem Only), Texas Employment Commis-BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Texas Employment Commis sion nka Texas Workforce Commission (In Rem Only) and The United States of America (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$213,586.14 Dollars, together \$213,586.14 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on March 22, 2002.

March 22, 2002. I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock PM., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder all the the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of defendants in and to the following described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for **\$213,586.14** Dollars in fa-

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. LSTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-204418

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 250th District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a cer day of March, 2008 in a cer-tain cause numbered GV-204418, wherein Travis County, Lago Vista Inde-pendent School District, Tra-vices District No. 1 and City of Lago Vista are plaintiffs, and George Chriss and Gen-eral Electric Credit Corpora-tion (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$2,680.51** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-

RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FURing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 250th District Court of Travis County, Tex-as, on December 5, 2003. THER ADVISED THAT PUR CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURon the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE. proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of deindants in and to the follow ing described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

THE ABOVE SALE to be

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$2,680.51 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY

BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-

THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY

MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-300648

BRUCE ELFANT.

Lot 10267, Bar-K Ranches Plat 10, Plat No. 63/25, Tra-vis County, Texas and be-ing more particularly de-scribed in Volume 7529, Page 422 of the deed records of Travis County, Tavas GV-401877 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF CALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-

QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 261st District Court of the 261st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of March, 2008 in a cer-tain cause numbered GV-401877, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independ-ent School District, Travis County and Travis County Emergency Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Mary J. Colville are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$3,031.30** Dollars together with all costs of suit that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 261st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on October 29, 2004. I, on the 27th day of March.

2008. at 2:00 o'clock P.M. 2008, at 2:00 o'clock PM., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de-fendants in and to the follow-ing described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 11, Block H, Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No. 36/2, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 11219, Dens 624 of the down 11219, Page 634 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

in cause numbered GV

proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the

rights, title and interest of de-fendants in and to the follow-

ing described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 39, Lago Ranchos, Section 1, Plat No. 49/27 as described in document num-

ber 2000031468 of the deed

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$11,990.49 Dollars in fa-vor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-

BRUCE ELFANT.

records of Travis County

THE ABOVE SALE to be

made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$3,031.30 Dollars in favor BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 353rd District Court of of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof. Travis County, on the 20th day of March, 2008 in a cer-Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. 300648, wherein Lago Vista Independent School District BRUCE ELFANT,

Travis County, Travis County Hospital District nka Travis **CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5** TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD

Havis County, Iravis County, Havis County, Heapital District nka Travis County Healthcare District and Travis County Emergen-cy Services District No. 1 are plaintiffs, and Diane San-chez, Patricio Sanchez and Litchfield Financial Corpora-tion (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$11,990.49 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 353rd District Court of Travis County, Tex-as, on March 5, 2007. ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN. TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PURhave levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at CHASING WHATEVER at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours

INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-403890 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 53rd District Court of Tra-vis County, on the 20th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-403890. wherein Lago Vista Inde-pendent School District, Trawhere the tage visit a fide-pendent School District, Tra-vices District No. 1, City of Lago Vista, Travis County and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Point Construction, Inc., Nunn Electric Supply Corpo-ration (In Rem Only), Comp-troller of Public Accounts (In Rem Only), Travas Employ-ment Commission nka Texas Workforce Commission (In Rem Only), Triple S. Petrole-um Company (In Rem Only), Cash Master (In Rem Only), and Holt Texas, Ltd. Dba Holt Cat (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$3.009.91 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 53rd District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 7, 2006

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon and will have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de-fendants in and to the follow-ing described property, levied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 3138, Bar-K Ranches, Plat 3, Plat No. 57/15, Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described cument number 2001059161 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$3,009.91 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat isfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. BRUCE ELFANT. CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN. TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-TIED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-403901 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF REAL PROPERTY DELIN-

QUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order

Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 21st day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-403901, wherein Del Valle In-dependent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12 and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Richard S. Merrill, Jr., Homecraft East Austin, Inc. (In Rem Only), if active and if inactive the unknown officers, directors, shareholders and owners of Homecraft East Austin, Inc. and Del Valle In-dependent School District, tain cause numbered GV dependent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emergency Services District No. 12, Travis County Hospi-tal District (In Rem Only) are tal District (In Rem Only) are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of **\$4,920.59** Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that be-ing the amount of judgment recovered by the said plain-tiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Tex-as, on October 4, 2005.

I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M., have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de fendants in and to the follow

.13 of an acre out of the Jo-13 of an acre out of the JC seph Duty Sur. 16 as de-scribed in Volume 9974, Page 9766, Volume 12036, Page 943 and document number 2003127457 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas. THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$4,920.59 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. BRUCE ELFANT. CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY BY /S/ Alian Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-VOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-503701 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 201st District Court of Travis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-503701, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emer-gency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital and Travis County Hospital District are plaintiffs, and Jack C. Mathis and Florence T. Mathis are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$2,848.31 Dollars, to-gether with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 201st District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 11, 2006. I, on the 27th day of March 2008, at 2:00 o'clock P.M.,

have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o' clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de ndants in and to the follow ing described property, lev ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 10261, Bar-K Ranches Plat 10, Plat No. 63/25 as described in Volume 10678, Page 225 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$2,948.31 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008.

BRUCE ELFANT. CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5 TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY

MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECURITY INTER-ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE.

GV-504409 CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE

REAL PROPERTY DELIN-QUENT TAXES

QUENT TAXES BY VIRTUE of a certain Order Of Sale issued by the clerk of the 98th District Court of Tra-vis County, on the 19th day of March, 2008 in a certain cause numbered GV-504409, wherein City of Lago Vista, Lago Vista Independent School District, Travis County, Travis County Emer-gency Services District No. 1 and Travis County Hospital

District are plaintiffs, and Robert Lorraine and Linda K. Lorraine are defendant(s), in favor of said plaintiffs, for the sum of \$3.238.44 Dollars, together with all costs of suit, that being the amount of judgment recovered by the said plaintiffs, in the 98th District Court of Travis County, Texas, on April 7, 2006.

I, on the 27th day of March I, on the 27th day of March, 2008, at 200 o'clock PM, have levied upon, and will, on the 6th day of May, 2008 at 10:00 o'clock, A.M., at 1000 Guadalupe in the City of Austin, within legal hours, proceed to sell for cash to the highest bidder, all the rights, title and interest of de-routents in and to the follow: fendants in and to the follow ing described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants to-wit Lot 18. Block H. Emerald Bend, Section 1, Plat No 36/2. Travis County, Texas and being more particularly described in Volume 10682, Page 656 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

THE ABOVE SALE to be THE ABOVE SALE to be made by me to satisfy the above described judgment for \$3,238.44 Dollars in favor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof. Witness my hand this 27th day of March, 2008. BRUCE ELFANT, **CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5** TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS BY /s/ Alan Redd DEPUTY ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN-TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR RANTIES OF MERCHANT-ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE. YOU BUY THE PROPERTY "AS IS". BIDDERS ARE FUR-THER ADVISED THAT PUR-CHASE OF THE PROPERTY AT THIS EXECUTION SALE MAY NOT EXTINGUISH ANY LIENS OR SECUTION SALE ESTS ON THE PROPERTY. YOU ARE SIMPLY PUR-CHASING WHATEVER CHASING WHATEVER INTEREST THE DEBTOR HAS IN THE PROPERTY. IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, YOU NEED TO CONSULT COUN-SEL OF YOUR CHOICE

NO. 88235 IN RE: ESTATE OF JOAN C. HIGGINS, DE-CEASED IN THE PROBATE COURT NUMBER 1 OF TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that Original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Rodney Joan C. Higgins, Deceased, were issued on April 15, 2008 under Docket No. 88235, pending in the Probate Court Number 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Michael W. Higgins.

Claims may be presented to the following: Adam Pugh Slater & Kennon, LLP 4807 Spicewood Springs Road Building 2, Suite 240 Austin, Texas 78759 Attorneys for the Estate All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law.

DATED this 25th day of April, Adam Pugh

Attorney for the Estate NOTICE Anyone knowing the whereabouts of the Norman

Jones aka Norman Gaines, please contact DeVonna Ponthieu, Attorney at Law, (225)791-5552.

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to the Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle Act, the following vehicle(s) will be sold at a public sale unless charges are satisfied within ten (10) are satisfied within ten (10) days. Storage facility AusTex Towing, 201 E. Braker Ln., Austin, TX 78753, (512)836-6606. Vehicle: 2001 Jaguar MI plates GRXKR SAJDA42B41PA13612 towed from 3500 Blk N. IH 35 S/B; 2006 Satum paper plates 2006 Saturn paper plates 1G8AJ55F96Z119482 towed

Cak TALK by Tom and Ray Magliozzi

PEDAL AWAY OIL-LIGHT PROBLEM

Dear Tom and Ray:

I have an '07 Chevy Cobalt. I like the car, especially because it's red and has a spoiler. But it has an annoying feature. It has a computer that tells you various things, like your gas mileage, temperature, coolant level, etc. It also tells you your "oil life." But it never seems to catch on that I've already changed the oil! I change the oil, and the light still tells me I need an oil change. I've changed the oil a dozen times or so already, and yet the computer keeps saying "change oil soon." OK, there are bigger problems in the world, like war, disease, and pestilence, but this little beeping oil thing is driving me crazy. – Barbara

TOM: Isn't it interesting how you can get obsessed with something so trivial? You have a little, tiny, insignificant problem with an otherwise perfectly good car. But once you notice it, you start to focus on it. And then war, disease, and too-tight underwear all take a distant back seat.

RAY: Fortunately, this is an easy one, Barbara. There's a reset procedure. Whoever is changing your oil doesn't know how to perform the reset. If you're going to a Pokey Lube-type place, those guys change the oil on 1,000 different types of cars a week, and they might not even know your oil-life light needs to be reset - not to mention knowing how to do it on your Cobalt.

TOM: This is going to sound like I'm pulling your leg, but I'm not. On this car, you turn your key to the "on" position (without starting the engine), and then press the gas pedal all the way down three times within seven seconds. Next, turn the key off, and then start the engine. The light should go off after a few seconds. You might have to try it a few times to get it right. But that's all you have to do.

RAY: And then, next time you go to the Pokey Lube, when the guy's finished changing your oil, walk over and say, "Hey, lemme show you something interesting."

* * *

Don't get stuck with a lemon. Be an informed shopper. Read Tom and Ray's guide "How to Buy a Great Used Car: Secrets Only Your Mechanic Knows." Send \$4.75 (check or money order) to Used Car, PO Box 536475, Orlando,

FL 32853-6475.

Got a question about cars? Write to Click and Clack in care of this newspaper, or e-mail them by visiting the Car Talk website, www.cartalk.com.

* * *

Tune in to Car Talk each Saturday at 9am on

< kut 90.5 ©2004 by Tom & Ray Magliozzi and Doug Berman Distributed by King Features Syndicate

ing described property, lev-ied upon as the property of defendants, to-wit:

Lot 14A, Amended Plat of Lot 14A, Amended Plat of Lots 14 and 15, Cardinal Hills, Unit 6, Plat No. 99/43 as described in Volume 12999, Page 726 of the deed records of Travis County, Texas.

vor of plaintiffs, together with the costs of said suit, and the proceeds applied to the sat-isfaction thereof.

BRUCE FLEANT

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

ON THE PROPERTY SOLD, THERE ARE NO WARRAN. TIES, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIM-ITED TO, THE IMPLIED WAR-RANTIES OF MERCHANT. ABILITY AND FITNESS FOR A DAPTICUL AD BUIEDOSE

CONSTABLE'S NOTICE OF SALE



from 32nd & IH35 S/B; 1994 Volkswagen DC plates CA4382 3VWRC81H8SM036582

towed from 5900 Blk N. Mo-pac ing 2013 N. Mays St., Round Rock. TX 78664 (540)201 Storage facility AusTex Tow

Rock, TX 78664, (512)244-6660. Vehicle: Volkswage CA plates 2PSU438 WVWRB11G8KW475091 towed from 600 Blk Chisholm Valley

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texa: Abandoned Motor Vehicle(s), 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 1996 Mercury Sable, 748OD WY VIN#

1MFI M53SXTA628317

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES Pursuant to Texas Abandoned Motor Vehicle(s), the following vehicles will be sold at Public Auction if not claimed within 41 days.

Garagekeeper: A&A WRECKER AND RECOVERY, LLC 2963 MANOR ROAD AUSTIN.TX 78722 (512)670-7578 2007 Toyota Corolla 5ZOM735, VIN# 1NXBR32E97Z867601

NOTICE OF ABANDONED VEHICLES PURSUANT OF TEXAS ABANDONED MO-TOR VEHICLE ACT. THE FOLLOWING WILL BE SOLD AT PUBLIC SALE UNLESS CHARGES ARE SATISFIED WITHIN 10 DAYS. GARAGE KEEPER: SOUTH-SIDE WRECKER, 8200 S CONGRESS , AUSTIN, TX. 1. 1986 JEEP 1JTHS6614GT003345 2. 1994 OLDS 1G3HN52L3R4818112 1994 OLDS 3. THOR MINIBIKE LUAHYB1C861002134

4. 1979 FORE . F10HRQ61629

1979 FORD PK

NOTICE OF NEW TRAFFIC REGULATIONS Notice is hereby given that Travis County, Texas, pro-poses the approval of the following traffic regulation: PLACE NO PARKING ALONG THE WEST SIDE OF CUERNAVACA DRIVE JUST SOUTH OF DELGADO WAY IN PRECINCT THREE.

Any resident of Travis County, Texas, aggrieved by this proposed action may make written request for a mandatory public hearing. Such request must be ad dressed to the Transportation and Natural Resources De-partment, Travis County, Tex-as, P.O. Box 1748, Austin, Texas, 78767, and must be d within seven (7) days of this notice.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUC TION A public auction will be held to satisfy landlord's lien pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. Sales will be held May 17, 2008. A sale will be held at 9:30 a.m., at AAA Self Storage, 227 Park 35 Cove North, Buda, Phone 512-312-2227. A sale will be held at 11:00 a.m. at 10707 IH 35, North Austin Loca-tion, Phone 512-977-9775. All units will be sold to the All units will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Clean up and removal de-posit will be required. Seller reserves the right to reject any bid. Sales include items from the following tenant's storage spaces: #230 Corbitt Darrell: electrical wires, car-pet, misc.; #402 Torres Floyd: boxes; #472 Gary L. Cook: miscellaneous; #2204 Masur Marshalt: household Masur Marshall: household items; #2222 Armando Gar za: household items; #3302 Julian Hernandez: household items; #509 Sugar Taylor: household furnishings; #2318

hold items B050; futon, table, chairs,

Sara Wilson: miscellaneous items; #6108 Donnie Watson: salon items; #6418 Alan Arizola: tools, and miscellaneous items; lamps, boxes, mattress, headboard, drafter's table B139 Kent Archer Risovi: ta ble, chairs, boxes, chest, al-bums, exercise bike #6503 Franklin Thompso household items; #6701 Joseph Ramon: household items; #6809 Ofelia Benitez: household items; B172 Maria Teresa Martinez: boxes, tv, furniture, lamps #6836 Amy Govea: tires, and household items; #6858 Donald Marshall: household items. #2320 Lee Pingry: household C029 Darby Drew: Jaguar C225 Lydia Marie Ramos: boxes, PC goods, misc. items D112 Michael Forbess

clothes, shoes, boxes NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE of property to satisfy land-lord's lien. Sale is 10:00 am, May 13, 2008 at 824 Wagon Trail Austin, TX. Property wi be sold to highest bidder for NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE In accordance with the visions of Chapter 59 of the w will Texas Property Code, there being due and unpaid charg cash. Cleanup and removal es fo which the undersigned deposit may be requir is entitled to satisfy an own Seller reserves the right to er's lien of the goods herein-after described and stored at withdraw property from sale. Property includes contents of 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 ex-pired, the goods will be sold Property includes contents of spaces of following tenants: CYNTHIA SMITH: TV, House-hold Items; SIGNATURE GROUP: Landscape tools, paint, tile; JAUNELL DEDE-AUX: Furniture, JOSEPHINE DAUIDEON, Surpture, Mice AUX: Furniture, JOSEPHINE DAVIDSON: Furniture, Misc boxes; DONNA ROBINSON: Clothes, Dolly, Jacks, Wee-deater; GEORGETTE GREEN pired, the goods will be sold at public auction at the fol-WOOD KLIENPETER: Washlowing address to the highest bidder or otherwise disposed er, Dryer, Mattress, Furniture, toys; JAMES RODRIGUEZ: Furniture, Stove, TV, Misc of on the following dates. No one under 16 allowed. Cash household items; GERALD FULLER: Clothes, Misc Box V. Stor Self Storage 2508 LIMMY BROWN Misc es, JIMMY BROWN: Misc Boxes, Clothes; GERALD FULLER: Car Parts, Misc Boxes; ASHLEY COLL: Sofa, Misc. Boxes; GERALD FULL-ER: Clothes, Furniture, Mat-tress, Cooler. Contact CSA Management at (61) 452

W. Pecan St. Pflugerville, TX 78660 512-990-1000, May 5, 2008 12:00 pm. Horace Curtis, #318, 10x10 unit. Ra-fael Delarosa , #560, 10x20 ael Delarosa , #560, 10x20 Init, Kevin Campbell, #325, 10x10 unit.

Management at (512) 453-6566 Ext 219 for more infor NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NO ICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59, Tex-as Property Code, Texas Storage Park, which is locat-ed at 10013 Hwy, 620 N. Austin, TX 78726, will hold a public auction of property be-ing sold to satisfy a land-lord's lien. Sale will be at 10:00 am on May 27, 2008. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash or equivalent.

fridge, microwave, 9" TV, win-dow A/C, water cooler,

antique trunk & dresser, surf

board, boom box, turn table,

camp equipment, vacuum, granite & more.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

In accordance with the pro-visions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Windy Meadows, Inc., which is lo-cated at 15907 Windermere Drive, Pflugerville, TX 78660 will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisf

property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. Due notice

having been given to the owner of the property and all

interest therein, and the time

specified in such notice for

property will be sold to the

May 10, 10:00 am at 15907

Winde

payment having expired, the

ighest bidder on Saturday

ville, TX. Unit B-02 Anngelic M. Luna: household items.

M. Luna: household items, furniture; C-09 Linda Frazier bike, furniture, household

furniture; C-09 Linda Frazier: bike, furniture; household items; C-21 John Winniford: bike, furniture; C-27 Teresa Lynn Clinton: bikes, boxes, furniture; C-30 Frank Jones: lathe, automotive repair tools, drill press, Bowflex; C-33 Robin King Hammack: home and office furniture, ladder. 10% b.p. Ace Auction Com-pany, Allen Wares, TDL

pany, Allen Wares, TDL #15135.

the Texas Property Code

for removal and clean up

be sold item-by-item, in

batches, or by the space

Property being sold includes contents in spaces of the fol-lowing tenants, with brief de scription of contents in each

B027 Robert Klinger: clothes

dresser, mattress, PC moni-tor, boxes, misc. household

B035 Patsy A. Hayes: tubs, tables, boxes, misc. house

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NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 of

mere Drive Pfluger

parties known to claim an

equivalent.

Daniel McGibbon: mi

U-STORE-IT hereby gives no tice of Public Sale under the provisions of Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code. This sale will be held on **May** 5, 2008 beginning at 10:00 A.M. at the U-STORE-IT loated at 10025 Manchaca cated at 10025 Manchaca Road Austin, Texas. This sale will continue to each designated address location listed below after the com-pletion of the beginning sale. This sale is being held to sat-isfy a Landlord's Lien. Every-thing sold is purchased "as is" "where is" for cash. Uis" "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 prece dence over any printed ma-terials related to the sale. U-Store-It #753

10025 Manchaca Rd Austin, Tx 78748

512-292-1760 Janice Ramirez - Fishing Poles, Suitcases, Records, Tapes, Christmas Statues, Patio Chairs, Garden Tools.

Albert Munoz - Bookcase Dresser Desk Sofa TV CD's, Printer Carolyn Rodriguez - Bed Frame, Fishing Poles, Refrig-erator, Tackle Box, Toys, Tools, Generator, Air Condi-

Christopher Brown - File Cabnet. Ladder. Tool Boxes Wol

Leela Kendrick Tondre - Boxspring and Mattress, Boxes, Tubs.

U-Store-It #751 610 E. Stassney Lane

Austin, TX 78745 512-441-8300

John Beaty - Desk, Totes

Frik Orr - File Cabinet Chairs, Rug, Speakers, Ta-ble, Totes, Bamboo Curtains, Pet Kennel, Pet Taxi Nicholas Shaw - Baby Crib

Boxes, Dryer, Speakers, Ster-eo, Toys, Washing Machine, Baby Swing, Baby Bouncer, Totes, Baby Bath Tub. Sergio Guerrero - Books, Chairs, Dresser, Pictures

the Texas Property Code, Stor-A-Way, located at 550 South IH-35, Round Rock, TX 78681, will hold a public auction of property being sold to satisfy a landlord's lien. The sale will begin at 12:00 p.m. on May 15, 2008. Property will be sold to high Speakers, Tables, Hutch, Hun Rack, Totes Property will be sold to high est bidder for cash. Deposit Dannon Basaldua - Bags, Bed frame, Mattress, Box Spring, Desk, Mirror, Pic-tures, Plastic Drawers. may be temporarily required. Seller reserves right to not accept any bid and to with-Stephen Torrez - Bed Frame Boxes, Table, TV, Printer draw property from sale. Property in each space may

Clarence Jackson - Boxes Fan, Ladder, Lamp, Speak ers TV Weight Bench Weights, Household Elec-tronics

Jesse Hernandez - Bed Frame, Headboard, Desk, Ladder, Stereo, TV, Stroller, Car Seat, Hose and Reel, Punching Bag. Rachel Blocker - Bags, Bicycle, Boxes, Chairs, Clothir Shelf, Table, TV's, Freezer, Clothing

U-Store-It #748 12006 RR 620 N Austin. Tx. 78745 512-336-5333

Richard Guthrie - Bicycle Boxes, Clothing, Ladder, Dresser David Pritchard - Dresse Refrigerator, Car-seats, Key-board, Computer Desk, Box es, Pictures and Frames. AUCTIONEER: KENNETH

HIERHOLZER 6568 NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE Pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Property Code, Stor-A-Way located at 309 South Way located at 309 Sout Bell, Cedar Park, Texas 78613, will hold a public auc tion of property being s satisfy a landlord's lien na sold to

The sale will begin at 10:00 am on Thursday. May 15 2008. Property will be sold to the highest bidder for cash. Deposit for removal and cleanup may be temporarily required. Seller reserves the required. Seller reserves the right to not accept any bid and to withdraw property from the sale. Property in each space may be sold item-by-item, in batches, or by the space. Property being sold includes contents in the spaces of the following ten-ants, with brief description of contents in each space contents in each space. C011 James Vavra: mattress, sofa, TV, loveseat, clothes, boxes

D006 Don Boyd: boxes, clothes

D007 Tim Kenner: boxes, chest, bookshelves

D008 Don Boyd: TV, furni-ture, boxes, mattress D213 Kerry Angell: clothes, boxes, table

NOTICE TO ALL PERSONS HAVING CLAIMS AGAINST THE ESTATE OF GEORGIA ELLEN CHUNN. DECEASED The administration of the Es tate of GEORGIA ELLEN CHUNN Deceased has been commenced by the is suance of original Letters Testamentary to JAMES RANDALL ROMIKE, on March 20, 2008, by the Pro-bate Court Number One, Tra-vis County, Texas, acting in Cause Number 88,028, styled ESTATE OF GEORGIA ELLEN CHUNN, in which Court the matter is pending Court the matter is pending.

All persons having claims against the estate are hereby notified to present them to DOUGLAS EDWARD LEWIS, M.D., Independent Executor, at his attemptic addresse at his attorney's address shown below within the time prescribed by law. Dated this 25th day of April,

2008. /s/ Jason S. Coome

Law Offices of Jason S. Coomer PLLC

406 Sterzing, Second Floor Austin, Texas 78704 ProbateLawyer@texaslawyer s.com (512) 474-1477 State Bar No. 00703547

Attorney for the Estate of GEORGIA ELLEN CHUNN

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Ernestine Rutland, Deceased, were issued on Tuesday, April 15, 2008, in Cause No. 88,415, pending in the Probate Court Number 1 of Travis County, Taxas to Veronica L. Johnson n/k/a Veronica Mallicote All persons having claims against this Estate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the within the time and in the manner prescribed by law. Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows: Veronica Mallicote, repre-sentative, Estate of Ernestine Rutland, Deceased

c/o Law Offices of Brooke Hardie 702 Rio Grande St Austin, Texas 78701 DATED the 15th day of April. 2008.

NOTICE TO CREDITORS On April 15, 2008, Joyce Esther Thigpen qualified as Inde-pendent Administrator without bond of the Estate of Austin Thigpen, Deceased, in Cause No. 85,282 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Administrator

is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th St., Suite 808, Austin, Texas, 78701, and all persons having claims against this estate are required to present them to such ad dress in the manner and time required by law. Joyce Esther Thigpen, Independent Administrator of Estate of Austin Thigpen

NOTICE TO CREDITORS NOTICE is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary NOTICE TO CREDITORS for the Estate of Frances R. Notice is hereby given that original Letters of Indeper Thomas, Deceased, were isent Administration with Will sued on April 15, 2008, in Anneved for the Estate of Cause No. 88,416, pending RUSSELL F ATCHISON in Probate Court No. 1 of a/k/a RUSSELL EUGENE ATCHISON, Deceased, were vis County, Texas, to: Bank of America, N.A. The notice to the Independissued on April 10, 2008, in Cause No. 88280, pending in ent Executor may be deliv-ered at the following address:

the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texa to: SUSAN SANDBERG. Texas The residence of the Execu-tor is in Travis County, Texas; the post office address is: c/o Kirt H. Kiester

Kiester, Lockwood & Babb, IIP 611 West 14th St., Suite 100

Austin, Texas 78701 kirt@klblawyers.com 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 21st day of April.

2008 KIESTER, LOCKWOOD & BABB, L.L.P. By: /s/ Kirt H. Kiester State Bar No. 11393000 ATTORNEYS FOR THE ES-TATE

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentar for the Estate of Albina Mar-tinets, Deceased, were is-sued on February 26, 2008, in Cause No. 85454, pending in the Probate Court No. 1, Travis County, Texas, to: Eva Yazdchi. Yazdchi

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: Eva Yazdchi

Mitchell & Colmenero 700 Lavaca, Suite 607 Austin, Texas 78701 DATED this April 15, 2008 Mitchell & Colmenero, LLP 700 Lavaca, Suite 607 Austin, Texas 78701

Telephone: (512) 322-0500 Facsimile: (512) 322-0900 By:/s/ Rudy R. Colmenero State Bar No.: 00789231 Jedd L Searist State Bar No.: 24041893

Attorneys for Jedd L. Segrist

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Elizabeth J. Gouldthorpe, Deceased, vere issued on April 17 2008, in Cause No. 8838 pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Mary Jane Gouldthorpe Smith. The resi-dence of the Executor is in Fayette County, Texas, and her post office address is c/o Albert J. Heinrich, Jr., P.C., 408 West 18th Street, Austin. Texas 78701. All perso having claims against the es tate which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the matter required by

Dated April 18, 2008 Albert J. Heinrich, Jr., P.C Bv: /s/ Albert J. Heinrich, Jr. Attorney for the Estate

NOTICE TO CREDITORS Notice is hereby given that original Letters Testamentary for the Estate of GRACE H. CORNISH, Deceased, were issued on April 17, 2008, under Docket No. 88461, pending in the Probate Court Number One of Travis County, Texas, to Merrill Alonzo Cornish, Jr.

Claims may be presented in care of the attorney for the estate, addressed as follows:

Representative, Estate of Grace H. Cornish, Deceased c/o Lawrence J. Morgan 1145 West 5th St., Suite 201 Austin, Texas 78703

All persons having claims

against this estate, which is currently being administered are required to present them within the time and in the manner prescribed by law Dated: April 18, 2008. /s/ Lawrence J. Morgan Attorney for Applicant

c/o Barnes Lipscomb & Stew-art, PLLC

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 21st day of April, 2008.

Attorney for Independent Ex

NOTICE TO CREDITORS

On April 17, 2008, Elaine N.

Hoskins qualified as Inde-pendent Executor without bond of the Estate of Donald

bond of the Estate of Donald B. Hoskins, Deceased, in Cause No. 88,438 pending in the Probate Court No. 1 of Travis County, Texas. The address of the Administrator is c/o Donald F. Carnes, 400 W. 15th St., Suite 808, Austin, Texas, 78701, and all per-construction claims explicit

sons having claims against this estate are required to

present them to such ad-dress in the manner and time

pendent Executor of the Es-tate of Donald B. Hoskins

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE

TRAVIS COUNTY TEXAS

required by law.

Elaine N. Hoskins, Inde

/s/ Ellen Stewart

ecutor

Attorneys at Law

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Notice is hereby given that sealed proposals will be ac cepted by Travis County for the following items: 1.Dental Coverage for Travis County Employees, P080193-OJ Opens: OPENING DATE HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MAY 5, 2008 @ 10:00 A.M.

HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO MAY 5, 2008 @ 10:00 A.M. Proposals should be submit-ted 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/purchas-ing/solicitation.asp. Propos-ers should use unit pricing or Jump sum pricing, if appro-priate. Payment may be made by check. The suc-cessful 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 award-ed, if applicable.

OFFICIAL PUBLIC NOTICE TO BIDDERS

TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS Notice is hereby given that sealed bids will be accepted by Travis County for the fol-lowing items: 1.Case File Folders, B080195-DR

Opens: May 12, 2008 @ 10:00 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 ob tained from or viewed at the Travis County Purchasing Office at no charge or by down loading a copy from our web-site: www.co.travis.tx.us/purchasing/solicitation.asp. Bid-ders should use unit pricing or lump sum pricing, if ap-propriate. Payments may be made by check. The suc-cessful bidder shall be required to furnish a Performance Bond in the amount o One Hundred percent (100%) of the contract amount awarded, if applicable

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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 will na pet

DominaShannon, 29. 101. #124643

NEVER SAY NEVER. Im Very out spoken,ready for a goodtime. Pretty much down with alot of things. I live to work. Get to know me and I'll tell more. Thank you. Cre. 30. #124567

MALE BODY LOVER

Looking for a "friend" not just a hookup. Someone who is outgoing, an outdoor lover, intelligent and maybe a bit of a nerd. rockett2222, 34, 3, #124473

MISS E I just wanted a \$150 gift card from FORBIDDEN FRUIT... Hopefully I get one... Other wise this profile is for fun.

I am from Austin but stav in Chicago now... mmcchr05, 23, 🖸, #124037 **BRAZEN AND INSATIABLE**

I am looking for a man who does not have to be the most amazing thing in the world to look at, but has intelligence. krystaltear, 35, #120584

FEMALE SEEKING MALE

MARRIED FEMALE 61 . 38 DD'S. Seeking for a D/D/F endowed white male for friends with benefits. Join my husband and I for intimate fun. elsex46, 62, #123648

нот мама

Looking for fun in Austin. curves44 45. #122575

REWARDING DOM

Looking for a consistant submissive, not a one time experience. Would like to meet them before anything sexual obviously. If you are intrested, please feel free to contact me. Tomorrows-Worse, 23, 🙆, #123509

WILDERNESSGIRL SEEKS TRANS/CROSS

Big Titty, blue eyes, pretty nice looks. Wilderness girl is back in town seeking fun with cross dresser, transexual, and into role playing. An accent is a plus and turnon. pleime. 42. #122521

AUDACIOUS BEAUTY+ BRAIN

i see beauty beyond the orthodox vision of american eyes and seek someone with a strong sense of iden-tity and awareness of the world willing to explore sensuality and sexuality. SymposiumLover, 21, #119431

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. austinpartygurl1985,

22. O. #119045

DISCRETE FUN SBF seeking a discrete, mutually beneficial relationship with a generous, professional gentleman. Funtimes01, 29. #117862

NAIVE LUST

Looking for an open-minded, intel-lectual, attractive, sensual, interesting, family-oriented guy with no children; who is a pervert in the bed. I want the best of both worlds; Open to new ideas. Vana, 37, #115092

HORNY NEED MORE!

29 yr old married HF. seeking discreet sex partner for occasional romps in the sack. you must be discreet.26-35 hispanic male. no long term relation-ships.speak spanish. 2noty2bnice, 31, 7 #114844

NEWBIES

Me & my wife are looking 4 a couple 2 watch as well watch us.New 2 this so you got 2 b patient, understanding,funny,truthful.Talked about single men & women 2. svrrus2008, 27, #125848

HORNY COUPLE

M and W couple looking for another woman to come in and play with us luckysaint, 22, 10, #125839

SEXUAL PREDATORS

Him-5'11, slim build, tatoos, piercings very sexually open minded and up to anything.Her-5'3,full figured,tatoos, curious and open to what comes up

sexualpredators, 33, 10, #125831 VOUNGLONELYDISSAPOINTED

I love to play. I have no one to play with will you play with me? roseinwinter, 19. **10. #125740**

TRY EVERYTHING ONCE....

We wanna play! We are not swingers, I do not want another man. I love women and getting them off, he likes to watch. Interested? **Jewels**, 34, **101**, **#125643 CURIOUS AND EAGER**

We are a couple looking to expand our experiences. He is adventerous and she is bi curious. vato2go, 56, #125531

fees. Regular long distance charges may apply.

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COUPLE SEEK GIRL

oh, where do we start this ad? we want a real girl, bi-sexual. a girl that is looking for a couple. 35-55 years old we are 40's. we are cute. **saustin**couple, 44. 01. #125567 **CURIOUS COUPLE**

Couple (female: 18, male: 22) seek-ing a female ages 18-22 to play with the female as male watches.... We just want to try something new and spontaneous. youngandwilling, 18,

LOOKING FOR SUB My male slave is looking for a woman that he may dominate himself. I will be there sometimes to. So all you kinky fenale slaves contact with us. NOW!! FunCoupleSeeking1Mor, 23, #125362

BIF42HE54

Hot couple seeks couple or lady for eroticism and frienship limits respected bike activities and musical instruments are a plus! let us hear from you. nazti2, 42, #125347 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, 101, #125322

BI-COUPLE SEEKS SAME

Super-sexy married Bi-couple seeks same. He-50, She-45, Exploring uninhibited adventure-variety sensual encounters while seeking new, erotic, exotic and exciting sexual experiences.

Sexxsmiths, 46, 01, #125298 PLEASE US BOTH

My man wants to watch a female please me.He may or may not join in. You need to be to be fairly submissive and willing to take direction from him. BeeBee, 39, #125224

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, 21, #125198

RANDOMAPPLEBOTTOM

W/M.31.6'2".165lbs.W/F.24.5'5".145lbs We are an Austinite couple looking for a discreat mistress or one night of play!Any woman that can handle all of the attention we have to offer, bring it on! messy4jessy, 24, #125193

COUPLE FOR PLAY

attractive married couple seeks friends and playdates with others. We are 1st tim ers and want to screw , not get screwed around...Lets meet.drink.and see what happens. upstate2, 39, #125188

SWEET & INNOCENT.....

Attractive, easy-going couple, looking for someone to be our Pornstar! Mean ing a down a* 0_0 girl up for whatever comes her way! Look forward to good times! mjo8a, 27, 10, #125133

HELPIIIII

We would like to add another women to our love making, someone who is experienced would be great! Women on women would be ok as long as he can watch...interested? GiGi69, 40, **a**, #125791

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. Bifemaustincpl, 32. 7 IOI. #121712

free!

BAD KITTY

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What's underneath your bed? Japanese bondage

rope, the soft cotton type rather than the silk...

handcuffs, a blindfold, edible body dust, rubber

flogger, riding crop, an assortment of sex toys...

...and then there is my closet, full of costumes.

read the rest of **KITTYCASSIE**'s profile or

enter your own profile for FREE online at

austinchronicle.com/easystreet

THE LUV DOC

Lone Star State Jam • Sat., Apr. 26, noon

Waterloo Park • 403 E. 15th • www.lonestarjam.com

toll roads before gas got so expensive. We probably couldn't even

afford to build them now what with the economy swirling down

the toilet. Imagine what it would cost to haul all that concrete these

days. Fortunately, folks around here were farsighted enough to plan

for the future, which is why we built six lanes of toll road access

to pastureland out in Manor. Fuck it. People are eventually going

to get tired of those breathtaking West Austin Hill Country views

and demand to live downwind from the dump and closer to the

flea market. Sooner or later, those happy rubes out in Lakeway are

going to grow weary of driving their Hummers and Escalades up

those steep grades and swap them for Smart Cars and solar-powered

manufactured green housing. It's only a matter of time. Meanwhile,

think of all the money and gas we're saving as we whoosh down

those huge empty concrete slabs in our Tex-tagged, half-ton four-

wheel drive extend-a-cabs on the way to the office. It's a long, lonely

drive, but when you own a rugged half-acre of well-graded, treeless

suburbia, you need a vehicle with a headache rack, a chrome-plated

brush guard, and all-terrain mud tires that can negotiate a 5%

incline driveway and tow your his-and-hers Sea-Doos out to the boat

ramp at Carlos'n Charlie's. Yes, it's painful to have to shell out the

better part of a hundie every week at the Tiger Mart, but it beats the

indignity of having to share personal space at the Park-n-Ride with

all those state worker commuter chumps. Plus, where would you

put your matching "Bud" and "Sissy" personalized Texas license

plates? And do you think that those new light-rail commuter trains

are going to have gun racks, spittoons, or deer-poaching spotlights?

Think again. They'll probably have Internet access, though, which

will be really nice when gas hits \$10 a gallon and the only economi-

cal way to get to your big suburban spread will be by train or mule. Now might be a good time to get right with public transportation - maybe learn to interact with real people on a daily basis, learn

how to be friendly again. That's what Texas is all about anyway, isn't it? Friendliness? Isn't that our state motto or something? It's also a town in Texas, but you probably can't afford to drive there. Instead,

you could take the bus down to Waterloo Park this Saturday for the

Lone Star State Jam, a full day of Texas and Red Dirt (code word:

Oklahoman) music benefiting Young Texans Against Cancer and

the Dell Children's Medical Center. Tickets are \$32.50, but that's

way less than you'd spend driving to Friendship, and you get to

see these exciting acts: Kevin Fowler, Cross Canadian Ragweed (the

other CCR), the Eli Young Band, Cory Morrow, Roger Creager, Wade

Bowen, Bleu Edmondson, Adam Hood, Ryan James, and the Bart

Crow Band. And if it makes you feel any better, most of these acts

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will be arriving in buses, too.

It's a good thing Texans were smart enough to put in all those

- KITTYGASSIE

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, 27, 101, #123872

SEXUAL ARTIST

Write if you want to know a well-round ed, intelligent, thoughtful, sexy man I enjoy well-rounded hispanic, black and italian men. I ow maintenance kind of guy. Casual encounters are fine cookster, 48, 🕿, 🔯, #121616

YOUR PERFECT GURL

Adventure loving, happy go lucky Gurl seeks mentor for sharing, caring, exploring, intimate fun. You will not be disappointed with a pleasure oriented devotee looking for like minded girlfriend. Lynda61521, 48, 119822

CROSSDRESSER ISO GIRLFRIEND

I am a very passable and kinky crossdresser. I am bisexual, but prefer women. I'm primarily looking for a girlfriend, but occassional play partners and friendships are good, too. kinky_ violet, 26, 101, #120083

SUBBOTTOM SEEKS TOPS

Submissive Bottom looking for other men to play with Luv to cross dress if you like that. Safe play and DDF required. jess53, 55, 10, #116914 SEXY TS

iím a very sexy, very hot passable transsexual. iim 5i10î 145 pounds with sexy hormonally induced breasts. ifm very classy, too, and dress very provoc atively. iím 28 years old. nicole_anais, 31, **10**, **#115140**

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

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. MidnightRider, 38, 27, 101, #125521 SEARCHING THE NIGHT

Hey whats up yall! I am looking for a FWB casual relationship for sexual experimentation and pleasure. I would also like to maintain discretion. Email me if you are interested! Jaja, 22, 🕿

10, #124934 **34 FIT HETEROSEXUAL**

I enjoy having sex with women only and or enjoy sharing her with another man. she will be very happy ... that is, if she can take it all. **travisriver**, 34, **a** 0, #124840

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overs ane

WOMEN S E E K I N G

I'm not looking for anything serious, just someone to pass some time with I'm a full-time student working a couple of internships, but can always make time for interesting people. Austin08, 25, 10, #125846

BEAUTIFUL, SINGLE MOM...

In 30 words or less...beautiful, college educated, outgoing, single mom of three incredible boys. "Bucket List": Sky diving, scuba diving, a cruise to some-where warm. Just need someone to share it with... Mybell, 37, 125830

CLASSY AND SASSY

I'm smart and sexy with a professional career and a great body. I am outgoing, funny, and have varied interests. Seeking a best friend and lover. Chemmost important. lindas555, 57, 0 #125819

SASSY SMILING BROAD

I just recently moved here, I'm a pretty relaxed laid back girl, i enjoy hanging out going new places, meeting new people i'm excited and open for any new experi-ences! bri1021, 21, 1, 1, 1, 1, 125811 v experi-

LIFE LOVE LAUGHTER

love to make people laugh. Always looking for something new to do in Austin. Laid back person who loves music and reading. Always working on self provement. crose22, 22, 101, #125808

FEISTY AFFECTIONATE MALEABLE

i love shoes, active and motivated guys, sillv humor i don't like sticky price tags, feeling unappreciated, having people expect things from me based on my appearance. abd_ads, 27, 10, #125801

THE NICE ONE AAHAAH

I consider myself an open-minded person, but my deal breakers are liars and cheaters, I speak French curently and i am trying to improve my english. kenza, 22, 101, #125635

SHARE SOMETHING BREATHTAKING

I'm shy but charming, passionate and silly. Hoping to find a gentleman with an eye for beauty in the not so obvious places...... Someone to explore, learn nd grow with. VictorianStar, 34, 🕿, **O**, #125798

BOG ANYONE

intelligent, outgoing, attractive, energetic seeking activity partner for dance, music events etc. gave up dating but would like a companion to get out with time to time. BOG?Blues on the Green. Manstro masRoadScholar, 48, 101, #125792

NEW TO AUSTIN

WANTA B FRIENDS?

I want 2 make new friends and meet outgoing people like myself. Love 2 keep myself busy with various activities but I'm also ok hanging out. Want 2 b friends? Dngerously, 39, 101, #125789

NEW AUSTIN GIRL!

All smiles: Idgy (Chihuahua 16 yrs), Jinx (Chihuahua puppy), Costa Rica, good red wine, dancing, watching football, friends and family, traveling, spas, cooking, intelligence, lowering my carbon footprint, kindness, confidence, free dom! tcurahrah, 37, 🕿, 🔯, #125774

IWANTCHEMISTRY

Rock-n-roll soul in search of another...I'm a kind, honest, loving, soul, that will not settle for less in a man I date or a friend ... WantCHEMIS-TRY, 42, 101, #125754

SEE ΚI NG

LOVING INTELLIGENT GUY

I am a 30-year old Austin slacker/ writer who is looking for a woman I can love, spoil.& experience fun times with. A hopeless romantic looking for a compatible-cutie. . . Loving_and_Intel-ligent_Guy, 30, 101, #125928

PLEASE? FIVE WORDS?

Im recently out of a relationship gone to hell. I want someone to pull me out of my shell and the house. Someone who wants a friend and a lover. Confuseyous, 38, 101, #125917

MANY MORE ADS ONLINE! austinchronicle.com/loverslane

LIVELY SPIRIT

"I wanna feel how I wanna feel forever." If you know the singer of that quote, you're a shoe-in! haha. hippeace, 23, 101, #125692

SMARTASSES APPLY WITHIN

I like white boys with tattoos who are smartasses just like me! I enjoy music (psychobilly, rockabilly, alternative mainly) reading, movies, walking and just hang ing out. HNNYPOT, 32, 101, #125667

SOFT HARTED ROCKER

im not one who likes talking about herself, but here goes. i like movies(horror) music(hard rock)good food and good conversation. looking for someone who likes the same. also 420 friendly. turtle_luvr, 35, 101, #125655

INDIAN MEN PLEASE

I am an intelligent, attractive, American woman seeking an Indian man 27-40 for dating. I need a man who I can have intelligent conversation, is compassionate, and has traveled. Namaste. drishti, 25 0 #125652

MOVING TO AUSTIN

I'm about to move to Austin in June. YAY! I'm really excited about the move...but don't know a soul in Austin vet. Wanna meet some cool new people. bunnytexas, 37, 101, #125640

ELEGANT SARCASIM.

itsallovernowbabyblue -

In short: I dig reading, writing short stories, enjoying live music, creating silly puns, and the compa-

ny of down to earth, sarcastic people. I love jazz,

as well as hiking, yoga, and meditation.

dark coffee, spicy noodles, the smell of gardenias,

read the rest of ITSALLOVERNOWBABYBLUE's

profile or enter your own profile for FREE online at

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arbor cinema, dance, Guiness, hair that smells good, sticking my feet in cold water with pants rolled up, dog sitting. staying up late, trying to wake up later. trying teas, shrng music, ccarmon, 22, 0 #125633

MUSE CHASER

I have a lot going on lately and as a result, my social life hasn't been as vibrant as I'd like it to be. I want to meet someone new. Tman1234, 30, 10, #125826

ENJOYING LIFE DALLY l am easy temper, laid back kind of guy.

Try not let many thing damping my spirits but is willing to show emotions. **bootsy74**, 31, **C**, **#125899 "INSERT WITTY LINE"**

Looking for cool female to enjoy the beauty of central texas summers

and what ever that entails. Must love beer, and dogs. Im laid back, drama free. Wanna have fun? hotnicks, 27, 0, #125887

DEATHSTAR COMPLETE

even when I lie I tell the truth, it's more than a case study. contemplating the absurd...winters of fire and summers of ice; I tire of playing nice. Never, 29, 0, #125881

HEY, WHAT'S HAPPENING

yo, my name is Nick. I enjoy watchina TV, going bowling, or the movies, fighting crime, swimming, hitting up the pub. I try to view myself as low mair nance/tech. Geese, 25, 101, #125863

COUNTRY PUNK

Howdy. Im just Clyde looking for Bonnie. A sidekick to help my take this town. Must like car shows, outdoors, live music and MIGAS! **TXWRENCH**, 29. **101. #125847**

ROMANTIC NIHILIST

Really I'm just looking to hang out and have a good time with someone that likes to hold a conversation about erything and anything. airstripone, 26. OL #125834

DOWN-TO-EARTH

I am looking to meet someone who I find interesting, attractive, and who I can enjoy Austin with. I want someone who is down-to-earth and accepts me how I am. atx dp, 25, 101, #118907

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BRAD PITT'S BROTHER

I swear that headline is 100% tru... ish. I'm a 27 year old writer who's attending school to become a massage therapist. I'm extremely ambitious and caring. Konoboy, 27, 27, #125767

JUST TELEPORTED...

Fresh from the mean streets of Atlanta! I ookin for a gal with a good head

on her shoulders. Must be diligent, talented, and have an overall lust for

life. Darling, 25, 101, #125764 YOU LIKE ME.

like where I'm at, but I could be better

I like too write and read ... a lot. iustinisnotinthehouse, 26, 101, #125746

STRONG WILL I'm an easygoing person who is just

looking for something new, away from the bar scene and someone true. ThaDude28, 28, 28, #125738

IS EVERYBODY IN

Looking to have some fun with some new people in this amazing town that we live in. I am open minded and willing to try almost anything once twice. rangerguy20, 28, 101, #125731 LETS HAVE FUN

easy going guy, busy schedule, love music, film, jogging around townlake, bbq, sushi, mex. food. KUT NPR appreciate slow days. reg. day job but work indie music startup at night,weekends. blueskyj2, 37, **101**, **#125721**

SOMEBODY SAVE ME I'm a grad student and I want someone

to help me occupy my free time. If you like happy hour beers and reading before bed, get at me. hockeyjunkie, 27. **D. #125717** THAT WASN'T CHICKEN

Please check my ad on the website, 30 words... pfft. JpDee, 29, 🖾, #125689 NICE, GROOVY, HONEST ...

It's hard to talk about me, I'm more interested in you. I like all types of

music, I'm not inerested in someone who can't or won't be themselves. Austinluv, 36, 🕿, 🙆, #125679

DIRTY, BUT DREAMIN'

Musician by day, just waiting for this analyst stuff to take off. **TheManonthe-**

SilverMountain, 25, 27, 101, #122733 **CLEVER STATEMENT HERE**

Cynical man looking to match wits with an equally cynical woman. I dont like to list qualities but I can say Im a curious

person. dubious, 27, 🕿, 🔯, #125134 HI I'M FOGELL

You might know me as McLovin, but if not you soon will. I'm gangsta and like to get down. I'll get the booze and meet you at the party chicachica! Come_get_some, 27, 🕿 0, #124846

CHEF, MUSICIAN, SCHOLAR

I love the outdoors, cooking, music(live and recorded) of all genres. I play in a band. Anything you would like to know, I am also pretty open. Just ask. tomed-

SHNOOKS

2, **0**, #122556

life.I'm a multifaseted gal, which means I can cook like Emeril, garden like Martha, party like a rock star, and love like no other. **Tster**, 26, **0**, **#125823** PEACE. LOVE. HOPE. I'm Jennifer :] I'm your semi-typical Austin girl who loves to go to

wards, 31, 22, 101, #123801

Like drinking at bars or parks, taking my dogs to the parks, watchin netflix

looking for a good time. must be open to bf around. 3, 27, **10**, **#125510** movies, playing poker. shnookem, 30,

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free!

BASICALLY AWESOME

I'm a student at UT. I'm verv honest and

I expect that in return. I like to have fun

you're about! jkg589, 18, 10, #125694

FISHING, BOATING, FRIENDS....

Didn't think I would be doing this, but

ing, boating, camping, and mainly the

here goes. I love the outdoors, fish-

water. My interests are very diverse and I am down-to-earth. **seas2day**,

snowboarding, longboarding, any kind of boarding, and live shows.I'm in love

with girls with Tats and piercings. Want

EKING

someone to show me around Austin snowchick87, 20, 27, 20, 4125569

I'm a college student who loves

48 0 #125647

S E

NICE GUY

39. OL #125820

SINGLE.

BE MINE.

BOARDING N TATS

WAKING DREAMS

Fun-loving fashionista wanting a

Sketchandsew, 22, 0, #125902

Simple guy that struggles against sameness, dark hearts.looking for

that guy in light, bright smile, young

being a equal in a relationship A+ for slender, smooth! lets chat. aros1051,

in heart romantic and belives in

Im a really cool & funny guy to be

danyboy_09, 18, 101, #125684

WITH WOMEN'S HEART..

around with. Like to have fun, and

going out dancing. I have been single for 2 months. Want to meet someone.

i like guys who are sincere and honest! lifemind, 27, 101, #125653

I am looking for tall, dark (or light).

beloved, 37, 101, #125648

GAYBOY CODY

QUALITY GUY

LOVERS LANE

and responding.

austinchronicle.com/loverslane

and handsome for the limp-wrist set.

IAm 23yrs old iam going to Cosmetol-

ogy school i have wonderful friends

i want a guy to win me over be hot charming and be nice and want me

Enjoy social functions, movies, theater, cooking, entertaining, more. Swim, work-

out, and walk my dog. Yes: Romance, charm, thoughtfulness, adventure. No:

Drugs, heavy drinkers, smokers, insecu-rity, unsafe sex, closet cases, immaturity.

taurusbull86, 43, 101, #125317

membership is simple:

1 day pass \$5.00

7 day pass \$10.00

30 day pass \$20.00

90 day pass.....\$40.00

Each pass gives you all-access, unlimited

searching, browsing, e-mailing, calling,

macattac2003, 23, 101, #125639

laid-back and mature guy 20-30. I like coffee, karaoke, and the occasional

friday night dancing. I'm sick of dream-ing, can you live the dream with me?

so talk to me and let me know what

MOVIEGEEK SEEKS LEADING-LADY

Film fanatic foraying for fabulous female. Mutual madness for marvelous meals, lots of Longhorn lauding, and a vibrant verve for vino is vital. Alliterative aspirations are appreciated, aren't absolutely all-important. Soze72, 35,

2, **1**, #121746 WHAT THE HAY

Funny, funloving guy looking to make some great woman laugh and have a great time. Always down for taking in ive music and some good food a drinks. Howabout you? 2TP, 31, 🕿, 0, #121708

EKING Ε

NEW TO TOWN! love jokes. wearing all neon all the time: funny, looking to meet new people in a new town. highfives_stagedives, 25, 10, #125927

CLASSYWANNABEROCKER

Average sized attractive chill smart

layed back, music loving femme seek

ing the same. I love trying new res-taurants along with random concerts.

Music is life dreams are important

CONSIDERATE

#125849

PINK IS GOOD

19, **10**, **#125744**

toomanydreams, 19, 1, #125888

AFECTIONATE CARING

I'm looking for friends for now...and who knows what may happen...my

ideal mate would be someone who

care of themself both mentally and

physically. Some one with the same

aracteristics as myself. AHDIA, 35,

BOOTYLICIOUS, SMART, FUNNY

23/single mom. Looking for lovely lady. Enjoys hanging out, watching movies,

sharing a nice meal. Laid back, open minded, pierced and tattooed Virgo

that really loves Italian food KITTY-

I love to live, laugh, love. My family are my

shows,photography or just hang out at a local coffee shop.I'd like to meet a

new girl-maybe you?? heart of mine,

LOVESKITTY, 23, 10, #125833

takes pride in appearance...takes

ENTER TO WIN! Place a FREE PROFILE on Lovers Lane with your photo before 5pm Monday, April 28, and you could win a \$100 GIFT **CERTIFICATE** to **ROMEO'S**! austinchronicle.com/loverslane

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, 77, 101, #125183

YOUR SENSUAL SPARTAN

I'm a man with a passion for good looking women, high quality dining, and watching animals. I enjoy watching the 300, Rambo, and Conan. Could you be my Salma/Heidi Klum? inuyasha86, 21, **2**, **1**, **#125037**

friend

NO MORE WORDS

Communication is a curse. Love is a verb. Everybody relax, you do it to yourself. Let's talk about weird stuff and laugh awkwardwordTime, 22, 2, 4125886

BORED EXTRA TALL

Look, I could go all day about how great I am but the truth of the matter is I just got through with tax seasor and I'm freaking bored. butmomimbored, 50, 101, #125926

OUTGOING FUN

I am a friendly, outgoing, down to earth girl. I like to have fun and try new things and meet new people. Usually I am up for anything at least once!! babygirlintx, 26, **o**, **#125890**

I'M RORED

Sorry no picture. I'm normally shy but if you want to get to know me, email me and we can see how things will go from there. See you later. OhSoDelicious, 21. 101. #125803 JUST READ IT

Hey! Fun guy, into sports. Sarcastic and funny....Sometimes! Love to laugh and make you people laugh. Guy every girl dreams bout but not ready for. 24 SWM. D/D Free. baseballguy12, 24, 0 #125727

COOL CHICK HERE!

I am delightful, you just dont even know! bonnalicious2008, 22, 37, 10, #125723 Looking to find an interesting person

that enjoys the same things that I do. Someone that is looking for love. don't play games. A friendship first would be ideal. DayDreamer, 26, **O**, #125695

LAUGHING, EXPLORING, MUSIC

I like the sun, live music, laughing until l almost pee,& my kids. I'm new to Austin and looking for cool ass girls and maybe guys for friendship. kdub, 27, **10**, **#125662**

SEEKING FUN FRIENDS

Llove rollercoasters, traveling, music movies, triathlons, and comedy! I'd like to meet people with similar interests, but I like trying new things, so different interests can be fun, too, Bbme, 39. 0. #125583



GEEK CHIC

Just looking for someone who I can get along with. Will be moving to Austin soon, and I am looking to b horizons. Geek_Sheek, 22, 101, #125504

messages DEAR AUSTIN; PLEASE HAVE a

look at WWW.KimelaTrump.com DON'T PLAY GAMES ! She's got

a heart. And the stress fractures a beginning to show. Admit it. You miss when she's not around. IT'S FUNNY HOW someone can

break your heart and yet you still love them with all the little pieces.

ELIZABETH.....NOT BEING ALLOWED TO TELL YOU HOWYOU SORRY I AM IS KILLING ME. KNOW HOW DEEPLY I LOVED YOU.

PLEASE FORGIVE ME....

a Shot in the Dark

MAYBE MOTION SUGGESTS

Malkmus, La Zona Rosa. You: Plaid Me: Flannel I stole your spot. You gave me drinks. Lauestioned, you needed to think. Offer said thought for a song? When: Sunday, April 20. Where: La Zona Rosa. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902913

BLOND SPOTLIGHT SATURDAY

You sang Elton John, i talked to you briefly. Really want to get to know you Lets have lunch sometime Im way more interesting sober. When: Saturday, April 19. Where: SpotLight. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902912

ROUND ROCK EXPRESS

Section 123, I was in Row 24, you were in Row 20 or 21. You were on a family outing with your parents and siblings families. Are you unhitched? When: Saturday, April 19. Where: Dell Diamond. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902911

NOTICE ME!!!!! (PLEASE)

You:nametag said Chris manager pounding shots of tequila (barf). Me: flirting from across the patio. Went by your restaurant but still didn't notice me Take a chance on me? When: Tuesday, March 11. Where: CEDAR DOOR. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902910

@ REGGAE FEST

You: petite blonde, front row, red shirt, gold headband during Culture. Me: dark hair, taking photos. We exchanged a few glances, but you left quickly. You are gorgeous! Drinks sometime? When: Sunday, April 20. Where: Reg-

gae Fest center stage. You: Woman. Me: Man. 🕿 #902908 **DILLINGER ESCAPE PLAN**

After the show, I introduced myself

Chuck. Then the connection between my mouth and brain broke. I was truly smitten by you. I'd like a chance to become better acquainted. When: Saturday, April 19. Where: Dillinger Escape Plan. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902907

ENCHANTRESS WEARING SCRUBS

at healthsouth: you made me melt with vour devil may care smile, i tried to say hi, but damn, you left me speechless. lemme try again ok cutie? When: Thursday, April 17. Where: Brack.

You: Woman. Me: Man. 🕿 #902906 AMY'S OFF GAUD

You are super sexy with curly hair &

coolest green bike ever. I lost you once HAVE rearetted it ever since. I wish we were friends again. Im so sorry. When: Saturday, December 15, 2007, Where:

for hurting you in everyway. You are to magical for that. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902897

HOT DADDY

Hey daddy's looking good. Guy with 2 kids, looking good and I hear you can cook! That Hot. Me mom of 2 kids. I wanna cuddle.... When: Sunday, April 20. Where: Kenichi. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902905

BLACK4RUNNER GREENSHIRT 360

You: Driving black 4Runner wearing a green shirt on 360 Friday April 11th. Me: Riding my bike with a friend & kept noticing you, notice me at each stop ight. When: Friday, April 11. Where: 360 & Lost Creek Area, You: Man. Me: Woman. #902904

BUDDY GUY FRIDAY

You: short, lean, shaved head, longsleeved dark shirt, CUTE. "I'm protecting you from the cigar smoke." Me: short blonde hair, jeans, burgundy, sleeveless STUPIDI Y moved (to tree) without taking you. When: Friday, April 18. Where: Buddy Guy show at Stubbs. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902903

ART PALACE IDIOT

You: beautiful girl in green shirt. me: Tall boy making eyes with you. Wish vou wouldn't have left so soon. I should we introduced myself. Drinks? When: Friday, April 18, Where: Art Palace You: Woman. Me: Man. #902902

BEAUTIFULYOU@HULAHUT 4/18

Saw you at the Hula Hut on 4/18. You: Beautiful, Bright pink top, dark hair, Sunglasses. Me: Dark green shirt, probably the only guy there with 'long hair', Drinks/dinner sometime? When:

Friday, April 18. Where: Hula Hut. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902901 **LUV VIDEO HUNK**

you: gracefully balding, dreadfully handsome clerk with a knack for make ing me horny. me: shy girl who cant resist staring every tuesday. you can deposit your dvd into MY slot... When: Wednesday, April 16. Where: i luv video. You: Man. Me: Man. #902900

VANS STORE CARISSA

I was with my mom buying shoes. It was hard to find a shoe in my size. I thought you were beautiful, but my mom was there. Drinks? When: Thursday, April 10. Where: Vans Store You: Woman. Me: Man. #902899 **EINSTEINS 12TH LAMAR**

Thursday 17th, 1pm. I took your order.

Walker TX Ranger, my name tag. You, adorable strawberry blonde, tall, glass-es, cutest name ever. Any sparks on your side? Dinner sometime? When:

Thursday, April 17. Where: Einsteins Bagels 12th Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902898

ROUNDABOUT THE SATELLITE It was a Saturday evening and you want to learn to play golf. I am willing to go to the driving range anytime. Hot young brunette woman who enjoys Tini's. When: Saturday, March 29. Where: Satellite. You: Woman, Me: Man, #902895

PICNIC AT ZILKER

You:left me for lighter fluid. Me:trying to start your fire. Just when every thing was ablaze...busted by the Fuzz. WOW. let me know when you are ready for those Brownies!! When: Wednesday, April 9. Where: Picnic at Zilker, You: Man. Me: Woman. #902894 **BELLA. BELLISSIMA**

The next time you look at me that way, I'm going to dive across the marble floors and through the solid glass wall just to kiss you. That much ado! When: Wednesday, April 16. Where: Seattle's Best, Frost Bank Building You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902893

COSMETICS AISLE H-E-B

Stunning, jeans, red shirt and heels, stocking items. I was developing photos, looked your way several times but couldn't find the words to approach you, so i left with regret!!! **When:** Tuesday, April 15. Where: H-E-B @ Brodie & William Cannon. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902891

CORPUS ROCKIES 07

You: Courageous dog-walker, trans continental cvclist, documentarian who fills me dreams. Me: tall, non-Japanese, entrepreneur, willing to go the distance, treat you sushi, cook free range chicken. lets go roller skating? When: Thursday, March 15, 2007. Where: texas 4000 bike ride. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902890

BEHIND THE COUNTER

You: Sweet little number behind the counter- wearing a beanie and listen-ing to trance music. Me: Tall skinny hippie who likes their blunt wraps Where: PlanetK-Stassney. When: 4/19 @ 4:20pm. When: Friday, April 11. Where: Planet K. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902889

NO STRINGS!

et's be realistic, we aren't friends That doesn't mean I won't come by and smack you on the ass late at night if you call Think about it When: Saturlay, April 12. Where: Anywhere. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902888

12TH & LAMAR

I saw you walk on the bus over a month ago wearing your little red riding hood. I am gonna keep on lovin' you. you are my everything. When: Wednesday, March 5. Where: 12th & Lamar. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902887

DAVE AND BUSTERS(4/12)

Dave+Busters Mopac+Braker Saturday Night 4/12 You: gorgeous girl in black dress next to me at skee-ball. Me: skeeball geek in striped shirt next to you. A couple more rounds? When: Saturday, April 12, Where: Dave and Busters You: Woman. Me: Man. #902886

NOT TENDER!!

U:Dancing @ Oil Can Harry's,wearing white dress and smoldering inside of it.I watched from close by,U shimmied the man tunnel.Was the beginning of 3blurry days.I'd like 2 take U home again! When: Thursday, April 10. Where: Oil Can Harry's. You: Woman. Me: Man. 2 #902885

AVANT ON 4TH

Last year you cut my curly hair and I don't know where to find you now! Charlotte, you are the best hair sculptress ever Where can I find you? When: Saturday, May 12, 2007. Where: Avant on 4th. You: Woman. Me: Woman. #902884

BEARDED STALLION

PLANET_REPLAY From the moment I looked into that manbeard I knew we should mate. I noticed you eyeing me; albino ginger buying Reba/Tatu. I got tounge-tied hearing you sing MJ. "SH'MON!" When: Tuesday, April 8. Where: Planet Replay and now my dreams!. You: Man. Me: Man. #902883 **GODDESS!**

You, brown-haired beauty, wearing a red dress and sandals. Half Price Books today, Parmer & Mopac! Me selling books, BM, sitting in chair, you were looking/buying So lovely! Dinner?) When: Saturday, April 12. Where: Half Price Books. You: Woman. Me: Man. #902882

MEET AGAIN REN?

Ren at Mean-Eyed Cat, we played pool. You liked my hat. Darn that Matt! Don't dread the mark of red on your fore head. Wear your fedora, let's meet and chat! When: Friday, April 11. Where: Mean-Eyed Cat. You: Woman. Me: Man. 🕿 #902881

ASTROS CAP BEAUTYBAR

Baseball sleeves and cap, you caught my eye. We met near the bar, but I wish I had time to talk to you more! When: Friday, April 11. Where: Beauty Bar. You: Man. Me: Woman. #902876

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resembles America's cash drain in Iraq. It will also be a favorable period for you to brainstorm about how you could upgrade your financial intake to be more like Exxon Mobil's. Now with photos so you can see who saw you. Search by When, Where, and Go to RealAstrology.com to check out Rob Brezsnys EXPANLED WEKLY AUDIO HOROSCOPES and DAILY TEXT MESAGE HOROSCOPES. The audio horoscopes are also available by phone at 877/873-4888 or 900/950-7700

FREE WILL ASTROLOGY by Rob Brezsny for April 25 - May 2

TAURUS (APRIL 20-MAY 20): "The greatest poverty is boredom," said one of my teachers, Ann Davies. "The greatest hell is not having a goal." Make those ideas

your touchstones as you carry out a twofold assignment. First, use all your ingenuity to banish any reasons you might have to feel bored. Second, invoke your craftiest optimism and wildest discipline as you identify a goal whose pursuit will move you

GEMINI (MAY 21-JUNE 20): In a study of pop songs, sociologists from the

University of Colorado concluded that love isn't as popular a topic as it used to

be. Bestselling tunes sung by women rarely use words like "care" and "cherish" anymore, and references to love have declined precipitously. Meanwhile, male sing-

ers ignore love and obsess on sex far more than they once did, and both genders

revel in pain and selfishness at a higher rate. I tell you this, Gemini, as a prelude to

announcing your assignment, which is to counteract the trend I just described. For

the foreseeable future, be a prolific genius of love, a creator of beautiful collabora-

CANCER (JUNE 21-JULY 22): "Many a man fails to become a thinker for the sole reason that his memory is too good," wrote Friedrich Nietzsche. I suggest you

contemplate that riddle, Cancerian. Is your ability to stir up new perspectives some-times hindered by the deep feelings you have about your history? Is it possible that

past experiences you've grown to treasure tend to diminish your motivation to rein-

vent yourself periodically? If so, it's a perfect time to break free of the old days and

LEO (JULY 23-AUG. 22): Is there really such a thing as free will, or are our destinies

shaped by forces beyond our control? Here's one way to think about that question:

Maybe some people actually have more free will than others. Not because they

have more money. (Many rich folks are under the spell of their instincts, after all.)

Not because they have a high-status position. (A boss may have power over others

but little power over himself.) Rather, those with a lot of free will have earned that

privilege by taking strong measures to dissolve the conditioning they absorbed while

growing up. They've acted on the advice of psychologist Carl Jung: "Until you make the unconscious conscious, it will direct your life and you will call it fate." As you

enter the phase of your astrological cycle when more free will is yours for the taking,

VIRGO (AUG. 23-SEPT. 22): The billboard I saw said, "Develop a recreational habit

that won't show up in your urine." I didn't catch what product it was advertising, but there was an image of a hang glider, so I figure it was promoting outdoor sports as a preferable alternative to taking drugs. The billboard message happens to be excellent advice for you, Virgo. In the coming weeks, you'll be wise to seek liberating adventure and explore new modes of natural fun. Doing so will steer you away from

LIBRA (SEPT. 23-OCT. 22): Why do people have sex? A study by the University

at a deeper level" to "I wanted to boost my self-esteem" to "I wanted to be

closer to God." According to my research, Libra, you're likely to be motivated by

as many as 25 of those factors in the coming weeks, way up from your average of eight. We might logically conclude, then, that you may seek out erotic experi-

ences at a rate three times your norm. (Here's more about the 237 reasons:

SCORPIO (OCT. 23-NOV. 21): "Opinion is really the lowest form of human knowl-

edge," says educator Bill Bullard. "It requires no accountability, no understanding. The highest form of knowledge is empathy, for it requires us to suspend our egos

and live in another's world. It requires profound, purpose larger than the self kind

of understanding," In that spirit, Scorpio, I encourage you to renounce three of your

opinions, preferably those that are least well-informed and not rooted in firsthand

experience. I also challenge you to carry out a weeklong experiment based on the following hypothesis: Expanding your capacity for empathy will make you smarter.

SAGITTARIUS (NOV. 22-DEC. 21): Your metaphorical pregnancy has gone on rather

long. No reason to panic. I'm sure your brainchild or masterpiece will arrive shortly.

But just for fun, maybe you could watch a time-lapse film of a rose opening. That

was helpful in expediting the birth process for two new mothers I know. Here are two other tricks to try, even if the blessed event you're about to enjoy is purely sym-

bolic: Arrange to be in a place where a storm is coming on. Folk tradition says that

labor often follows drops in barometric pressure. Or get ahold of rings made from a

rattlesnake tail. Early American explorers Lewis and Clark gave them to their Native

American guide Sacagawea when it was near her time, and they seemed to expedite

CAPRICORN (DEC. 22-JAN. 19): I've got three messages for you. They may seem unre-

lated, but by this time next week, you will see that they are intimately interconnected.

1) Unless you were raised in the woods by badgers, it's a perfect moment to slip into

your second childhood, 2) Unless you really can't stand having your mind changed, it's

an excellent time to launch a daring project that would have seemed impossible to the

person you were a year ago, 3) People unsympathetic to your cause may think you're

in the throes of delusions of grandeur, but those of us who have faith in your untapped

AQUARIUS (JAN. 20-FEB. 18): On the San Francisco State University campus, the lampposts shine blue lights. It's not just a decorative touch. Of all the colors, blue

best pierces through fog, which is a regular feature in that part of the world. In this spirit, I suggest you install a blue lightbulb in a prominent place in your environment

for the next two weeks. It will be a symbolic reminder that there may be more mental

murk and emotional haze for you to navigate through than usual. With the proper

PISCES (FEB. 19-MARCH 20): The Washington Post gave its readers an assignment:

Come up with a statement they'd like to sneak on to President Bush's teleprompter

during a major speech. Chances would be good that he'd probably just say it, right?

The entries included "I shall make it my duty to eat a kitten for breakfast every

day," "Global warming can be reversed if everyone just turned his air conditioner around," and "I wish to announce my conversion to Islam." I bring this to your

attention, Pisces, because you're in peril of getting into a situation like that. Unless

you're careful, you could end up saying things you don't mean or expressing yourself in ways that don't reflect your actual feelings. To make sure that doesn't happen,

ARIES (MARCH 21-APRIL 19): The U.S. government is spending more than

\$500,000 per minute on the war in Iraq. Meanwhile, Exxon Mobil Corp. is raking

in about \$73,000 of profit per minute. Is there any connection? Though I have my suspicions, I don't know for sure. I do know that the coming weeks will be

an excellent time for you to phase out any situation in your personal life that

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concentrate hard on communicating with maximum clarity and candor.

powers say they're not delusions but viable fantasies.

illumination, you won't be deluded or slowed down a bit.

Texas found that there are 237 reasons, from "I wanted to communicate

a path that could lead to messy adventure and decadent fun.

tinyurl.com/24av4j, tinyurl.com/22z9ep, and tinyurl.com/346xxp.)

old ways. Induce a little forgetfulness so that you're more available for the future.

ever closer to the state the mystics call heaven on earth.

tions, an unsentimental devotee of sweet and tender intimacy.

Leo, meditate on these thoughts.

the baby's arrival magically

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